

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME

EXT. PORCH. NIGHT

Sammy and Terry stand side by side on the porch, passing a joint back and forth. It has stopped raining but the trees and roof are still dripping. The crickets are chirping loudly.

SAMMY

So... Bob asked me to marry him.

TERRY

Wow.

(Pause)

Are you going to?

SAMMY

I don't know. If he'd've asked me this time last year I would have probably said yes. But the minute he said it, I don't know, I felt like somebody was trying to strangle me.

TERRY

Well... bad sign.

SAMMY

I know.

(Pause)

Plus, Terry...

(Whispers)

I fucked my boss...!

TERRY

What?

SAMMY

I know! And his wife is six months pregnant.

TERRY

Jesus Christ, Sammy...!

SAMMY

I know, I know.

He passes her the joint. She declines. He puffs away. The water drips off the porch and the crickets chirp. She puts her head on his shoulder. He puts one arm around her and puffs away with the joint in his free hand.

SAMMY

Terry, I'm sorry I got so mad before. I just don't want him, you know -- terrified of "telling," if there's --

TERRY

Uh, well, that's not really his problem, Sammy.

Sammy straightens up.

SAMMY

Oh really? What's his problem?

TERRY

His problem is that he's like totally sheltered because you treat him like he's three, instead of eight, so that's how he behaves.

SAMMY

Oh yeah? And how do you think he should behave?

TERRY

I think he shouldn't have to run and tell his Mommy every time he does something she might not like, for one thing.

SAMMY

Uh huh. And what do you --

TERRY

(On "and")

I mean I took him to play pool! It was a little clandestine thing we did for fun! It wasn't like a big secret, I mean who cares? I was actually trying to be nice to him. But he's so freaked out that he

disobeyed your orders that he has to fuckin' squeal on me and I have to listen to your fuckin' shit all day when I didn't even fuckin' do anything!

SAMMY

First of all, he didn't tell me anything: Darryl did. OK? Second of all, I don't really give a shit if you took him to play pool: I was mad at you because you left him standing at the bus stop in the rain. But no, I don't want you telling him not to squeal, because I don't want him put in that position!

TERRY

(Losing ground)
Well... that... is a perfect example of what I'm talking about.

SAMMY

You are in idiot.

They stand apart now. Silence.

TERRY

Darryl told you?

SAMMY

Yes!

They stand there. The rain gutters drip.