He stares at him, slightly spooked. Robert spots Harper on the walkway, vaping, stressed.

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**INT. PIERPOINT. FOYER - LUNCH**

(HARPER, ROBERT)

Harper and Robert stand on the walkway, having to moderate the volume of their voice. Harper is ripping her Juul and blowing the cloud of vape into her jacket. There’s an awkward charge - residue of what happened the night before. They’re both trying their best to ignore it.

ROBERT
Why don’t you just tell Eric?

HARPER
We’ve had two of the best P&L days of the year. I can’t put my hand up and say I’ve wiped it out.

ROBERT
What can it really represent of the forty-eight hour take? What like-less than ten percent?

HARPER
I don’t generate anywhere near enough yet to offset it. Why did you make me stay up all night?

ROBERT
I didn’t make you do anything!

Harper gets short with him:

HARPER
Everything’s a joke, isn’t it?

ROBERT
What’s a joke? What are we talking about?

Harper’s silent, not acknowledging the elephant in the room.

ROBERT (CONT’D)
You’re overthinking it. You’re his project. You’re allowed to make one mistake.

HARPER
No, no, actually I’m not. I’m not allowed to make mistakes. People like you are allowed to make mistakes.

ROBERT
What the fuck does that mean?
Harper doesn’t want to spell out an answer.

HARPER
Mistakes are a privilege.

ROBERT
Well the loss is still hypothetical. In the book? It’s live, right?

HARPER
Yes. So?

Robert
It’s not crystallized. Surely it can still swing to the upside or downside?

Harper thinks on this for the moment.

HARPER
If the NFP’s under 100k at 1:30 this afternoon...

ROBERT
That’s a fucking...punt.

HARPER
There’ll be less chance of Fed rate hike, which is bad for the dollar. Sterling surges against dollar. My loss is totally offset.

ROBERT
Tell Eric. You’re not thinking properly. Don’t our previews say it’s going to be a 150k beat?

HARPER
(snapping)
You don’t know what the fuck you’re talking about. Why don’t you stick to whatever it is you’re good at. Let me just- I’ll be fine.

Robert’s shocked by how tough she’s being. Robert lowers his voice:

ROBERT
If you wanna fucking talk about last night, talk about it. Otherwise let’s just put a pin in it.

Harper finishes her Red Bull, chucks it, walks off.

HARPER
Dude, please.