

Still Silence

By

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Principal characters:

Susan Ryan - Carla Gugino or Kaley Cuoco type.
Can be attractive without trying but at the same
time stoic, suspicious, skeptical.

David Johnson - Anthony Hopkins type

William - Jon Hamm type

Debi - Annie Parisse type, strong, sarcastic, fun.

Arthur (Art) Boyle - Timothy Olyphant type - former FBI
agent who owns a small security business.

FADE IN:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

The terrain is covered in snow. The road is plowed but
there is a narrow path with the snow piled high on both
sides.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

It's getting dark and the car lights are lighting up the
snow as Susan drives. The check engine light comes on.

SUSAN

That can't be good.

Susan concentrates on the road.

You can see that the car lights are getting very dim. The
car begins to sputter and dies. Susan pulls the car over
as it comes to a stop. Susan holds up her cell phone and
sees there's no cell coverage.

SUSAN

Great, no bars.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

Susan gets out and walks to the front of the car. Susan
holds her cellphone up but still no bars. Susan looks
around.

In the distance Susan can see some lights.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

Susan is making her way down a snow-covered driveway towards the lights.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - NIGHT

Susan approaches a house. The outside lights are on as well as some interior lights.

Susan walks up and rings the doorbell, but no one answers. Susan looks in the window but there is no one to be seen.

Susan walks around the car parked in the driveway to another window and looks in but there is no one there.

Susan walks back towards the car in the driveway. Susan rubs her cold hands together.

Susan looks at the car and sees a garage door opener on the dash of the car. Susan walks to the car and tries the door. The door opens.

Susan reaches in and presses the garage door opener. The garage door begins to open, and a light comes on in the garage.

INT. LAKE HOUSE GARAGE - NIGHT

Susan makes her way in and presses the garage door button next to the entry door in the garage. The garage door begins to close.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - NIGHT

Susan enters the house through the door to the garage.

SUSAN

Hello?

Susan closes the door behind her.

SUSAN (LOUDER)

Hello?

Susan slowly walks into the house. The main area of the house is one large open area with a kitchen, dining area and living room with a fireplace.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Susan walks into the kitchen and see a phone on the counter. Susan walks over to the phone and picks it up. Susan holds the phone to her ear and listens. Susan put the phone down.

SUSAN

That's dead.

Susan walks to the refrigerator and opens the door. The refrigerator is empty except for bottles of water.

SUSAN

So, this would make this a summer home.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susan walks around the living room looking at the furniture and books. Susan looks out the picture window and sees lights on the other side of the lake. Susan pulls her jacket tighter. Susan walks over to the fireplace and looks into the blackened area.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susan is sitting on the couch reading a book. A fire is burning in the fireplace and heating up the living room. Susan does not notice that someone has entered the house.

WILLIAM steps into the living room holding a gun and startles Susan.

WILLIAM

Don't move. What are you doing here?

Susan slowly puts the book down.

SUSAN

My car broke down and I had no cell coverage. I saw the lights and came here.

WILLIAM

Get on the floor and lay on your stomach.

Susan slowly slides down onto the floor and rolls onto her stomach. William walks over and stands over Susan. William pulls Susan's arms behind her and Susan can feel William put handcuffs on her wrists.

WILLIAM

Don't move.

William leaves Susan lying there in the living room.

After checking the house William returns to the living room and flashes the lights. Another man DAVID JOHNSON enters as William uncuffs Susan and helps her up. William gestures to the couch and Susan sits down on the couch.

David walks in carrying a box of groceries. David walks into the kitchen area and sets the box on the counter. David walks into the living room, removes his jacket and tosses it over a chair. David stares at Susan for a moment with a slight smile.

DAVID

I am sorry if William frightened you,
but we had to be sure you were the only
one in the house.

Susan tries to adjust her expression to show she's not scared. David goes back into the kitchen area.

DAVID

My name is David Johnson.

David begins putting the groceries away.

DAVID

Why didn't you take the vehicle and go
into town or use the satellite phone?

SUSAN

I didn't know where the keys were or
that there was a satellite phone.

William leaves as David pours himself a glass of wine. Susan walks into the kitchen area and sits in a stool at the counter.

DAVID

Would you like some wine?

Susan is nervous.

SUSAN

No thank you.

William returns with two small suitcase and sets them on the floor near the kitchen area. William lays a note on the counter in front of Susan. Susan reads it.

SUSAN

Feel free to use this car to drive into town. The keys are in the console. If the weather has stranded you, feel free to use the garage door opener to enter the house. There is a satellite phone in the cupboard next to the refrigerator. You can use it to call for help.

David opens the cupboard to show Susan the satellite phone.

WILLIAM

The note had fallen off the windshield and was laying on the floor.

David continues to put the groceries away. William walks over to the phone on the counter, picks it up and holds it to his ear for a moment then places it back on the receiver.

WILLIAM

I reset the phones, but the lines must be down.

DAVID

The snow is getting so heavy, we weren't sure if we were going to make it. So, I guess we're stranded here.

William smiles and sips his wine.

DAVID

I guess you are too.

William picks up the suitcases.

WILLIAM

I'll put these in our rooms.

DAVID

Thank you.

William walks away. David finishes with the groceries and places the cardboard box on the floor not really paying attention to Susan. Susan relaxes a little.

SUSAN

I think I will have a glass of wine.

David pulls a glass from the cupboard and pours Susan a glass of wine then sets it in front of her. David picks up his glass and motions to the living room area. David walks into the living room area and places his glass on a table next to a chair across from the couch. Susan walks over and sits on the couch.

David walks to the sliding doors, unlocks them and slides one open. A rush of cold air comes in as David steps out. David returns with a few fire logs for the fire. David closes the door, locks it and walks to the fireplace.

David places the logs next to the fireplace and throws one into the fire. Embers burst out of the fire and sail up the chimney. David stares into the fire.

DAVID

You did a nice job building a fire.

David walks over to the chair and sits down. David picks up his glass.

DAVID

Do you live in Tahoe?

SUSAN

No, I come up once or twice a year to relax and walk along the lake.

DAVID

So do we.

Susan looks around.

SUSAN

You have a lovely home.

DAVID

Thank you. It's not mine. What I mean is, it was left to me, it came down through the family. So, I had no hand in its design. But I do like it.

William returns carrying a bottle of orange juice and sits in a chair.

SUSAN

So, are you two...

David looks at William and William at David. They both smile.

DAVID

No, I can see where you might get that idea but nothing like that. William has worked for me for a long time.

SUSAN

So, what do you do?

WILLIAM

He's a bum.

David laughs.

DAVID

What William is saying is that I don't work, really. I own a number of businesses in New York, Las Vegas and Reno.

SUSAN

What kind of businesses?

DAVID

Oh, mostly souvenir shops and a few small businesses.

SUSAN

You mean T-Shirts and snow globes?

David smiles.

DAVID

Well, yes. Again, they came down through the family.

SUSAN

So, I guess we're stranded here?

David looks at William then back at Susan.

DAVID

I don't think you understand. We are happy to be stranded here, in this house, with the lake.

William motions to the picture windows.

DAVID

But as you can see by the lights on the other shore, we're not really alone.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVINGROOM - DAY

It's morning and Susan is standing by the picture windows looking out. Susan can see David standing on the end of the dock as the snow falls. Susan opens the door, steps out and closes the door behind her.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE END OF DOCK - DAY

Susan walks up behind David. David's head moves slightly as if he has heard Susan.

Susan steps up next to David.

DAVID

How did you sleep?

SUSAN

Not well.

DAVID

Oh, was the bed not comfortable?

SUSAN

I'm not sure. I seem to dream all night long. Nothing I can really describe, just shadows of dreams. I am really having a hard time clearing my head and shaking the dreams.

DAVID

I'm sorry to hear that. I usually sleep very soundly when I am here. But I also swam in a lake of dreams last night.

Susan looks out over the lake.

SUSAN

I don't think you'll be doing any swimming Today.

DAVID

No, no swimming Today.

Susan looks around.

SUSAN

No boat?

David turns around and looks.

DAVID

There is a canoe somewhere but no power boat.

SUSAN

I thought with a nice dock you would have a power boat.

DAVID

No. The dock is the one thing I added to the property. It's so serene to

stand here over the water on a day like today.

Flakes of snow fill the sky but disappear into the black water as they fall. Susan finds it awkward to be just standing there.

SUSAN

It sure is silent.

DAVID

Yes, I think the senses are fighting each other. You see the snow falling all around and feel in on your skin, but the ears do not hear anything. In fact, there is all but complete silence.

Susan shivers a little.

DAVID

With all the movement, the still silence is so unexpected.

SUSAN

It's cold. I'm going back in.

David does not react.

DAVID

Ok.

Susan walks away leaving David standing there.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVINGROOM - DAY

Susan walks in. You can see David still standing on the end of the dock. William is cooking breakfast.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

Susan walks up and sits at the counter.

SUSAN

It smells good.

WILLIAM

The mechanic will be out shortly to look at your car.

SUSAN

How do you know where to send him?

WILLIAM

Your car is in the driveway.

Susan gets up and walks to the kitchen window.

Susan looks out. The driveway is plowed, and her car is sitting there.

SUSAN

How did you know that was my car?

WILLIAM

It was the only one sitting on the side of the road. I asked the tow-truck driver to bring it here.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

Susan walks over and sits back down at the counter.

SUSAN

Why didn't he tow it into town?

WILLIAM

Because, you'll need it to leave.

Susan gives William a strange look. William continues to cook.

WILLIAM

Can you leave your keys on the counter? The mechanic will need them when he gets here.

SUSAN

Sure, I'll get them.

Susan gets up and leaves the kitchen area. A moment later Susan returns and sits down. Susan sets the keys on the counter. William raises a frying pan to show Susan.

WILLIAM

We're having fried eggs, sausage and tomatoes. Is that Ok?

SUSAN

That's fine with me, thank you.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

Susan and William are eating breakfast. Susan looks out the picture windows. David is still standing on the end of the dock. Susan points with her fork.

SUSAN

Is he going to eat?

WILLIAM

When he comes in.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

David is washing dishes in the kitchen. Susan comes down the hall into the living room area. Susan's hair is wet from taking a shower.

SUSAN

Any word on the mechanic?

DAVID

He was here while you were in the shower. The alternator on your car has gone bad.

SUSAN

That's why the check engine light came on.

DAVID

They're out of stock at the parts store but they can have one here in two days.

SUSAN

That long?

DAVID

Well, with the snow and all, in winter we become a little isolated here.

SUSAN

I really need to get going.

DAVID

May I suggest you take the spare car. Once your car is fixed, I'll have it brought to you.

SUSAN

I live in LA. That's a seven or eight-hour drive. I couldn't ask you to do that.

DAVID

You didn't ask. I offered.

Susan begins to feel uncomfortable. William comes walking into the kitchen area and can sense the tension.

WILLIAM

What's going on?

DAVID

Susan's car can not be repaired for a few days, so I suggested she take the spare and we'd have her car brought to her once it's done.

WILLIAM

Sounds like a good idea. We should have the spare car serviced once Susan is done with it. It's been setting for over six months.

Susan looks at David.

SUSAN

Really, are you sure?

DAVID

Yes, and like William said, it will give us a chance to have the spare car serviced before it is returned.

SUSAN
Ok then. I'll get my things.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan comes walking in with a small backpack. David and William are sitting in the living room reading books.

SUSAN
I'm going to get going.

William does not stop reading.

WILLIAM
It was nice meeting you.

David stands, still holding the book he was reading.

SUSAN
It was so very nice meeting you and spending time with you. I wish you did not have to go.

SUSAN
It was nice meeting you also.

Susan holds up a piece of paper.

SUSAN
Here is my address in LA and my cell phone number.

Susan walks over and places the piece of paper on the counter.

SUSAN
Thanks again, bye.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Susan walks out into the snow. The spare car has been turned around and cleaned off. Susan gets in the car.

INT. SPARE CAR - DAY

Susan starts the car and the dash lights up. Susan reads the odometer and it reads 000178.6 miles.

INT. SPARE CAR - DAY

Susan is driving down the highway and her cell phone rings. Susan answers it.

SUSAN

Hello?

DEBI

Susan, where have you been? I've called you several times.

SUSAN

Yes. I was stuck on the far side of the lake with no cell coverage. I spent the night with these two men.

DEBI

That's not like you. Two men?

SUSAN

It's not like that. I sort of broke into their house to get out of the cold when my car died. They were very nice and let me stay. A little strange, but nice. I'll tell you all about it when I get home. I should be there later this afternoon.

DEBI

Ok, see you then.

EXT. SUSAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Susan pulls up and parks out front. Debi is walking up the street carrying a bag of groceries. Susan gets out of the car. Debi sees Susan.

DEBI

Hey you.

SUSAN

I'm back.

Debi looks at the car.

DEBI

Where did you get the car?

SUSAN

The man I stayed with lent it to me.
He's having my car brought down once
it's fixed.

DEBI

You spent the night with him, and he
lent you a Mercedes?

SUSAN

I told you, it's not like that.
Everyone slept in their own room. It's
his spare car.

Debi is looking at the car.

DEBI

If this is his spare car, what's his
daily driver?

SUSAN

Enough, I've been driving for hours.
All I want to do is relax and make
dinner.

EXT. SUSAN'S HOUSE - DAY

The sun is not up yet. Susan comes walking out of the house and down the stairs. Susan stops when she see's her car sitting at the curb. Susan looks around. There is a roll back truck parked across the street with the Mercedes on the back. The Driver sees Susan come out and gets out of the truck. The Driver walks across the street.

DRIVER

Morning. Are you Susan Ryan?

SUSAN

Morning. Yes I am.

DRIVER

I was told not to disturb you until 8 AM.

SUSAN

What time did you get here?

DRIVER

Around 4am. Awful early to be heading out.

SUSAN

I own a small restaurant.

The driver holds out a clipboard with Susan's car keys clipped to the board along with a piece of paper.

DRIVER

I need you to sign for the delivery.

SUSAN

Where?

The driver hands Susan a pen and points to the bottom of the sheet of paper. Susan signs and then stands there.

DRIVER

My pen?

Susan looks at the driver.

SUSAN

Where's the bill?

The driver points to the pen Susan is holding.

DRIVER

My pen?

Susan hands the driver the pen.

SUSAN

What about the bill for repairing my car?

The Driver hands Susan the keys to her car.

DRIVER

All I needed was a signature for the delivery. You have a nice day.

SUSAN

Wait a minute.

Susan pulls the Mercedes keys out of her purse and hands them to the driver.

The driver takes the keys and walks back across the street leaving Susan standing there.

SUSAN

Strange.

Susan walks to the car and gets in.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

Susan starts the car and drives away.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

The sun is coming up. Susan is driving down a local street. The traffic light turns red and Susan stops abruptly.

Something moves on the passenger's seat and it catches Susan's attention.

Susan looks over and sees an envelope with Susan written on the front. Susan picks the envelope up and looks at it. The Light turns green. Susan puts the envelope in her bag and drives away.

INT. RESTAURANT OFFICE - DAY

Susan is sitting at a desk in thought, the letter is sitting open on the desk. A waiter walks in.

WAITER

Susan.

Susan does not respond.

WAITER (LOUDER)

Susan.

Susan looks at the waiter.

WAITER

Rob Lowe is asking to see you. This is the third time he's been here this month.

Susan smiles.

SUSAN

I'll be right out.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susan is sitting in a chair drinking coffee when Debi walks in and sits down.

DEBI

What's going on?

SUSAN

Nothing. When is your house going to be done?

DEBI

Why, do you want me out of here?

SUSAN

You Think? It's been a month.

DEBI

You love it when I'm here. It's like we're sharing a dorm room back in college.

Susan smiles

SUSAN

I do.

DEBI

I see your car is back.

SUSAN

Delivered in the middle of the night.

DEBI

I guess he wanted his Mercedes back.

SUSAN

I guess so. Get this. The guy who delivered my car sat in his truck for hour or two waiting for me to come out. He said he was instructed not to disturb me until 8am.

DEBI

That was nice of him.

SUSAN

He also did not have a bill for my car.

DEBI

What do you mean?

SUSAN

My car broke down in Tahoe, something to do with the alternator. They had the car towed to their house, repaired, and then delivered here and the driver had no bill for the work.

DEBI

They?

SUSAN

I told you there were two guys, David and William. David said William works for him.

DEBI

Are you sure William "Works for him"?

SUSAN

I asked that, and they said no. We all slept in different bedrooms. And besides, I really didn't get that vibe from them.

Susan holds up the letter that was left in the car.

DEBI
What's that?

SUSAN
It was left in the car. I thought it
was a bill for the repairs but all it
says is

Susan opens the letter and reads.

SUSAN
"Thank you for a lovely evening.
William"

DEBI
That's nice.

Susan sets the letter down.

SUSAN
I don't like people taking care of
things for me.

Debi smiles.

DEBI
Maybe you should think hard on that the
next time a guy asks you out.

SUSAN
Really, that's it?

DEBI
Well, all I'm saying is you are a
little rough on guys when they are nice
to you.

SUSAN
Well we know why men are nice.

DEBI
Not all men are just out for sex. Some
are out looking for other men, and sex.

Susan and Debi laugh.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - DAY

A Man in a dark suit is sitting at a small table drinking coffee and looking around. A waiter passes by.

MAN

Excuse me. Is Susan Ryan here?

WAITER

I'll see if she is available.

The waiter walks away.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT KITCHEN - DAY

Susan is in the kitchen looking over the menu with a cook. The Waiter walks in and up to Susan.

WAITER

Susan, there is a Man asking for you. He's been sitting at a table drinking coffee for the past hour.

SUSAN

I'll be out it a minute.

The waiter walks away.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT DINING AREA - DAY

Susan walks in. The Waiter sees Susan and points to the Man. Susan walks up to the Man's table.

SUSAN

I was told you wanted to see me. Is everything Ok?

The Man stands up and Susan gets a cautious look on her face.

MAN

Susan Ryan?

SUSAN

Yes.

The Man takes an envelope out of his jacket pocket and hands it to Susan. Susan takes the envelope.

SUSAN
What's this?

The Man smiles.

MAN
I was asked to give this to you.

The man looks around.

MAN
You have a very lovely restaurant, and
the coffee is excellent. Have a nice
day.

The Man walks out of the restaurant leaving Susan standing
there. The waiter walks up and picks up the Man's coffee
cup.

The waiter looks at the envelope.

WAITER
What's that?

SUSAN
I don't know.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT OFFICE - DAY

Susan walks in and sits down at the desk. Susan opens the
letter and reads.

DAVID (O.S)
Dear Susan I only use the lake house
once or twice a year and it's a shame
that it sits there unused the rest of
the time. If you would like, feel free
to use the lake house any time you are
in Tahoe. You know how to get in.
There is a spare key in the kitchen
cupboard next to the stove. All I ask
is that you call me and let me know
anytime you're going to be there, so I
do not intrude. David

Susan sits there with a suspicious look on her face.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Susan is standing in the kitchen next to the stove when Debi walks in. Debi drops her purse on the table and sits down at the kitchen table.

SUSAN

It's midnight, what are you doing here?

DEBI

You never asked me for my key.
Besides, I still have some things here
I have to pick up.

SUSAN

Well at least your house is done, and
you're moved back in.

DEBI

So, I can't spend the night?

Debi smiles sheepishly. The microwave rings, Susan takes a cup out of the microwave and closes the microwave door. Susan walks to the kitchen table and sits down.

SUSAN

You'll never guess what happened at the
restaurant Today.

DEBI

Let me see. Snoopdog came in?

SUSAN

No.

DEBI

Harrison Ford came in.

SUSAN

No.

DEBI

Mark Cuban came back and still wants to
franchise your restaurant?

SUSAN

No. And I told him no when he asked.
It wasn't a celebrity.

Debi throws her hands up.

DEBI

I give up.

SUSAN

Apparently, this guy came in, sat down
and drank coffee for an hour.

DEBI

WOW!

SUSAN

No, listen. After an hour he asked for
me. When I came out, he handed me an
envelope, he told me how nice the
restaurant was, that he liked the
coffee, then he walked out.

DEBI

Was he one of those sleezy looking
process servers? Were you served?

SUSAN

Served?

DEBI

Yes, with papers that you're being
sued.

SUSAN

NO! Actually, he was very well
dressed. Sort of looked like a secret
service agent.

Susan reaches over, pulls the envelope from her bag and
hands it to Debi. Debi opens the letter and reads it then
looks at Susan with a bewildered look.

DEBI

Who's David?

SUSAN

Remember back in November when I was stranded in Tahoe and I stayed at that lake house.

DEBI

You said you didn't sleep with the guy?

SUSAN

I didn't, he has to be in his seventies. Why do you have to always go there?

DEBI

So, this older man is offering you his lake house. What's the problem?

SUSAN

Doesn't it seem weird. I don't know this man. I only met him once.

DEBI

And spent the night with him.

SUSAN

God girl, you're too much.

DEBI

Look, you're being offered a lake house in Tahoe. I say jump at the offer.

SUSAN

It just seems too weird.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - DAY

Susan's cellphone rings and Susan answers it.

SUSAN

Hello Debi.

DEBI (O.S)

Ok, I've got the next two weeks off. The first week I must spend with my parents in Cleveland, but the second week is all mine. Let's do something.

SUSAN

I can't get away. The restaurant has been slammed for the past month. Everything is out of control.

DEBI (O.S)

I can hear it in your voice. You need to get away and relax before you start mixing dogfood into the meatloaf. Please say yes.

SUSAN

One, we don't server meatloaf and two I could not spend a full week away from this place.

DEBI (O.S)

Ok, how about a long weekend, say Wednesday through Sunday?

SUSAN

That might work. God knows I need to unwind.

DEBI (O.S)

How about Las Vegas.

SUSAN

No.

DEBI (O.S)

San Francisco?

SUSAN

No, too crowded and busy.

DEBI (O.S)

Napa?

SUSAN

What, so we can get hit on by guys who want to teach us all about wine?

Susan pauses.

SUSAN

We could go to Tahoe. You've never been and always avoid it when I invite you.

DEBI (O.S)

I'll go, but we're not driving eight hours to Tahoe.

SUSAN

We can fly into Reno, it's only an hour away. I'll make the reservations.

DEBI (O.S)

Well if you're paying for the flight, I'm paying for the hotel. Where do you want to stay?

SUSAN

I don't know. It's summer and the tourists will be everywhere.

DEBI (O.S)

How about the lake house? You said it was secluded.

SUSAN

Lake house?

DEBI (O.S)

Yes, the one the old guy offered you a few months ago.

SUSAN

We can't stay there.

DEBI (O.S)

Why not?

SUSAN

I wouldn't feel right about staying there.

DEBI (O.S)

If he offered it to me, you wouldn't have an issue.

SUSAN

I don't know.

DEBI (O.S)

Well, figure it out and text me. I'm on a plane to Cleveland first thing in the morning. By the time I land you better have texted me the name of a hotel so I can make reservations.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Susan walks into the kitchen, puts her bag on the table and gets a bottle of water from the refrigerator. Susan leans back against the counter and drinks some water.

Susan walks to the kitchen table and sorts through some papers. Susan picks up an envelope.

SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susan walks in carrying the envelope and a bottle of water. Susan sits down on the couch and turns on the TV then presses the mute button.

Susan opens the envelope and takes out the letter. Susan pulls her cellphone out of her pocket, looks at the letter and dials a number.

DAVID (O.S)

Hello, this is David, please leave a message.

Susan cringes.

SUSAN (VERY NICELY)

Hello David, this is Susan Ryan. I spent the night at your house in Tahoe last November. I was wondering if it would be Ok to use the house next Wednesday through Sunday? We'd be happy to take care of everything before we leave and replace anything we use. It would just be me and a friend. Just us two girls. Ok. Call me.

Susan ends the call and looks up at the ceiling like she is embarrassed. Susan unmutes the TV and leans back into the couch. A few moments later Susan's phone beeps letting her know she has a message. Susan swipes the phone to read the message.

DAVID (O.S)

That would be fine. There will be instructions on the counter. Enjoy your stay. David

Susan opens a text message to Debi and types. "Ok, we can stay at the lake house, but I still don't feel comfortable about it." Susan sends the message. Susan lays the phone on the couch and goes back to watching the news.

EXT. RENTAL CAR OFFICE - DAY

Susan and Debi are getting into their rental car. Debi looks around.

DEBI

Are you sure you don't want to stay in Reno. It's summer, do you know how many men have to be here?

SUSAN

Yes, and most would turn up married after you slept with them.

Debi holds her arms out as if to say "What".

DEBI

Do you have to be so cynical?

INT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

Susan is driving and Debi is looking out the window.

DEBI

I never realized it would be so beautiful up here. You see this is what LA needs.

SUSAN

What pine trees?

DEBI
No, fresh air and mountain views.

SUSAN
LA has mountains.

DEBI
Yes, but aren't they owned by the
Kardashians?

Susan and Debi laugh.

INT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

Susan and Debi are riding down a narrow road. Susan pulls up and stops at a driveway.

DEBI
Is this it?

SUSAN
I think so, but I'm not sure. There
were snowbanks lining the road and
driveway when I was here.

Susan turns the car into the driveway slowly and proceeds.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Susan pulls the car up next to the Mercedes and parks.
Susan and Debi get out of the car.

SUSAN
This is it.

DEBI
Nice.

Susan walks over to the Mercedes, open the door, and presses the garage door opener. The garage door opens, and Susan closes the car door.

DEBI
He didn't leave you a key.

SUSAN

His letter said there was a spare key
in the cupboard next to the stove.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVINGROOM - DAY

Susan and Debi walk in carrying suitcases and backpacks.
They both set their bags down. Susan walks to the picture
window and opens the door. Susan stands there looking out
at the lake.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

Debi walks into the kitchen and opens the refrigerator.
The refrigerator is empty except for bottled water. Debi
takes a bottle of water and closes the door. Debi begins
to drink. Susan walks into the Kitchen area.

SUSAN

Where did you get that?

DEBI

The refrigerator.

SUSAN

Make a note because we're replacing
everything.

DEBI

OK! There's a note on the counter.

Susan picks up the note. Debi walks over so they can both
read the note. You can read. "Grocery Store number XXX-
XXXX they deliver, Maintenance XXX-XXXX 24 hours a day,
Electric XXX-XXXX Emergency, leave all sheets and
pillowcases by the utility room door so housekeeping will
find them. Debi walks over to the living room.

DEBI

Do you think they rent this place?

SUSAN

Looking at the note you might think so,
but I didn't get that idea. Everything
in here seems too personal to be a
rental. I'm going to pick a room.

Susan walks to the back of the house.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan is walking around the living room looking at the items in the room and the books on the bookshelves. Debi comes walking in wearing a T-Shirt with no bra and a skimpy pair of shorts. Susan looks surprised.

SUSAN

Are you comfortable?

DEBI

Look, you brought me out here in the middle of now where. I'm going to relax and enjoy myself. Besides I'm going to get some serious sun on the dock, if you know what I mean.

SUSAN

Well I guess you're right. There are no men around to gawk at you.

The doorbell rings.

DEBI

I'll get it.

Debi walks over and answer's the door. There is a young man standing at the door with a box of groceries.

YOUNG MAN

I'm delivering groceries.

The Young Man cannot take his eyes off Debi.

SUSAN

What's he want?

DEBI

He has groceries, I called while you were settling in.

Susan walks up to the door.

SUSAN

Bring them into the kitchen.

The Young Man walks in carrying the groceries looking at Debi the whole time. When the Young Man turns his head, Susan motions Debi toward the back of the house.

SUSAN (QUIETLY)
Would you go put some clothes on?

Debi holds her hands up and shrugs.

DEBI (QUIETLY)
What?

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Susan walks into the kitchen as the Young Man sets the groceries down on the counter.

SUSAN
What do I owe you?

YOUNG MAN
Mister Johnson prefers to be billed.

SUSAN
But Mister Johnson is not here. We ordered the groceries.

YOUNG MAN
Yes ma'am. But we always bill Mister Johnson.

Ok, well let me give you a tip. Susan picks up her bag off the counter and reaches in to get a tip.

YOUNG MAN
Sorry ma'am, but my boss always adds fifteen percent to the bill as a tip. Mister Johnson insists.

SUSAN
He does, does he. Well thank you for bringing them out.

Susan puts her bag back on the counter and walks the Young Man to the door.

The Young Man looks down the hall for Debi as he approaches the front door. The Young Man leaves and Susan closes the door.

Susan returns to the kitchen area and begins to put the groceries into the refrigerator. Debi walks in carrying a towel.

SUSAN

Well you sure made an impression.

Debi smiles.

DEBI

I hope so.

Susan smiles and shakes her head. Susan looks through the groceries.

SUSAN

I know we're only going to be here a few days, but there doesn't seem to be much here. It looks like breakfast and lunch type foods.

DEBI

Yes, because we're going out to dinner every night.

Debi points at Susan's blue jeans.

DEBI

So, I hope you packed something more than jeans and T-Shirts.

Debi walks towards the picture window and door.

SUSAN

Where are you going?

Debi looks back at Susan as she walks.

DEBI

To take advantage of that dock and this sunshine. I suggest you join me. I hope that delivery boy is not still

around or he's going to get more than
an eye full.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE DOCK - DAY

Susan walks onto the dock wearing a full piece bathing
suit. Debi is lying at the end of the dock. Debi looks up
and sees Susan then lays her head back down.

Susan approaches the end of the dock. Debi is laying on a
towel face down with nothing on. Susan gets to the end of
the dock and begins to lay out her towel.

SUSAN

Really, would you put something on.

Susan sits down on the towel. Debi rolls over pulling the
towel over herself and sits up. Debi holds up her hand
gesturing towards the lake.

DEBI

Do you see where we are? There's not a
man for miles.

SUSAN

I know, but you're scaring the fish.

Susan and Debi laugh. Debi looks at Susan.

DEBI

Would it kill you to wear a two-piece
let alone a bikini?

Susan adjusts her bathing suit.

SUSAN

You know how I am, with the sun.

DEBI

I know you put on two coats of SPF 100
before you left the house. I'm right
aren't I?

Susan and Debi laugh.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan is sitting on the couch reading a book. Debi walks in holding her cellphone up looking at it. Debi walks over and sits in a chair still looking at her cellphone. Debi puts the cellphone down.

DEBI

You were right. There is no cell coverage.

SUSAN

Did you try the end of the dock?

DEBI

I did. If you dial, the call will not go through but there is just enough to send and receive text messages.

Debi looks around. Debi waves her finger in the air.

DEBI

You know I looked through this whole house. There is not a TV or radio to be found.

SUSAN

I know. Isn't it great?

Debi gives Susan a sarcastic look while Susan smiles back.

DEBI

I'm not going to say it but really.

SUSAN

Well, you want to go out to dinner, other wise you could be cooking.

DEBI

Ok, you're forcing me to say it. There is nothing to do here.

Susan smiles at Debi.

SUSAN

I came prepared.

Susan reaches into her backpack and pulls out a paper bag. Susan hands Debi the paper bag and goes back to reading.

Debi opens the paper bag and pulls out tabloid papers and gossip magazines.

DEBI
Now we're talking.

SUSAN
Will that keep you until dinner?

DEBI
They will, if you promise to wear something other than jeans and a T-shirt to dinner.

INT. RENTAL CAR - NIGHT

Susan and Debi are driving into town.

SUSAN
So, where do you want to eat?

DEBI
It doesn't matter to me, the first....

Susan suddenly wheels the car into a restaurant parking lot interrupting Debi and surprising her.

SUSAN
How's this place?

EXT. RESTAURANT PARKING LOT - DAY

Susan stops the car because three guys are walking across the parking lot. As the guys pass in front of the car they look in at Susan and Debi and Debi watches them.

INT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

DEBI
Well unless they are all gay, it's looking pretty good.

Susan smiles and shakes her head as she pulls the car forward.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Susan is sitting outside the picture windows relaxing in a chair. Debi comes walking out hung over. Debi is carrying a glass of orange juice and covering her sunglasses to shield her eyes from the sun. Debi sits down in a chair and takes a long drink of orange juice.

DEBI

I think I drank too much.

SUSAN

You're lucky I was there. A few of those guys had your number.

DEBI

What did you do, describe the lake house?

SUSAN

What do you mean?

DEBI

What guys wants to wake up in a lake house with no wide screen TV or jet skis?

SUSAN

No, I used my best line. I told them you are a lawyer.

Susan smiles and Debi cringes.

DEBI

If you would have told me back in college how hard it is for a female attorney to find a decent guy, I would have changed my major. The only good part about it is, there's not a man alive who's ass I cannot kick in court.

Susan and Debi laugh.

DEBI

How did you sleep?

SUSAN

Very well actually. The sun came in and slowly work me up. It was very nice.

DEBI

So, what's the plan for today?

SUSAN

More of the same. Peace and quiet, relaxation and plenty of sunshine.

Debi makes a sad face.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan is sitting on the couch reading a book when Debi walks in wearing a bikini and carrying a towel. Debi sits in a chair.

DEBI

You ready to jump in the lake?

SUSAN

I am.

Debi notices Susan is wearing a two-piece bathing suit.

DEBI

Wow, a two-piece bathing suit.

SUSAN

Since we're going swimming, I only put on one coat of sunscreen.

DEBI

I'm impressed.

Susan gets a questioning look on her face.

DEBI

What is it?

SUSAN

I don't know. It's been a long time since I actually swam in lake Tahoe. I

can remember my Father taking me wading
in the lake when I was very small.

DEBI

Well you're a big girl now so let's go
jump into the lake.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Susan and Debi walk up to the dock. Susan slows down and
looks around. Debi notices Susan is falling behind.

DEBI

What is it?

SUSAN

I don't know, must be the dreams from
last night. I have sort of a Deja Vu
feeling.

Susan and Debi continue and walk out on to the dock.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Susan is writing a note on the kitchen counter. Debi walks
in.

DEBI

Why is it your days off seem to go
twice as fast as workdays?

SUSAN

So, you enjoyed the peace and quiet
here?

DEBI

I'm not saying that, but it was nice to
relax without running around all day
and night.

Susan yawns.

DEBI

You sleep Ok?

SUSAN

I did but I dreamed a lot.

Susan pulls an envelope out of her bag and slides the note she wrote into the envelope then writes "David" on the front of the envelope. Susan sets the envelope on the counter.

DEBI

What's that?

SUSAN

Five hundred dollars.

DEBI

So, a man offers you his lake house for free and you're going to leave him five hundred dollars like it's a rental.

SUSAN

You got it. I'm just not comfortable staying here for free. You all set?

DEBI

My things are in the car.

SUSAN

Ok then, we're out of here.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - DAY

Susan is in the kitchen checking on things when a Waiter walks up to Susan.

WAITER

A customer asked for you.

DEBI

What do they want?

WAITER

I don't know. It's a guy sitting by himself in a dark suit.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - DAY

Susan walks through the door to the dining area and sees the same Man as before sitting at a table drinking coffee. Susan walks up to the table.

SUSAN

You again.

The Man smiles and stands up.

MAN

Yes, it' me.

The Man pulls an envelope from his jacket and hands it to Susan. Susan takes the envelope.

SUSAN

What's this.

The Man smiles.

MAN

I don't know. I was simply asked to deliver it directly to you.

Susan motions to the chair.

SUSAN

Sit down smiley.

The Man sits down, and Susan sits down.

SUSAN

What's your name?

MAN

ART.

SUSAN

Art? What kind of name is Art?

ART

It's short for Arthur.

SUSAN

Ok, Art. What's the deal?

ART

I don't know what you mean.

SUSAN

I'm asking about David Johnson. Who is he?

ART

I've never met him and really don't know him. I'm asked from time to time to do things for him here in California.

Susan gives Art a questioning look. Susan opens the envelope and pulls out two pages. Susan reads the first, a letter.

DAVID (O.S)

Dear Susan I hope you and your friend enjoyed your stay at the lake house. I'm sorry but I cannot accept the money you left at the lake house. So, as not to offend you by returning the money I have donated the money to a worthy cause. Sincerely David.

Susan looks at the second page and it's a receipt for a five hundred dollars donation to the national breast cancer foundation. Susan smiles.

ART

Is everything Ok?

SUSAN

So, you're just a messenger?

Art smiles.

ART

I guess so.

SUSAN

I hope you don't mind if I'm a little suspicious.

ART

I understand. You have a nice day.

Art gets up and leaves Susan sitting there.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

Susan is stuck in traffic. Susan's phone rings and Susan answers it.

SUSAN

Hello?

DEBI (O.S)

It's me, I'm just checking in.

SUSAN

I'm stuck in traffic trying to get across town to see about some new furniture for the restaurant.

DEBI (O.S)

Speaking of the restaurant, I have a guy I want you to go out with.

SUSAN

Really Debi, I don't like blind dates.

DEBI (O.S)

He's not blind. Besides he's a nice guy.

SUSAN

I'm not sure your definition and my definition of a nice guy are the same.

DEBI (O.S)

He is, I just got out of court with him. I got him off the hook in a lawsuit.

SUSAN

Great.

DEBI (O.S)

No, it's not like that. He owns a small commercial kitchen supply company, and a former employee was suing him for an injury. The guy suing him walked into court on crutches wearing an air cast. He didn't know I had a private investigator take video of him playing basketball two days ago.

I submitted the video to the judge and the guy and his lawyer could not get out of there fast enough.

SUSAN

Now you want me to meet this guy?

DEBI (O.S)

Sure, you own a restaurant, he owns a kitchen supply company. At least you'll have something to talk about with this one.

SUSAN

I don't know.

DEBI (O.S)

I'll make the arrangements and I'll be there. What's going on with you?

SUSAN

I got another visit from Art.

DEBI (O.S)

Who's Art?

SUSAN

The Man who delivered the letter from David, the man who owns the lake house in Tahoe.

DEBI (O.S)

You mean mister secret service.

SUSAN

It turns out he's quite nice. He brought me another letter from David.

DEBI (O.S)

What did it say?

SUSAN

It said he could not accept the money I left at the lake house, so he donated it to the national breast cancer foundation.

DEBI (O.S)
Is that it?

SUSAN
Well, ya.

DEBI (O.S)
Ok, then back to dating arrangements.
Where do you want to go?

SUSAN
Why don't you call me tonight?

DEBI (O.S)
Ok, but this is happening.

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Susan and Debi come walking out of the restaurant arm in arm with two men following them.

DEBI
So, what do you think?

SUSAN
He seems nice.

DEBI
I told you. Are you going to see him again?

SUSAN
I gave him my card. Let's see what happens.

DEBI (SARCASTICALLY)
Wow.

Debi looks back at the two men following them.

DEBI
Just jump on the guy why don't you, I would.

SUSAN
I'm sure you would.

Susan and Debi begin to laugh.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

It's Halloween and all the employees as well as many of the patrons are dressed in costumes. Susan comes walking through the restaurant dressed like a waiter. Susan walks up to the hostess desk to check on things. Susan is smiling.

Susan looks around the restaurant and sees Art sitting at a table with a woman.

Susan makes her way across the restaurant to Art's table.

SUSAN
May I help you?

The Young Lady looks up.

YOUNG LADY
We've already ordered, thank you.

Art looks up.

ART
Hello.

SUSAN
Hello. Do you have something for me?

The Young Lady looks at Art with a questioning look.

ART
Not this time.

SUSAN
So, you're here on a date?

The Young Lady gets a surprised look on her face.

ART
No, just dinner.

Art gestures to the Young Lady.

ART
HOLLY, this is Susan Ryan, she owns
this restaurant.

Art looks at Susan.

ART
Susan, this is my sister Holly.

Holly reaches out her hand and Susan shakes it.

SUSAN
It's nice to meet you.

HOLLY
Nice to meet you.

ART
Holly just graduated from law school
and has been accepted into the FBI
academy.

SUSAN
Congratulation.

HOLLY
Thank you.

ART
Holley wanted to see LA before starting
at the academy so I'm showing her
around.

Art looks around at the other patrons.

ART
We came for dinner, but I don't think
we're dressed for the occasion.

Susan looks around.

SUSAN
Yes, this happens on Halloween every
year.

ART
You look very nice.

Susan looks down at what she is wearing.

SUSAN

Yes, but since I'm dressed as a waiter
the waiters expect me to wait tables.
Well you enjoy your meal.

ART

Thank you.

Susan walks back to the hostess desk. The hostess is
standing there.

SUSAN

Do we have a reservation name on table
12?

Susan looks back at Art and his sister.

HOSTESS

Yes, Art Boyle.

SUSAN

Thank you.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Susan is sitting on the couch with a tablet in her lap.
You can see Susan is searching for David Johnson New York
and thousands of search results appear. Susan scrolls
through some of them but nothing matches David. Susan does
not click on any. Susan types in Arthur Boyle and
thousands of search results appear. Susan scrolls through
to one listing for the FBI. Susan clicks on the link and
it's an old graduation announcement from when Art graduated
from the FBI academy. Susan returns to the results and
finds a government document where Art registered his
security company. Susan searches for the security company
name but no results. Susan searches Facebook for David and
Art but no matches. Susan puts the tablet down and turns
the TV on.

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Susan and Debi are having breakfast at an outside
restaurant.

SUSAN
You'll never guess who I saw in the
restaurant on Halloween?

DEBI
Snoopdog?

SUSAN
No, what's up with you and Snoopdog.

DEBI
Nothing.

Debi's cellphone beeps with a message. Debi looks at the
cellphone and ignores it.

SUSAN
Art was there with his sister.

DEBI
Who's Art?

SUSAN
The guy who brought me the letters from
David the lake house guy.

DEBI
And?

Debi's cellphone beeps again with another message. Debi
looks and ignores it again.

SUSAN
Do you have to answer that?

DEBI
No, it's my Mom. She always wants to
talk Sunday morning. In her case it's
lunch time back in Cleveland. Be glad
you don't have a mother pestering you.

SUSAN
My mother died of breast cancer when I
was ten, it's not quite the same.

DEBI

I know, I'm sorry. So, did this Art bring you another letter?

SUSAN

No, he was there with his Sister having dinner.

DEBI

So?

SUSAN

Well it got me thinking. I did some searching and can't find anything on David on the Internet.

DEBI

Hello, he's old.

SUSAN

Yes, but I did find Art. He graduated from the FBI academy and he owns a security company here in LA.

DEBI

With all the celebrities out here, there are dozens of security companies in LA. My firm uses two and represents several. One of the partners is a former Marine Major and he's in to all that stuff. Aren't you about due for your fall trip to Tahoe?

SUSAN

I usually go in November.

DEBI

So, are you going?

SUSAN

Why, do you want to go with me?

DEBI

No thank you. I relaxed enough for the year when we were there in the summer. Besides, I really don't do the winter thing with all the snow.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT OFFICE - DAY

Susan is sitting at a desk. Susan picks up her cellphone, scrolls, presses the screen and puts the cellphone to her ear.

DAVID (O.S)

Hello, this is David, please leave a message.

Susan grimaces.

SUSAN

Hello this is Susan, Susan Ryan. I was wondering if it would be Ok to use the lake house in Tahoe this weekend. I'm heading to Tahoe Friday. I would be there Friday evening and leave Sunday morning. Ok? Thank You.

Susan relaxes her face and puts the cellphone down. Susan gets up to leave the room and her cellphone beeps with a message. Susan picks up the cellphone and swipes the screen then reads the text.

DAVID (O.S)

That would be fine. On the fireplace mantel there are pictures of some friends who have stayed there. I hope I'm not imposing but could I ask you to leave a picture of yourself on the mantel? Have a nice time.

Susan gets a concerned look on her face.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan is sitting on the couch reading a book. There is a fire burning in the fireplace. Susan has a calm look on her face, she is smiling.

Through the picture windows you can see a light snow falling on the lake.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan walks into to the living room area with her coat and places a suitcase down on the floor. Susan looks around then gets a surprised look on her face. Susan unzips the suitcase and pulls out a small picture frame.

Susan walks to the fireplace and places the picture frame on the mantel along with the others. Susan is smiling.

The picture is a selfie of Susan and Debi on the dock.

Susan walks along the mantel looking at pictures. Susan looks closely at two men sitting in white chairs in front of the picture window. You can see in the picture that it is President Kennedy and his brother Bobby.

Susan turns and looks at the two white chairs outside the picture windows.

SUSAN

Oh, my god.

Susan continues to look at the pictures and recognizes a few famous people. Susan stops at one picture of a younger David standing with a man. Susan looks at the picture for a moment.

Susan turns and walks to her suitcase. Susan takes one last look around.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Susan and Debi are sitting with JOHN having dinner.

DEBI

John and I were looking to get a way for a long weekend. Do you want to join us?

SUSAN

I can't, I have the restaurant.

DEBI

You get away when you want to. Besides John has a friend Joe. Joe's a lawyer, a very nice conservative guy.

JOHN

He is, Joe's been divorced a few years. He likes to travel. I already talked to him and he said he's in as long as it's nothing like Las Vegas or Cancun.

SUSAN

Really, a blind date vacation?

DEBI

It wouldn't be like that. We could all meet for dinner before going and if one of you wants to pull out you can.

SUSAN

I don't know.

DEBI

How about the lake house in Tahoe?

JOHN

What lake house in Tahoe?

DEBI

Susan has a friend with a lake house in Tahoe and she can use it whenever she wants.

Susan gets uncomfortable.

SUSAN

It's not really like that.

JOE

Tahoe sounds good. I haven't been there in a while. They have some nice golf courses.

DEBI

See the guys will be out golfing all day and we can relax.

JOHN

How many bedrooms does this lake house have?

DEBI
There are five?

JOHN
That works, we can all have our own
room.

John looks at Debi and Debi looks at John.

JOHN
Or not.

Susan looks at Debi and shakes her head.

DEBI
Think about it. At least let's have
dinner and see where things go.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

Susan holds up her cellphone and swipes a few
times then places the cellphone to her ear.

DAVID (O.S)
Hello, this is David, please leave a
message.

SUSAN
Hello David, this is Susan Ryan. I was
thinking of going to Tahoe this
Thursday through Sunday and was
wondering if the lake house is
available. It would just be me and a
few friends. You can call me if you
want. Thank you.

Susan ends the call. A few moments later Susan's cellphone
beeps. Susan picks it up and reads the text.

DAVID (O.S)
About to get on a plane. Have a nice
time at the lake house. David

Susan sets the cellphone down.

EXT. RENTAL CAR OFFICE - DAY

Susan, Debi, John and Joe walk up to their rental car.

JOHN
Who's driving?

JOE
I'll drive.

JOHN
Ok, Susan you're navigating. How far
is it?

SUSAN
About an hour.

DEMI
We need to stop for lunch, I'm
starving.

Everyone gets into the car and drives away.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

The car pulls in and parks. Everyone gets out and Joe
starts taking luggage out of the back of the rental.

SUSAN
The spare car is not here.

DEBI
So?

SUSAN
That's how I get into the house.

DEBI
Well let's check the door.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE BACK DOOR - DAY

Susan and Debi walk up to the back door. John and Joe are
carrying the luggage. There is an envelope taped to the
back door with Susan written on it.

Susan opens the envelope and reads it.

DEBI

What does it say?

SUSAN

It's from Art. It says they needed the spare car and to look for a frog by the chimney.

John walks over to the chimney and looks on the ground. John picks up a small frog statue and tips it up. A shiny new key falls from the frog's mouth into John's hand.

JOHN

Got it.

John puts the frog down, walks over and hands Susan the key. Susan opens the door.

JOHN

Do you want me to put the key back?

SUSAN

No, the letter said to keep it.

Susan looks at the key as everyone files in past her.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN AREA - DAY

Debi is looking at the note on the counter as Susan walks in.

SUSAN

What's the note say?

DEBI

Same as before. I'll call and order groceries.

SUSAN

No, don't do that. We can go shopping.

DEBI

Really?

Susan turns to see John and Joe standing there looking around.

JOE

This is a beautiful lake house.

SUSAN

Thank you, it was passed down through my friend's family. You two go and get settled. The bedrooms are down the hall. The one with the lake view is mine. Debi and I are going to go do some shopping. We'll be back in a while. Anything special you want?

Joe walks up and hands Susan the rental car keys. Joe smiles at Susan and Susan smiles back. Joe pulls out his wallet.

JOE

Let me give you some money.

SUSAN

No need, we have it.

JOE

Are you sure?

Susan shakes her head yes.

Joe puts his wallet away.

JOE

Some Ginger Ale would be nice if you don't mind.

JOHN (O.S)

Don't get anything for dinner, we're going out, my treat.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Susan is pushing the cart picking out items as Debi walks next to the cart.

DEBI

I don't know why we could not call and order what we needed. I haven't been in a grocery store in months.

SUSAN

We never paid for the groceries the last time.

DEBI

Did you stiff the deliver boy?

SUSAN

No, he would not take any money. He insisted that David wanted to be billed.

DEBI

So, when do we get to meet this David?

SUSAN

I don't know. When I called about this weekend he was getting on a plane.

DEBI

Where was he going?

SUSAN

I don't know, he texted me.

DEBI

Well, let's get what we need and get out of here.

SUSAN

Joe wants us to pick up some Ginger Ale.

DEBI

Ginger Ale, you know what that means.

SUSAN

What?

DEBI

AA.

Susan cringes.

SUSAN

Really?

Debi shrugs her shoulders.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Everyone is sitting in the living room relaxing.

JOE

Your friend has some very nice books.
What does he do?

SUSAN

I know, I've read a few. He owns
businesses in New York, Las Vegas and
Reno.

John gets up and walks over to the bookshelves. John wanders around the room to the fireplace. John starts looking at the pictures on the mantel. John points to one.

JOHN

Debi, it's you.

DEBI

No, it's not me.

SUSAN

It is. David asked me to leave a
picture, so I left the selfie we took
out on the dock last year.

John continues to look at the pictures and points at one.

JOHN

Has anyone looked at these pictures?

SUSAN

I have. There are some famous people
in some of them.

Joe gets up and walks over. John picks up a picture and shows it to Joe.

JOHN

Famous and infamous. Isn't that Johnny
Roselli in this picture?

JOE
I believe it is.

DEBI
What are you guys looking at?

Debi and Susan get up and walk over to look at the picture John is talking about. The picture has two men standing on the dock of the lake house.

SUSAN
That's David on the left.

DEBI
Who's the other guy?

JOE
That's Johnny Roselli.

Susan, Debi and Joe return to their seats.

SUSAN
Who's Johnny Roselli?

JOE
You may remember him. Joe Pesci played him in the movie JFK.

DEBI
I didn't see that movie.

Susan has a concerned look on her face.

SUSAN
I remember that movie. Joe Pesci played a gangster that was recruited by the CIA to help assassinate Castro.

DEBI
Whoa.

John sets the picture down and continues looking. John picks up another picture.

JOHN
You guys are not going to believe this.

DEBI

What, who is it?

John holds up the picture.

JOHN

It's President Kenney and his brother
Bobby.

John point with the picture towards the picture windows.

JOHN

And they're sitting outside in those
chairs.

Everyone looks outside at the white adirondack chairs.

DEBI

Are you kidding me?

Debi looks at Susan.

DEBI

What did you say this guy does?

SUSAN

He told me he owns several souvenir
stores.

DEBI

This guy has a picture of himself and a
mobster on his mantel, a picture of the
Kennedy brothers sitting in those
chairs and you said this guy owns
souvenir stores?

JOHN

I wouldn't be too sure that's all he's
done.

SUSAN

That's all I know.

JOHN

Well this weekend just got a whole lot
more interesting.

Joe looks at Susan with a concerned look.

DEBI

Do you think the Kennedy's slept here?

Susan shrugs her shoulders. Everyone is deep in thought.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM AREA - DAY

Susan is standing looking through her bag when Debi walks up dressed for dinner. Debi points to John and Joe standing outside the picture windows looking at the adirondack chairs. Susan looks.

SUSAN

Do you think they're afraid to sit in them?

DEBI

No way. Before the weekend is over John will have several pictures of himself sitting in the chair the President sat it. Next week the pictures will be hanging in his office.

SUSAN

How do we know they're the same chairs?

DEBI

We don't, but that's the story John will be telling. Let's get them in here before they forget about dinner.

Susan and Debi laugh.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

All four are sitting at a table waiting on their meals. John is using his cellphone.

DEBI

John, put the cellphone down.

JOHN

There's no coverage at the lake house.

DEBI

So, you're out to dinner with me.
What's more important?

Susan looks at Joe and smiles. Debi snatches the cellphone out of John's hand and looks at it.

Debi turns the phone so Susan and Joe can see the screen.

DEBI

He's googling Kennedy Tahoe. Really?

Debi presses the power button and shuts the cellphone off then hands it back to John.

DEBI

Now put it away.

John puts his cellphone in his pocket.

JOE

You must admit it is intriguing. The man knew the Kennedys and Johnny Roselli.

JOHN

There are several other pictures of famous people on that mantel. What else do you know about this David?

SUSAN

I told you everything I know.

JOE

How do you know David?

DEBI

You'll love this, she broke into the lake house.

SUSAN

Debi. I didn't break in. My car broke down and I was stranded in the freezing cold. No one was home and I used the garage door opener to get in.

JOHN

I don't care how she knows him. It's a great house.

Joe looks at Susan with a slight worried look on his face.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Susan, Debi and John are sitting at the table after dinner.

SUSAN

How much do you know about Joe?

JOHN

We play golf and go out to some of the same parties. He's a nice guy.

DEBI

He's not drinking.

JOHN

So, he's driving.

DEBI

Does he have a problem?

JOHN

I remember someone asking him about it and he said he never drank. He's into healthy foods. Didn't you hear him ask to have his chicken broiled.

SUSAN

So, no AA?

JOHN

Joe? No. Where would you get that idea?

Susan looks at Debi.

DEBI

How was I suppose to know.

Joe walks up to the table. Everyone is smiling.

JOE

We ready?

JOHN

Sure, let me get the check.

JOE

All taken care of.

JOHN

Oh, well, thank you.

EXT. RESTARANT PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Susan and Debi are walking arm and arm to the car together.

DEBI

What did I tell you, he's a nice guy.

SUSAN

We'll see.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Susan is in the kitchen rinsing out some mugs at the sink. Susan notices car lights coming up the driveway. Susan finishes and walks to the back door.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE FRONT - NIGHT

Susan comes walking out. The Mercedes is parked in front of the garage next to their rental. There is a man standing next to the Mercedes using his cellphone. Susan walks up behind him.

SUSAN

Art?

Art turns arounds and puts his cellphone in his pocket.

ART

Hi Susan.

SUSAN

What are you doing here?

Art looks at the Mercedes.

ART
Dropping off the car.

SUSAN
Why?

ART
David flew into Reno Yesterday and wanted to use the spare car. So, I picked it up for him and met him at the airport.

SUSAN
You drove up from LA to take the car to Reno for David?

ART
God no. I was in the area. I flew in from San Francisco.

SUSAN
So, David is here?

ART
No, he flew back to New York about an hour ago. He was only here to meet with some lawyers.

SUSAN
You did all this so David could drive his own car.

ART
Well that and he wanted to meet me. He took me out to dinner as his way of saying thank you.

SUSAN
For picking up his car?

ART
No. I helped with something.

SUSAN
What was that?

ART

I made sure some things were properly moved out of a house David was selling.

SUSAN

In San Francisco?

ART

No, Beverly Hills.

SUSAN

As owner of a security company, you're a mover also?

Art pauses.

ART

How did you know I own a security company?

Susan smiles.

SUSAN

I know how to use Google.

ART

Well, it was expensive artwork that was being moved. Actually, just a few blocks from your house. I can use Google also.

SUSAN

You got my address from Google?

ART

No.

SUSAN

So, David had a house in Beverly Hills?

ART

A nice little California craftsman that was built back in the fifties. It was funny. David sent me the key to open the house so the artwork could be packed and removed before the new owner took possession. The realtor met me

there and when we entered the house, it looked like no one had been in there for years. The realtor and new owner never stepped inside until I showed up.

SUSAN

Don't you find that strange?

ART

Trust me, when it comes to some of my clients, that's not ever on the scale of strange.

SUSAN

Would you like to come inside? It's just me and a few friends.

Art pulls his cellphone out of his pocket and looks at it.

ART

No, I never meant to disturb you.

Art holds up his cellphone.

ART

Cell coverage is terrible out here, but the Uber app works. My Uber is a minute away.

SUSAN

Art, what do you know about David?

ART

Nothing really. I just do a few things a year for him. Until Yesterday I never met him or talked to him. I've always talked to William or David texts me.

A car comes up the driveway with an Uber sign lit up in the front window. Art turns and looks at the car then turns back to look at Susan.

ART

My ride is here. You have a good evening.

SUSAN

You too.

Susan stands there as Art gets into the car and the car backs out of the driveway.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

It's morning and Debi is sitting at the counter drinking coffee when Susan walks in. Susan walks over to the refrigerator and pulls out a bottle of water. Susan closes the refrigerator door, leans back against the counter, and takes a drink.

DEBI

Well, well, sleepy head.

SUSAN

I know, I overslept.

DEBI

That's not like you.

SUSAN

I know. I was dreaming all night long.

DEBI

About what?

SUSAN

Nothing really. In one dream I was playing at the edge of a lake. In another I was riding in a car.

DEBI

Where were you driving to?

SUSAN

No. I was little and I was leaning out the window with my hair flowing in the wind.

DEBI

You know what that was?
That was one of those politically incorrect dreams. You should have been strapped to a car seat in the back.

Susan and Debi laugh. Susan looks around.

SUSAN

Where are the guys?

DEBI

Well, after a half hour photo shoot in the chairs, they headed out to play golf. Break out your bikini, we're getting some sun on the dock.

SUSAN

So, you're going to wear a bikini?

DEBI

Hell, no.

SUSAN

What if the guys come back?

Debi smiles a sheepish smile.

DEBI

So.

Debi laughs.

SUSAN

You're bad.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE DOCK - DAY

You can see from the picture window that Susan and Debi are lying on the far end of the Dock. Susan in a two piece and Debi is wearing nothing.

INT. LAKE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan and Debi are relaxing in the living room on the couch when John and Joe walk in the back door.

JOHN

Where did the Mercedes come from?

SUSAN

It was dropped off last night.

DEBI
Someone dropped off a Mercedes?

SUSAN
Yes, Art did.

DEBI
Art?

SUSAN
Yes, mister secret service.

DEBI
Oh.

Joe has a concerned look on his face.

JOE
Someone with the secret service,
dropped off a car?

SUSAN
No, this guy Art does things for David.
When I first met Art, I told Debi I
thought he looked like a secret service
agent. He owns a security company in
LA.

JOHN
Which one?

SUSAN
I don't remember.

John and Joe walk into the living room and sit down.

JOHN
You are not going to believe what we
found out. I was Googling information
on David and I pulled up the lake house
address. Nothing came up. I mean
nothing. No realtor photos, no past
sales, nothing. So, I called a friend
down in LA, James Cameron, he's a real-
estate broker.

SUSAN

James Cameron is a real-estate broker?

DEBI

Not "the" James Cameron.

JOHN

James pulled up the address in his system and it's owned by an offshore company. When we Googled that company name, we came up with a few properties in New York, Las Vegas and Reno. One of the properties was in Beverly Hills but it recently sold.

JOHN

When we pulled up one of the addresses in Las Vegas Joe recognized the store. Joe bought a T-Shirt at that store.

DEBI

Wow, the guys owns a souvenir store or two. We knew that. So what?

JOHN

So, the guy has an offshore company.

DEBI

Big deal. That's what you guys did all day. You rode around the golf course playing on your cellphones?

JOE

We only played nine holes because mister cellphone spent so much time Googling.

JOHN

To my defense, it's a really long course and there were quite a few players on it this morning.

JOE

It was busy.

JOHN

Tell them about the store.

JOE

It's just a small souvenir store off the strip in an old building. I remember thinking how the building looked out of place because everything in Las Vegas always looks like it was built recently. I stopped in to buy my Son a T-Shirt on my way home from a business trip.

SUSAN

You have a Son?

JOE

Yes, he's fourteen years old and lives with his mother in LA. We felt it was better that way. We're very civil, no fighting over major decisions. Not that I would do that. I see him all the time.

Debi leans over close to Susan and whispers.

DEBI

Way to kill the mood. Get him talking about his Ex.

Debi leans back over.

DEBI

So, dinner, where are we going.

JOHN

Since I had cellphone coverage on the golf course, I made a six pm reservation at a very nice steakhouse in Tahoe. You ladies what to start getting ready.

DEBI

Cool your jets, it's three o'clock. I think we'll make it.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Susan is writing a note as Debi walks in. Debi sits down at the counter.

DEBI

All loaded. The guys are saying
goodbye to the chairs.

Susan and Debi look out the picture windows and laugh. Susan puts the note into an envelope and places it on the counter.

DEBI

How'd you sleep?

SUSAN

I slept well.

DEBI

I mean, how did you sleep.

SUSAN

Like I said, I slept well all by
myself.

DEBI

And here we went to bed early so you
two could have some alone time.

SUSAN

You may have went to bed, but you
didn't go to sleep. We could hear you
two.

Debi cringes.

DEBI

Sorry.

Debi looks around the house.

DEBI

Do you really think JFK slept here?

SUSAN

I don't know. Did you have to defile
the bed that JFK might have slept in?

Susan and Debi begin laughing. John and Joe walk in the door by the picture windows.

JOHN
You two ready?

SUSAN
We are. Joe, could you check and make sure that door is locked?

Joe stops and checks the door.

INT. LAKE HOUSE BACKDOOR AREA - DAY

John and Joe walk out. Susan stops to take one last look.

DEBI
You ready?

SUSAN
It's just something about this place.

DEBI
Yesterday you were talking about how comfortable you are here.

SUSAN
I know. But at times I get a Deja Vu feeling also.

Debi walks out leaving Susan standing there.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE FRONT - DAY

Susan walks out the door, turns and locks the door behind her.

Susan looks at the shiny brass key and places it in her bag.

INT. RENTAL CAR INTERIOR - DAY

Joe is driving, Susan is navigating, John and Debi are in the back.

DEBI
David had a house in Beverly Hills?

Susan turns so she can see Debi and John.

SUSAN

I guess so. Art said it was not far from my house, so it was on the edge of Beverly Hills. John you said someone told you the house was sold?

JOHN

Yes.

SUSAN

Can you get me the address and text it to me?

John pulls out his cellphone and looks at it then puts the cellphone away.

JOHN

I will just as soon as I get cellphone coverage.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

Susan's cellphone rings and Susan wakes up. Susan picks up the cellphone and swipes it.

SUSAN

Good morning aunt Jessie.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Morning dear.

SUSAN

Do you know what time it is?

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

(pause) Yes, It's nine-fifteen.

SUSAN

Yes, that means it's six-fifteen here.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

I'm sorry. Are you awake?

SUSAN

Yes.

Susan rolls over and props herself up on a pillow.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

So, what have you been doing?

SUSAN

Just working. Some friends and I spent last weekend in Tahoe.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Why would you want to go to Tahoe when you live in sunny Southern California?

SUSAN

Because it's not sunny Southern California. It's calm and relaxing. It's the only place I have memories of my Father. What do you remember about my Father?

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Not much. After school I went east, and your Mother went west. Your Mother made it as far as Las Vegas where she met him. I don't know why your Mother ever got involved with him. Worst mistake of her life.

Susan rolls her eyes.

SUSAN

Thanks.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

You know what I mean. Your uncle and I stopped in Las Vegas on our way to Hawaii for our honeymoon. I wanted to see your Mother. Your Father took all of us to dinner and a show. I only saw him that one time. He was a quiet man, but he knew people wherever we went. We saw Frank Sinatra and after the show your Father took us backstage to meet

him. Your Uncle was impressed that your Father knew Frank Sinatra.

SUSAN

I didn't find any pictures of Mother and him when I was going through her things.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

It wasn't long after our visit that your Mother got pregnant and moved to California. She never really talked about him. She said she didn't like the people he was associated with. Didn't she talk about him?

SUSAN

Not really. I remember playing in the water's edge the last time he took me to Tahoe. After that I never saw him again. I was four, I think.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

That was about the time your Mother cut off all ties with him. He kept coming to LA, and showing up all times of day and night. It scared your Mother. You two were better off without him. Why are you asking about him now?

SUSAN

I don't know. I guess the trip to Tahoe got me thinking.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

So, how's the restaurant? Are you seeing anyone?

Susan takes a deep breath.

SUSAN

The restaurant is doing fine and no I'm not seeing anyone.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Dear, don't you think it's time to settle down and start a family?

SUSAN

I don't have time for a family, I have a restaurant.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Well you can't spend your life alone.

SUSAN

Aunt Jessie, can I call you later after I get up and get moving.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Ok. But don't make it too late. We're three hours ahead of you here on the east coast.

SUSAN

I know Aunt Jessie. Goodbye.

AUNT JESSIE (O.S)

Goodbye dear. Love you.

Susan ends the call and puts the cellphone on the nightstand. Susan lies back and thinks.

EXT. SUSAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Susan walks out and down the stairs. Susan gets into her car.

INT. SUSAN'S CAR - DAY

Susan takes out her cellphone and swipes a few times. You can see Susan paste an address into Google maps and press the go button.

Susan looks in her rear-view mirror and pulls out. Susan pull up to a stop street. Susan pulls through the stop street.

GOOGLE MAPS

Destination ahead on your right.

SUSAN

What?

Susan slows down and looks at her cellphone.

GOOGLE MAPS
You have arrived.

Susan slowly pulls to the curb and parks in front of a house with a for-sale sign on the lawn. The for-sale sign has a Sold sticker across it.

EXT. OLD HOUSE - DAY

Susan gets out of the car and walks up to the house. Susan walks up the steps and across the porch.

Susan looks in the windows and the house is pretty much empty except for a few pieces of furniture. There are marks on the walls where pictures and painting once hung.

Susan turns around and looks out towards the road.

SUSAN
It was right down the street from where
I lived most of my life.

Susan walks back to her car in deep thought.

INT. SUSAN'S RESTAURANT OFFICE - NIGHT

Susan is working on her computer when her cellphone rings.

SUSAN
Hey you.

DEBI (O.S)
What's going on at the restaurant
tonight?

SUSAN
Surprisingly, everything is running
like clockwork.

DEBI (O.S)
John said he saw Joe.

SUSAN
And?

DEBI (O.S)

Nothing. What's going on between you two?

SUSAN

We've had dinner a few times but it's not going anywhere. We're just friends.

DEBI (O.S)

It's not going anywhere because you're not driving it. A relationship is like a car. You get into it and you can move it forward or reverse. You have a brake pedal to stop it and a gas pedal to go full steam ahead.

SUSAN

I believe full steam ahead is a nautical term.

DEBI

Like I care. Stomp the gas pedal and see where it goes.

SUSAN

I can't do that, that's not me.

DEBI (O.S)

Well maybe I can.

SUSAN

No Debi, don't do anything on my behalf.

DEBI (O.S)

I'm not. Do John and I have a reservation for Halloween?

SUSAN

Yes, you're in the book. Just make sure you come dressed appropriately.

DEBI (O.S)

Don't I always?

SUSAN

Did you forget who you are talking to. I've seen some of your Halloween costumes or should I say what was left of them.

DEBI (O.S)

Come on, I'm over thirty and a lawyer.

SUSAN

My point exactly. See you.

DEBI (O.S)

Bye.

Susan ends the call.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

It's morning and Susan is sitting at the kitchen table with coffee after finishing breakfast. Susan's cellphone rings.

SUSAN

Good morning.

DEBI (O.S)

You awake?

SUSAN

Yes.

DEBI (O.S)

You alone?

SUSAN

Yes. I just finished breakfast. You?

DEBI (O.S)

Yes. John was too drunk to do anything, so I sent him home in an Uber. I felt sure Joe was going to make a move last night when we left. You two were the last ones in the restaurant.

SUSAN

I told you, it's not going there.

I'm glad you made it home ok.

DEBI (O.S)

If I knew nothing was going to happen,
I'd would have had Joe drop us off and
saved the cost of an Uber.

SUSAN

Byeeee.

DEBI (O.S)

Bye.

Susan ends the call and leans back in her chair in thought.

INT. JOHN'S OFFICE

John is sitting at his desk. James Cameron (the real-estate broker) and a colleague are waiting on some papers to be typed up. James is walking around John's office. James stops at a long frame with two pictures and a small brass plaque separating them.

JAMES

Where did you get this picture?

JOHN

Which one?

JAMES

The one with the Kennedy brother?

JOHN

That's a copy of a picture I saw while
I was up at Lake Tahoe this summer.
Look at the bottom picture.

JAMES

No. Is that you sitting in the same
chair as President Kennedy?

JOHN

Same chair. This lake house where we
stayed had several pictures of famous
and infamous people from back in the
late fifties and early sixties.

JAMES

Tahoe was pretty exclusive back then.
Sort of still is because of the
pricing.

JOHN

Take a look at this.

John activates a flat screen on the wall that's connected
to his computer and pulls up Google Maps. John zooms it on
the lake house until you can see the dock and make out the
two chairs.

JOHN

There they are, see the chairs.

JAMES

Whose house is this?

James colleague is using his table.

JOHN

A friend took us there. Her friend,
some guy named David lets her use it
whenever she wants.

JAMES'S COLLEAGUE

That property is owned by a trust with
the name of Ryan. Susan Ryan as
trustee.

JOHN

She told us it belonged to someone
named David. Are you sure?

JAMES'S COLLEAGUE

Yes. The deed was recently transferred
into the trust.

JOHN

Not sold?

JAMES'S COLLEAGUE

No. It just shows a transfer.

JOHN

Can you send me a screen shot of what you are looking at?

JAMES'S COLLEAGUE

Sure.

A Young Man walks into John's office.

YOUNG MAN

Here are the papers you were waiting on.

INT. SUSAN'T RESTAURANT DINING AREA - NIGHT

Susan is rushing around. The restaurant is very busy. Susan's cellphone rings. Susan answers it.

SUSAN

Hello?

JOHN (O.S)

Susan it's John.

SUSAN

Sorry, can you speak up.

JOHN (O.S)

It's John, Debi's John.

SUSAN

What's up?

JOHN (O.S)

I had a few real estate brokers in my office today and one of them saw the picture of the chairs at the lake house where the Kennedy Brothers were sitting in that picture.

SUSAN

John is there something I can do for you. We're very busy here at the restaurant.

JOHN (O.S)

One of the brokers brought up the lake house property in their database and it said the property was owned by a trust with your as the trustee.

SUSAN

That's impossible. Look John I'm slammed. I'll call you later.

Susan ends the call, puts her cellphone in her pocket then rushes into the back of the restaurant.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

Susan is asleep when her cellphone rings. Susan rolls over and answers the phone.

SUSAN

Debi, do you know what time it is?

DEBI (O.S)

I do, early. I'm on my way to work but I wanted to call you. John and I went out last night and he showed me a screen shot of a real estate database for the lake house in Tahoe.

Susan sits up in bed.

SUSAN

Ya, he called me Friday evening talking about a listing for the lake house, but we were slammed, and I could barely hear him.

DEBI (O.S)

This screen shot from the real estate database shows the property is part of a trust and the name on the trust is yours.

SUSAN

That's impossible.

DEBI (O.S)

That's what it says. The transfer date was last week. Sorry, I'm pulling into our garage here at work. I'll text you what he sent me when I get into my office. Bye.

Susan ends the call and leans back in bed.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan is sitting on the couch with her tablet Googling the lake house address, but only Google Maps comes up. Susan sets the tablet down and picks up her cellphone.

Susan selects David Johnson and taps the phone icon to call.

PHONE (O.S)

We're sorry, but the number you have reached is no longer in service.

Susan ends the call and tries again.

PHONE (O.S)

We're sorry but the number you have reached is no longer in service.

Susan ends the call and sits there with a concerned look on her face. Susan picks up her tablet and Googles West Coast Shield. Several entries appear and one lists a phone number. Susan picks up her cellphone and dials the number.

WEST COAST SHIELD (O.S)

You've reached West Coast Shield.
Leave a message after the beep.

SUSAN

This is Susan Ryan. I'm trying to reach Art Boyle. Can someone have him call me at 714 555-2468.

Susan ends the call and leans back. Moments later Susan's cellphone rings.

SUSAN

Hello.

ART (O.S)
Susan, this is Art Boyle.

SUSAN
I just tried calling you.

ART (O.S)
I know. I just landed at LAX. Can I
come see you?

SUSAN
I'm at home, the restaurant does not
open for several hours.

ART (O.S)
Can I come to your house?

SUSAN
I guess so, let me give you the
address.

ART (O.S)
I have it. I should be there in about
thirty minutes.

EXT. SUSAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Art walks to the front door carrying a black portfolio and
rings the doorbell. Susan comes to the front door and
answers the door.

SUSAN
Hello.

ART
Can I come in?

Susan gestures him in.

SUSAN
Please.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan walks in followed by Art. Susan motions towards a
chair.

SUSAN

Please, have a seat.

Art and Susan sit down.

SUSAN

A friend called me and said something about the lake house being in a trust with my name on it. I tried calling David, but the number has been disconnected.

ART

I know. David called last Thursday and asked me to meet him in Reno, so I flew up that evening. David asked me to take care of a number of things. One of them was to come here and see you. David passed away Saturday evening.

Susan puts her hand over her mouth.

ART

I'm sorry. David had the lake house transferred into a trust.

Art reaches into the portfolio and pulls out a small folder then hands it to Susan.

ART

Here's the deed. Art liquidated everything he owned but the lake house. The art was donated to museums and the rest to charities. David used some of the money to set up the trust to take care of the taxes and upkeep on the lake house. He named you as the trustee. He said you could keep it or sell it which ever you prefer. If you do decide to sell, the remainder of the trust money will be donated to a community center in Tahoe.

Art reaches into the portfolio and pulls out an envelope and hands it to Susan.

ART

Here's the information on the trust along with the name and address of the lawyer who set it up. His office is in Reno.

SUSAN

But why did he leave it to me? Didn't he have any relatives?

ART

David didn't say. William and I were the only ones with him in Reno. I got the idea he had no one. He left you something at the lake house when you have a chance to get up there.

SUSAN

I usually go up this time of year, before Thanksgiving.

ART

Here's my card.

Art hand Susan a business card.

ART

My private number is on the back. If you don't mind, would you let me know before you go up?

SUSAN

Ok.

ART

Well, I have to go.

Art stands up and walks towards the door with Susan following him.

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE FOYER - DAY

Art opens the front door and steps out.

ART

I'm sorry about David.

SUSAN

Thank you.

ART

Bye.

SUSAN

Bye

INT. SUSAN'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susan walks back into the living room carrying the folder and trust envelope. Susan sits down on the couch and leans back into the cushions with a sad look on her face.

INT. DEBI'S OFFICE - DAY

Debi is sitting at her desk looking at the deed and trust papers. Susan is sitting in a chair in front of the desk.

DEBI

He didn't give you a reason?

SUSAN

No. Art said he didn't ask. So, what do I do with these?

DEBI

Put them in your safe deposit box. The deed was transferred into the trust before David died so there's nothing to do. As the trustee you can do whatever you want with it. What do you want to do?

SUSAN

Art said that David left something for me in the lake house, so I'm going to go up there this weekend.

DEBI

Do you want some company?

SUSAN

I don't think so. Besides you hate the cold.

Debi smiles.

DEBI

I'd grin and bear it this one time.

SUSAN

Thank you.

Susan stands up. Debi stands up and walks around the desk. Debi hands Susan the envelopes and gives Susan a hug.

DEBI

I'm sorry about David.

SUSAN

Thank you.

EXT. SUSAN'S CAR - NIGHT

Susan is sitting at a traffic light. Susan dials a number on her cellphone.

ART (O.S)

Hi Susan

SUSAN

How did you know it was me?

ART (O.S)

We talked a few days ago, on the phone.

SUSAN

Yes.

ART (O.S)

I added you to my contacts.

SUSAN

I'm going to head up to Tahoe tomorrow evening.

ART (O.S)

You're driving up? It's supposed to start snowing tomorrow morning in Tahoe.

SUSAN

No. I'm going to fly up. My flight gets in at three-fifteen PM so I should be able to get to the lake house before dark.

ART (O.S)

Thanks for letting me know. Have a safe flight.

SUSAN

Bye.

Susan ends the call.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Susan is sitting in a window seat looking out the window as the plane flies over Lake Tahoe. The area surrounding the lake is covering with a light snow.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

Susan walks out of the airport and up to the rental car shuttle sign. Susan reaches into her bag and pulls out her cellphone. A car pulls up in front of Susan and the passenger's window rolls down. Susan looks in the car.

SUSAN

Art. What are you doing here?

ART

I thought you might like a ride out to the lake house.

SUSAN

Isn't this the spare car?

ART

It is. It's also owned by the trust.

Susan steps off the curb and gets into the car.

INT. SPARE CAR - DAY

Art is driving towards the edge of town.

SUSAN

Can you stop at a grocery store?
There's never any food in the lake
house.

ART

No problem.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Art is pushing a shopping cart as Susan walks along side.
They are walking by the dairy area. Art stops the cart.

ART

Milk and eggs?

SUSAN

I wasn't going to get any milk.

Susan reaches over and picks up a half-dozen eggs and
places them in the cart then continues on.

ART

How do you eat your eggs?

SUSAN

Scrambled.

ART

And no milk?

SUSAN

No.

Art picks up a small container of milk and places it in the
cart as they walk. Susan sees him.

ART

You should put a little milk in with
the eggs as you scramble them. It
makes the eggs fluffy.

Susan gives Art and questioning look.

SUSAN

You don't look like the cooking type.

ART

Restaurants are boring and I eat in too many while I'm traveling.

SUSAN (WITH ADDITUDE)

Restaurants are boring?

ART

That's not what I meant. I'm usually sitting at a side table watching a client eat. Not much time to have a proper meal.

SUSAN

Clients?

ART

Don't you watch TMZ? All the celebrities eat out. That's why paparazzi hang out at restaurants. If the celebrities are there, then their security is also there.

SUSAN

I never thought about it.

ART

When I'm home I like to eat in, so I cook.

SUSAN

No wife or girl friend to cook for you.

ART

No. Isn't that sexist?

Susan and Art both smile.

INT. SPARE CAR - DAY.

Art is driving and Susan is in the passengers' seat. Susan looks over at Art who is driving.

Susan notices that Art is smiling.

SUSAN

You seem to smile a lot for a security guard?

ART

You make it sound like I sit at a warehouse all night. Besides, I reserve the stern face for when I'm working.

Art holds his hand up to reference the outside.

ART

Just look at this. Isn't it beautiful? The snow, the trees. If we were in LA right now, we would probably be sitting in traffic.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

It's snowing. The spare car drives by in deep snow.

INT. SPARE CAR - DAY

Art is concentrating on the road.

SUSAN

The snow is getting pretty deep.

ART

Yes it is.

SUSAN

Where are you going after this?

ART

I'm due in San Francisco Monday morning.

SUSAN

Will you be guarding a celebrity?

ART

Not quite. I'm a witness in an assault case.

SUSAN

Some one you were guarding was assaulted?

ART

Not exactly. I relieved one of my employees so they could get some dinner. They were guarding a singer who was in his hotel room. I heard screaming inside the room. I entered to find this singer drunk or high and beating up his girl friend.

SUSAN

What did you do?

ART

I got her out of there and called the police while I took her to the hospital.

SUSAN

You called the police on your client?

ART

He voided our contract the minute he started committing a crime.

SUSAN

Wow. I thought it was your job to cover it up.

ART

Our clientele tends to have higher morals than someone who beats their girl friend. There's plenty of other security companies out there to handle clients that need that type of service.

SUSAN

I think we're almost there.

ART

I think you're right. The snow is really coming down.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE DRIVEWAY - DAY

The spare car pulls in the driveway.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

The spare car pulls up and parks. Art and Susan get out of the car. Art gets the groceries out of the trunk as Susan walks to the door with her suitcase. Susan opens the door and places her suitcase inside. Art approaches the door as Susan steps back out. Art hands the groceries to Susan and stands there.

SUSAN

Aren't you going to come in?

ART

No. My Uber should be here any minute.
I'll wait in the car.

Susan sets the groceries down inside the house.

SUSAN

Are you sure you won't come in.

ART

No, you go ahead. Have a nice time
while you're here.

SUSAN

Ok, well thank you for the ride and
helping with the groceries. Good luck
in San Francisco.

ART

Thank you.

Susan smiles and Art smiles back. Art steps away from the door. Susan closes the door and watches as Art walks back to the car.

INT. LAKE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

The lake house is quiet when Susan enters the kitchen carrying the groceries. Susan turns on the lights and places the groceries on the counter. There is a small leather pouch and letter on the counter along with a small unmarked box. Susan picks up the letter that has Susan

written on the front. Susan opens the letter and begins to read.

DAVID (O.S.)

Hello Susan I am so glad you decided to return to the lake house. I don't know if you have figured it out or not but I'm your Father.

Susan stops reading and looks around the room.

Susan goes back to reading.

DAVID (O.S.)

Many years ago, I was forced to move back east and change my name to get away from the life I was leading. I've spent the last few days thinking about you and your Mother. Your Mother's passing has hurt me deeply over the years and as bad as it hurt, I honored her wishes and stayed away. I did my best to keep track of what you were doing while you lived back east with your Aunt Jessie, but I knew your Aunt Jessie would not let me see you. I paid the mortgage on your Mother's house and kept the taxes up so it would be there for you should you return or want to sell it. I maintained a house close by in hopes that some day you would return, and I could re-enter your life. It made me happy when you did move back but I could not bring myself to approach you. Whenever I was in LA I'd drive by your house in hopes of seeing you. I watched from a distance as you opened your restaurant. I sent everyone I knew to the restaurant to have dinner and watched as you became successful.

Susan stops reading for a moment and looks out onto the lake then goes back to reading.

DAVID (O.S.)

A priest stopped by and asked me if I had any regrets. God knows I've done things I should regret but I make no apologies for them. I left that life behind to long ago to think about it. What I do think about and regret is the life I lost not spending ever minute I could with you. When you showed up at the lake house, I was busting at the seams to tell you. It was as if fate had stepped in and gave me a reprieve. But the more I thought about it, the more I thought it would only cause you pain to have me step back into your life after all this time. I hope you understand the reasons I've chosen to do things this way. The leather pouch contains my most prized possessions.

Susan puts the letter down and opens the leather pouch. Susan pulls out several pictures. Susan looks through the pictures with tears running down her face. The first picture is of David and Susan's Mother. It's their wedding picture. The other pictures are of Susan as a child and David at the lake house. One of Susan playing in the edge of the water. One of David holding Susan's hand as they walk along the lake. One of David sitting in an adirondack chair in front of the lake house with Susan in his lap. Susan sets the pictures down on the counter and goes back to reading the letter.

DAVID (O.S)

I hope you keep the lake house. I hope that some day you will share the lake house with your children and pass it down to them. I've changed nothing since the last time you were here as a child. I did have the dock built because as a child you could not stay away from the water. But we never had a chance to walk the dock together. The box on the counter contains my ashes.

Susan looks at the box.

DAVID (O.S)

I believe my soul will rest easier if you would take my ashes and scatter them in the lake off the end of the dock. Would you do me that one favor. Would you take that last walk with me? Love Father.

Susan wipes her eyes then neatly folds the letter and places it back into the envelope. Susan runs her hands across the pictures on the counter and looks out through the picture windows. The light is fading, and a light snow is falling on the lake.

EXT. END OF DOCK - DAY

Susan is standing on the end of the dock holding the box. There is complete silences as the snow falls all around her. Susan opens the box and slowly pours the ashes into the lake. Once the box is empty Susan closes the box and holds it close.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Susan takes the last few steps on the dock before stepping into the yard of the lake house. Susan sees Art standing in the yard. Susan stops and smiles. Art takes a step forward.

ART

I'm sorry, I don't mean to intrude.

Art holds up his cellphone.

ART

My Uber can not make it out here in the snow. I was wondering if you could give me a ride back into town?

SUSAN

If the roads are that bad, then what if I cannot make it back? You should stay.

ART

No. I couldn't impose.

SUSAN

You wouldn't be. I offered. You don't have to be in San Francisco until Monday. I insist.

Art smiles and Susan smiles back. Susan continues to walk towards the lake house and Art joins her.

SUSAN

Since we're both stranded here, if you make us a fire, I'll make us something to eat.

Susan and Art walk towards the lake house.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - NIGHT

From outside you can see through the picture windows. A light snow is still falling. Art is by the fireplace tending the fire. Susan is in the kitchen cooking.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE DOCK - NIGHT

It's perfectly silent. A light snow is falling on the lake. You can see across the lake and the shoreline is dotted with lights from other lake houses.

Fade to black: