

American Sniper #1

INT. MULONEY'S BAR — NIGHT

A crowd watches boys toss darts at a bull's-eye drawn on DAUBER'S naked back. At the bar, BIGGLES and CHRIS —

CHRIS

I'm gonna try and get into sniper school

BIGGLES

Can you shoot?

CHRIS

I can hunt. And what's cooler than being a sniper?

BIGGLES

Blowing shit up. Blowing shit up is way cooler.

A brunette steps into the bar. A sharp object with heavy eye-shadow and tight leather pants. This girl owns her sexuality but she's often been used for it.

This is "TAYA". She is trying to ignore the advances of A SHORT NAVY GUY but he's relentless. Chris watches as (ECU) — Taya's fingertips whiten, gripping her glass.

Chris edges closer, she looks up, defensive — but he just stands there, letting his protective presence be felt.

DAPPER NAVY GUY (OC)

Come on, just let me buy you a drink.

TAYA

(end of her rope)

Will a drink make you 6 inches taller and charming? Will it make you not married?

DAPPER NAVY GUY

I'm not —

TAYA

I watched you take your ring off. Don't be a scumbag. Go home.

Navy guy retreats. Taya sips her scotch, doesn't look up.

CHRIS

It could be the leather pants.

TAYA

Yeah? What kind of pants does a girl have to wear to be left alone?

CHRIS

Corduroy.

She takes him in. Loose sweatshirt, no hair gel.

TAYA

Is that how it is with you guys—suddenly single after three beers.

CHRIS

Only thing that happens to me after three beers is a fourth.

TAYA

That's great. A real red-neck.

CHRIS

I'm no redneck, I'm a Texan.

TAYA

What's the difference?

CHRIS

We ride horses, they ride their cousins.

TAYA

(almost laughs)

What do you do for work? You look like military.

CHRIS

I polish dolphins. They have to be polished in captivity or their skin disintegrates.

TAYA

Do I look stupid to you?

CHRIS

To be honest, you look a little sad.

She's taken aback by his observation.

CHRIS

So am I tall enough to buy you a drink?

TAYA

Not until you tell me what you do?

CHRIS

How about this: one shot, one answer.

Chris passes her a shot. She throws it back, fierce.

TAYA

You're obviously military. What branch?

CHRIS

I'm just finishing BUD/S

TAYA

You're kidding me? You're a SEAL?

CHRIS

That was two questions...

TAYA

(two angry shots)

I know all about you guys. My sister was engaged to a SEAL.

CHRIS

What's that mean you *know all about us*?

TAYA

You're a bunch of arrogant, self-centered pricks who think you can lie and do whatever the fuck you want

(pushes him a shot)

I'd never date a SEAL.

CHRIS

(confused)

How can you say we're self-centered? I'd lay down my life for my country.

TAYA

Why?

CHRIS

'Cause it's the greatest country on earth and I believe it's
worth protecting.
(climbs off stool)
I'm sorry this guy hurt your sister but that's not me. Nice
talking to you.

TAYA
Where are you going?

CHRIS
You said you'd never date a SEAL, so I'm going home.

TAYA
I said I'd never marry one.

It's a lie and they both know it.

CHRIS
Well in that case... what's your name?

TAYA
Taya.

CHRIS
Nice to meet you Taya. I'm Chris Kyle.

TAYA
(liquor softening her)
Pretty egotistical of you to think you can protect us all, isn't
it Chris?

CHRIS
Our instructors say our biggest enemies are ego, liquor, and
women.

TAYA
Sounds like you're under attack.

She levels a look and downs another shot --