

OCHOA

Scene 1

15 INT. ROMAN'S HOUSE - DAY (D2)

15

The CAMERA TRACKS ACROSS the faces of Destiny, Peter, Roman and DANIEL OCHOA, 30's, Latino, looking more than a little out of place in the group.

DESTINY

I am getting... absolutely nothing.

PULL BACK to REVEAL that they have been standing in a circle holding hands in some sort of clairvoyant search for Miranda and the baby. Destiny lets go, shakes her head in frustration. Ochoa, a private investigator, well-acquainted with the asymmetrical morality of the streets, does his level best to keep his skepticism on matters mystical under wraps, for the moment at least.

Empty food containers, unopened mail, dirty dishes, etc. litter the living room and kitchen. The grisly deaths of the household staff have taken a toll on Roman's once immaculate home. Next to the table a corkboard on an easel is cluttered with note cards, photographs, maps, all manner of material pertaining to their search.

PETER

All you can do is keep trying.

OCHOA

Had a case out in L.A. once. Wife went missing. Suspected homicide. Family brought in a clairvoyant. Never did find the woman, but I tell you that psychic had mad skills locating the clients' wallet... Spooky...

2/8

Destiny meets the P.I.'s skepticism with unvarnished attitude --

DESTINY

I have a special gift for divining assholes.

OCHOA

Far be it from me to cast aspersions. But when you're trafficking in the realm of the unseen, there are some who might take advantage. Grifters and so forth. Present company excepted, of course.

DESTINY

(cold)

I gotta bounce.

She goes.

PETER

Thanks, Dest. See you at the crib.

ROMAN

(to Ochoa)

Okay, smart guy. What do you got?

Ochoa sets a stack of notebooks onto the table.

OCHOA

Transcripts of my interviews with every patient in Spivak's practice. Unremarkable for anything out of the ordinary. Wasn't banging his nurse. A better man than I am. Real dime piece.

ROMAN

(impatient)

What else?

OCHOA

Spivak got his medical degree at Leipzig University in Germany. Studied immunology at the University of Maine --

ROMAN

He's German?

3/8

OCHOA

Beats me. I can only trace him back as far as med school. Dead ends there.

PETER

What about Miranda's family?

OCHOA

Father's deceased. Tracked down the mother in Provo, Utah. Hasn't heard from her daughter in ten years. Contacted morgues and hospitals up and down the east coast. No Jane Does matching the description. Same with the baby.

ROMAN

So basically you showed up here empty-handed expecting to get paid.

OCHOA

I put in the hours. I get paid. How it works.

PETER

Sounds like a gift to me.

Peter glares at the P.I. The tension is palpable. A beat then --

OCHOA

You're so worried about these folks, I gotta ask, why come to me instead of going to law enforcement.

ROMAN

Police get involved, things get public.

OCHOA

And you're looking to be discreet. I understand. But this baby you got me looking for... no birth certificate. Technically speaking, it hasn't been born...

Ochoa weighs the effect this has on Roman and Peter. They don't give up anything.

OCHOA (CONT'D)

People hire me to find shit out. Mostly where's the money?

(MORE)

OCHOA

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OCHOA (CONT'D)

What is it you're not telling me about this kid? This girl? The whole friggin' thing? I gotta know. Otherwise I can't do my job.

The boys hang there a long moment. Ochoa knows he's found a pressure point. After a beat, Roman crosses to a cabinet, removes two thick stacks of hundred dollar bills, extends them to the P.I.

ROMAN

This is the only information you need.

Ochoa takes the cash, pockets it.

ROMAN (CONT'D)

Keep digging on Spivak. I expect results.

Ochoa turns, goes.

OCHOA

Scene 2

5/8

30

INT./EXT. CAR - RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT (N3)

30

A black Monte Carlo pulls to the curb. Ochoa throws the car in park and checks his watch. He's waiting for someone. Reaching into his coat, he pulls out the two stacks of hundred dollar bills given to him by Roman. He slips one stack under his seat, tucking the other back in his pocket. He checks his watch again. Then he flips a cigarette into his mouth, lights it, takes a long pull. After a beat, the passenger door opens and Olivia slides in.

6/8

OCHOA
You're early.

OLIVIA
Would you please put that out? I
don't know how anyone can live with
such a vile habit.

Ochoa tosses the cigarette out the window.

OCHOA
You're lucky you don't have an
addictive personality.

If he only knew...

OLIVIA
What do you have for me?

Ochoa turns, reaches into the backseat, retrieves a stack of
files, which he hands to Olivia.

OCHOA
Copies of everything I turned over
to the client.

OLIVIA
Anything useful?

OCHOA
Not really. Background on Spivak
that dead ends.

OLIVIA
Anything new on the girl?

OCHOA
Nothing that gets us anywhere. You
were right about one thing. Soon
as I mentioned that baby, he
started twitching big time.

He reaches into his coat pocket, pulls out the stack of
bills, hands it to Olivia.

OCHOA (CONT'D)
Wanted to shut it down real quick.

OLIVIA
I know my son.
(counts the money, then)
But I didn't realize how cheap he
is.

She hands Ochoa his cut.

OCHOA

There's something they're not telling me.

OLIVIA

(shrugs)

Seems straightforward enough. Middle-aged doctor swings with this chippy and takes my son's love child with them.

OCHOA

The dish ran away with the spoon...

OLIVIA

Simple enough. Only I want my grandkid back and I need you to make that happen.

OCHOA

Anything I come up with, you'll be the first to know.

OLIVIA

Did Roman say anything about me?

OCHOA

(shakes his head)

Your name didn't come up.

Ochoa can't help noticing a hurt look flash across Olivia's expression.

OCHOA (CONT'D)

How did things work out on that other matter?

Olivia's face lights up in a mischievous smile.

OLIVIA

It was dreamy. Pryce would've shit his pants if he wasn't such a tight ass. Were those real agents?

OCHOA

Oh hell yeah... There are so many government folks sitting around looking to stay busy. You just gotta know the right number to call... So it worked out?

OCHOA

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OLIVIA
Perfectly. Thank you, Mr. Ochoa.

OCHOA
Danny...

Their eyes meet. Olivia quickly looks away.

OLIVIA
Keep my son close. I don't want
him getting to that child before I
do.

OCHOA
I'm real clear on the assignment.
(then)
I was thinking about grabbing a
bite. Interested?

Olivia's eyes drift down to Ochoa's neck.

OLIVIA
You don't know how tempting that
is... Another time maybe.

OCHOA
You got it.

Olivia goes. Ochoa starts the car, pulls the cash from under
the seat, shoves it into the pocket of his sport coat as he
drives off.