XAVIER

I'm sorry about that, Sean. Amir's like a pit bull with tassels. He's still under my ex-hasband's spell. We lived here together.

SEAN

I get it. You were married to "The Champ." Maybe Amir doesn't think you're ready to move on to a prince.

ZOE

(LAUGHS) Believe me. Me and my ex
have both moved on. He just happened
to move on while we were still
married.

HE MOVES CLOSE TO HER.

SEAN

So you ve moved on, on?

ZOE

Been there, done that. Have the tattoo

THEY KISS AS THE ELEVATOR DOORS OPEN TO ZOE'S LOFT.

BOY'S VOICE /XAVIER



Hey mom!

WE REVEAL THAT THE VOICE IS COMING FROM ZOE'S SON, XAVIER WHO ON THE COUCH, IN THE LIVING ROOM WATCHING A BASKETBALL GAME.

MAN'S VOICE

Hey mom!

WE REVEAL ZOE'S EX-HUSBAND, GEMINI MOON ON THE COUCH NEXT TO HIS SON. ON ZOE AND SEAN'S SURPRISE, WE;

FADE OUT.

ACT ONE SCENE A

FADE IN:

WE ARE AS WE WERE AS ZOE QUICKLY BUZZES THE INTERCOM TO THE LOBBY.

ZOE

Amir?

here?

AMIR (V.O.)

Amir here.

ZOE

Why didn't you tell me Mr. Moon was

AMIR

Mr. Moon was here.

ZOE

(TO GEMINI) Explain to me why you're here.

THE GUYS KEEP WATCHING THE GAME.

GEMINI

We got a late start after I picked X up from school, and traffic is crazy from the city to the Hamptons on a Friday night, so we decided to kick it here.

XAVIER

And, the helicopter's in the shop.

GEMINI

Oh yeah, and the helicopter's in the shop. (RE: THE CAME) Obbins

MAVIER

You owe me twenty bucks!
GEMINI TAKES OUT HIS WILLET.

GEMINI

Here's a hundred 'cuz you're a winner,
Mini Me. Now Let's bounce. Traffic
should have died down by now.

THEY START FOR THE DOOR.

cont.

XAVIER

Later, Mom.

GEMINI

Later, Mom.

ZOE

(TO Xavier) Wait, where's your stuff? You're staying with your dad for the whole weekend.

XAVIER

Dad always buys me new stuff.

GEMINI

Dad buys you new <u>better</u> stuff.

GEMINI BEGINS TEXTING ON HIS PHONE.

ZOE

(TO XAVIER) Contrary to how your father spends it, money doesn't grow on trees, Baby.

XAVIER

Mom, I'm not a baby. I know money doesn't grow on trees.

(MORE)

3/7

XAVIER (CONT'D)

I know the money tree dad gave me for Christmas didn't come from nature. It was made by under-aged kids in China, and I feel real guilty about that.

But Dad's a giver and it's really important for our relationship that I be a taker. It's our thing.

GEMINI, STILL TEXTING ON HIS PHONE CHIMES IN WITHOUT LOOKING UP.

GEMINI

Yeah buddy.

ZOE

(TO XAVIER) I'm going to count to three. You'd better be packing your old stuff by two and a half. (BEAT) One...

XAVIER ROLLS HIS EYES AND HEADS BACK TO HIS ROOM TO PACK.

ZOE (CONT'D)

(CALLING AFTER HIM) And pack your underwear. I'm not raising no commandos around here.

AFTER & BEAT, GEMINI FEELS ZOE'S EYES BURNING A HOLE IN HIS SOUL. CAUTIOUSLY, HE STOPS TEXTING AND LOOKS UP

GEMINI

What?

ZOF

Can you have my back like once?

ZOE (CONT'D)

It's time for me to do me. To follow my dreams. To make my son proud. To make myself proud.

GEMINI HALF CHUCKLES.

GEMINI

You really think you're going to be able to make it without me?

ZOE THINKS FOR THE BEAT.

ZOE

We'll see

GEMINI TAKES THE PAPERS AND SIGNS THEM.

GEMINI

Yeah, we'll see.

HE TOSSES THE PAPERS ON THE TABLE, THEN EXITS. AFTER A BEAT, ZOE NOTICES XAVIER THERE WITH TEARS IN HIS EYES. SHE GOES TO HUG HIM BUT HE PULLS AWAY.

XAVIER

I hate you!

HE RUNS OUT TO THE TERRACE.

RESET TO:

EXT. ZOE'S TRIBECA LOFT - TERRACE - CONTINUOUS (DAY 2)

ZOE ENTERS TO JOIN XAVIER WHO IS SEATED ON A BENCH CRYING. SHE SITS DOWN NEXT TO HIM.

XAVIER

Go away.

SHE PUTS HER ARM AROUND HIM.

ZOE

I'm sorry, Baby. And, I know you don't hate me, you just hate what's going on right now, and that's okay. I hate it too.

5/7

XAVIER

It sucks.

ZOE

I know. And I know that's why you "get lost" a lot lately, huh?

XAVIER

I'm not lost, I'm just taking a breather.

ZOE

That's kind of what mommy's doing too.

I'm taking a breather from Daddy

because I need to feel better about

myself. Figure things out.

Understand?

XAVIER

I guess.

ZOE

taking a breather doesn't mean you re any less important to either of us.

Gemini is still your dad and he loves you more than life... and so do I.

So... if you want to see your dad during the week instead of just on the weekend... that's up to you. You can see your dad whenever you want... as long as you keep up your school work... And stop taking breathers.

XAVIER

That's cool. But that's not so much what I'm worried about.

ZOE

What are you worried about?

XAVIER

If dad's not here, who's going to take care of you?

THIS HITS ZOE WHERE IT HURTS.

ZOE

We'll take care of each other.

SHE GIVES HER SON A KISS ON THE HEAD.



ZOE (CONT'D)

Don't worry. Your mommy's a big girl,

(ALL VIBRATO) Your Daddy's not the

only fighter in this fam, you heard?

We gone be alright

SHE THROWS A COUPLE OF JABS, THEN HUGS HER SON. AFTER A BEAT, A DOVE DROPPING LANDS ON HER HEAD AND XAVIER FALLS OUT LAUGHING.

ZOE (CONT'D)

That's okay. I hear it's good luck.

ON THIS WE;

FADE OUT.

THE END