

INT. PAMELA DUNCAN'S HOUSE – DAY

The kids are seen through the window, playing outside –  
Matthew, reluctantly.

Pamela and Erin are finishing coffee, cake, stories..

ERIN

...oh, he was a piece of work...

PAMELA

Him too?

ERIN

I don't know, there's something about  
losers with great asses..I don't know–

(Pamela laughs)

I had to have him thrown in jail six  
times for no child support. When he had  
the kids, he used to tell them to call me  
Erin Brockshit.

PAMELA

(Pamela laughs)

You sure can pick'em. I've been lucky in  
that area, at least. Ken is..he's good  
man.

ERIN

(smiles, sips coffee)

Well, that's half the battle, right there.

PAMELA

Yeah. Yeah, it is...

(beat)

I...I know what you want and I appreciate  
your–

ERIN

We can get them, Pamela. We can.

PAMELA

I wish I believed that. But this has been going on for so long. Maybe in the beginning, when I was angry. When I first found out. But then, ya know, ya have to find a way to live everyday, to get up, to take care of what you have to take care of so you...you find a way to push it down, make it go away, ya know. I don't want to feel it all over again and then...not have it come out right. I don't know if I could handle that. Put my kids through that.

ERIN

You're still angry, Pamela.

(Pamela listens)

And you don't think your kids know that. They know more than you think, believe me. See, the thing is... it doesn't matter if you win lose or draw here. You were lied to. You're sick, your kids are sick because of those lies. If for no other reason, you all have to come together to stand up in a courtroom and say that – to be heard – and you will. To stand up and say, this wasn't right. There's no way anybody can twist this into something right. And it can't happen again.

Pamela listens but Erin doesn't know whether she's getting through to her. Pamela exits, saying;

PAMELA

I'll get some more coffee.

Erin sinks. She thinks she's not getting through. When Pamela re-enters, she's carrying a coffee pot and A TAPE. Erin is confused. Pamela puts the pot down and crosses to the television. She pops in the tape and turns it on.

ON THE MONITOR, is a home video of a house being burned.

PAMELA (CONT'D)

That was the Torriyo's house. It was across the street.

ERIN

It burned?

PAMELA

They burned it.

ERIN

Who?

PAMELA

The Fire Department. They said it was a practise run. They said the Torriyo's had sold to PG&E and since it vacant they were told they could burn it.

ERIN

Who had told them that?

PAMELA

They never said.

Erin watches the tape, then looks to Pamela, watching the tape as she must have a hundred times before.

PAMELA (CONT'D)

I'd bring the kids into the hospital with towels soaked from their nosebleeds. Ya know the hospital did? They called county services because they assumed the kids were being abused.

Erin has her.