

160 CONTINUED:

160

MAGGIE

They took my leg, boss.

He kisses her head. She closes her eyes again.

FRANKIE

It'll be okay. You hear me?

MAGGIE

Always hear your voice, boss.

161 INT. FRANKIE'S BUNGALOW -- EVENING

161

Frankie opens his door and stops. On the floor lies an envelope, the same size and shape as the others in the shoebox. And he just stands there, staring at it. Broken.

162 INT. EVERGREEN REHAB CENTER -- NIGHT

162

The place is dead quiet, save the sound of the night nurse passing in the hall. Maggie opens her eyes to see Frankie sitting there, reading some sort of catalogue. He looks up.

FRANKIE

You need anything?

MAGGIE

Need to know what Mo Cuishle means.

FRANKIE

You didn't win, don't have to tell you.

MAGGIE

You're the meanest man I ever met, no wonder nobody loves you. You remind me of my daddy.

FRANKIE

He musta been a good looking man.

Frankie goes back to reading.

MAGGIE

You ain't gonna make me talk more Yeats, are you?

FRANKIE

These are classes at City College.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

162 CONTINUED:

162

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

Thought I'd buy you one of those wheelchairs you can use by blowin' into a straw. Thought you might want to go to school.

MAGGIE

I got a favor to ask you, boss.

FRANKIE

Whatever you want.

MAGGIE

Remember what my daddy did for Axel?

FRANKIE

...Don't even say that.

MAGGIE

I can't be like this, Frankie. Not after what I done. I seen the world. People chanted my name. Well, not my name, some damn name you gave me, but they were chanting for me. I was in magazines. You think I ever dreamed that'd happen?

(beat)

I was born at two pound one and a half ounces. Daddy used to tell me I fought to get into this world and I'd fight my way out. That's all I wanna do, boss. I just don't want to fight you to do it.

(beat)

Only two people in this world I ever wanted to be proud of me. You are one. You proud of me, boss?

FRANKIE

You have to ask?

MAGGIE

I got what I needed, boss. Got it all. Don't let em keep takin' it away from me. Don't let me lie here till I can't hear those people chanting no more.

FRANKIE

...I can't do it. Please, don't ask me.

(CONTINUED)

162 CONTINUED: (2)

162

MAGGIE

I am asking.

FRANKIE

I can't.

She nods and turns her head away.

163 INT. FRANKIE'S BEDROOM -- NIGHT

163

The phone rings, waking Frankie from a dead sleep.

164 INT. FRANKIE'S KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

164

He snatches it up.

FRANKIE

Hello?...

165 INT. EVERGREEN REHAB CENTER -- NIGHT

165

Frankie hustles down the corridor, met by an intern, who talks as he tries to keep up.

SCRAP V.O.

In the middle of the night, Maggie'd found her own solution. She bit off her tongue.

Frankie fires into the room, shoving aside a male nurse to see Maggie, trying to fight away the doctor by banging her head back and forth. Frankie grabs her head, holds it, looks into her wild eyes as the doctor administers another shot.

SCRAP V.O. (CONT'D)

Nearly bled to death before they stitched her up. She came round and ripped them out before Frankie even got there.

He soothes her and let's the shot take hold. Her eyes half closed and Frankie steps away to let the doctor in to stitch.

CORRIDOR

As Frankie paces, running his hand through his hair.

SCRAP V.O. (CONT'D)

They stitched her up again, padded the tongue so she couldn't bite, and gave her a tracheotomy, so she could breathe.

(CONTINUED)