

THE FAMILY MACRAE

Written by

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Based on a story by

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INT. VINCENT MACRAE LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Milwaukee, Wisconsin 1878

JOHN MACRAE, a man in his early twenties with handsome but delicate features and dark hair is standing facing his father, VINCENT MACRAE, a distinguished looking man in his late fifties sporting a white beard. Vincent MacRae is sitting behind a desk smoking a cigar. John MacRae's mother, ANNE MACRAE, an attractive woman in her late fifties with grey hair is sitting on a sofa knitting.

VINCENT MACRAE

(in a loud and angry voice)

Why in the hell are you doing this to me John? Didn't I send you to one of the finest business schools in Chicago? You make an incredible living for a young person and someday you will inherit the family business. You will be a rich man and you are throwing it all away to join the Army. Why?

(waves both hands up in the air)

JOHN MACRAE

(in an agitated voice)

It's always whatever you want. You never asked me what I want. All you care about is your damn business. I hate what I'm doing. I want to do something more with my life than rot away behind a desk in a cigar factory. I didn't just join the Army. I've been accepted to West Point and I'll become an officer.

VINCENT MACRAE

(shaking his head)

An officer. So what.

(puffs on his cigar)

You are a foolish and stupid boy!

ANNE MACRAE

(lays the knitting down beside her)

Oh Vincent, stop it. What a horrible thing to say.

FADE OUT.

SUPER: West Point June 1882

An INSTRUCTOR, a Captain in his mid thirties calls a class of cadets to order. John MacRae is seated amongst ten cadets.

INSTRUCTOR

Gentlemen, Today we are honored to have Sergeant Drummond with us. You will all be graduating soon and some of you may see action against Indians. Sergeant Drummond saw action against the Sioux at the Little Bighorn. I suggest you all pay close attention to what he has to say.

FIRST SERGEANT, a rough looking man in his late forties with gruff voice addresses the cadets.

FIRST SERGEANT

Thank you sir. The most important piece of advice I can give you Gentlemen is this. Indians like the Sioux, Comanche and Apache do not fight in formations like you learn here at West Point or play by any set of rules. They are a formidable enemy. Even with their primitive weapons they have overwhelmed and out fought larger numbers of far better armed opponents. Now they have learned to use Winchester repeaters effectively.

The First Sergeant notices some of the cadets talking and snickering. John MacRae has a serious look on his face.

FIRST SERGEANT (CONT'D)

You will need to learn a new set of tactics when you....

Before the First Sergeant could finish his sentence he is rudely interrupted by a CADET.

CADET

(stands up and speaks in a  
sarcastic tone)

Sergeant, you make it sound like we are up against Alexander the Great. You old timers sure like to exaggerate.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (turns to the Cadet)  
 Sit down. You're out of line.

CADET  
 (still standing)  
 What about all of that nonsense we heard about saving the last bullet for yourself?

FIRST SERGEANT  
 (in a loud angry tone)  
 Some of you boys think I'm telling you tall tales. You have no idea what you are up against. I was at the Little Bighorn in seventy six when Custer was killed. I got lucky because I was assigned to Captain Benteen. I survived the battle. Some us who were not wounded were assigned to a burial detail. The Sioux mutilated all of the dead except Custer. It was a horrible site. Bodies were cut open. Guts were strewn all over the place. Arms and legs were hacked off. Skulls were crushed. Most of us got sick to our stomachs and threw up. Never let yourself get captured. You get captured by the Sioux and they have ways of keeping you alive for days while they torture your ass. They bury you in an ant hill and smear berries on your eyes. They slice open your stomach and pour hot coals inside of you. They let their squaws skin you alive. They let them chew off your privates and stuff them in your mouth. You will pray for death. This ain't nonsense Gentlemen. Save the last bullet for yourself.

The Cadet sits down and the rest of the cadets stop snickering and take on a serious look.

FADE OUT.

3

EXT. PARADE GROUNDS AT WEST POINT - DAY

3

John MacRae is seated amongst a graduating class from West Point. He is listening to FREDERICK STANLEY, Secretary of War give a speech on Western expansion and the Indian Wars.

When the speaker mentions the Little Bighorn battle John MacRae tilts his head upward and stares off into the distance.

Frederick Stanley finishes his speech.

FREDERICK STANLEY

Thank you for your service. May God bless each and every one of you and your families, and may God bless America.

There is applause. Frederick Stanley leaves the podium. Brigadier General THOMAS NEILL, Commandant, steps up to the podium.

THOMAS NEILL

Thank you for those words of inspiration Honorable Secretary. Class of 1878 rise and receive your diplomas.

The Cadets rise and form a line. John MacRae is second in the line. He is staring off into the distance. The first Cadet in line receives his diploma. John MacRae's name is called out next. He steps up, faces Thomas Neill and salutes.

THOMAS NEILL (CONT'D)

(with a faint smile hands  
John MacRae his diploma )  
Congratulations Lieutenant MacRae.  
(shakes John MacRae's  
hand)

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)  
Thank you Sir.

FADE OUT.

4

INT. VINCENT MACRAE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

4

John MacRae dressed in uniform is seated with Vincent MacRae and Anne MacRae.

VINCENT MACRAE

(in a mocking voice)  
So you will earn the grand sum of \$83 a month. You earned twice that here at our factory. You know you would have become a very rich man when you inherit the business someday. Well not anymore.

(MORE)

VINCENT MACRAE (CONT'D)  
 You will not inherit a damn thing.  
 (takes a sip of brandy)  
 I hear the Army is sending you to  
 some shithole out west. I don't  
 understand it. Anne, what the hell  
 did we do, raise a moron for a son?

ANNE MACRAE  
 (in a soft timid voice)  
 Father, please leave Johnny alone.  
 He will be with us for only a few  
 more weeks.

JOHN MACRAE  
 I'm only going to be here in  
 Milwaukee for one more night. I'll  
 be leaving tomorrow for Montana.  
 I've had enough of this old man's  
 belittlement.  
 (stands up and walks out  
 of the room)

VINCENT MACRAE  
 (in a sarcastic tone)  
 Good riddance.

ANNE MACRAE  
 (shouting with tears in  
 her eyes)  
 Vincent!

FADE OUT.

5 INT. VNCENT MACRAE FOYER - MORNING

5

John MacRae dressed in uniform is saying goodbye to Anne MacRae. He embraces her.

JOHN MACRAE  
 I couldn't spend another day with  
 that man.

ANNE MACRAE  
 (with tears in her eyes)  
 Johnny, I fear I'll never see you  
 again.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (smiling)  
 Don't worry Mother. I'll be  
 alright.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
 (picks up his luggage and  
 walks out)

FADE OUT.

6 EXT. HORSE TRADERS STABLE IN STURGIS, SD - DAY 6

SUPER: Sturgis, South Dakota

John MacRae walks around the stable looking at various horses with a HORSE TRADER. He selects a dark brown sorrel.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (looking at the Horse  
 Trader)  
 Is this one for sale?

HORSE TRADER  
 He's all yours Lieutenant.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (smiling, pats the horse's  
 head)  
 I'll take him. I'm going to name  
 him Mack. Say, do you know how far  
 it is to Fort Keough in Montana?

HORSE TRADER  
 (takes his hat off and  
 scratches his hair)  
 I reckon it's about a coupla'  
 hundred miles or so.

JOHN MACRAE  
 I believe I'll ride him out there.

FADE OUT.

7 EXT. ON THE TRAIL TO FORT KEOUGH, MONTANA - DAY 7

John MacRae rides to Fort Keough. He stops along the way to view the landscape/scenery and waters Mack in streams. He enjoys a peaceful trip and arrives at the gates of Fort Keough.

FADE OUT.

8 EXT. ROSE BUD RIVER - AFTERNOON 8

SUPER: August 5, 1882

Seven US Army Cavalry soldiers are riding single file along the side of a river. John MacRae is in the lead followed by SERGEANT EVANS, PRIVATES HANRAHAN, LEONI, WILHELM, NEILSON and CORPORAL DUNN.

SERGEANT EVANS takes his hat off and wipes his brow. He gently spurs his horse and trots up to John MacRae's left side. SERGEANT EVANS is a large man in his late thirties with a heavy beard and a broad streak of grey running down the middle his long dark hair.

SERGEANT EVANS  
(facing John MacRae)  
This your first patrol Lieutenant?

JOHN MACRAE  
(Frowning)  
Why are you asking Sergeant? Does my lack of experience concern you?

SERGEANT EVANS  
(Turns to his left, spits then turns to face John MacRae)  
I really don't give a damn about your experience Lieutenant but we may run into the Sioux and there's a few things you ought to know.

JOHN MACRAE  
Like what Sergeant?

SERGEANT EVANS  
Well for starters if we get in to it with the Sioux, save the last bullet for yourself.

JOHN MACRAE  
(looking ahead)  
Yeah. I heard that one at the Point.

SERGEANT EVANS  
Sounds like you think I'm joking Lieutenant. What kind of nonsense did you hear at West Point?

John MacRae ignores the question.

SERGEANT EVANS (CONT'D)  
(He turns to his left and spits vigorously then turns to face John MacRae.)

(MORE)



SERGEANT EVANS (CONT'D)

He speaks in a harsh  
tone)

I asked you what kind of crap did  
you hear at West Point?

John MacRae raises his right hand and gives the command to  
halt. The patrol halts.

JOHN MACRAE

(turning to Sergeant  
Evans, talking in a stern  
voice)

Take caution in your tone Sergeant!  
Lets make camp here for tonight in  
that grove of trees yonder.  
(points to a grove of  
trees)

SERGEANT EVANS

(in a very sarcastic tone  
emphasizing the word Sir  
and Lieutenant)

Your call **Lieutenant Sir**.

FADE OUT.

9

EXT. CAMP IN THE GROVE OF TREES - EVENING

9

The patrol finishes eating their supper.

JOHN MACRAE

(approaches the patrol)

Gather around men. I want to go  
over our mission.

(turns to Sergeant Evans)

Why haven't you posted a sentry yet  
Sergeant?

SERGEANT EVANS

(emphasizing the word Sir)

We don't need no sentries. We ain't  
close to Sioux country yet **SIR**.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a stern tone)

Post one anyways Sergeant.

SERGEANT EVANS

(emphasizes the word Sir)

What ever you say **SIR**.

JOHN MACRAE

(addressing the patrol)

Men, our mission is simple. There have been reports of Red Eagle's band harassing homesteaders west of here on the Rosebud River. We are to make contact with any settlers in that area and confirm these reports. We have specific orders not to engage any Indians.

SERGEANT EVANS

(emphasizing the word Sir)

What do we do if they engage us  
**Sir?**

JOHN MACRAE

We need to be careful so that does not happen.

SERGEANT EVANS

(spits vigorously into the campfire, emphasizes the word Ha)

**Ha!**

JOHN MACRAE

(addresses the patrol then Sergeant Evans)

You men get some sleep. Sergeant, I'd like a word with you.

The patrol goes over to their tents and beds down. John MacRae and Sergeant Evans walk over to where the horses are picketed.

SERGEANT EVANS

(lights up a cigar)

What's on your mind Lieutenant?

JOHN MACRAE

Sergeant, is there something you have against me? You seem to disagree with everything I say.

SERGEANT EVANS

(draws on the cigar then blows a puff of smoke in John MacRae's direction)

I don't know what in the hell you are talking about Lieutenant. What have I said to make you feel that way?

JOHN MACRAE

It's just the way you answer me  
Sergeant. Your inflection when you  
say Sir and Lieutenant.

SERGEANT EVANS

(draws on the cigar then  
blows a puff of smoke up  
in the air)

I ain't educated like you  
Lieutenant. Hell, I don't even know  
what the word inflection means.

JOHN MACRAE

It's that snotty way you have been  
saying sir and Lieutenant. I looked  
at your dossier before we left. You  
were a hero at Gettysburg. Twice  
you turned down a battlefield  
commission. Do you have a some kind  
of a dislike for officers?

SERGEANT EVANS

You wouldn't understand Lieutenant.

LIEUTENANT MACRAE

(puts his hand on Sergeant  
Evans shoulder)

I'd really like to try Sergeant.

SERGEANT EVANS

(looks at the ground then  
into John MacRae's eyes)

During the war I was a First  
Sergeant in the Iron Brigade. At  
Gettysburg I lost several good men  
because of some incompetent  
officer's bad judgement. He was  
fresh out of West Point and would  
not listen to any of us who had  
seen the elephant. I just could not  
bring myself to becoming an  
officer. I thought I could do more  
good by being close to my men.

JOHN MACRAE

(with sincerity)

I think I do understand Sergeant.  
Please Sergeant, I'm asking you,  
will you help me not make those  
kinds of mistakes.

John MacRae extends his hand and both men shake hands.

SERGEANT EVANS  
 (gives John MacRae a faint  
 sympathetic look)  
 I'll try Sir.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Thank you Sergeant.

SERGEANT EVANS  
 (steps on his cigar)  
 We won't have to worry about any  
 hostiles for a few days but after  
 that it may be difficult not to  
 engage.

FADE OUT.

10 EXT. FURTHER ALONG THE ROSEBUD RIVER - DAY

10

SUPER: August 7, 1882

Rain clouds appear on the horizon as the patrol slowly moves along the Rosebud River. John MacRae is in the lead followed by Sergeant Evans, the Privates and Corporal Dunn at the rear of the patrol.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (Slows down to ride along  
 side of Sergeant Evans)  
 Sergeant, I'd like to thank you for  
 all of the help and advice you have  
 given me in the past few days. We  
 didn't learn things like that at  
 the Point.

SERGEANT EVANS  
 You're welcome Sir. I shouldn't  
 have been such a smart ass. I  
 thought you were just another know  
 it all officer from West Point.  
 Just so you know Sir, we are  
 getting close to Sioux territory  
 and it's time to be on our toes.

John MacRae is about to speak when a rifle shot rings out. The shot grazes the side of Lieutenant MacRae's head. He falls unconscious and slumps in his saddle. Sergeant Evans grabs the reins of the John MacRae's horse.

SERGEANT EVANS (CONT'D)  
 (screams to the patrol)  
 Head for that clump of trees. **Move  
 it.**

(MORE)

SERGEANT EVANS (CONT'D)  
(he heads for the clump of  
trees)

As the rest of the patrol moves towards the trees, Corporal Dunn and Private Leoni are immediately shot off of their horses. When Sergeant Evans finally enters the small grove of trees, only he and John MacRae are alive. Sergeant Evans heard the screams of the rest of the patrol as they were killed and scalped. Sergeant Evans looks at John MacRae and then draws his Single Action Army Colt revolver from the holster. He opens the loading gate, rotates the cylinder and closes the loading gate. Sergeant Evans looks up at the sky and tears come to his eyes. He points the revolver at John MacRae then has a change of heart and puts the barrel against his forehead.

Just as John MacRae regains consciousness he hears a pistol shot ring out. As he opens his eyes, he sees Sergeant Evans slump over and fall to the ground. Smoke comes out of the barrel of the Sergeant's revolver and blood appears from a wound in his forehead. Tears well up John MacRae's eyes. He hears the war cries of his attackers and slowly stands up. As he steps out from the cover of the trees, eight Sioux warriors lever their Winchesters and put John MacRae in their sights. John MacRae is bleeding from the wound on his head. The leader of the war party looks at his fellow warriors and motions for them not to shoot.

JOHN MACRAE  
(muttering to himself)  
The last bullet!

John MacRae draws a Single Action Army Colt revolver from the holster and presses it to his forehead. The warriors intensify their aim on John MacRae. John MacRae looks upward and sighs then points the revolver towards the ground next to his feet. John MacRae cocks the hammer and fires five rounds into the ground and then lets the revolver fall to the ground. As the revolver hits the ground John MacRae loses consciousness again. The war party swarms around John MacRae. Some of the warriors carry John MacRae over to one of the dead trooper's horses.

FADE OUT.

11 EXT. SIOUX CAMP - DAY

11

John MacRae awakes to find himself spread eagled and staked down on a small mound of dirt. He is completely naked except for a dirty rag tied around his forehead. His head throbs from the bullet wound. A Sioux WARRIOR carrying a lance approaches John MacRae. John MacRae recognizes the scalp on the Warrior's lance as Sergeant Evan's scalp.

The Warrior thrusts the lance into the ground within inches of John MacRae's head and draws a knife from his sheath. The Warrior presses the tip of the knife just below John MacRae's neck being careful not to break the skin or draw blood. The Warrior slowly moves the knife down John MacRae's chest and stomach and stops below his navel.

WARRIOR

(in a menacing tone, in  
broken English)

Now we will see how brave you are  
white man.

JOHN MACRAE

(muttering to himself)

Save the last bullet. God help me!

John MacRae starts to tremble. The Warrior laughs and is about to speak when WHITE EAGLE, a tall handsome Sioux man in his mid twenties with rugged features and short cropped hair appears in a grey sack suit with tall leather boots. His coat is open and reveals a Smith & Wesson revolver tucked into his pants.

WHITE EAGLE

(shouting loudly in  
perfect English)

Stop! We are not animals.

John MacRae looks up at White Eagle and loses consciousness.

FADE OUT.

12

INT. INSIDE OF A SIOUX TEEPEE - AFTERNOON

12

John MacRae awakes inside of a teepee. His clothes are in a neat pile next to him. He dresses and then opens the flap on the teepee. An Indian warrior puts an Henry rifle across the opening. John MacRae reluctantly obeys the warrior's command and sits down on a buffalo robe. It is warm in the teepee and he starts to perspire. The flap opens and White Eagle appears in the opening. He surveys John MacRae and then enters the teepee. White Eagle is wearing a brown sack suit along with high leather boots. The coat is open and reveals a Smith and Wesson revolver tucked into his pants.

WHITE EAGLE

(in a serious tone)

You were either very brave or very  
foolish. You could have been killed  
or worse, tortured on the spot. Why  
didn't you do what your Sergeant  
did?

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up and faces White Eagle)

I'm a Christian and I believe in a hereafter. We are taught if we die by our own hand, we will burn in hell for all eternity. Who are you? Why did you save me? What are you planning to do with me?

WHITE EAGLE

(with a less serious and somewhat friendly tone)

I studied Christianity briefly and heard the teachings on suicide. I am White Eagle, the son of Red Eagle. Nothing will happen to you. You are free to go.

(motions towards the teepee door)

JOHN MACRAE

I thank you for that and also for saving my life. My mission was to investigate reports of Red Eagle's band attacking settlers on the Rosebud. I was given strict orders not to engage your people, just to investigate. May I speak with your father?

WHITE EAGLE

(in a very serious tone)

My father is dying. He will not last more than a few days. I am in charge so to speak. There have been attacks and raids by our warriors but not at my father's command. We have some young warriors who do not want to give up the old ways. After my father dies, I am to become Chief. That may not happen. The young warriors will resist my being made their Chief. That is why I carry a gun. They resented my father sending me out east to the white man's schools. I was sent to New York to live and study with a missionary doctor and his wife. The doctor saved my mother when she was dying from the pox. My father wanted me to learn about the white man's medicine and healing powers.

(MORE)

## WHITE EAGLE (CONT'D)

The doctor had great influence and sent me to Harvard to study. I have seen the white man's power and knowledge. Our people must change but they find it hard to change after the way they have been treated with broken treaties and broken promises, reservations with deplorable conditions. The land where we lived for centuries taken away from us without any compassion. I must tell you that the blame for this current state of affairs rests on both sides. We need to change. Washington needs to keep their promises and not break treaties.

## JOHN MACRAE

I will tell my superiors what you have told me and how you saved my life.

## WHITE EAGLE

You must leave here tomorrow. When my father dies I may not be able to protect you.

FADE OUT.

13 EXT. SIOUX CAMP - DAY

13

John MacRae is given his horse back to him along with a Single Action Army Colt and a Springfield Carbine. He offers to shake White Eagle's hand but White Eagle turns away.

## WHITE EAGLE

Leave now while you still can.

## JOHN MACRAE

Do you have a any kind of a shovel?  
I want to stop and bury my  
troopers.

White Eagle gives John MacRae an implement fashioned out of a tree limb and a rusty piece of metal.

## WHITE EAGLE

(hands the implement to  
John MacRae)  
Here. Now go.



John MacRae lashes the shovel to Mack and rides off.

FADE OUT.

14 EXT. FURTHER ALONG THE ROSEBUD RIVER (BATTLE SITE) - DAY 14

John MacRae return to the battle site and buries the members of his patrol. He is shown putting rocks on top of the six graves. He places one cross in the middle of the grave site and puts the fallen soldier's personal effects into a cloth sack. John MacRae takes his hat off and kneels down for a brief moment. He stands, mounts Mack and rides off.

FADE OUT.

15 EXT. FORT KEOUGH - AFTERNOON 15

John MacRae arrives back at Fort Keough late in the afternoon. He immediately reports to the Commanding Officer.

16 INT. FORT KEOUGH COMMANDING OFFICER'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON 16

Major GEORGE STONE, a short, portly bald man in his late forties is seated at a desk. John MacRae is sitting across from George Stone.

GEORGE STONE

(frowning)

I don't believe your story  
Lieutenant. It sounds to me like  
you deserted your command. Also  
don't give me that crap about the  
Indians being treated unfairly.  
What are you, some kind of an  
Indian lover? I'm going to draw up  
court martial papers on you.

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up)

You don't believe me? Tell you what  
Major, before you court martial me  
let me take you out to Red Eagle's  
camp and you can talk to White  
Eagle himself. I'll also take you  
to the grave site of the troopers.  
I'm not a coward Sir.

GEORGE STONE

You expect me to believe an Indian?  
(points a finger at  
Lieutenant MacRae)

(MORE)

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)  
 You confine yourself to quarters.  
 Dismissed Lieutenant!

John MacRae snaps to attention and salutes George Stone. George Stone does not return the salute. John MacRae leaves the commanding Officer's office.

FADE OUT.

17 INT. FORT KEOUGH COMMANDING OFFICER'S OFFICE - MORNING 17

Super: One week later

John MacRae is standing at attention. George Stone is looking out a window.

GEORGE STONE  
 (turns to face John  
 MacRae)

I've decided not to court martial you. Instead, You are being transferred to Fort Meade. There is no room in my command for an Indian loving coward. I want you off this post today.

John MacRae frowns and does an about face. He leaves the Commanding Officer's office without saluting or closing the door.

18 INT. FORT MEADE COMMANDING OFFICER'S OFFICE - DAY 18

COLONEL MOORE, a tall man in his late thirties with a large walrus mustache is sitting on the edge of a desk. John MacRae is standing at attention.

COLONEL MOORE  
 (smiling)  
 Relax Lieutenant. Sit down, please.  
 (Colonel Moore sits down)  
 Welcome to Fort Meade. I see you were second in your class at West Point. Major Stone told me all about you. I didn't believe a word of his crap. We went to the point together. He was probably ticked off at you because he graduated second from last. Never liked that man.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (with a faint smile)  
 Thank you sir.

COLONEL MOORE  
 You might want to know that after  
 you left Major Stone personally led  
 a surprise attack on Red Eagle's  
 camp. Almost all of the warriors  
 were killed. The remaining few  
 warriors, women, children and old  
 men were captured and sent to a  
 reservation in Oklahoma. White  
 Eagle was nowhere to be found.  
 Stone said there probably never was  
 a White Eagle.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Well there was a White Eagle and he  
 saved my life. I hope he is still  
 alive and well.

COLONEL MOORE  
 (smiling)  
 So do I Lieutenant. Stone used to  
 call me an Indian lover too. I'm  
 glad to have you here.

FADE OUT.

19 EXT. A HILL OVERLOOKING THE PINE RIDGE RESERVATION - DAY 19

SUPER: December 29, 1890

John MacRae is now a Captain. He is mounted on Mack and next  
 to COLONEL FORSYTH, the commander of the 7th Cavalry  
 regiment. They are looking down at Big Foot's camp.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (looking at Colonel  
 Forsyth)  
 Colonel, do we really need those  
 Hotchkiss guns?

COLONEL FORSYTH  
 (frowning)  
 What did you say?

JOHN MACRAE  
 I said are those Hotchkiss guns  
 really needed?

COLONEL FORSYTH  
 Never question my orders Captain.  
 You have served with distinction  
 and have a good reputation. Don't  
 ruin it now.

The sound of guns firing in the foreground is heard. John MacRae has a troubled look on his face.

FADE OUT.

20 EXT. BIG FOOT'S CAMP AFTER THE BATTLE. - AFTERNOON 20

John MacRae is standing over the frozen body of Big Foot. John MacRae sighs and shakes his head.

FADE OUT.

21 INT. COLONEL FORSYTH'S OFFICE AT FORT RILEY - MORNING 21

John MacRae is standing at attention facing Colonel Forsyth who is seated at a desk.

COLONEL FORSYTH  
 (holding a letter)  
 So you are resigning your  
 commission Captain. Personally I  
 think you are making a big mistake.  
 You're not only are you giving up a  
 fine career but also a good  
 pension.  
 (puts the letter down and  
 picks up a telegram)  
 I'm afraid I've got some bad news  
 for you. We just received a wire  
 from your mother. I took the  
 liberty of reading it. Your father  
 is dying.  
 (hands the telegram to  
 MacRae)

John MacRae reads the telegram then folds it and puts it into his pocket. He shows no emotion.

COLONEL FORSYTH (CONT'D)  
 You might as well take leave now  
 and go see your father.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Thank you sir.

John MacRae salutes Colonel Forsyth. Colonel Forsyth returns the salute. MacRae does an about face and leaves the office.

FADE OUT.

22

INT. INT THE MACRAE LIVING ROOM - EVENING

22

A carriage pulls up to the MacRae home. It is snowing heavily. John MacRae gets out of the carriage and walks up to the front door. He knocks and Anne MacRae opens the door. They embrace and John MacRae enters the home.

ANNE MACRAE

(sobbing)

Johnny you are too late. Your father died this morning.

JOHN MACRAE

(wipes Anne MacRae's tears)

I'm sorry mother. The weather slowed me down

ANNE MACRAE

(sits down on a sofa)

He was calling for you. Just before he died he told me how he regretted the way he treated you. He wanted to set things straight between you and him.

JOHN MACRAE

(sits on the sofa next to Anne MacRae)

I wish I could have been here.

ANNE MACRAE

He changed his will. Your father left the entire business to you.

JOHN MACRAE

(holds Anne MacRae's hand)

Mother, I don't want any part of the business. That damn business caused all of the problems between Father and I. I'm going to sell the business and I want you to have the proceeds.

ANNE MACRAE

What are you going to do Johnny?

JOHN MACRAE

For several years I've had a standing offer for a position as the Paymaster in a gold mine in South Dakota when I retire from the Army. I guess that Chicago business school was helpful after all. Why don't you come out there with me Mother? The country is beautiful.

ANNE MACRAE

(teary eyed)

No Johnny. I will stay here. I do not want to be a burden to you. I want to be buried next to your Father.

JOHN MACRAE

(holds his mother's hands)

I'll help you get your affairs in order and stay in Milwaukee until we get the business sold.

FADE OUT.

23

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA - AFTERNOON

23

SUPER: Deadwood, South Dakota March 30, 1890

As John MacRae rides a chestnut sorrel into the outskirts of Deadwood, South Dakota He notices a CARPENTER putting the finishing touches on a gallows. He dismounts and walks over to the carpenter.

JOHN MACRAE

(points to the gallows)

Who is getting hung?

CARPENTER

(puts his hammer down on a railing)

An Indian who calls himself John Eagleton. Someone said he was the son of a Sioux chief called Red Eagle.

JOHN MACRAE

What did he do?

CARPENTER

(rolls a cigarette)

Oh that son of a bitch raped and killed the wife of Jacob Stone.

(MORE)

CARPENTER (CONT'D)  
 He's the son a big shot rancher.  
 They have a ranch a few miles from  
 here.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (takes his hat off and  
 runs his hand through his  
 hair)  
 Where is this Indian being held?

CARPENTER  
 (lights the cigarette)  
 In a jail in the basement of the  
 City Hall. Why do you ask?

JOHN MACRAE  
 (puts his hat back on)  
 Oh just curious. Say what did does  
 this Indian look like?

CARPENTER  
 (puffs on cigarette)  
 He doesn't look like an Indian. He  
 dresses like a white man and he  
 owns a general store in town.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (tips his hat)  
 Thanks for the information.

John MacRae mounts the sorrel and looks at his pocket watch.  
 It is 3:00 PM.

FADE OUT.

24 EXT. DEADWOOD CITY HALL - AFTERNOON 24

John MacRae arrives at the Deadwood City Hall. He dismounts  
 the sorrel and enters the Deadwood City hall.

25 INT. INSIDE OF THE DEADWOOD CITY HALL - AFTERNOON 25

John MacRae locates the JAILER, a slovenly dressed, heavysset  
 man in his late thirties.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (takes his hat off)  
 I'd like to see the prisoner you  
 call John Eagleton.

JAILER  
 (scratches his side)  
 What for? He's not allowed any  
 visitors.

JOHN MACRAE  
 I may have had some dealings with  
 him when I was in the Army.

JAILER  
 I don't know.  
 (pauses then spits in a  
 small bucket)  
 Well I guess it will be OK but just  
 for a few minutes. Leave your  
 pistol on the table here. Got any  
 pocket guns on ya?

JOHN MACRAE  
 (put his revolver on the  
 table)  
 No. Do you want my knife on the  
 table too?

The Jailer picks up a double barreled shotgun. He opens the  
 shotgun to make sure it is loaded.

JAILER  
 (closes the shotgun and  
 points it at John MacRae)  
 That won't be necessary. Walk ahead  
 of me down that stairway.

John MacRae and the Jailer walk down a stairway into the  
 jail's basement. The jailer unlocks a steel door and motions  
 for John MacRae to follow him into the cell area. It is damp  
 and musty. There are six cells but only one is occupied. As  
 John MacRae and the jailer approach the cell, the condemned  
 man stands up and walks up to the bars that hold him  
 prisoner. He firmly grasps the steel bars with each hand. The  
 jailer points to a painted yellow line on the floor three  
 feet from the bars. The condemned man is White Eagle. White  
 Eagle is wearing a wrinkled and dirty brown tweed sack suit.  
 White Eagle's face is dirty and has bruises on it.

JAILER (CONT'D)  
 (pointing to the yellow  
 line)  
 Don't go beyond that yellow line or  
 I'll throw ya outta here. I'll be  
 watching you.

John MacRae nods and puts the toes of his boots on the yellow  
 line. The jailer walks over to a wooden chair and sits down.



He puts the shotgun on a small table in front of him and lights a cigar.

WHITE EAGLE

(moves his face closer to  
the cell's bars)

How did you find me Lieutenant?

JOHN MACRAE

I'm not a Lieutenant anymore. I resigned from the military and I'm on my way out to the Homestake gold mine in Lead. I'll be working there as the mine Paymaster. I noticed a gallows being built as I road into Deadwood. They said an Indian by the name of John Eagleton was going to hang for rape and murder. They said this Indian was the son of Red Eagle. I can't believe that the White Eagle I knew would ever commit such an act.

WHITE EAGLE

(releases his grip on the  
cell's bars)

Would it make any difference if I said I was innocent?

JOHN MACRAE

Of course it would. I could never envision you doing anything like rape and murder. Tell me how you ended up here. I want to help you.

White Eagle puts his hand through the cell's bars.

WHITE EAGLE

(speaking softly)

You can help me by handing me that knife you are wearing. I don't want to hang.

JOHN MACRAE

(shaking his head)

That I will not do. I'm sure you remember my feelings about taking one's own life.

WHITE EAGLE

(pushes his hand further  
through the call's bars)

Please don't leave me like this. I don't want to die like an animal.

JOHN MACRAE  
(ignores the request)  
How much time do you have left?

WHITE EAGLE  
(put his hand back into  
the cell)  
They are going to hang me in four  
days.

JOHN MACRAE  
Tell me how you ended up here. I  
heard that your camp was raided by  
Major Stone. He said you were  
nowhere to be found. I never heard  
what happened to you. It was like  
you disappeared from the face of  
the earth.

WHITE EAGLE  
(sits down on a pallet)  
My Father died right after you  
left. Just before he died he spoke  
to all of the men in our band and  
said he wanted me to be Chief.  
There were conflicts between the  
young warriors and older men in the  
band. The older men wanted peace  
with the white man. The young  
warriors wanted to continue their  
raids. For a while I was able to  
maintain order. The young warriors  
eventually grew restless and raided  
another homestead on the Rosebud. I  
protested and wanted to punish the  
leaders. One of the elders told me  
that the young warriors were  
planning to kill me. That evening I  
heard two warriors approaching my  
teepee. I ended up killing both of  
them and barely escaped. There was  
nothing left for me there. I wanted  
to get as far away as possible so I  
headed for California. With my  
education I was able to earn a good  
living. I managed to save enough  
money to buy the store here in  
Deadwood. I heard that... .

The jailer grabs the shotgun and stands up. He interrupts  
White Eagle.

JAILER  
That's enough. Let's go.

JOHN MACRAE  
What Time can I see him tomorrow?

JAILER  
(in a gruff tone)  
No more visits for you.

John MacRae pulls out a fifty dollar gold coin and hands it to the Jailer.

JOHN MACRAE  
What time tomorrow?

JAILER  
(grinning)  
Come back tomorrow after ten  
o'clock.  
(puts the gold coin in his  
pocket)

JOHN MACRAE  
(looks at White Eagle)  
I will see you tomorrow morning. Oh  
by the way do you have a wife or  
any kin out here?

WHITE EAGLE  
(stands up)  
I had a wife but she died from  
Typhus a few years ago. She was  
with child. I miss her terribly but  
I'm glad she isn't here to see  
this.

JAILER  
(waves the shotgun at John  
MacRae)  
Come on, let's go. That's enough  
for one day.

The Jailer follows John MacRae up the stairs.

FADE OUT.

John MacRae is sitting in a hotel room next to a table. A local newspaper, THE BLACK HILLS WEEKLY TIMES, is on the table along with a bottle of whiskey and a glass. The front page reads EAGLETON FOUND GUILTY. John MacRae pours a drink and drinks half of it. He picks up the newspaper and starts reading it.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (turns a page and studies  
 the newspaper)

Hmm.

John MacRae puts the newspaper on the table and empties the glass. He pours another drink.

FADE OUT.

27

INT. INSIDE OF THE DEADWOOD CITY HALL - MORNING

27

SUPER: March 31, 1890

John MacRae walks up to the Jailer who is drinking a cup of coffee.

JOHN MACRAE  
 I'm here to see the prisoner again.

JAILER  
 (grinning)  
 Oh you can see him alright but it's going to cost you another fifty bucks.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (frowning)  
 OK Mister Jailer, I'll give you what you want but I'll need more than five minutes a visit.  
 (He tosses the Jailer a gold coin and opens his coat)  
 By the way, I'm not armed.

JAILER  
 (grabs the shotgun)  
 Walk ahead of me down the stairs. Remember to stay behind the yellow line.

John MacRae and the Jailer walk down the stairway. The Jailer sits down and dozes off. John MacRae grabs a chair and sits down behind the yellow line.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (takes his hat off)  
 I read an account of what happened in the local newspaper. Why don't you tell me your story?

White Eagle puts his hand through the cell's bars.

WHITE EAGLE

(softly)

He's asleep. Quick, hand me your knife.

JOHN MACRAE

(shaking his head)

You know I can't do that. Just tell me what happened.

White Eagle sits down on the pallet in his cell.

WHITE EAGLE

The Stone ranch owes me a lot of money. I ran into Jacob Stone at the livery stable several weeks ago and asked him when he was going to settle his account. He told me to go to hell and he'd be damned if he would pay anything to an Indian. He was angry because he found out his wife made a pass at me a while back. I went out to the Stone ranch to see if I could reason with his father. When I arrived at the ranch Mary Stone came out to greet me. She said her father in law went to town and her husband was out checking stock. I told her that I'd come back tomorrow and started to leave. Mary asked me if I would take a look at new born colt that was not doing well. I didn't think that was a good idea and I told her so. She pleaded with me and said I just want you to take a look at the colt. I finally agreed which was a big mistake. We went into the barn. There was no colt. She closed the door and walked up to me. She put her arms around me and started kissing me. I pushed her away and told her I needed to leave. She started crying and said you don't know what it's like being married to a man like Jacob Stone. He's got a terrible temper and beats me for no reason. I told her I was sorry to hear that and left. Jacob Stone's father testified that he saw me leaving their ranch just before he discovered Mary Stone's body.

(MORE)

WHITE EAGLE (CONT'D)

Somebody planed a bloody knife in my saddle bags. I didn't have a chance.

JOHN MACRAE

Is that what you testified to in court?

WHITE EAGLE

(clasps his hand together)

Yes, that's it pretty much word for word. When I told that story in court there was so much noise from the crowd that I'm sure the jury didn't hear a word of what I said.

JOHN MACRAE

Tell me about the pass his wife made at you.

WHITE EAGLE

Mary Stone was in my store one day. She thought we were alone. She kissed me and started to complain about Jacob. One of Stone's ranch hands was in the store at the time and must have seen it.

JOHN MACRAE

(puts his hand on his chin)

What did you do?

WHITE EAGLE

I pushed her away of course. I'm not stupid, besides I wanted nothing to do with her or any of the Stone's.

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up)

It's time I pay the Stone's a visit.

White Eagle puts his hand through the cell's bars further.

WHITE EAGLE

He is still sleeping. Please give me your knife".

JOHN MACRAE

(in a stern voice)

Don't ask me that again!

(nudges the Jailer)

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
I'm leaving now. I'll be back  
tomorrow morning.

JAILER  
(blinks his eyes)  
Bring another fifty dollar gold  
piece!

John MacRae and the Jailer start to leave.

WHITE EAGLE  
(shouting)  
I told you what happened. No one  
believes anything I say. It's  
hopeless. I don't want to die by  
the rope.

At the top of the stairs John MacRae turns to the Jailer

JOHN MACRAE  
How do I get to the Stone's ranch  
from here?

JAILER  
(spits into a small  
bucket)  
It's four miles east of town on the  
road to Sturgis. I'd be careful if  
I were you. That George Stone ain't  
too friendly.

JOHN MACRAE  
(with a surprised look)  
Did you say George Stone?

JAILER  
Yep. He used to a Colonel in the  
Army. He's a big man in these  
parts.

JOHN MACRAE  
You don't say? Much obliged for the  
information.

FADE OUT.

John MacRae arrives at the Stone's ranch. He rides through an open iron gate up to a large stone and frame two story building. He dismounts and ties the sorrel's reins to a hitching post. John MacRae is startled as he hears the voice of his old commanding officer Major George Stone.

GEORGE STONE

(walks up to John MacRae)  
I heard you were in town. I was wondering when you would be out here. You might as well get back on that horse because this will be a very brief conversation MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE

So it really is you. I heard you were killed on duty somewhere. I just want to ask you a few questions about John Eagleton.

GEORGE STONE

I'm not dead MacRae and I'm not answering any of your questions. I'm warning you to mind your own damn business. That bastard is going to hang. Now you get your ass on that horse and get off my property.

JOHN MACRAE

(with a slight grin)  
I suppose talking to your son is out of the question.

GEORGE STONE

(angrily)  
You son of a bitch. Get the hell off of my property or else.

JOHN MACRAE

(walks toward George Stone)  
Are you threatening me?

John MacRae hears the levering of a Winchester behind him. He turns around and faces JACOB STONE, a tall thin man with short blond hair and a bald spot in back. Jacob Stone has sharp angular features and a nervous demeanor about him.

JACOB STONE

(points the rifle at John MacRae)  
What's all the shouting about Father?

GEORGE STONE

(points a finger at John MacRae)  
This is the Indian loving son of a bitch I told you about.



John MacRae mounts his horse and looks at George Stone.

JOHN MACRAE  
This isn't over yet Stone.

JACOB STONE  
(grinning)  
It will be all over for you damn  
quick if you don't back off and  
mind your own business.

John MacRae turns the sorrel towards the Iron Gate and rides off.

FADE OUT.

29

INT. INSIDE OF THE DEADWOOD CITY HALL - MORNING

29

SUPER: April 1, 1890

John MacRae and the Jailer walk down the stairway. The Jailer sits down and lights a small cigar. John MacRae places the toes of his boots on the yellow line.

JOHN MACRAE  
(take his hat off)  
I visited the Stones ranch  
yesterday. They are some very nasty  
people. Jacob Stone's father was my  
first commanding officer. All I got  
from them were threats. They were  
no help at all. I did some checking  
around town. George Stone has a lot  
of influence here in Deadwood.  
Everyone I talked to was tight  
lipped. Just about everybody warned  
me to back off for my own good.

White Eagle again put his hand through the cell's bars.

WHITE EAGLE  
You can see that this is all  
hopeless. I've only got two days  
left. They may not let you in here  
anymore so please give me your  
knife.

JOHN MACRAE  
(in a stern voice)  
I told you not to ask me that  
anymore. Why is everyone so afraid  
of him?

White Eagle pulls his hand back in and starts to pace around the cell.

WHITE EAGLE

I've heard that George Stone is the majority stock holder in one of the biggest banks in Deadwood. He is said to control who is able to borrow money. I've also heard that he has had some dealings with Al Swearngen. It's also common knowledge that if you cross him in any way, he will have your loans recalled. I don't know how much truth there is to that. It's only what I've heard. I had the cash money to buy my store without a loans. I've heard George Stone was unhappy about that but I've never had any difficulties with him until he stopped paying his account".

JOHN MACRAE

Why do you think Stone's stopped paying you?

WHITE EAGLE

I'm sure it started when Jacob Stone found out about the pass his wife made at me.

JOHN MACRAE

Think carefully. Is there anyone who has had bad dealings with either of the Stone's and might be willing to talk about it? Think now. You need to give me something to go on.

WHITE EAGLE

(shakes his head)

I can't think of anyone.

(stops pacing and puts his hand on his chin)

Well wait, there was this whore who had an affair with Jacob Stone a few years ago. It got pretty ugly. She almost killed young Stone. I don't think she will talk about it to you.

JOHN MACRAE

What's the name of that whore and where can I find her?

## WHITE EAGLE

Her name is Molly but everyone calls her Duchess. She lives in a little shack around two miles east of town. In fact it's on the way out to the Stone's ranch. She stopped whoring after the incident with Jacob Stone. I heard she used to be a seamstress back east. She takes in sewing and repairs leather items. She has a sharp tongue.

## JOHN MACRAE

I believe I'll pay the Duchess a visit today.

## WHITE EAGLE

I don't know what good that will do. Please, I don't want to die by the rope.

## JOHN MACRAE

You won't.

John MacRae and the Jailer leave.

FADE OUT.

30

EXT. MOLLY'S CABIN - DAY

30

It is snowing as John MacRae arrives at Molly's shack. Molly's shack. It is a well kept split log cabin in a wooded area near a small bluff. A thin wisp of smoke is rising out of a stone chimney. John MacRae dismounts the sorrel and is about to tie the reins to a small birch tree when the cabin's door open. John MacRae hears the cocking of a shotgun's hammers. He drops the reins, turns and faces MOLLY, an attractive woman in her late twenties with long dark hair and blue eyes. She is barefoot and wearing only a long men's shirt.

## MOLLY

(points the shotgun at John MacRae)  
What the hell do you want?

## JOHN MACRAE

(puts his hand up)  
Now hold on there ma'am. I just want to ask you a few questions. I'm a friend of White Eagles.  
(pauses)  
Uh, John Eagleton.

MOLLY  
 (lowers the shotgun  
 slightly)  
 I heard of you. I ain't got nothin'  
 to say to you, You better get the  
 hell outta here for your own good.

John MacRae is about to speak when a rifle shot rings out. The shot came from the top of the small bluff near the cabin. The shot hits John MacRae in the left shoulder. A second shot rings out missing John MacRae's head but knocks his hat off. John MacRae stumbles and falls in front of the cabin's door. Molly raises the shotgun towards the bluff and fires both barrels. She opens the shotgun, reaches in her pocket, pulls out two shells and reloads the shotgun. She was about to fire again when she hears the sound of a horse from above the bluff galloping away. She notices John MacRae crawling slowly.

MOLLY (CONT'D)  
 (leans the shotgun against  
 the cabin)  
 SHIT!

Molly drags John McCrae inside the cabin. She grabs the shotgun and closes the door.

31 INT. INSIDE MOLLY'S CABIN - DAY

31

John MacRae wakes up in a bed. His shirt is off and a piece of white cloth is tied around the shoulder wound. Molly hands John MacRae a tin cup with water in it. He takes a long drink and hands the cup back to Molly.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Many thanks. You Must be the  
 Duchess.

MOLLY  
 (sits down on the bed)  
 Just call me Molly. You were damn  
 lucky. Jacob is a pretty good shot.  
 I'm surprised he didn't kill you.  
 Jacob's Father stopped by yesterday  
 and told me about you. He warned me  
 not to talk to you or Jacob would  
 take care of the both of us. I  
 didn't think you would come out  
 here and I didn't think the old man  
 was serious. Guess I was wrong. By  
 the way, your wound is not serious.

JOHN MACRAE

(sits up and winces)

How do you know it was Jacob Stone?

MOLLY

Oh it was Jacob alright. The old man's eyesight ain't that good.

Here take a swig of this.

(hands John MacRae a  
bottle of whiskey)

JOHN MACRAE

(takes a swig)

Can you tell me anything about the Stone's. I'm certain that White Eagle, uh John Eagleton is innocent.

(hands the bottle to  
Molly)

MOLLY

(TAKES A SWIG)

Jacob has a real nasty temper especially when he drinks. We were together off and on for about a year. It was whenever he'd get bored with his wife. Jacob is used to getting everything his own way. I don't bow to any man and one day he really lost his temper.

Molly unbuttons her shirt and opens it up. Above her breasts and on her shoulders are scars from stab wounds.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Look what he did to me. That son of a bitch stabbed me seven times. He would have killed me if I didn't have my Derringer handy. I shot him in the leg and told him I'd kill him if he ever came near me again. I'm not the only whore he ever stabbed. His old man covered up every bad thing Jacob would do. If it weren't for the old man Jacob might have been hung a few times himself. After that I gave up whoring. I'm trying to save up enough money to go back east.

(Molly buttons her shirt)

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at his pocket  
watch)

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
Sounds like I need to visit the  
Stone's again.

MOLLY  
I'm not sure that you can do  
anything for him now.

JOHN MACRAE  
(sits up in bed)  
I'm going back over to the Stone's  
ranch.

MOLLY  
(pushes John MacRae back  
in bed)  
You ain't going anywhere MacRae.  
You don't want that shoulder to  
start bleeding again.

JOHN MACRAE  
(sits up again)  
I'll be OK. I just can't lay here.  
Time is running out for White  
Eagle. He hangs tomorrow at noon.

MOLLY  
Why are you so eager to save  
Eagleton?

JOHN MACRAE  
He saved my life many years ago.

MOLLY  
Why don't you wait until after  
sundown. I'll go with you out to  
the Stone's ranch. Jacob usually  
gets drunk after supper and passes  
out.

(smiles at John MacRae)  
You got a wife back home Mr.  
MacRae?

JOHN MACRAE  
Never been married. Why do you ask?

MOLLY  
(smiling)  
Just nosey. I guess. Let me make  
you something to eat and we'll go  
over to the Stone's together after  
it gets dark.

JOHN MACRAE

(leans back against a  
pillow)

Alright, but I want you to stand  
down if it gets nasty.

Molly cooks John MacRae a beefsteak. She spruces herself up while he is eating. Molly brushes her long dark hair and puts on a red blouse along with a pair of riding trousers. John MacRae studies Molly intently. She notices him studying her and smiles slightly.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

You are fine looking woman. How did  
you end up in Deadwood?

MOLLY

(sighs)

I'm sure you heard stories like  
this before. I came out here from  
Ohio with my parents when I was  
eighteen. My Father was going to  
work at the gold mine as a  
paymaster. My father was a decent  
hardworking man. Mother had a dress  
shop back home. They both died from  
the Typhus and I was left alone out  
here. I don't think I need to tell  
you the rest.

(tears well up in Molly's  
eyes)

I'm glad they never got to see what  
a miserable wretch I turned out to  
be.

JOHN MACRAE

That's why I came out here, to be  
the paymaster at the gold mine.  
Don't be so hard on yourself. You  
did what you had to do.

MOLLY

Since you know so much about me,  
Mr. MacRae, tell me why you never  
got married.

JOHN MACRAE

(grinning slightly)

Haven't found a woman yet who could  
cook good enough to suit my tastes.

(points to an empty plate)

Damn, that steak was tasty"

Molly looks at John MacRae with a puzzled look and loads her Derringer.

MOLLY  
 (holds the Derringer up  
 for John MacRae to see)  
 I better take this with me.

Molly puts the Derringer in the upper pocket of an old red Mackinaw coat.

FADE OUT.

32 EXT. THE STONE RANCH - EVENING

32

SUPER: Later that evening

With Molly in the lead, Molly and John MacRae arrive at the Stone's Ranch. There is a full moon. Molly and John MacRae dismount and tie their horses in a small clump of Aspens fifty yards from the iron gate. John MacRae retrieves an 1873 Winchester from the scabbard. He takes the lead as they slowly and quietly go through the iron gate and approach the main building. It is dark everywhere except for a light shining through a window on the first floor of the main building. John MacRae cautiously looks through a window.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (Turns and whispers to  
 Molly)  
 I only see old man Stone in there.  
 Where do you think Jacob is?

MOLLY  
 (whispering)  
 I'm sure he is drunk and passed out  
 by now.

33 INT. INSIDE THE STONE RANCH HOME - EVENING

33

John MacRae slowly turns the door knob on the front door. The door is unlocked. He opens the door quietly, walks through the foyer and enters a large parlor. George Stone is dozing in a large brown leather chair. A half-filled bottle of whiskey is on a table next to the chair. John MacRae approaches George Stone. He levers his Winchester and points it at George Stone. George Stone wakes up with a startled and frightened look on his face. He starts to speak but is interrupted by John MacRae.



JOHN MACRAE

Relax Stone, I'm not going to hurt you. I just want to ask you some questions and I want straight answers. None of your damn bullshit or I will hurt your sorry ass. Where is your son Jacob?

Upon hearing John MacRae use coarse language Molly's eyes widen.

MOLLY

My goodness!

Jacob Stone steps out from a doorway and cocks the hammer on an 1866 Winchester.

JACOB STONE

Right behind you. Drop that rifle,  
**NOW!**

John MacRae realizes that Jacob Stone has him covered and drops the rifle. Molly reaches in the Mackinaw's pocket and pulls out her Derringer but Jacob Stone is too quick for her. He fires one round, hitting Molly in her side then quickly levers the Winchester and points it back at John MacRae. Molly falls to the floor bleeding profusely from the wound in her side.

John MacRae ignores the Winchester pointed at him and rushes to Molly's side. He kneels and cradles her head in his arms.

JOHN MACRAE

(pleading)

Oh Molly, please don't die on me.

MOLLY

(looks up John MacRae)

I'm.. I'm sorry Johnny.

(loses unconsciousness)

JACOB STONE

(grinning)

Well now, look who's got a thing for the whore. Take your last look at her you meddling son of a bitch.

GEORGE STONE

(stands up)

What are you going to do son?

JACOB STONE

What the hell do you think I'm gonna to do?

(MORE)

JACOB STONE (CONT'D)  
 I'm gonna kill em' both. You can  
 help me bury them back in the woods  
 behind the corral.

GEORGE STONE  
 (shaking his head)  
 When is all of this going to stop  
 Jacob?

JACOB STONE  
 (gives George Stone a  
 menacing look)  
 When I say it's going to stop, old  
 man.  
 (looks at John MacRae)  
 Pick up the whore and carry her. We  
 are going for a little walk. I  
 ain't about to carry two bodies  
 into the woods.

Jacob does not notice his Father reaching into a drawer and pulling out a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver. George Stone puts the revolver into his pocket. John MacRae carefully picks up Molly and carries her outside followed by George and Jacob stone.

34

EXT. THE STONE RANCK - EVENING

34

They all walk to the woods behind the Stone ranch home.

JACOB STONE  
 You can drop the whore now.

John MacRae gently places Molly on the ground. He pats her head gently with one hand and with one hand tries to retrieve the pistol holstered underneath his buckskin coat. Jacob Stone notices John MacRae slowly trying to retrieve the pistol.

JACOB STONE (CONT'D)  
 No ya don't. Puts those hands up.  
 (aims the Winchester at  
 John MacRae's head)  
 Now you're gonna die you meddling  
 bastard.

GEORGE STONE  
 (yelling)  
 This all has to stop Jacob. Let  
 them go.

JACOB STONE

(points the Winchester at  
George Stone)

Do you want some of this old man? I can always say that MacRae shot you before I killed him. You know that's not a bad idea. I won't have to wait for you to croak to get the ranch.

GEORGE STONE

(shaking his fist at Jacob  
Stone)

You evil bastard!

John MacRae notices the Winchester being pointed at George Stone and reaches for his pistol. Out of the corner of his eye Jacob Stone notices John MacRae reaching for his pistol. He quickly swings the Winchester around and aims it at John MacRae. Before Jacob Stone can pull the trigger George Stone retrieves the Smith & Wesson revolver from his pocket and fires two shots at Jacob Stone. The first shot hits Jacob Stone in the neck. The second shot enters the base of his skull. Jacob Stone is dead as he hits the ground. George Stone throws the revolver into a clump of bushes and sits down on the ground. He buries his face in his hands.

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)

It's finally over.

JOHN MACRAE

(staring in disbelief)

What now Major?

GEORGE STONE

(stands up and faces John  
MacRae)

MacRae, I've done you and a lot of other people a terrible wrong. I used my influence to cover up for my son's misdeeds many times. I always thought that this was my duty as a Father. I hoped that maybe someday he would straighten out. Things just got worse. Your Indian friend is innocent. Jacob killed his own wife in a fit of rage. I didn't see him do it but I know he killed her. He told me after the trial that he had come home early. He was hiding in the barn and heard everything his wife said to Eagleton. He killed her after Eagleton left.

(MORE)

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)

Then he went into town and planted the bloody knife in the Indian's saddlebag. I did nothing and probably would have let the Indian hang if you had not come around. Jacob pointing that rifle at me and threatening to kill me was something I could not abide. I will go into town with you and testify to what really happened.

JOHN MACRAE

I don't know what to say Major but thank you.

GEORGE STONE

(in a sarcastic tone)

I'm not a Major anymore MacRae.

George Stone walks over to Molly. He kneels down and inspects her wound.

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)

She will die if we don't get her to a doctor. There is a doctor who lives a few miles from here. I've done a few favors for him. I'll get him to help her. It's further away from town but we should have enough time to save the Indian. I hear he is scheduled to hang at noon tomorrow.

Some of George Stone's ranch hands wake up after hearing the shots and commotion, George Stone tells them what happened and has them hitch up a buckboard. They place Molly in the buckboard and cover her with several blankets. They also place Jacob Stone's lifeless body in the buckboard and cover it. George Stone drives the buckboard. John MacRae follows on his sorrel.

FADE OUT.

35

EXT. THE DOCTOR DAVIS HOME - EVENING

35

John MacRae and George Stone arrive at Doctor Davis's home. George Stone knocks hard on the front door. DOCTOR DAVIS, a man in his late sixties with a long white beard opens the door. He is holding a small kerosene lamp.

DOCTOR DAVIS

(rubs his eyes)

George, what happened?

GEORGE STONE

There's been a shooting at my place. Jacob is dead. We've got a woman in the buckboard who needs help or she will die.

DOCTOR DAVIS

My God! Come in. Put her on my dining room table. I don't normally see patients in my home.

36

INT. DOCTOR DAVIS'S DINING ROOM

36

Doctor Davis examines Molly as John MacRae and George Stone watch.

DOCTOR DAVIS

She has lost a lot of blood but I think I can save her. I'll tell you this. She would not have lasted much longer. The wound did not do any damage to her vitals but the bleeding would have killed her. There's some whiskey in the cabinet over there. Help yourselves.

John MacRae and George Stone sit down and have a glass of whiskey. They say nothing to each other and both doze intermittingly.

SUPER: 6:00 AM April 2, 1890

Doctor Davis wakes George Stone up. John MacRae is already awake. Doctor Davis's white apron had blood on it.

DOCTOR DAVIS (CONT'D)

(with a tired look)

Molly will live but it's best if she stays here for at least a week or so. I don't want her moving around much and have the bleeding start again. My wife can take care of her.

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at his pocket watch)

It's 6:00 AM. White Eagle is scheduled to hang at noon. We better get going.

(looks at George Stone)

Are you sure you are going to do this Major?

GEORGE STONE  
 (puts his coat on)  
 Yes.

JOHN MACRAE  
 How long will it take us to get to  
 Deadwood?

GEORGE STONE  
 Not quite two hours.

37 EXT. THE DOCTOR DAVIS HOME - MORNING 37

John MacRae ties his sorrel to the buckboard and sits down next to George Stone who drives. They head towards Deadwood. The sun is beginning to rise. They say nothing to each other.

FADE OUT.

38 INT. INSIDE OF THE DEADWOOD CITY HALL - MORNING 38

White Eagle is awake and sitting on a pallet. The CITY MARSHALL, a large man with a drooping mustache opens the steel door and walks up to White Eagle's cell.

CITY MARSALL  
 The Mayor and the City Fathers want your execution moved up. You will hang at 8:00 AM today. Don't ask me why. They would not give me a reason. I think it might have something to do with your being an Indian. Do you want anything to eat?

WHITE EAGLE  
 (stands up)  
 Eat? No! Why don't you open my cell. I'll run out and you can shoot me. Just say I was trying to escape. No one will doubt your word. I don't want to die by the rope.

CITY MARSALL  
 (with a slight smile)  
 You're gonna hang. That's for certain Indian.

White Eagle sits down on the pallet and places and buries his face in his hands.

FADE OUT.

39 EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF DEADWOOD. SOUTH DAKOTA - MORNING 39

As they rode into Deadwood John MacRae and George Stone notice a large crowd gathered at the far end of town. White Eagle is in a small open wagon. The wagon stops at the gallows and White Eagle is helped out of the wagon. The City Marshall and his deputy are on either side of White Eagle as he walked up the thirteen steps. They lead him over to the trapdoor and place him in the middle of it. The deputy uses leather straps with silver buckles to bind White Eagle's arms and legs. The City Marshall reads the death warrant. He looks at White Eagle.

CITY MARSALL

Do you have any last words?

WHITE EAGLE

(looks to the sky)

No.

The City Marshall places the noose around White Eagle's neck and adjusts it. He places a black hood over White Eagle's head. The deputy grasps the lever that will spring the trapdoor. He looks at the City Marshall and awaits his signal. The City Marshall is just about to nod his head when a familiar voice breaks the silence.

GEORGE STONE

(screams)

**Stop!**

George Stone steps out of the buckboard and walks up the thirteen steps. He walks over to the City Marshall.

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)

This execution must stop.

CITY MARSALL

(with a puzzled look)

Why George, isn't this the son of a bitch that murdered your son's wife?

GEORGE STONE

(looks the City Marshall  
in the eye)

The Indian is innocent.

(MORE)

GEORGE STONE (CONT'D)

My son murdered his own wife. He is lying dead in that wagon there.

George Stone proceeds to tell the City Marshall what had really happened and the events that transpired in the past two days. He points back and forth between the wagon and White Eagle. The City Marshall removes the hood and noose from White Eagle's head and neck.

CITY MARSALL

(looks at the deputy)

Take him back to the jail until we talk to Judge Wilkins. George, if it were anyone but you, I would not have stopped this hanging.

FADE OUT.

40 INT. INSIDE THE STONE RANCH HOME - EVENING 40

George Stone is sitting at a desk. A bottle of whiskey half full is on the desk. George Stone is writing a letter. It is addressed to Jordan Stone #535149 Penitenciaría Nacional

FADE OUT.

41 INT. INSIDE JOHN EAGLTONS GENERAL STORE - MORNING 41

SUPER: April 9, 1890

John MacRae enters John Eagleton's general store. He rings a bell and White Eagle comes out the back room. They shake hands.

JOHN MACRAE

Is business back to normal yet?

WHITE EAGLE

(smiling)

Not just back to normal but better the ever. John, I don't know how to thank you. Please let me know if there anything I can ever do for you.

JOHN MACRAE

(grinning)

Well, I wouldn't be here today if it weren't for you. There is one thing I do need. Do you have any of those sack suits like you wear for sale?



WHITE EAGLE

Why, do you need to wear one for your job at the mine? I don't have any for sale. I order mine from out east. I'd give you one of mine but they wouldn't fit you.

JOHN MACRAE

I just want one for a special occasion.

WHITE EAGLE

I do have a brand new frock coat that I ordered for a customer who died on me. It should fit you perfectly and I'm sure it will match the occasion just fine.

FADE OUT.

42

INT. INSIDE MOLLY'S CABIN - AFTERNOON

42

Molly is sitting at a sewing machine working on a dress. She hears a knock and walks over to the door. She opens the door slowly. John MacRae is standing there wearing a dark grey herringbone frock coat with a white shirt and a red puff tie. He steps in and hands Molly a bouquet of daffodils.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

Will you dine with me tonight  
Duchess?

MOLLY

(starts to cry)

You know who I am and what I was.  
Why would you ever want to be seen  
with me? I'm just a...

Before Molly can finish her reply, John MacRae puts his arms around Molly and then puts a hand over her mouth. He gently wipes the tears from her eyes.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

Shh my dear. I just see a pretty woman who did what she had to do to survive. Besides I finally found a woman who can cook to suit my tastes.

MOLLY  
 (smiles and kisses John  
 MacRae)  
 Why don't we dine right here. I'll  
 cook you another beefsteak Johnny.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (smiling)  
 Sounds good my dear.

John MacRae and Molly kiss.

SUPER: On June 24, 1890 the Molly MacRae Dress shop has a  
 grand opening in Deadwood, South Dakota

FADE OUT.

43 INT. JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE HOME - EVENING

43

SUPER: April 1893

John MacRae now sporting a mustache, Molly MacRae and BONNIE  
 MACRAE, a two year old girl with curly blond hair are sitting  
 in the dining room of a two story frame home. John MacRae  
 blows three candles out on a small cake.

MOLLY  
 (smiling)  
 I couldn't fit forty candles on  
 your birthday cake, only three.  
 That's for my three years of being  
 married to you Johnny. Three good  
 years!

JOHN MACRAE  
 (reaches over and kisses  
 Molly's hand)  
 Why thank you dear. Three good  
 years for me too. Thank you for  
 giving me Bonnie.  
 (takes a bite of cake)  
 Mm, this cake is really good. Do  
 you remember the first meal you  
 cooked for me?

MOLLY  
 (smiling)  
 I certainly do.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Oh by the way, the Mine is sending  
 me out to Chicago next week to look  
 at some new drilling equipment.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

Would you mind I took a few extra days and visited my mother in Milwaukee? I won't be gone more than two weeks. White Eagle can look in on you and Bonnie.

MOLLY

Not at all. I have plenty to do at the dress shop. Seems like the women in town have forgotten my past occupation. Say Johnny, why don't you call White Eagle John like everyone else does?

JOHN MACRAE

Just a habit I guess. In my mind it was White Eagle who saved me, not John Eagleton.

(takes a sip of wine)

You know I'm thinking for running for alderman or maybe even mayor some day here in Deadwood.

FADE OUT.

44

EXT. THE DEADWOOD TRAIN DEPOT - MORNING

44

John MacRae is standing with Molly next to a passenger car and is holding Bonnie.

JOHN MACRAE

I know traveling is part of my job as the mine superintendent but I don't like leaving you and Bonnie alone.

MOLLY

(smiling)

Oh hush now. We will be just fine. It's 1893.

John MacRae hands Bonnie to Molly.

JOHN MACRAE

(kisses Molly)

I love you.

(kisses Bonnie and touches her hair)

John MacRae boards the passenger car. The train starts to move. Molly waves to John MacRae whose face has taken on a worried look.

FADE OUT.

45 INT. PENITENCIARÍA NACIONAL JAIL CELL (BUENOS AIRES) - DAY 45

SUPER: Three months earlier

JORDAN STONE, a tall muscular man in his early thirties who has the same sharp angular features as his brother Jacob Stone along with long blond hair, menacing blue eyes and a beard is talking to his CELLMATE, a short Spanish man. Both men are laying in their bunks and dressed in prison garb.

JORDAN STONE

(Smiling)

Well amigo, my four years are up. I'm leaving this hellhole next week and getting on a steamship to San Francisco.

CELLMATE

(with a strong Spanish accent)

You better be very careful Senor. The hombre's you killed in here have powerful friends outside.

JORDAN STONE

(stands up)

I ain't worried. I can take care of myself besides they had it coming.

CELLMATE

So you going back to your home?

JORDAN STONE

Damn right I'm going back. I've had enough of this country.

(sits on a stool)

I'll be living the good life. I got a letter from my father three years ago. Seems like my younger brother died rather unexpectedly. He was going to run the ranch someday. My father doted on that son of a bitch. Now he want's me run the ranch. He says it will be all mine someday. I wonder why he had a sudden change of heart.

(MORE)

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)  
 I often thought of killing my  
 brother when I got back but that's  
 been taken care of.

CELLMATE  
 How did your brother die?

JORDAN STONE  
 (strokes his beard)  
 My old man didn't say. The last  
 letter I got from him was almost a  
 year ago.

FADE OUT.

46 INT. PENITENCIARÍA NACIONAL WARDENS OFFICE - DAY 46

Wearing a sack suit, Jordan Stone is sitting in the WARDEN of  
 the Penitenciaría Nacional's office.

WARDEN  
 (with a strong Spanish  
 accent)  
 Senor Stone, you have served your  
 sentence and are free to go.  
 (lights a cigar)  
 I am curious Senor. What brought  
 you to our country?

JORDAN STONE  
 My father sent me here to see how  
 your people raise cattle.

WARDEN  
 (smiling)  
 You are lucky your father has some  
 influence in our country. We  
 usually hang cattle thieves. Your  
 father paid a handsome sum to save  
 you.

JORDAN STONE  
 (stands up)  
 Four years in this place was worse  
 than hanging.

FADE OUT.

47 EXT. THE DEADWOOD TRAIN DEPOT - MORNING 47

As Jordan Stone gets off the train, he is greeted by Harold  
 WERNER, a well dressed heavy set man in his forties.

HAROLD WERNER

(in a nervous tone)

Mr. Stone, I don't know if you remember me but I used to be your father's attorney.

JORDAN STONE

(abruptly)

What do you mean, used to be? Where is my father? Why the hell are you here?

HAROLD WERNER

(sweating)

Please, can we sit down here.  
(points to a bench)

Harold Werner and Jordan Stone sit on a bench outside the depot.

HAROLD WERNER (CONT'D)

I'm afraid I have some bad news for you. Your father is dead. Your telegram was forwarded to me.

JORDAN STONE

(with a shocked look)

How did he die? When did this happen?

HAROLD WERNER

It's a long story.

JORDAN STONE

(in a gruff tone)

I want to hear it, all of it. I got time.

HAROLD WERNER

(wipes his brow)

It all started three years ago. Your brother killed his wife and framed an Indian with the murder. Your father went along with it and the Indian was sentenced to hang. An ex soldier who knew the Indian and also your father took up the Indian's cause. He confronted your father and brother. Your father ended up killing your brother and then telling the court what really happened. Your father went to pieces after killing his son.

(MORE)

HAROLD WERNER (CONT'D)  
Your father shot himself a little  
over a year ago.

JACOB STONE  
(shaking his head)  
Jeez, what was the soldier's name?

HAROLD WERNER  
John MacRae. He is the  
superintendent of the Homestake  
Mine in Lead.

JORDAN STONE  
Yeah. I heard of him. He used to  
serve under my father.  
(stands up)  
Well I guess I'll go out to the  
ranch. My father said he was  
leaving it to me.

HAROLD WERNER  
(in a nervous tone)  
You can't go there anymore.

JORDAN STONE  
(in a loud tone)  
Why not?

HAROLD WERNER  
The ranch is no longer. After your  
brother died your father took to  
drink. He lost interest in the  
ranch and it fell into a state of  
disrepair. It was eventually sold  
for back taxes. There was nothing I  
could do.

JORDAN STONE  
(frowning)  
So I'm left with nothing?

HAROLD WERNER  
Yes. That's about it. I'm sorry.

JORDAN STONE  
(puts a hand on his beard)  
So if MacRae hadn't stuck his nose  
into my families business, none of  
this would have happened?

HAROLD WERNER  
That's right. I was at the hanging.  
The Indian was saved just moments  
before the trapdoor was sprung.

(MORE)

HAROLD WERNER (CONT'D)  
The city marshal said he only  
stopped it because of your father.

JORDAN STONE  
(turns away, puts hands on  
his hips and looks  
towards town)  
I'm gonna make that Indian loving  
son of a bitch regret the day he  
came to Deadwood.

FADE OUT.

48 INT. INSIDE JOHN EAGLETONS GENERAL STORE - DAY

48

Jordan Stone walks around John Eagleton's general store selecting clothing. White Eagle is behind a counter studying him with a puzzled look. Jordan Stone approaches White Eagle and lays his selection on the counter.

JORDAN STONE  
(in a friendly tone)  
I'll take this stuff. I also need  
some guns and cartridges.

WHITE EAGLE  
What are you looking for?

JORDAN STONE  
I need a rifle and a pistol. Do you  
have any 1873 Winchesters and Colt  
revolvers?

White Eagle selects an 1873 Winchester from a rack behind the counter and an 1873 Single action Army Colt from a gun cabinet. He lays them down on the counter. Jordan Stone picks up the Winchester, levers it and aims it at a buffalo head on the wall. He picks up the Colt, opens the loading gate and spins the cylinder.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)  
These will do. Don't forget the  
cartridges. Gimme two boxes.

White Eagle puts two boxes of .45 Colt cartridges on the counter.

WHITE EAGLE  
Will there be anything else?

JORDAN STONE  
No. That'll do it.



As Jordan Stone reaches into his pocket he notices a glass case with knives in it.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)  
 Wait! I need a few knives. Gimme that Bowie knife and the smaller one with the Elkhorn handle. What do I owe you for all of this?

WHITE EAGLE  
 Let's see.  
 (points to each of the items)  
 Ninty seven dollars.

Jordan Stone pays White Eagle and leaves.

WHITE EAGLE.  
 (talking to himself)  
 Where have I seen him before?

FADE OUT.

49 EXT. THE DEADWOOD TRAIN DEPOT - EVENING 49

John MacRae steps off the train and looks around for Molly. It is snowing lightly. He starts walking towards town.

50 INT. INSIDE JOHN EAGLTONS GENERAL STORE 50

John MacRae enters the store. White Eagle is sitting at a desk writing in a ledger. He looks at John MacRae and stands up.

WHITE EAGLE  
 Hello John. How was your trip?

JOHN MACRAE  
 (shakes White Eagles hand)  
 Long and boring but at least I got to see my mother. She is doing well. Molly was supposed to meet me. Maybe the weather changed her mind.

WHITE EAGLE  
 (pours a cup of coffee)  
 Want a cup? I was out at your house two days ago. She and your little girl were doing just fine. You're a very fortunate man to have such a beautiful family.

JOHN MACRAE

(nods his head)

Yes, I know. Skip the coffee. Say  
can I borrow one of your horses.  
I'll bring him back tomorrow.

WHITE EAGLE

Take my buggy instead? Why get  
yourself all wet?

JOHN MACRAE

Sounds good. Oh, by the way look  
what I bought for Molly.

John MacRae pulls a gold ring with three diamonds on it out  
of his pocket.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

This will replace the small silver  
band I gave when we got married.  
It's got a diamond on it for each  
year we've been married. Think she  
will like it?

WHITE EAGLE

(smiling)

She will love it.

JOHN MACRAE

I also bought a real nice baby doll  
for Bonnie.

FADE OUT.

51 EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE HOME - EVENING 51

John MacRae approaches his house. The house is dark and no  
smoke is coming out of the chimney. John MacRae gets a  
worried look on his face. He jumps out of the buggy and runs  
toward the front door. The front door is open slightly.

52 INT. JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE HOME - EVENING 52

John MacRae enters the house. It is dark inside.

JOHN MACRAE

(yells)

Molly!

(yells louder)

Molly, where are you?

There is no answer. John MacRae fumbles around to find a lamp. He lights the lamp. As the lamp started to illuminate the room he looks in horror at a table. On the table is a note with spots of blood on it. A note is pinned to the table with a hunting knife. The hunting knife has an Elkhorn handle. A bloody finger is lying next to the knife. The finger has a thin silver band on it.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
 (screams)  
**Noooooo!**

John MacRae picks up the note and reads it.

Super:

**John McRae,**

**You ruined my life with your interference in my family's affairs. Now you will pay. I have your wife and daughter. I want \$50,000 in cash. I know you control the mine's gold shipments and have access to cash. Steal the cash if you must. Deposit the cash in the Sundance State Bank and you will be told where to find your wife. Come alone. If you do not I will kill them both very slowly. You know I mean it by the souvenir I left for you.**

**Jordan Stone**

John MacRae folds the note and puts it in his pocket. He goes over to a gun cabinet and retrieves an 1873 Winchester rifle along with an 1873 Single action Army Colt revolver. John MacRae also retrieves a box of .45 Colt cartridges and a box of .44-40 Winchester cartridges.

John MacRae reaches in his pocket and pulls out the gold ring with the three diamonds. He stares at it briefly and then throws it against a mirror hanging on a wall. A crack appears in the mirror.

FADE OUT.

53

EXT. JOHN EAGLTONS GENERAL STORE - MORNING

53

John MacRae arrives at John Eagleton's store just as the sun is rising. He knocks loudly on the front door of the store. White Eagle opens the door and is startled by John MacRae's grim appearance.

WHITE EAGLE  
 What happened John? You look like  
 you have just seen the devil.

JOHN MACRAE

(his lips quivering  
holding back tears)

Much worse my friend. Much worse.  
George Stone had a son named  
Jordan. He blames me for his  
father's misfortunes and suicide.  
He kidnapped Molly and Bonnie and  
is holding them for ransom.

WHITE EAGLE

Oh my God! Now I know who that  
person was who was in my store  
almost a week ago. He bought some  
clothing, guns and knives. It had  
to be Jordan Stone. He looked like  
a real mean one. I didn't know that  
old man stone had another son.

JOHN MACRAE

Neither did I. Did one of those  
knives have an Elkhorn handle?

WHITE EAGLE

(nodding)

Why yes. One did have an Elkhorn  
handle. How did you know?

JOHN MACRAE

He used it to cut Molly's ring  
finger off.

(pulls the ransom note out  
of his pocket)

Here read this.

WHITE EAGLE

(reads the ransom note)

What are you going to do John?

(looks at John MacRae)

JOHN MACRAE

I'd like to leave my horses here  
and borrow your rig. I'm going to  
the mine today and work as if  
nothing happened. I have access to  
all of the gold shipments that  
leave the mine and also the cash on  
hand. \$50,000 in cash will be easy  
enough to transport.

WHITE EAGLE

(bites his lower lip)

So you are going to steal \$50,000  
in cash?

JOHN MACRAE

(shake his head)

No, I'm just going to borrow the cash. I have to play Stone's game if I want to see my family again. No one must know about Stone taking Molly. He may have friends in Deadwood. Go see Judge Wilkins. Judge Wilkins and I have become good friends. You can confide in the Judge and tell him what happened. He may be able to find out more about Jordan Stone.

WHITE EAGLE

I'll go see the Judge first thing this morning. John, I want to go with you to Sundance. You don't want to travel alone. Stone could be setting you up for an ambush.  
(puts his hand on John MacRae's shoulder)

FADE OUT.

54

INT. THE HOMESTAKE GOLD MINE OFFICES - AFTERNOON

54

John MacRae is sitting in the office of the PRESIDENT, a well dressed portly man in his sixties smoking a cigar.

PRESIDENT

(smiling)

John, your report is excellent. I'll recommend to the board that we purchase two new drilling machines.  
(puffs on his cigar)  
John, are you alright?

JOHN MACRAE

Why do ask?

PRESIDENT

You look a bit out of sorts John. Why don't you go home and get some rest. We can finish the rest of this tomorrow.

JOHN MACRAE

(forces a slight smile)

I'm just a little tired from the trip.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

If you don't mind, I'd like to stay a little later tonight and finish a report on some new drill bits that came out. Maybe then I can take the next two days off if that's alright with you Sir.

PRESIDENT

(smiling)

That will be just fine with me. Please give Molly my regards.

JOHN MACRAE

(his lips quiver)

Thank you Sir.

John MacRae leaves the presidents office, sits down at a desk and starts writing in journal.

FADE OUT.

55 INT. THE HOMESTAKE GOLD MINE OFICES - EVENING

55

John MacRae looks out a window. Darkness has fallen. A GUARD remains in the office. John MacRae walks over to the Guard.

JOHN MACRAE

Excuse me Bill. Could you take a walk over to number three shaft and let me know if that seepage has stopped. I'll watch the vault for you.

GUARD

(smiling)

Sure Mr. MacRae. I'll be back in fifteen minutes or so.

JOHN MACRAE

Thanks Bill. Take your time.

The Guard leaves. John MacRae John MacRae walks over to the vault and enters the combination. He enters the vault and puts \$50,000 in cash into two canvas sacks. John MacRae steps outside and places the sacks in White Eagles buggy. He returns and closes the vault door then sits at his desk. The Guard returns.

GUARD

Looks like the seepage has stopped Mr. MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE

That's good news. Thanks Bill.  
(looks at his pocket  
watch)

Well, I better get going. It's been  
a long day.

FADE OUT.

56

EXT. JOHN EAGLETONS GENERAL STORE - EVENING

56

John MacRae arrives at John Eagleton's store. He grabs the two sacks of cash and walks toward the front door. A lamp shines through the front window. The front door is unlocked. John MacRae enters the store. White Eagle is sitting at a table dinking a cup of coffee.

JOHN MACRAE

I've got the money here. That was  
the easy part.

(lays the two bags on the  
table)

I left a note for the mine  
president. I hope he will  
understand. What did Judge Wilkins  
have to say?

WHITE EAGLE

Well first of all, the Judge agreed  
that you have no choice but to give  
Stone the money. He even said that  
he would stand behind you on this.  
The Judge is going to talk to the  
mine president today so there will  
be no interference.

JOHN MACRAE

(sits down)

That's good. Did he find anything  
out about Jordan Stone?

WHITE EAGLE

The Judge talked to George Stone's  
attorney Harold Werner. At first  
Werner refused to give the Judge  
any information claiming attorney-  
client privilege. After the Judge  
reminded Werner of some of his  
unscrupulous practices that the  
Judge overlooked, Werner gladly  
cooperated.

(takes a sip of coffee)

(MORE)

## WHITE EAGLE (CONT'D)

Jordan Stone just finished serving a prison sentence in South America for horse theft. While in prison Jordan Stone killed three men. Stone claimed self defense and got away with it. Werner begged me not to tell anyone our conversation. He was pretty scared and said Jordan Stone was a real mean one.

## JOHN MACRAE

That's for damn sure. He left Molly's finger as a warning to me.

White Eagle shakes his head and sighs. He helps John MacRae put the cash into a strong box and locks it.

## JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

(picks up the strong box)  
Let's leave at daybreak for Sundance.

FADE OUT.

56A EXT. CAMPSITE OUTSIDE OF SUNDANCE, WYOMING - EVENING 56A

John MacRae and White Eagle came in a wooded area. They are sitting next to a wedge tent. A small fire is burning and they are eating a cold meal of beef jerky and sourdough biscuits. John MacRae has a few sips of whiskey. He offers the bottle to White Eagle but White Eagle declines.

## JOHN MACRAE

(puts the whiskey bottle away)  
We're about two miles from Sundance. I think it will be best if I go into town alone in the morning.

## WHITE EAGLE

(nods)  
Just be careful John.

John MacRae and White Eagle enter the wedge tent and bed down.

FADE OUT.

58 EXT. SUNDANCE, WYOMING - MORNING 58

SUPER: Sundance, Wyoming



John MacRae drives White Eagle's buggy into Sundance. He pulls up to the Sundance State Bank. It is a two story brick building located on a main street in Sundance. He picks up the strong box and carries it into the bank.

59

INT. INSIDE OF THE SUNDANCE STATE BANK - MORNING

59

John MacRae walks over to a teller's cage.

JOHN MACRAE

(rests the strong box on a counter)

I'd like to see the president.

TELLER

Just a second sir. I'll see if he's available.

PHINEAS PEABODY, a short portly man in his fifties wearing a wrinkled frock coat walks up to John MacRae.

PHINEAS PEABODY

I'm Phineas Peabody, president of this bank. State your business.

JOHN MACRAE

My name's MacRae. I'm here to make a special deposit.

PHINEAS PEABODY

(smiling)

Ah yes. We knew you would be coming. Where is the deposit?

JOHN MACRAE

(pats the strong box)

Right here. I suggest we go into your office.

PHINEAS PEABODY

(wrings his hand together)

Follow me.

(beads of perspiration start to appear on his forehead)

John MacRae follows Phineas Peabody into his office. John MacRae unlocks the strong box and Phineas Peabody counts out \$50,000 in cash.

JOHN MACRAE

When will this money be picked up?

PHINEAS PEABODY

Oh, it won't be picked up. We will be sending a wire transfer to the recipient. Once he acknowledges the transfer I am to give you a letter. He wanted me to tell you that if he does not receive the correct wire transfer, you know what will happen.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a loud tone)

**What?** Just where will this wire transfer be sent to?

PHINEAS PEABODY

(snickering)

Hell, I can't give that kind of information out.

MacRae draws his Colt revolver out of the holster and points the barrel at Phineas Peabody's forehead.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a loud angry tone)

Listen you son of a bitch. You may not know it but you may becoming an accessory to kidnapping and maybe even murder. Tell me where the wire transfer is going or I'll blow your brains out right here and now.

John MacRae pulls the hammer on his Colt back to full cock and presses the barrel between the bank president's eyes. Phineas Peabody hears four clicks from the hammer cocking and his eyes widen.

PHINEAS PEABODY

(in a nervous tone)

The wire transfer is going to the First National Bank in Sheridan.

A look of shock and despair appears on John MacRae's face.

JOHN MACRAE

**Sheridan?** Where is the letter I'm supposed get?

PHINEAS PEABODY

I'm not supposed to give you the letter until the wire transfer goes through.

John MacRae pushes his Colt harder against the president's forehead.

JOHN MACRAE  
Give me the damn letter or take  
your last breath.

PHINEAS PEABODY  
Here, take it.

John MacRae lays his Colt on a desk. He opens the envelope, reads the letter and sighs deeply.

SUPER:

**John MacRae,**

**Follow the old mining trail north out of Sundance for ten miles. You will see a shack built into a bluff. What's left of your woman will be there**

**Stone**

John MacRae picks up his Colt and points it at Phineas Peabody.

JOHN MACRAE  
Now you listen carefully. There's not going to be any wire transfer. This money was for my family's ransom. Jordan Stone never intended for me to find my family alive. You can put all that money back into the strong box. If you tell anybody about our little conversation here I will personally come back and put a bullet into your head. Is that clear? **Well, is it?**

PHINEAS PEABODY  
(nervously)  
Yes. Yes, I understand.

Phineas Peabody puts the money back in the strong box and sits down. He wipes his brow.

JOHN MACRAE  
(scribbles a note on a piece of paper)  
Instead of the wire transfer, send this telegram to Stone.

John MacRae hands the piece of paper to Phineas Peabody.

PHINEAS PEABODY  
 (reads the piece of paper,  
 his eyes widen)  
 Yes Sir.

FADE OUT.

60 EXT. CAMPSITE OUTSIDE OF SUNDANCE, WYOMING - DAY 60

John MacRae arrives back at the campsite. He gets out of the buggy and walks over to White Eagle. All of the gear is packed an in a neat pile.

WHITE EAGLE  
 (points to the pile of  
 gear)  
 Everything is packed and ready to  
 go. How did your meeting at the  
 bank go.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (shaking his head)  
 Not good. It was supposed to be a  
 wire transfer to Sheridan, Wyoming.  
 That's where Stone is right now. He  
 left them alone in a shack several  
 days ago. Stone fixed it so I won't  
 find my family alive.

WHITE EAGLE  
 What do you want to do John?

JOHN MACRAE  
 I have no choice but to look for  
 the shack he left them in. Let's  
 get moving.

FADE OUT.

61 EXT. THE OLD MINING TRAIL - EVENING 61

John MacRae and White Eagle follow the old mining trail. It is a rough trail and the going is slow. Off in the distance White Eagle notices a bluff starting to appear. Nowhere in sight was any shack. John MacRae hurriedly gets out of White Eagle's rig and mounts his horse. He spurs the horse on towards the bluff. John MacRae finally spots the shack behind some trees and dismounts. The shack is built from a few logs and boards piled against a hole dug into the side of the bluff. The roof was covered with sod. John MacRae approach's the shack. He opens a crude door fashioned from the bottom of wagon. John MacRae walks in and lights a match.

Cowering in a corner is Molly. She is awake and shivering violently under a piece of dirty canvas. Molly is filthy and has bruises on her face. Molly recognizes John MacRae and tries to talk to him but is too weak. John MacRae holds Molly in his arms and she passes out. He sobs loudly. White Eagle enters the shack.

WHITE EAGLE  
 (glances at Molly)  
 Oh my God.  
 (takes a closer look at  
 Molly)  
 I'll build a fire. We need to warm  
 her and get some food in her.

White Eagle hands John MacRae two blankets. John MacRae lays Molly down gently and covers her.

SUPER: Later that evening

Molly awakes and starts sobbing hysterically. John MacRae holds her tightly and gently strokes her forehead. Molly stops crying.

MOLLY  
 (looks up at John Macrae  
 with tears in her eyes)  
 Johnny, we lost Bonnie.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (in a sad voice)  
 I know Dear.

MOLLY  
 (in broken sentences)  
 Oh Johnny, it was terrible. Jordan Stone broke into our home right after White Eagle left. He laughed when he cut my finger off. We had to ride a horse without a saddle and I carried Bonnie in my arms. We rode day and night. There was no food for us to eat. It was cold and we had one small blanket between us. I could not keep Bonnie warm. She began to have a fever. I asked him to stop and build a fire but he just laughed.  
 (sobbing)  
 Bonnie Died. I begged him to let me bury her. He grabbed her and tossed her into some brush. I'm so sorry Johnny.

JOHN MACRAE

Shh, that's not your fault. Stone is evil. He is going to pay for this.

MOLLY

(looks up at John MacRae)  
When we got here he tried to take advantage of me. I told him I'd rather die and he beat me with a quirt. He left me for dead. I had no food or blankets. No way to make a fire. I knew I would die. I was sure you would find me. I wanted to live long enough to tell you what happened. Johnny, He killed Bonnie and me.

(start sobbing violently)

JOHN MACRAE

(holds her tightly)  
You will not die on me Molly.

He stands up and faces White Eagle.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

I want you to take Molly back to Deadwood.

WHITE EAGLE

(with a puzzled look)  
Why aren't you returning with us?  
Where are you going?

JOHN MACRAE

I'm going after the devil that killed my daughter. Molly can stay with Judge Wilkin's wife until she gets her strength back. Please take the cash in the strong box back to the mine for me.

MOLLY

(over hears the conversation)  
No, No, you can't go after him. He is truly evil. You are no match for him. Let it go Johnny. Please stay with me. I need you.

JOHN MACRAE  
I will not rest until Jordan Stone  
burns in hell.

FADE OUT.

62 INT. HOTEL DINING ROOM IN SHERIDAN, WYOMING - MORNING 62

SUPER: Sheridan, Wyoming

Wearing a black frock coat, Jordan Stone is sitting at a table eating breakfast. A smile is on his face. He finishes breakfast and walks over to the hotels bar. He drinks a glass of whiskey and orders another. A large clock chimes 9:00 AM. Jordan Stone gulps the second glass down and heads for the door.

FADE OUT.

63 INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SHERIDAN, WYOMING - MORNING 63

Jordan Stone enters the First National Bank. The MANAGER, a tall thin man wearing a black frock coat nervously greets Jordan Stone.

JORDAN STONE  
(smiling)  
How much was the transfer for?

MANAGER  
(with a frightened look)  
Please, let's go into our board  
room Sir.

Jordan Stone and the Manager walk into a plush mahogany paneled room.

JORDAN STONE  
(impatiently)  
Well, how much?

MANAGER  
(shaking)  
There was no wire transfer. This  
wire came in this morning.

The manager hands the telegram to Jordan Stone. He reads it.

SUPER:

**Stone**

**Prepare to spend eternity in hell****MacRae**

Jordan Stone gets an angry and violent look on his face. He draws a Colt out of his holster and points it at the Manager.

JORDAN STONE  
(in a loud angry tone)  
What do you know about this you  
skinny bastard?

MANAGER  
(trembling)  
Nothing. We received this telegram  
just before we opened today. We  
immediately sent a reply to the  
bank in Sundance but received no  
answer. I swear it. Please don't  
hurt me. Please put your gun down.

JORDAN STONE  
(waving his gun at the  
Manager)  
If you breathe one word of my visit  
here to anyone. **Anyone!** I will come  
back and kill you. Do you hear me?

MANAGER  
Yes Sir.  
(faints)

FADE OUT.

64 INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SHERIDAN, WYOMING - MORNING 64

SUPER: The next day

Jordan Stone enters the First National Bank and walks over to the teller's cage. A SENIOR TELLER greets him.

JORDAN STONE  
My name is Stone. I'd like to see  
the manager, that tall thin fellow.

SENIOR TELLER  
He left rather quickly yesterday.  
Didn't say a word to anyone.  
Someone said he left town. I'm in  
charge for the time being. What can  
I do for you?



JORDAN STONE

(smiling)

Imagine that? I'll be looking at some property in Buffalo. Can you recommend a bank in Buffalo to deal with?

MANAGER

(smiling)

We have a branch in Buffalo. They will take good care of you Sir.

JORDAN STONE

(shakes the Senior  
Teller's hand)

Many thanks. Say, if anyone is looking for me I'll be leaving for Buffalo today.

FADE OUT.

65 INT TELEGRAPH OFFICE IN SUNDANCE, WYOMING - EVENING 65

John MacRae enters the Telegraph office and walks over to the TELEGRAPH OPERATOR.

JOHN MACRAE

My names MacRae. This afternoon I sent a wire to the First National Bank in Sheridan. Have you received a reply back yet?

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR

Yes Sir. It just came in a few minutes ago.

(hands the telegram to  
John MacRae)

JOHN MACRAE

Thank you.  
(reads the telegram)

SUPER:

**John MacRae**

**Jordan Stone is on his way to Buffalo, Wyoming to look at property.**

**First National Bank**

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

Hmm!

John MacRae folds the telegram and puts it in his pocket. He leaves the Telegraph office.

FADE OUT.

66 INT. A HOTEL ROOM IN SUNDANCE, WYOMING - EVENING

66

John MacRae knocks on a hotel room door. White Eagle opens the door. John MacRae enters the room. White Eagle is holding a Smith and Wesson revolver. John MacRae notices the revolver. Molly is dozing in a bed.

WHITE EAGLE

(lays the revolver on a table)

I want to be on guard just in case. Did you get any answers about Stone?

JOHN MACRAE

(takes his coat off)

The bank said he left for Buffalo to look at property.

(walks over to Molly)

WHITE EAGLE

It's got to be a trap. Why would Stone leave such an easy trail for you to follow? He could also be headed far away from Buffalo and is trying to mislead you.

JOHN MACRAE

(shakes his head)

No. I'm certain that devil will be waiting for me in Buffalo. It is a trap but I have to play his game.

Molly overhears the conversation and sits up in bed.

MOLLY

Johnny, please don't go.

John MacRae sits on the bed and put his arms around Molly.

JOHN MACRAE

(kisses Molly on the forehead)

I have to finish this. I cannot risk Jordan Stone returning to Deadwood.

MOLLY

(tears well up in Molly's  
eyes)

Oh my God. He just might be bold  
enough to do that. Johnny, at least  
hire some men to go with you.

JOHN MACRAE

Best I do this myself.

John MacRae hugs Molly as she sobs. He gently lays her back  
down on he bed and walks over to White Eagle

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

I'll be leaving at first light.  
It's around a four day trip but  
I'll do it in two days.

WHITE EAGLE

Be careful. Stone will be waiting  
for you.

JOHN MACRAE

Stone won't expect me that early.

FADE OUT.

67 EXT. ON THE TRAIL TO BUFFALO, WYOMING - DAY 67

John MacRae heads west to Buffalo, Wyoming. He is shown  
pushing himself and his horse day and night at a fast pace.  
John MacRae occasionally dozes off in the saddle. He  
periodically surveys the landscape with a small telescope.

68 EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF BUFFALO, WYOMING - EVENING 68

SUPER: Buffalo, Wyoming

John MacRae arrives at the outskirts of Buffalo. He stops in  
a wooded area on top of a bluff overlooking the town of  
Buffalo. From behind a large rock John MacRae surveys the  
town and surrounding area with the telescope. He eats some  
jerky and a biscuit then sits down and leans against a large  
tree. His Winchester is across his lap. John MacRae gazes at  
the stars.

FADE OUT.

69

EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF BUFFALO, WYOMING - MORNING

69

The sun is glowing in the east and about to start rising. John MacRae's eyes are heavy and he dozes intermittingly. He does not hear the three men who silently approach him. John MacRae wakes up abruptly when the barrel of an 1873 Winchester is thrust against his chest. He looks up at Jordan Stone.

JORDAN STONE

(smiling)

Well Mr. MacRae, I'm sure you know who I am. Thought you'd surprise me huh?

John MacRae tries to stand up but Jordan Stone pushes the Winchester harder against his chest.

JOHN MACRAE

(looks up at Jordan Stone)

You better kill me right now you son of a bitch or I'll rip your heart out.

JORDAN STONE

(grinning)

Well now, you ain't in much of a position to do anything MacRae. Don't worry MacRae, we are going to take real good care of you. My boys and I got big plans for you.

Jordan Stone recruited JOEY WEBSTER who was skinny and homely. His older brother WILBUR WEBSTER was fat and homely. Both brothers have long hair, scraggly beards and are filthy.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)

I hear you are a big shot at the Homestake Mine. You are going to help me rob it.

JOHN MACRAE

(shakes his head)

No, I will not so kill me right now.

WILBUR WEBSTER

(grinning)

Can I kill him Boss?

(pulls out an Arkansas  
Toothpick)

JORDAN STONE

Shut up you idiot. Tie him up to that tree. We will camp here for the night.

(motions to Joey Webster)

You get a fire going.

JOEY WEBSTER

Yes boss.

FADE OUT.

70 EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF BUFFALO, WYOMING - MORNING

70

Jordan Stone wakes up Joey and Wilbur Webster.

JORDAN STONE

We're gonna leave now for Lead. I want you boys to keep a close eye on MacRae. Make sure he is always tied up good. Do not, I repeat do not touch him at all. I want him in good shape when we reach the mine. Understood?

(sniffs the air)

You bastards stink! I just may throw you in a river myself.

WILBUR WEBSTER

(smirking)

MacRae don't look so tough to me.

JORDAN STONE

Do what I say or there will be no gold for you.

The Webster brothers secure John MacRae to his horse.

FADE OUT.

71 EXT. ON THE TRAIL TO LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA - DAY

71

Jordan Stone is in the lead followed by John MacRae. He is holding the reins to John MacRae's horse. John MacRae is followed by Joey and Wilbur Webster riding abreast. They travel at a slow pace.

FADE OUT.

72 EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA - AFTERNOON 72

SUPER: Lead, south Dakota

Jordan Stone directs the Webster brothers to set up camp on a wooded bluff overlooking Lead, South Dakota.

JORDAN STONE  
(points to Wilbur Webster)  
After we eat I want you to go into town for supplies.

WILBUR WEBSTER  
Can I take Joey with me?

JORDAN STONE  
(shakes his head)  
No, you go alone. There could be papers out on you fine gentlemen. Two of you might attract attention especially the way you bastards stink. Just get supplies and don't go into any saloons.

WILBUR WEBSTER  
What ever you say boss.

FADE OUT.

73 INT. SALOON IN LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA - AFTERNOON 73

Wilbur Webster is standing at the end of the saloon's bar with his head down sipping a whiskey. A BARTENDER is serving other patrons.

WILBUR WEBSTER  
(muttering to him self)  
Hell, one more drink ain't gonna hurt.  
(motions to Bartender)  
Hey barkeep, pour me another whiskey.

BARTENDER  
I'll pour one more then you get the hell out of here. You're stinking up the place.

MINER-1 and MINER-2 are sitting at a table talking loudly. Both have dirty clothing on. Wilbur Webster overhears their conversation and listens intently while keeping his head down.

MINER-1

(sips his drink)

Have you heard when the boss will be back? The mine is shut down for three days to do some repairs.

MINER-2

Probably after he catches the bastard that took his wife and daughter. It's a shame little Bonnie died. Molly will be OK but some people say she will never be the same. MacRae was too good a man to have this happen to him.

MINER-1

I heard Molly is back at home now waiting for her husband.

Wilbur Webster keeps his head down. He finishes his drink and leaves.

FADE OUT.

74

EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA - AFTERNOON

74

Wilbur Webster arrives back at the camp outside of Lead. He starts to unload the supplies. Jordan Stone walks over to Wilbur Webster. He sniffs the air and pulls his Colt. He pulls the hammer to full cock and points it at Wilbur Webster.

JORDAN STONE

(sneering)

You stinking bastard. You stopped for a drink. Didn't you?

WILBUR WEBSTER

(waving his hands in the air)

Now hold on there boss. Wait until you hear what I heard.

JORDAN STONE

It better be good.

WILBUR WEBSTER

Well first of all nobody noticed me. I stood at the end of the bar and kept my head down. I heard two miners talking about your friend here. They said his wife was alive.

(MORE)

WILBUR WEBSTER (CONT'D)  
I thought you told us she was dead.  
She is at home waiting for MacRae.

Jordan Stone lowers the hammer on his Colt.

JORDAN STONE  
(smiling)  
You don't say. Well that is good news but don't you ever second guess me again or I won't lower the hammer. I'll pull the trigger.

WILBUR WEBSTER  
That ain't all I heard. The mine is shut down for three days for repairs.

Jordan Stone walks over to John MacRae and pokes him in the chest with the barrel of his Colt.

JORDAN STONE  
(grinning)  
Hear that MacRae? Your whore is still alive. You will do what exactly what I say and help me rob the mine or I'll give her to the brothers here for a good go around.

JOHN MACRAE  
(sighs)  
I'll help. Kill me but leave my wife alone.

Jordan Stone holsters his Colt. He walks over to Wilbur and Joey Webster.

JORDAN STONE  
(sits down)  
Here's the plan boys. We will enter the mine after dark. MacRae will lead us to the vault where the gold bullion was stored. MacRae will approach the vault's guard. Joey, you will sneak up behind the guard, knock him out then tie and gag him.

JOEY WEBSTER  
(smiling)  
Why can't I just slit his throat?



JORDAN STONE

(lights a cigar)

I want the guard to think MacRae took the gold. He can't do this if his throat is cut.

WILBUR WEBSTER

(grinning)

That's why he's the boss little brother.

JORDAN STONE

Each of you boys will carry three gold bullion bars out of the vault. I'll take care of MacRae. You boys will each get one gold bar for helping me.

FADE OUT.

75

INT. THE HOMESTAKE GOLD MINE OFFICES - NIGHT

75

John MacRae walks into the mine office. Jordan MacRae is behind him with his Colt pressed into John MacRae's back. Wilber and Joey Webster are in the shadows behind Jordan Stone. John MacRae approaches the GUARD who is dozing. The Guard wakes up.

GUARD

(startled)

Why Mr. MacRae. You are back.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a sober tone)

Yes Bill. I'm back.

Joey Webster sneaks around some cabinets and gets behind the guard. He hits the Guard on the head with the butt of his pistol.

John MacRae opens the vault. Joey and Wilbur Webster walk out each carrying three gold bullion bars. Jordan Stone walks out behind John MacRae with his Colt pressed against John MacRae's back.

The Guard is laying on the floor bound, gagged and unconscious.

FADE OUT.

76

EXT. THE OUTSKIRTS OF LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA - NIGHT

76

Jordan Stone pulls out a bottle of whiskey from his saddlebags. He hands it to Wilbur Webster.

JORDAN STONE

(smiling)

You boys did a good job. You can celebrate a bit. We won't leave until sunup.

Jordan Stone gives Joey and Wilbur Webster each a gold bullion bar. They start drinking heavily. Soon Joey Webster passes out.

WILBUR WEBSTER

(sneering)

That boy could never hold his liquor.

JORDAN STONE

(motions)

Wilbur, c'mon over here. Let me show you on this map the best places to hide out until this blows over a bit.

WILBUR WEBSTER

Boss, you think of everything.

Wilbur Webster staggers over to Jordan Stone. With his left hand Jordan Stone thrusts the map close to Wilbur Webster's face. With his right hand he draws a Bowie knife from a sheath behind his holster and slits Wilbur Webster's throat with one swift motion. Jordan Stone pushes Wilbur Webster to the ground and walks over to the unconscious Joey Webster. He grabs Joey Webster's hair and jerks his head up. He slits Joey Webster's throat with the same swift motion. Jordan Stone wipes the blood off the Bowie knife and puts it back into the sheath, Jordan Stone walks over to John MacRae.

JORDAN STONE

(sneering)

You ain't going to get off so easy there MacRae. You should have quit when you were ahead and let that wire transfer go through. Now you and me and your whore are going to have a special party.

Jordan Stone washes his hands.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)

Those dumb bastards really stunk.

Jordan Stone clubs John MacRae with the butt of his Colt and then ties him securely to his horse.

FADE OUT.

77

EXT. JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE HOME - MORNING

77

Jordan Stone stops by a clump of pine trees outside John MacRae's home. He pulls John MacRae off of his horse and checks that the bindings are secure. Jordan Stone gags John MacRae. In his left hand is an 1873 Winchester rifle. With his right hand Jordan Stone places the tip of his Bowie knife under John MacRae's chin.

JORDAN STONE

(sneering)

One sound or twitch and I'll drive this blade right up into your brain. You know MacRae I'm thinking. I just might not kill you and the whore. The two of you can spend the rest of your days remembering today's little party.

Jordan Stone and John MacRae approach John MacRae's home quietly. Jordan Stone starts looking through windows and spots Molly in the parlor dozing in a rocking chair. An empty broke open double barreled shotgun is on a table next the rocking chair. A half filled box of shotgun shells is next to the shotgun. Alongside of the box of shotgun shells is the knife with an Elkhorn handle. It still has traces of Molly's blood on it. Jordan Stone kicks open the front door. He pushes John MacRae in and knocks him to the floor. Molly wakes up and screams.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)

(grinning)

Hello bitch. That shotgun won't do you much good without any shells in it. You and I are going to have ourselves a little party here and I don't give a shit if you kill yourself after I finish.

Jordan Stone lays his Winchester on a couch. He takes his coat and hat off and tosses it on the couch. He removes his Colt from the holster and places it next to his hat. Jordan Stone started to unbuckle his gun belt. He takes his gaze off of Molly and looks down as he fumbles with the buckle,

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)

Damn buckle!

Molly notices Jordan Stone fumbling with his belt buckle. She grabs the shotgun and closes it then with all of her might, hits Jordan Stone on his head. Jordan Stone falls to the floor. John MacRae stands up. Molly runs over to John MacRae. She uses the knife with the Elkhorn handle to frantically cut his bonds. Molly is almost finished cutting her husband's bonds when Jordan Stone stands up. He rushes over to the couch and grabs his 1873 Winchester rifle. He points the rifle at John MacRae and Molly.

JORDAN STONE (CONT'D)

(sneering)

The hell with our party. I'll kill you both right now.

Molly keeps cutting away at John MacRae's bonds.

MOLLY

Almost there Johnny!

Jordan levers his 1873 Winchester rifle and it jams. The lever will not close.

JORDAN STONE

(screams)

Son of a bitch!

Jordan Stone drops the rifle and pulls his Bowie knife out of the sheath. He lets out a blood curdling yell and charges towards John MacRae with the Bowie knife held high over his head. He was just about to thrust the Bowie knife into John MacRae when Molly severs the last of John MacRae's bonds. She quickly hands the knife with the Elkhorn handle to John MacRae. John MacRae thrusts the knife deep into Jordan Stone's chest. Jordan Stone stops as if he is frozen. He looks at John MacRae for a few seconds and falls backwards onto the floor. Blood starts to seep out of his mouth. Molly loads the shotgun and stands over Jordan Stone. Molly fires both barrels into Jordan Stone's twitching body.

MOLLY

Rest in hell you son of a bitch!

John MacRae and Molly embrace.

JOHN MACRAE

Molly I swear I will never leave you again.

FADE OUT.

78

INT. JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - EVENING

78

John MacRae, Molly, White Eagle, JUDGE WILKINS, a sixty year old man and his wife are eating dinner. After dinner is over with, John MacRae stands and raises a glass of wine.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

I'd like to propose a toast to White Eagle, uh, John Eagleton. Thank you for saving Molly and my lives.

WHITE EAGLE

(with a puzzled look)

Why John, how can you say I saved your lives? I didn't do anything. In fact I wasn't even there.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

Oh but you did do something. You sold Stone two boxes of cartridges. Both were .45 Colt for a .45 Colt revolver. The rifle he bought was a .44-40 Winchester. You can't Chamber a .45 Colt cartridge into a .44-40 rifle". Lucky for us Stone never levered his rifle until he was ready to use it.

Judge Wilkins stands up and raises his glass.

JUDGE WILKINS

(grinning)

Well I'll be damned. Here's to Mr. Eagleton.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE BEDROOM - NIGHT

John and Molly MacRae are relaxing in bed.

MOLLY

(turns to John MacRae)

Johnny, I've got something to tell you.

JOHN MACRAE

(gets a worried and concerned look)

What is it?

MOLLY

(holds John MacRae's hand  
and smiles)

Johnny, It's good news. I'm going to have a baby. I wasn't sure with all of the commotion that was going on. I saw Doctor Stevens yesterday and he said yes. I am truly pregnant.

JOHN MACRAE

(John MacRae's face lights up. He embraces Molly and kissed her)

That's the best news I've heard in a long time. You will have to start taking it easy. How about if we hire a maid to help you.

MOLLY

(laughing)

No way. I don't need any competition walking around the house while I'm pregnant.

THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE BEDROOM - MORNING

SUPER: Eight months later

Molly is in bed. She is holding a newborn girl infant in one arm and a newborn boy infant in the other arm. Both have dark curly hair and blue eyes. John MacRae is standing at bedside smiling.

MOLLY

(talking softly)

Doc Stevens had a hunch it might be twins. I didn't want to worry so you so I never mentioned it. Do you have any thoughts on names? How about if we name them after your parents?

JOHN MACRAE

(sits on the edge of the  
bed)

What about your parents?

MOLLY

(smiles slightly)

I think Annie and Vincent sounds easier than Ebenezer and Minerva. What do you think?

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up)

Vincent sounds good but how about  
Bonnie instead of Annie?

MOLLY

(tears up slightly)

Let's stick with Annie. I'll never  
forget what happened to our Bonnie.

JOHN MACRAE

(he kisses Molly on her  
forehead)

Neither will I. Speaking of Annie,  
I hired a general manager to run  
the cigar factory. A guy named Pete  
Rocci. He served under me as a  
quartermaster. He seemed to have a  
good head for organizing things.

John MacRae and Annie converse. Baby Annie wakes up and John  
MacRae holds her.

NARRATOR

As the years passed, John and Molly  
MacRae prosper. John MacRae is  
promoted to President of the Home  
Stake Mine and serves on the  
Deadwood Town Council. Molly's  
dress making business evolves into  
a thriving emporium and department  
store. Through the years John  
MacRae and his family travel to  
Milwaukee to visit Mrs. MacRae.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - MORNING

SUPER: June 1912

John MacRae is sitting in a leather chair. Molly walks in.

MOLLY

Johnny, what's wrong. You look sad.

JOHN MACRAE

(holds up a telegram)

I just got a wire from Pete. My  
mother just passed away.

MOLLY

(hugs John MacRae)

Oh, I'm so sorry, Johnny. She seemed to be doing so good for an eighty year old.

JOHN MACRAE

(sighs)

Well, I hope I make it to eighty. We'll all be going to Milwaukee for the funeral. Tell Annie and Vincent to start packing. I'll go the train depot and get the tickets.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF A MOVING TRAIN PASSENGER CAR - DAY

John and Molly MacRae are seated across from VINCENT and ANNIE. Vincent is taller than his father with similar feature. Annie resembles her mother. Both children have dark hair and blue eyes. The passenger car is noisy, stuffy and warm inside. The MacRae family is uncomfortable.

JOHN MACRAE

(wipes his forehead and speaks loudly)

Sorry about the noise and heat but this is the quickest way to Milwaukee. Truth be told, I'd rather be on a horse.

VINCENT

(looks out a window)

Hey Dad, why couldn't we have driven to Milwaukee?

JOHN MACRAE

(nods)

First of all, the roads are not that good and that Model-T of ours would probably break down.

ANNIE

(fans herself)

I can't wait to swim in Lake Michigan.

MOLLY

(looks at John MacRae)

Where will we stay, Johnny?



JOHN MACRAE  
We'll be staying at the Pfister  
Hotel.

The MacRae family converses among themselves and occasionally look out the windows at the scenery. The train pulls into the Milwaukee train depot.

FADE OUT.

INT. LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL DONLEVY - DAY

John MacRae is seated across from DONLEVY, a short, hawk faced man with oily hair and a thin mustache. Donley is holding a document.

DONLEVY  
(in a high pitched voice)  
MacRae, are you ready to see what  
your mother left you? She certainly  
was a strange old goat.

John MacRae is perturbed to hear Donlevy call his mother a strange old goat.

DONLEVY (CONT'D)  
(grins)  
Well MacRae, your mother left you  
the Cigar factory. The Cigar  
factory did okay. It gave the old  
gal a modest income. Why hell, it  
could come in handy if you are ever  
decide to retire someday.

JOHN MACRAE  
(in an angry tone)  
Just read the will. My financial  
well being is none of your God damn  
business.

DONLEVY  
(in a nervous tone)  
Okay, okay.

After the will is read, Donlevy gives John MacRae a copy and offers a handshake. John MacRae refuses the handshake and leaves.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE -  
EVENING

The MacRae family is seated in a private dining room. They are looking at menus.

JOHN MACRAE  
(holds up a menu)  
You can't get food like this in  
Deadwood.

ANNIE  
(with a puzzled look)  
Father, what should I order?

JOHN MACRAE  
Try the Sauerbraten or Wiener  
Schnitzel. The Liver Dumpling soup  
is excellent.

VINCENT  
Dad, how do you know so much about  
German food?

JOHN MACRAE  
(smiles)  
My parents used to take me here  
when I was a boy and I used to take  
customers here when I worked at  
your Grandpa's Cigar factory.

VINCENT  
Oh, okay. Well then what should I  
order?

JOHN MACRAE  
(takes a sip of red wine)  
Try the Pork Shank with Red  
Cabbage.

VINCENT  
(frowns)  
Ugh! Do they have any beefsteaks  
like Mom makes?

Vincent takes a big swig of beer.

MOLLY  
(turns to John MacRae)  
Johnny, how did your visit with  
your Mom's attorney go?

JOHN MACRAE

(frowns slightly)

I didn't like that little runt. He was an arrogant son of... ah, person. He called my mother a strange old goat. No respect. I did manage to hold my temper. My mother willed the Cigar factory to me and the rest of her estate went to some of her favorite charities.

MOLLY

(butters a roll)

What are you going to do with the Cigar factory, sell it?

JOHN MACRAE

I'm not sure yet. I'll stop by the factory tomorrow and see how things are going. I sort of lost contact after I hired Pete to run it. Vincent, I'd like you to come with me.

VINCENT

(frowns)

Do I have to? I want to swim in Lake Michigan again.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a stern voice)

Yes, you do.

The MacRae family finishes their meal and walks back to the Pfister Hotel.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - MORNING

John and Vincent MacRae enter the cigar factory main office. They are greeted by PETE ROCCI. He is a small wiry man with close cropped grey hair, dark features and a large mustache. Pete Rocci shakes hands with John and Vincent McRae. Pete Rocci gives them a tour of the production area and the warehouse. There are twenty workers hand rolling and trimming cigars. Wood racks hold cigars pressed in hand carved wooden molds. After the tour, they go into Pete Rocci's office.

JOHN MACRAE

So how's everything going, Pete?  
Looks like you're pretty busy.

PETE ROCCI

(smiling)

Not bad. Sales have been steady.  
I've managed to send your mother a  
nice check every month. Do you want  
me now to send you a monthly check?

JOHN MACRAE

(nods)

Let's hold on that until I see the  
books.

PETE ROCCI

(in a slightly agitated  
tone)

Why do you need to see the books?  
You never asked to see them before.  
Don't you trust me?

JOHN MACRAE

(in a friendly tone)

I wasn't the owner before besides I  
don't need the money. Maybe that  
money might be put to better use.  
I'd like to take the books back  
with me to the hotel.

PETE ROCCI

(rubs his cheek)

The books are not up to date. I  
need to finish making some entries.

JOHN MACRAE

(studies Pete Rocci)

Can you have the books ready by  
tomorrow afternoon?

PETE ROCCI

Yes. They will be ready.

They all shake hands then John and Vincent MacRae leave. Pete  
Rocci wipes his forehead.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WALKING BACK TO THE PFISTER HOTEL - DAY

VINCENT

(turns to his father)

That was an interesting tour. It's  
none of my business but there is  
way too much hand work in making  
those cigars.

(MORE)

VINCENT (CONT'D)

They could use simple machines to cut down on some of the labor. A few simple machines could save them some money.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

Good observation, Son. Did you notice anything else?

VINCENT

Mr. Rocci did get a little nervous when you asked to see the books. I also think he was carrying a pistol.

JOHN MACRAE

Yes. I noticed that too. That gave me an uneasy feeling about Pete but I'll reserve any judgment until I've had a chance to examine the books.

John MacRae and Vincent continue walking and chatting. They enter the Pfister Hotel.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - AFTERNOON

John MacRae is greeted by the secretary, MARY, a thin well dressed woman in her late forties.

JOHN MACRAE

Mary, where is Pete?

MARY

He left at lunch time and hasn't returned yet Mr. MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE

(in an irritated tone)

Do you know when he will be back?

MARY

(hands John MacRae a leather brief case)

Mr. Rocci said he will be back tomorrow morning. Here are the company ledgers and financial statements.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (tips his hat)  
 Thank you Mary. I'll see you  
 tomorrow.

John MacRae leaves and walks back to the Pfister Hotel.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - AFTERNOON

John MacRae is shuffling papers from the brief case. Molly emerges from the bedroom.

JOHN MACRAE  
 Where are the kids?

MOLLY  
 (gives John MacRae a kiss  
 on his cheek)  
 They went to Lake Michigan for a  
 swim. I'm getting hungry. When are  
 we going to dinner?

JOHN MACRAE  
 (looks at Molly)  
 You take the kids out and bring me  
 something back. I want to get a  
 good look at these books. There's a  
 good steakhouse called The Mason  
 Street Pub just a few blocks away.

MOLLY  
 (sighs)  
 Can't the books wait?

JOHN MACRAE  
 Nope, I don't know why but I've got  
 a funny feeling about Pete. He  
 seemed a little nervous when I  
 asked to see the books.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - EVENING

Molly, Annie and Vincent enter the room. John MacRae is seated at a desk smoking a cigar. Papers are scattered about on the desk.

MOLLY

(kisses John MacRae on the forehead)

The food was really good at Mason's. We brought you a steak back. It's probably cold now.

JOHN MACRAE

(sighs)

I'm really not hungry.

MOLLY

Why not?

JOHN MACRAE

(frowns)

Pete's been falsifying ledgers and skimming money from the company. I'm going to fire him tomorrow. It's my fault. I should have payed closer attention to the company's finances.

MOLLY

How do you know Pete's been doing that? Can you prove it?

JOHN MACRAE

(picks up a paper with numbers circled)

I don't know if I can prove anything in a court of law but I'm absolutely certain that Pete is crooked. I'm very familiar with accounting principles. He was making entries in the ledgers that didn't add up or make any sense. The cost of goods calculations just do not add up. There are payments made out to suppliers that I'm sure are bogus. I'll be able to confirm all of this tomorrow then I'm going to fire that son of... ah, crook.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - MORNING

John MacRae walks in and Mary hands him an envelope.

MARY  
(in a serious tone)  
Mr. Rocci stopped by yesterday  
afternoon after you left and told  
me to give you this envelope.

John MacRae opens the envelope and reads the contents.

Super:

**John,**

**By the time you read this letter, I will be far away from Milwaukee. I'm sure by now you have discovered that I've been taking more than my salary from your business. I've had some heavy gambling debts to cover. I regret having done this as you have always been fair to me. I have destroyed all documents that could prove any wrong doing on my part.**

**Do not try to find me.**

**JR**

JOHN MACRAE  
(shakes his head)  
**Shit.**

MARY  
(with a startled look)  
Is there something wrong Mr.  
MacRae?

John MacRae folds the letter and puts it in his pocket.

JOHN MACRAE  
(frowning)  
Mary, that would be an  
understatement.

MARY  
(looks up)  
Is there anything I can do to help?

JOHN MACRAE  
(sits down)  
Maybe. Mr. Rocci is no longer  
employed here. He has been  
falsifying records and taking money  
illegally from this business. Have  
you noticed any strangeness in his  
behavior lately?



MARY

He seemed rather disturbed after your visit yesterday. He left right after he gave me the envelope yesterday afternoon and took some papers home with him. Oh yes, I also heard Mr. Rocci talking on the phone about train tickets to Chicago.

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at Mary)

Mary, who handles the accounts payable ledger?

MARY

I handle most of the accounts payables but Mr. Rocci handles a few accounts himself. He said they were personal and I wasn't allowed to view them.

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up)

Thank you Mary. That explains a few things. Tomorrow morning I'm going to hold a meeting with everyone first thing in the morning. Don't worry. Everything will turn out just fine.

John MacRae pats Mary on her shoulder and leaves.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - AFTERNOON

John MacRae is addressing his family. He motions for them to sit down.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a serious tone)

I have something to discuss with everyone.

ANNIE

(with a concerned look)

What's wrong father? You look upset. Are you okay?

JOHN MACRAE

(slight smile)

I'm fine.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

I just need to do some planning and it involves all of you. Pete Rocci was taking money from Grandmother's Cigar factory illegally. He is now out of the picture. Your Grandmother left me the Cigar factory in her will. I could sell it but I have another idea. Vincent, how would you like to run the Cigar business?". You always talk of leaving Deadwood. Here's your chance. Also, you like to tinker with mechanical things. You mentioned that productivity could be improved with simple machinery. I'd give you a free hand to modernize production. I just ask you to keep me advised. How does that sound to you, Vincent?

Molly and Annie sit in silence.

VINCENT

(strokes his chin)

That all sounds great but I don't know anything about making cigars also how would the workers respond to an eighteen year old boss?

MOLLY

(frowning)

Johnny, you can't be serious.

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up)

I've never been more serious. I'd stay on for a while to help Vincent learn the business. I still remember the in's and out's of cigar making. I know most of the workers and they will not be a problem. I would require Vincent to take some accounting courses at the local college. This will be a good opportunity for him and we'd keep the Cigar factory in the MacRae family.

MOLLY

What about Annie?

John MacRae sits down and looks at Molly.

JOHN MACRAE

While I'm spending time with Vincent, you and Annie could go to New York and visit that art school you gals always talk about.

ANNIE

(looks at her father)  
Dad, there is an art school in Chicago that I would rather go to besides I could keep an eye on Vincent for you.

VINCENT

(laughing)  
It would be the other way around. I'll keep an eye on her.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)  
Then it's settled. Vincent will run the Cigar factory and Annie will go to school in Chicago.

VINCENT

Father, what are you doing about Pete?

JOHN MACRAE

(looks down and nods)  
I've learned a long time ago to let certain things go.

John MacRae looks up at Annie. She gives him a faint smile.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - MORNING

John MacRae is holding a meeting with all of the Cigar factory employees. His entire family is present.

JOHN MACRAE

(standing)  
With the passing of my mother, I'm sure you are wondering what's going to happen with the business. First things first, Pete Rocci has been stealing from the company and has resigned. Had he not resigned, I'd have fired the son of a bitch. I want to keep the cigar factory in our family. How will we do that?

(MORE)

## JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

My son, Vincent, is going to run the business under my direction. Down the way there will be some changes in production methods that will make your jobs easier. Not much else will change except you will all be getting a 20% increase in your wages. Were it not for Mr. Rocci misdeeds, you would have received that increase years ago. Does anyone have any questions?

The entire group gives John MacRae a hearty round of applause and loud cheers.

Super:

In the years that followed, Vincent successfully runs the Cigar factory. Vincent introduces cost saving techniques and keeps the quality and craftsmanship of the MacRae line of fine cigars. The employees are impressed with the machines that Vincent designed to trim the cigars and speed up the clamping methods. With the cost savings, Vincent is able to hold prices and sales increase rapidly. The MacRae cigar factory now had it's own fleet of trucks to deliver their cigars throughout the Midwest.

Annie graduates from a prominent art school in Chicago and becomes a fashion designer at one of Chicago's leading makers of women's fine fashions. She loves Chicago's social life.

John MacRae eventually retires from the Homestake Mining Company and helps Molly with running her Emporium and dress making business.

Life is good for the MacRae family.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE BLACK ROSE SPEAKEASY IN CHICAGO - EVENING

Annie enters the Black Rose speakeasy. She knocks on a steel door with the secret knock and gives the password. The steel door opens and Annie enters. All of the tables are filled and people are elbow to elbow at the bar. The trumpet player in a five piece jazz band is blaring out his solo. Dancers are performing the Varsity Drag, Collegiate and Charleston. JULIUS BARBER, a well dressed man in his early fifties with wavy grey hair and a distinguished look notices Annie walk in. He motions to Annie.

JULIUS BARBER  
 (smiling)  
 Annie, please sit down.

ANNIE  
 But Julius, there are no chairs  
 left.

Julius Barber grabs Annie's hand and pats his knee.

JULIUS BARBER  
 (with a twinkle in his  
 eye)  
 Sit here sweetie.

ANNIE  
 (smiling)  
 Now what would Mrs. Barber say?

JULIUS BARBER  
 (with a slight frown)  
 There is no Mrs. Barber. Don't  
 worry I don't bite. Let me  
 introduce you to my guests. Folks,  
 this is Annie MacRae. She is the  
 vice-president of design at Henry  
 Marcus Fashions and one of  
 Chicago's top fashion experts.

Everyone at the table looks at Annie as she sits on Julius Barber's knee. Annie smiled as she glanced around the table. One of the men is staring intently at Annie is Carlo. CARLO is a young muscular man with dark rugged features. He is handsome with blue eyes and coal black hair. He has a serious and almost sinister look.

CARLO  
 (smiling)  
 Did I hear Julius say your last  
 name was MacRae?

ANNIE  
 Yes, he did. Why do you ask?

CARLO  
 (nods)  
 Oh nothing really. Just curious.

One of the guests left for the evening and Annie sits next to Carlo. He said very little about himself but asks Annie where she was from and inquires about her family. Annie is intrigued by Carlo and his interest in her background. The evening draws to a close.

CARLO (CONT'D)  
(smiling at Annie)  
May I give you a lift home? I just bought a new Packard and I'm dying to give someone a ride in it.

ANNIE  
(smiling)  
I live within walking distance from here.

CARLO  
(takes Annie's hand)  
Well then, let me walk you home.

ANNIE  
(blushes slightly)  
Sure.

Annie holds Carlo's arm as they walk to her apartment.

CARLO  
(smiles)  
It was so nice meeting you Annie. I hope to see more of you.

Carl gives Annie a quick kiss on her cheek and quickly walks away. Carlo walks back to his new Packard Duplex Coupe.

FADE OUT.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP IN CICERO, ILLINOIS - EVENING

Carlo enters the building through a back door and goes down into the basement. The basement is clouded with cigar and cigarette smoke. Seven men are seated around a table playing cards. Most of them were wearing shoulder holsters with a pistol inside. They look up at Carlo. Pete Rocci stops playing cards. He gets up and walks over to Carlo.

PETE ROCCI  
(smiles)  
Hi kid.

CARLO  
(hugs Pete Rocci)  
Uncle Pete, can I have a word with you.

PETE ROCCI  
Are you in trouble Nephew? Any problems with the last job?

CARLO

(smiles)

Naw. It went smooth as silk but I've got some information that you will find very interesting.

PETE ROCCI

(laughs)

Like who will win in the fifth at Hawthorne tomorrow?

CARLO

(lights up a cigarette)

Much better Uncle. Do remember telling me about that cigar factory you used to work at in Milwaukee? Guess who I met tonight? The daughter of the owner, Annie MacRae".

PETE ROCCI

I knew her father. He's a good man. So what's the interesting information you have for me?

CARLO

(with enthusiasm)

This broad was a real talker and I found out that her twin brother runs the cigar business. It gets better. You know the boys are always looking for better ways to distribute our stuff. Well they have a whole fleet of trucks that delivers cigars all over the Midwest. I see some great possibilities.

PETE ROCCI

(nods)

That is interesting news. Did you get into her pants?

CARLO

(blows a puff of smoke)

Not yet. I'm playing it cool with this one but I could feel she wanted to.

PETE ROCCI

(smiles and puts a hand on Carlo's shoulder)

I'll set up a meeting with the Don.

(MORE)

PETE ROCCI (CONT'D)  
Now I gotta get back to that game.  
I'm on a winning streak.

FADE OUT.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP IN CICERO, ILLINOIS - DAY

All of the men from the card game are present. There is a table set up with various cheeses, fruits, sausages and prosciutto along with cannoli's and pastries. Several carafes of coffee were available. No wine or liquor is present. Don Giuseppe Armettino is a short, stout man in his late sixties with a full head of white hair. He has harsh and cruel features. DON ARMETTIO stands up. The room becomes silent.

DON ARMETTIO  
(in a soft spoken but  
authoritative voice)  
Thank you all for coming here  
today. Help yourselves to the food.  
After talk business, we can all  
have some good wine from Sicily. So  
Pete, what is the important news  
from your nephew?

PETE ROCCI  
(points to Carlo)  
Let Carlo tell you.

CARLO  
(stands up)  
I met a gal the other night at the  
Black Rose. She liked me and told  
me her whole family history. She is  
the daughter of a guy that owns a  
cigar factory in Milwaukee. The guy  
is a big shot in South Dakota and  
his son runs the business. The  
place does very well and they have  
a fleet of trucks that delivers  
cigars all over the Midwest. I  
think we could coax them into  
delivering some of our liquor with  
their cigars. We could hit some of  
the areas where we've had problems  
with the law.

DON ARMETTIO  
(tilts his head back)  
And how would we do that?



CARLO

(in an enthusiastic voice)  
We could put false bottoms in the floors of the trucks. They deliver cigars to people who I know would buy our stuff. The cigar business has a good reputation and nobody would ever suspect a thing.

DON ARMETTIO

(strokes his mustache)  
And how could we convince them to do this?

CARLO

I think we can get to them through the broad. She's got the hots for me.

DON ARMETTIO

Have you slept with her yet?

CARLO

(smiles)  
Not yet but I will.

DON ARMETTIO

(tilts his head back)  
And what if we cannot convince them?

CARLO

(looks around the room  
then laughs)  
The boys and I have ways of convincing anyone to do anything.  
(Carlo pats his pearl  
handled 1911 pistol)

PETE ROCCI

(stands up and in a loud  
voice)  
"Now wait a minute. I don't want anything to happen to the MacRae family. John MacRae was always fair to me. It was my fault that I was careless and got caught.

DON ARMETTIO

(gives Pete Rocci a hard  
look)  
Pete, that's not yours to decide.  
(looks at Carlo)

(MORE)

DON ARMETTIO (CONT'D)

See what you can do with the young lady and report back to me. Our business is finished for now. Let's have some of that good wine from Sicily.

FADE OUT.

INT. MACRAE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

JOHN MACRAE

(kisses Molly on her cheek)

What's for supper dear?

MOLLY

(gives John MacRae a hug)

Why don't we go out Johnny? I'm just not in the mood to cook tonight.

JOHN MACRAE

(pats Molly's hair)

Fine with me. Lets go to the Franklin Hotel. They've got the best steaks in town.

MOLLY

(frowns)

In town?

JOHN MACRAE

(grinning)

Well almost as good as that old Duchess made for me.

MOLLY

Old Duchess, huh? And you're still a spring chicken?

JOHN MACRAE

Oh, by the way, I received a strange telegram, from of all people, Pete Rocci. He said he wants to meet with me when I go to Milwaukee next month. He said it was about Annie and it was urgent. I wonder how he knows Annie and that we're going to Chicago next month?

MOLLY

Are you going to meet him?

JOHN MACRAE

(helps Molly with her coat  
on)

Well yes. I suppose I should,  
especially if it involves our  
Annie.

MOLLY

(in a concerned tone)

Well you better be careful. I seem  
to remember Vincent mentioning that  
Pete carries a gun.

FADE OUT.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP IN CICERO, ILLINOIS - MORNING

Don Armettio is sitting at a small table in the corner of the  
basement. On the table is a telegram. He is sipping on a cup  
of coffee. Carlo walks in He takes the Don's hand and kisses  
it. The Don motions Carlo to sit down.

CARLO

(sit down)

What can I do for you Don Armettio?

DON ARMETTIO

(in a quiet and serious  
tone)

Carlo, we have a serious problem.  
It involves your uncle. On my desk  
is a telegram. Pick it up and read  
it.

Carlo reads the telegram. His face becomes flushed and he is  
visibly shaken as he reads the telegram. He places it back on  
the table and regains his composure.

CARLO

(with a slight forced  
smile)

Don Armettio, I'm sure there's  
nothing to this.

DON ARMETTIO

(in a loud voice)

Nothing? Not only did your uncle  
send this telegram but he has been  
telling people that he does not  
agree with my decision to  
investigate this cigar business  
thing.

CARLO

(in a nervous tone)

What do you want me to do, talk  
some sense into my uncle?

DON ARMETTIO

(in a quiet tone)

No. He must be taken care of. This  
is an act of betrayal. There is  
No telling what else he what might  
do. I want you to do this work for  
us.

CARLO

(with a pleading and  
sorrowful look)

Can't you give him a pass?

DON ARMETTIO

(pounds the table with his  
fists)

No. He's been warned before about  
things like this".No. He's been  
warned before about things like  
this before.

CARLO

Why me. Can't one of the other boys  
do this? Why me. Can't one of the  
other boys do this? Pete is my  
uncle.

DON ARMETTIO

You must prove your loyalty. I  
cannot take any chances because of  
your involvement with that young  
lady. Women can do strange things  
to a man.. I want this done right  
away. Understood?

CARLO

(bites his lip and nods)

Yes, my Don. What do you want done  
with the body?

DON ARMETTIO

(with a faint smile)

Leave him lay wherever he falls. I  
want people to see what happens  
when they go against our rules.

CARLO

Consider it done.

Carlo stands up and is about to leave. Don Armettio stands and give Carlo a hug then kisses his cheek. Carl leaves. Back at his apartment, Carlo selects a small snub nosed revolver from his collection. He opens the cylinder to insure it is loaded then places it on a table next to his 1911 pistol.

FADE OUT.

INT. NICO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

Carlo and Pete Rocci are seated in a corner Nico's Restaurant A plate of Lasagna and Veal Marsala is on a red and white checkered table cloth along with a bottle of red wine. Carlo and Pete Rocci are engaging in small talk while eating and drinking.

CARLO

(smiling)

How's your Veal, uncle?

PETE ROCCI

(nodding)

Excellent, as usual. How about stopping for a drink afterwards?

CARLO

(takes a sip of wine)

I got a better idea. You always mention that you need practice with your pistol. It's still light out. How about if we stop off in that woods behind the old ball park. We can bring some empty bottles from here to shoot at.

PETE ROCCI

I'm not packing anything right now.

CARLO

(pats his pearl handled pistol)

That's okay. You can shoot mine. I've got some extra ammo in the car. You really ought to try a .45 instead of that puny .38 you usually carry.

PETE ROCCI

(wipes red sauce from his cheek)

(MORE)

PETE ROCCI (CONT'D)  
Sounds good. I've always wanted to  
shoot that canon you carry".

FADE OUT.

EXT. WOODED AREA BEHIND AN ABANDONED BALL PARK - NIGHT

Carlo dives the Packard to a secluded wooded area behind an abandoned ball park. Carlo and Pete Rocci walked into a wooded area. Carlo sets up five empty wine bottles on an old wooden crate. He walks back twenty five feet and hands his pearl handled 1911 pistol to Pete Rocci.

CARLO  
It's loaded. All you need to do is  
release the safety. I carry it  
cocked and locked so it's ready if  
I need it in a hurry. There's a  
round in the chamber and seven  
rounds in the magazine. Just aim  
and pull the trigger, When it  
stops, I'll show you what to do.

Pete Rocci fires and misses several times then finally hits four of the bottles.

PETE ROCCI  
What do I do now nephew?

CARLO  
First, let me set up some more  
bottles for you.

Carlo walks to the crate and sets up more bottles. He walks back to Pete Rocci and takes the pistol from him. Carlo demonstrates hoe to reload the 1911 pistol.

CARLO (CONT'D)  
(looks at Pete Rocci)  
First you drop the magazine then  
put a new one in. Then you rack the  
slide like this and you're ready to  
shoot again. Squeeze the trigger.  
Don't jerk it.

Carlo hands the pistol back to Pete Rocci and stands behind him.

PETE ROCCI  
(smiles)  
Not bad. Maybe I'll get one of  
these babies.

Pete Rocci starts firing again at the bottles. Standing behind Pete Rocco, Carlo pulls a snub nosed revolver from his suit coat pocket. He holds the pistol a few inches from the back of Pete Rocci's head. As Pete Rocci hits the third bottle, Carlo pulls the trigger. A .38 Special bullet crashes into the back of Pete Rocci's head. He falls to the ground motionless. Carlo picks up all of the spent pistol brass and counts it. He removes the magazine from his 1911 pistol and puts four rounds into it. Carlo puts one round in the chamber, racks the slide, puts the safety on and then puts it back into his shoulder holster. He drags Pete Rocci's lifeless body out of the wooded area into an open field near the diamond. Carlo drives away in the Packard and stops by a nearby phone booth. He stops and dials a number.

CARLO

Hello, Don Armettio. The package has been delivered.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - EVENING

John MacRae and Molly are finishing eating supper. John MacRae takes a sip of coffee and then lights up a cigar. He turns to Molly.

JOHN MACRAE

(blows a puff of smoke)  
Well I guess I won't be meeting Pete.

MOLLY

Why not?

JOHN MACRAE

Vincent sent me a wire and said that Pete was found with a bullet in the back of his head.

MOLLY

(with a puzzled look)  
How did Vincent know?

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles slightly)  
Vincent has become quite the business man. To keep abreast of things, he reads several newspapers each day. He noticed an article in the Chicago Tribune about Pete. They have no idea who did it.

MOLLY

(pours a cup of coffee)  
Are we still going to Milwaukee  
next week?

JOHN MACRAE

Of course.

FADE OUT.

INT. MEETING ROOM AT HENRY MARCUS FASHIONS - AFTERNOON

Annie is examining a bolt of silk from Japan with one of the Henry Marcus Fashions dressmakers.

ANNIE

(running her hand across  
the silk)  
This silk from Japan is much better  
than what we buy from China and  
it's less money. Use this for the  
evening gowns in our next show.

The dressmaker nods. As she is about to speak, Annie's secretary interrupts them.

SECRETARY

Miss MacRae, there is someone here  
to see you.

ANNIE

(frowns slightly)  
Who is it? I don't recall having  
any appointments today.

SECRETARY

(smiles)  
He said his name was Carlo and he  
said you knew him. He's a very  
handsome young man. He looks like a  
buyer from New York.

ANNIE

He's not a buyer. Have him wait in  
my office. Tell him I'll be there  
in a few minutes.

Annie finishes giving instructions to the dressmaker. She looked into a mirror and combs her dark hair then walks back to her office.

FADE OUT.



INT. ANNIE'S OFFICE AT HENRY MARCUS FASHIONS - AFTERNOON

Carlo is looking out a window and admiring the view. He hears Annie enter and turns toward her.

CARLO  
(smiling)  
Quite a view you have here.

ANNIE  
(nods)  
Yes it is. Please sit down. How did you find me?

CARLO  
(sits down)  
I got your name from Julius. I would have called you but I hate telephones.

ANNIE  
(studies Carlo)  
So what brings here to Henry Marcus? You're certainly not a buyer.

CARLO  
Okay if I smoke? I wanted to ask you out for dinner.

Annie nods a yes. Carlo pulls out a Camel cigarette from a gold case and lights it. He blows a small puff of smoke.

CARLO (CONT'D)  
Are you free tonight? We could go to the Drake Hotel. They serve a pretty good steak and their seafood is excellent. What do you say?

ANNIE  
(trying not to sound too anxious)  
Yes. I'm free and I love seafood. I certainly have had my fill of steak living in South Dakota.

CARLO  
Good, I'll pick you up at seven.

Carlo gives Annie a quick smile and leaves. Annie gets a strange look on her face.

FADE OUT.

## I/E. DINING ROOM AT THE DRAKE HOTEL - MORNING

Carlo was prompt and picked Annie up exactly at seven. There was not much conversation on the drive over to the Drake Hotel. When they arrived, the Maitre d' winked at Carlo and gave them a booth in a secluded area of the restaurant. Without looking at the menu, Carlo ordered a Porterhouse medium rare. Annie studied the menu and ordered planked Whitefish. Carlo ordered a bottle of Chianti. Carlo's change in demeanor surprised Annie. He is very talkative that evening as compared to the first time they met.

ANNIE

(take a sip of wine)

I love this wine. So Carlo, how do you know Julius?

CARLO

(lights a cigarette)

I work as a claims adjuster for a small insurance company I did some private work for Julius. One of his employee's tried to sue him and I discovered fraud the employee was pulling.

ANNIE

(with an interested look)

So what happened?

CARLO

(smiling)

Oh, he dropped the lawsuit after I talked with him.

ANNIE

You must be a very persuasive person.

CARLO

(waves for the check)

I can be when it's necessary. Did you enjoy your dinner?

FADE OUT.

## I/E. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Annie and Carlo drive back to Annie's apartment in Carlo's Packard. Carlo walks Annie to her door.

ANNIE

(turns to Carlo)

Thank you for a delightful evening.  
The Whitefish was excellent and I  
really enjoyed the wine.

CARLO

(hold Annie's hand and in  
a charming voice)

I had a wonderful time also. Are  
you going to ask me in for a drink?

ANNIE

(blushes slightly)

Yes. But Carlo, I don't even know  
your last name.

CARLO

It's Marco. Carlo Marco.

ANNIE

(smiles)

That has a nice ring to it.

Annie and Carl enter Annie's apartment. Annie pours Carlo a glass of Scotch and she pots herself a glass of Sherry. They sat together on a large red velvet sofa.

CARLO

(takes a sip of Scotch)

Hey, This is pretty good stuff. How  
did you get it? It's illegal you  
know.

ANNIE

(smiles)

One of the perks of being a Vice-  
President at Henry Marcus  
Fashions, I guess.

Annie and Carlo continue converse with each. After Annie and Carlo have several drinks, Carlo edges closer to Annie. He puts his arms around her and kisses her gently on her hand then on her lips. Annie returns Carlo's kiss with vigor. Carlo picks up Annie and carried her into a bedroom. They make love passionately and then fall asleep in each others arms. When Annie wakes at five in the morning, Carlo is gone. Annie sits up in bed. A confused and puzzled look appears on her face. Annie and Carlo have dinner three more times at different restaurants. Each time they end the evening at Annie's and make love. Each time Carlo leaves early in the morning before sunrise.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S OFFICE AT HENRY MARCUS FASHIONS - DAY

Carlo knocks on Annie's office door then enters the office and closes the door. Annie is studying a drawing. She looks up at Carlo and smiles.

ANNIE

Hi Carlo. This is a pleasant surprise.

CARLO

(kisses annie's cheek)  
How are you my Dear?

ANNIE

Just fine Carlo. What brings you here at this time of the day?

CARLO

(lights a cigarette)  
I'm taking a few days off to do some fishing at a friend's lake cottage in northern Wisconsin. How would you like to go with me? His cottage is on Spider Lake in Manitowish Waters. The scenery is beautiful.

ANNIE

(makes a face)  
Ew, how can you smoke those Camels? You should try a Chesterfield. To answer your question, I'd like to with you but I'm meeting my parents in Milwaukee next week.

CARLO

(blows a puff of smoke)  
Naw, Chesterfields are too mild. Say, I've got a better idea. I would love to go with you to Milwaukee and meet your father especially after all you've told me about him. I've only been to Milwaukee a few times.

ANNIE

You could go with me but we couldn't stay in the same room at night. My father is rather old fashioned.

CARLO  
(smiles)  
No problem.

FADE OUT.

I/E THE MILWAUKEE TRAIN DEPOT - AFTERNOON

Vincent meets Annie and Carlo at the Milwaukee Train depot as they arrive from Chicago. He hugs Annie and shakes hands with Carlo.

VINCENT  
(smiles)  
Ma and Pa are staying at the  
Pfister. Let's get your luggage and  
I'll drive you there.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - AFTERNOON

The MacRae family and Carlo are gathered in a hotel room suites living area. Annie introduces Carlo to her parents. For a brief moment, John MacRae studies Carlo then shakes his hand.

JOHN MACRAE  
(with a slight smile)  
How do you do young man?

CARLO  
(in a polite tone)  
Just fine sir. It's so nice to meet  
you. Annie has told me so much  
about you.

JOHN MACRAE  
(looks around at everyone)  
Lets all have dinner tonight at  
Karl's. Carlo, do you like German  
food?

CARLO  
(grins)  
That would be a welcome change from  
all the Lasagna I eat.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE -  
MORNING

That evening they all dined at Karl's restaurant. Vincent was the center of attention as he talked about the expansion he was planning for the MacRae cigar factory. He mentioned adding additional trucks to his fleet. Vincent also mentioned that he was now buying the wrappers for his premium line of cigars from Cuba. Carlo listened intently to Vincent. While everyone was sampling Karl's famous Apple Strudel dessert, Carlo turns to Vincent

CARLO

(looks at vincent)

Say Vincent, your cigar factory sounds fascinating. Would you mind giving me a tour? In my work, I sometimes visit a factory and I always find it interesting to see how things are made.

VINCENT

(looks at carlo)

Sure. Stop by tomorrow afternoon and I'll give you the ten cent tour.

ANNIE

I'd like to go along. It's been a while since I've seen grandpa's factory.

John MacRae notices that Carlo is studying Vincent intently.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - EVENING

John MacRae and Molly undress and get ready for bed.

MOLLY

(holds John MacRae's  
hands)

What's bothering you Dear? You have that worried look again.

JOHN MACRAE

(with a slight frown)

I'm getting concerned for Annie. There's something about that Carlo guy but I can't put my finger on it.

MOLLY

(smiles and gives John  
MacRae a kiss on his  
cheek)

Oh, you just shush. He looks like a  
nice young man. You're getting  
awfully suspicious in your old age.  
Don't spoil it for Annie

JOHN MACRAE

Better suspicious than careless, my  
Dear.

Later that evening Annie slips into Carlo's hotel room. They made love passionately twice. Annie returns to her room early in the morning. Everyone has breakfast together at a café in the Pfister. That afternoon Vincent gives Carlo and Annie a tour of the MacRae cigar factory. Carlo displays much interest in Vincent's fleet of trucks and his contacts in Cuba. Carlo runs his hand along the floors of several trucks. The next day John and Molly MacRae take a train back to Deadwood, South Dakota. Carlo and Annie return to Chicago.

FADE OUT.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP IN CICERO, ILLINOIS - DAY

Carlo enters the basement of the butcher shop. Don Armettio motions for Carlo to sit down.

DON ARMETTIO

(leans forward)

So what have you learned about the  
cigar business?

CARLO

(smiles)

It's perfect. They have about a  
dozen trucks in their fleet and  
soon they will be getting more. But  
it gets even better. They buy some  
of their tobacco from Cuba and  
guess who from?

DON ARMETTIO

(in an impatient tone)

Who?

CARLO

The Escarra family. Don't we buy  
some rum from them?

(MORE)

CARLO (CONT'D)

I'm sure booze could easily be smuggled in with their tobacco shipments. The MacRae's have a good reputation and besides who would think to look in a bale of tobacco for booze?

DON ARMETTIO

(smiles slightly)

Yes. I've dealt with old man Escarra. We go back a long way. You have done well, Carlo. But do you think we can convince that Vincent person to go along with us.

CARLO

(smiles and pats his pistol)

I'm sure we can.

DON ARMETTIO

(in a serious tone)

No rough stuff on the MacRae's. Business is good. We don't need to get greedy. If the MacRae's don't agree to do this, then we will let it go. Understood?

CARLO

Yes, my Don.

DON ARMETTIO

(strokes his cheek)

We still must be careful. Alert our people in Milwaukee to keep an eye on the MacRae's. You know what happened with your uncle. Do not discuss this with that girl either.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - DAY

Carlo drives a black Ford Model-T Coupe to Milwaukee. Along the way, he curses the Model for its lack of power. Carlo pulls up to the cigar factory. He enters the office and walks up to Mary.

CARLO

(smiling)

Hi Mary, Do you remember me. I'm Carlo.



MARY  
 (blushes slightly)  
 Yes. I do. What can I do for you?

CARLO  
 I'm here to see Vincent.

MARY  
 He's in the shop. I'll page him for you.

Vincent enters the office. He and Carlo shake hands.

VINCENT  
 (slightly surprised)  
 Hello, Carlo. Good to see you. What brings you to Milwaukee?

CARLO  
 (smiles)  
 I'm here on some business and thought you might have like to have lunch with me.

VINCENT  
 (looks at his pocket watch)  
 Sure. Just give me a few minutes to finish going over an order with my superintendent. Have a seat. I'll be right back.

FADE OUT.

INT. MASON STREET PUB - DAY

Vincent drives Carlo to the Mason Street Pub in his White 1920 Rolls Royce Phantom Limousine. Before Carlo enters the auto, he pats the hood.

CARLO  
 (grinning)  
 I should be in the cigar business.

Inside The Mason Street Pub, Carlo and Vincent each order a Porterhouse along with a bottle of Cabernet. They make small talk then Vincent looks at Carlo.

VINCENT  
 Who are you seeing on business here in Milwaukee? Maybe I know them.

CARLO

(flashes a quick smile)  
Oh, you do know them. It's really  
you I came here to talk to.

VINCENT

(slightly surprised)  
What can I do for you, Carlo?

CARLO

(leans toward Vincent and  
in a serious quiet tone)  
It's what I can do for you. I have  
a proposition that can make you a  
very wealthy man. What I'm about to  
tell you must not be discussed with  
anyone else, **period**. I represent a  
business that distributes liquor in  
Chicago and northern Illinois. We  
want to use your trucks to expand  
into other states. I've looked at  
your trucks and with a false bottom  
on the floors, it would be fool  
proof. Also you do business in Cuba  
with the Escarra family. We do  
business with a different part of  
the Escarra family. They sell us  
rum. It would make getting the rum  
much easier for us if it could be  
concealed and shipped in tobacco  
bales. Again, this would be fool  
proof. You would be.

VINCENT

(interrupts Carlo)  
I don't think this is a good idea  
for our family. We are doing okay  
and don't need the risk. Besides,  
I'd have to run this by my father  
and I know he would never give his  
approval.

CARLO

(in a harsh tone, points  
his finger at Vincent)  
This deal is strictly between you  
and me. I'm warning you not to  
discuss this with anyone including  
your old man or you will be very  
sorry. I'll give some time to think  
about this deal.

VINCENT

(stands up and in a loud  
voice)

I don't need any time to think  
about this. My answer is no and  
another thing, I want you to stop  
seeing my sister, you son of a  
bitch/

CARLO

(stands up and laughs)

Remember, don't discuss this with  
anyone or else.

VINCENT

(his face flushed and in  
an angry tone)

Or else what?

Carlo motions to a nearby waiter and then turns to Vincent.

CARLO

(with s smirk)

Hey you, call me a cab. Say, that  
was a damn good steak, my friend.  
Thank you.

Carlo takes a cab back to the Model T. Vincent drives the  
White Rolls Royce back to the cigar factory.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - DAY

Vincent brings the White Rolls Royce to an abrupt stop at the  
cigar factory. He hurriedly goes into the office and walks  
directly to Mary.

VINCENT

(in an aggravated tone)

Mary, get Harry Bender on the phone  
for me. Right away please.

MARY

(in a slightly nervous  
tone)

Yes, Mr. MacRae. Is everything  
okay?

VINCENT

Mary, how many times do I have to  
tell you my name is Vincent?

Vincent walks into his private office and closes the door. The phone rings and he answers it.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

Hello Harry. It's Vincent MacRae. Do you remember you I could call you if I ever had a problem? Something's come up that I need to talk to you about. How about dinner tonight at Karl's? How's seven o'clock sound? Great. I'll see you then.

Vincent hangs up the phone, sits back in his chair, clasps his hands together and stares up at the ceiling.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE - EVENING

Vincent is seating and waiting for Harry Bender to arrive. Harry is a short man with an athletic build and light blond hair slicked back. Harry arrives. Vincent stands up and they shake hands then they sit down.

VINCENT

(smiles)

Thanks for meeting me on such short notice. I was hoping you would remember me from our handball games at the Milwaukee Athletic Club. It's been a while. How are things at the bureau?

HARRY

(lights a cigarette)

Okay. I really miss our handball games at the MAC. Say, I'm sorry I was late but Hoover keeps us pretty busy. What can I do for you?

VINCENT

(talks in a serious tone)

I've got sister who lives in Chicago. She been going out with a guy named Marco. I met him and he seemed okay at first. He told us he worked for an insurance company. I think that was bullshit. He visited me this morning. I think he's with the mob in Chicago.

HARRY  
(his eyebrows raised  
slightly)  
What makes you say that?

VINCENT  
He wants to use our trucks for  
distributing liquor in the mid-west  
and for smuggling rum out of Cuba.  
The son of a bitch had the balls to  
threaten me. He's been going out  
with my sister and I don't think  
she knows a damn thing about him. I  
want him out of the way for her  
sake. Can you report all of this to  
your superiors for me?

HARRY  
(his face grew grim and  
leaned towards Vincent)  
Vincent, you don't know who the  
hell you are dealing with. I'm  
telling you as a friend, do not, I  
repeat, do not discuss this with  
anyone. Let this lay. Just forget  
about it.

VINCENT  
So you won't help me?

HARRY  
(frowning)  
I told you, leave this lay. These  
aren't school boys you're dealing  
with.

VINCENT  
(stands up)  
If you won't help me, I'll find  
someone who will. You aren't the  
only FBI agent in town.

Harry stands up and shakes his head then leaves without  
saying another word. Vincent slowly finishes his wine then  
motions for the check.

FADE OUT.

INT. DON ARMETTIO'S STUDY - DAY

Carlo drives his Packard to Don Armettio's residence in  
Cicero. He has a concerned look on his face. The residence is  
a large stone home surrounded by a stone wall.

An armed guard opens a steel gate for Carlo. He enters the home and another armed guard escorts him to Don Armettio's study. Carlo enters the study. Don Armettio motions for Carlo to close the door and sit down.

CARLO

What can I do for you my Don ?

DON ARMETTIO

(in a grim and serious tone)

Thank you for coming right over. Carlo, we have a big problem on our hands. That MacRae person has been talking to the FBI in Milwaukee about our proposal. We got a call from Bender this morning. He first talked to Bender about your meeting. Bender warned him to keep his mouth shut. He didn't listen to Bender and starting talking to another FBI agent. Fortunately for us, this agent is also on our payroll. This cigar guy must be taken care of at once. I'm going to send one of our best men up to Milwaukee for this job. I want you to tell him what you know about this cigar guy. It will.

CARLO

(interrupts Don Armettio)

Don Armettio, let me do this piece of work for you. I know this guy's habits.

DON ARMETTIO

(frowning)

And what about that girl you're screwing? You would be killing her brother?

CARLO

(with a wicked grin)

This will be a real pleasure for me. Strange as it may seem to you, I somehow blame her for my uncle Pete getting whacked. Someday, I'm going to take care of her too.

DON ARMETTIO

(slightly surprised)

I don't like the word "whacked". Do not use that word again.

(MORE)

DON ARMETTIO (CONT'D)

Carlo, I will let you do this job  
for us but I warn you to be  
careful. Make it look like a  
robbery.

CARLO

(smiles)

I know what to do, Don Armettio.

Carlo stands up and gives Don Armettio a hug then leaves.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE VINCENTS APARTMENT - DAY

Carlo drives a black Ford Model-T Coupe to Milwaukee. He is dressed in coveralls and sporting a fake blond mustache along with a camel hair Polo cap. Carlo rents a room in small hotel north of Milwaukee. He studies Vincent's habits and daily routine. After Vincent leaves for work, Carlo follows Vincent to the cigar factory. Carlo observes Vincent entering the cigar factory and then walks over to Vincent's apartment. His apartment is on a ground floor and Carlo enters through an unlocked side window. Carlo searches the apartment and finds a small metal lock-box. He breaks it open and it contains five thousand dollars in cash. Carlo smiles and pockets the money. He sits in a plush red leather chair and smokes several cigarettes. Carlo looks at his watch and then opens a window and tosses the cigarette butts outside. His gold cigarette case remains on an end table. He positions himself next to the door. When Carlo hears a key enter the door's lock, he pulls out a stiletto. As Vincent enters the apartment, Carlo grabs him from behind and thrusts the stiletto into Vincent's back. As Vincent turns around, Carlo stabs him twice in the chest. Vincent falls to the floor.

VINCENT

(looks up at Carlo and in  
a weakened voice)

You. You son of a.

With a swift and deliberate motion, Carlo bends down and slits Vincent's throat. He removes Vincent's wallet, and diamond ring then leaves. Carlo drives the Model T back to Chicago. He enters Illinois and stops at a phone booth. Carlo places a call.

CARLO  
 (smiling)  
 Don Armettio, the package has been  
 delivered.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - DAY

John and Molly MacRae are sitting next to each other on a sofa. John MacRae is staring at a telegram. Molly is sobbing hard and wiping her face with a handkerchief.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (sighs)  
 This is just too hard to believe.  
 We will leave tomorrow for  
 Milwaukee. I'll call Annie now.

John MacRae embraces Molly. She stops sobbing for an instant then starts sobbing again harder.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE MILWAUKEE TRAIN DEPOT - DAY

John and Molly MacRae meet Annie at the Milwaukee train depot. In Vincent's White Rolls Royce, they drive over to the Pfister Hotel and drop off Annie's luggage.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (looks at Annie)  
 You must be hungry. Lets get a bite  
 to eat and then we can go over to  
 Vincent's apartment. There might be  
 a memento of Vincents you'd like to  
 have.

ANNIE  
 (frowns)  
 I'm not hungry. Let's just go and  
 get this over with.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (looks at Molly)  
 Alright. That okay with you Dear?

Molly does not answer but nods a yes. In Vincent's White Rolls Royce, they drive over to Vincent's apartment.

FADE OUT.



INT. INSIDE VINCENT'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Molly and Annie are sitting together on a sofa. Molly is wiping tears from her eyes. Annie has a solemn look. John Macrae is holding the metal lock box.

JOHN MACRAE

I talked with a Milwaukee detective this morning. The detectives say Vincent's murder is most likely a result of Vincent discovering the robber or robbers. Vincent always kept several thousand dollars in cash in this box. Many would kill for a much lesser sum. Also, another detective thought the robber spent some time waiting in Vincent's apartment before the robbery. He found several Camel cigarette butts outside a window and there was the faint smell of cigarette smoke in the apartment. So here you have it. We won't be coming back here so why don't you two look around and see if there is anything of Vincent's that you want to take with you as a memento.

Molly and Annie both nodded a no and started to stand up. John MacRae motioned for them to stay sitting.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

Don't get up yet. Please. I've got something to say.

ANNIE

(with a concerned look)  
What is it Father?

JOHN MACRAE

(looks down, bites his lip  
then looks at Annie)  
Annie, I want you to run the cigar business. You have the intelligence and experience to run a business.

Annie and Molly looked at John MacRae with astonishment.

MOLLY

(angrily)  
Why Annie? Haven't you had enough of the cigar business? It cost us a son. Sell the damn thing.

JOHN MACRAE

(ignores Molly and looks  
at Annie)

Annie, I want to keep the cigar  
factory in our family. Please say  
yes.

ANNIE

(stands up)

I must say no to you, father. I've  
worked long and hard to build a  
career in the fashion industry. You  
can't ask me to give up what I love  
doing. I agree with Mom. Sell the  
damn business. Let's get out of  
here.

JOHN MACRAE

(stands up and gives a  
deep sigh)

Annie, at least think about it.  
Please. Oh, I want you to have  
Vincent's Rolls.

ANNIE

(nods a no)

No thank you. Chicago has way too  
much traffic for me.

JOHN MACRAE

(shrugs his shoulders)

Well alright. Lets go get some  
dinner. How about if we meet seven?

As they walked towards the door, Annie notices the Gold  
cigarette case on the end table. A look of horror appears on  
her face. She quickly composes herself.

ANNIE

(quietly)

I'll take this with me.

Annie puts the Gold cigarette case into her purse.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIES HOTEL ROOM AT THE PFISTER - AFTERNOON

Annie throws her coat on the bed. She hurriedly retrieves  
the Gold cigarette case from her purse and examines it. A  
large C is engraved on the cover and inside are seven Camel  
cigarettes.

ANNIE

(screams)

You lousy rotten bastard. You're gonna pay for this. I swear to GOD you will.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE - EVENING

During dinner, John and Molly MacRae reminisce about Vincent. Annie is noticeably silent throughout the meal. During dessert, she finally breaks her silence.

ANNIE

(abruptly)

Father, I've changed my mind. I will run the family business for you.

JOHN MACRAE

(with a surprised look)

I'm really happy to hear that but what changed your mind?

ANNIE

(looks down)

Well you want to keep Grandpa's cigar factory in the MacRae family. I'm going to need some time. I do want to give Mr. Marcus some notice. The Marcus Fashion Company has been very good to me. You will have to help me learn your cigar business. Oh, I also will take Vincent's automobile. I hear Milwaukee's traffic is tolerable.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

It's not going to be my cigar business. It will be your cigar business. I'll arrange to have the stock titled in your name.

ANNIE

(with a sinister smile)

Thank you, Father. I won't let you down.

FADE OUT.

I/E. ANNIE'S OFFICE AT HENRY MARCUS FASHIONS - DAY

Carlo knocks and then enters Annie's office. He gives Annie a hug. He does not notice her blank stare.

CARLO

(kisses her forehead)

Where have you been? I've been looking for you all week. Are you okay? I've missed you.

ANNIE

(looks into Carlo's eyes)

I'm okay but my brother isn't. He was murdered during a robbery. I was at his funeral with my family.

CARLO

(with excessive sincerity)

Oh my GOD. I'm so sorry to hear that. I really liked that guy. Is there anything I can do?

ANNIE

(turns away from Carlo)

Thank you but everything has been taken care of.

CARLO

Can I see you tonight?

ANNIE

(with sinister smile)

I've really behind here. How about tomorrow afternoon. Oh, there is one thing you could help me with.

Annie takes Carlo's hand and leads him to the window. She points to the White Rolls Royce parked below in the street.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

That's my car down there. It belonged to my brother. My father insisted that I take it. There's been a lot of hijackings lately around here and I'm scared. You told me that sometimes you carry a gun for work. Could you show me how to use one?

CARLO

(smiles)

Why sure. I'd be happy to.

ANNIE

What kind of a gun should I buy. I know nothing about them. In fact, I've never even fired one.

CARLO

(pats Annie's hand)

Don't bother to buy anything right now. I've got one I'd like you to try first. I'll pick you up around three.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Carlo enters Annie's apartment. He immediately hugs and kisses Annie passionately. Annie has a cold look in her eye.

CARLO

I've missed you.

Annie forces a smile. Carlo and Annie make love on her sofa. After they finish, Carlo pulls a Camel cigarette out of the package and lights it.

ANNIE

(smiles slightly)

What happened to that beautiful Gold case?

CARLO

I lost it. Say, how would you like to have a shooting lesson after we eat

Annie pours Carlo a glass of Scotch and hands it to him.

ANNIE

(nods)

Oh, that would be great but I don't have a gun.

CARLO

(smile then opens his suit coat and pats the Peal handled pistol)

I have some pistols with me. This one may be too much for you to handle at first. I've got something smaller in my pocket for you to try.

ANNIE

(smiles)

Oh my goodness. Say Carlo, how about if I drive? Maybe you can give some tips on how to drive in downtown Chicago.

CARLO

(smiles)

Okay with me. I've never rode in a Rolls Royce.

FADE OUT.

I/E. NICO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

Carlo talks Annie into having Lasagna. Over a bottle of Chianti, they both engage in meaningless small talk throughout the meal. Carlo asks their waiter for the check.

CARLO

(looks at his watch)

It's still light out. How would you like that shooting lesson now?

ANNIE

(with a slightly sinister smile)

You can't imagine how much I'm looking forward to this.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WOODED AREA BEHIND AN ABANDONED BALL PARK - LATER

Carlo directs Annie to the secluded wooded area behind the abandoned ball park. Carlo and Annie walk together into the wooded area. Carlo sets up two empty wine bottles on a tree stump and walks back fifteen feet. Carlo retrieves a .32 caliber Colt Model 1903 Pistol from his suit coat pocket. He explains how to aim the pistol and hands it to Annie.

CARLO

Never point a gun at anyone unless you're ready to shoot them. Now try to hit those bottles.

Using a one handed grip, Annie aims at the bottle and jerks the trigger. The pistol clicks but does not fire.

ANNIE  
 (with a puzzled look)  
 It doesn't work. What am I doing  
 wrong?

CARLO  
 (grins)  
 You have to rack the slide.

ANNIE  
 (with a confused look)  
 Rack the slide? How do I do that?

CARLO  
 (takes the pistol from  
 Annie)  
 Here, I'll show you.

Carlo racks the slide and hands the pistol back to Annie.

CARLO (CONT'D)  
 Now aim at the target and squeeze  
 the trigger gently.

Using a two handed grip, Annie swiftly aims the pistol at  
 Carlo's forehead.

ANNIE  
 Like this? You bastard.

Using a two handed grip, Annie slowly squeezes the trigger. A  
 bullet hits Carlo between the eyes. His eyes widen as he  
 slowly slumps to the ground. Annie fires six more rounds into  
 Carlo's chest. The slide on the empty pistol locks in the  
 back position. She retrieves the spent brass cases and puts  
 them in her purse. Annie releases the slide and drops the  
 magazine. She examines the empty magazine and inserts it back  
 into the Pistol. Annie puts the pistol into her purse. She  
 spits on Carlo and drives back to her apartment.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WOODED AREA BEHIND AN ABANDONED BALL PARK - MORNING

Two boys are hunting with sling-shots. They walk into the  
 wooded area and discover Carlo's body. Carlo's eyes are still  
 wide open and his Pearl handled 1911 was still in the  
 shoulder holster. With a terrified look on their faces, they  
 run out of the woods. The Cop on the beat sees the boys  
 running and stops them. The boys point to the woods.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Annie is filling her bathtub and holding a bottle of Scotch. She gets in the bathtub with the bottle of Scotch in her hand.

ANNE MACRAE

Well Carlo, I never told you that my Dad taught how shoot his 1911 when I was thirteen.

Annie smiles and takes a big swig of Scotch out the bottle.

INT. DON ARMETTIO'S STUDY - DAY

In the study with Don Armettio are two of his men.

DON ARMETTIO

(strokes his cheek)

I must admit that I'm puzzled how a qualified man like Carlo could end up getting shot. This could be revenge for someone Carlo has killed in the past. He has done a lot of work for us. I've made inquiries but nothings come up to prove otherwise. Carlo's been seeing the sister of that cigar guy he hit but she is way too timida. What I'm about to say, stays in this room. I always liked Carlo but he was dangerous. Maybe this all turned out for the better.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S OFFICE AT HENRY MARCUS FASHIONS - DAY

Annie is meeting with her successor, Marge Nelson, a matronly looking but somewhat attractive woman in her forties. Annie excused herself and went into the private restroom in her office. Marge Nelson could hear Annie's violent retching. When Annie came out of the restroom, her face was flushed.

MARGE NELSON

(with a concerned look)

Are you okay, Miss MacRae? You sound terrible. It's none of my business, but you need to see a Doctor.

(MORE)



MARGE NELSON (CONT'D)  
 You might have that flu that's  
 going around. I heard some people  
 have died from it.

ANNIE  
 (forces a smile)  
 I'll be just fine. Now, let's talk  
 about the Marshall Field account.

MARGE NELSON  
 Miss MacRae, I really appreciate  
 your recommending for this job.  
 You're going to be really missed  
 here at Marcus. What will you be  
 doing in milwaukee?

ANNIE  
 (smiles)  
 I'm going to run my grandfather's  
 cigar factory.

Marge gets a slightly puzzled look on her face.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - DAY

Annie enters a suite in the Pfister hotel. John MacRae greets her. She hugs her father. John MacRae steps back and notice's Annie's haggard appearance.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (with a concerned look)  
 Annie, you look terrible, What's  
 wrong?

Annie starts to cry and then collapses into her fathers arms. John MacRae gently put his daughter on the bed.

ANNIE  
 (sobbing)  
 Father, I'm pregnant. I don't want  
 to have this baby.

JOHN MACRAE  
 (his eyes widen)  
 Did I hear right? You don't want  
 this baby. Why not?

ANNE MACRAE  
 (screams)  
 Carlo is the father.

(MORE)

ANNE MACRAE (CONT'D)

It was Carlo who killed Vincent and  
I killed Carlo.

John MacRae sits down on the edge of the bed. He buries his  
face in his hands.

JOHN MACRAE

Oh my GOD.

ANNIE

(regains her composure)

I found Carlo's Gold cigarette case  
in Vincent's apartment. Here's some  
real startling news. There was a  
brief obituary in the Chicago  
Tribune. Carlo Marco's real name  
was Carlo Rocci. He was Pete  
Rocci's nephew. There are rumors of  
ties to the mob in Chicago with  
Pete Rocci. I'm sure Carlo was also  
involved with the mob. I got him to  
take me out for a shooting lesson  
and killed him with his own gun. I  
will not have his child.

JOHN MACRAE

(hugs Annie)

I'm so sorry I dragged you into  
this. You don't have to work in the  
cigar business if you don't want  
to. Go back to your career in  
Chicago but I'm going to ask you to  
please have this baby. I will.

ANNIE

(interrupts John MacRae)

No, Carlo killed my brother and  
your son.

JOHN MACRAE

(holds Annie's hands and  
looks into her eyes)

Annie, I understand your feelings  
but please listen to me. Part of a  
MacRae is in that baby. I will give  
that baby our name and raise it as  
a MacRae. I believe that life  
begins at conception and it would a  
grievous sin to kill that innocent  
child. That baby cannot be held  
responsible for his father's evil  
acts.

ANNE MACRAE

(kisses John MacRae)

Okay Father. I will have the baby but understand that I will have nothing to do with it. The baby will be your responsibility. Take it back to South Dakota with you. You can tell it that I'm it's aunt. Now I want to start learning the cigar business. I'm a MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE

(hugs Annie)

Thank you, Dear

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - DAY

John MacRae is addressing the workers in the cigar factory. Annie is standing by his side.

JOHN MACRAE

(in an amicable tone)

I've called you all together here today to talk about the future of the MacRae Cigar Company. First of all, I want to dispel any rumors that I'm selling the company. You all have worked for Vincent. Through the years, you may have Vincent's sister, Annie, visit the factory. Annie is going to be the new president and general manager of MacRae Cigars.

A look of apprehension appears on some of the workers faces.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

By the looks on some of you, I can tell you are wondering if I've lost my mind. Well, let me say this. Annie was a vice-president in the largest women's fashion company in Chicago. She was responsible for fashion design but was heavily involved in all phases of the business including finance which is a vital part of any business. You were all happy to work with Vincent. I'm positive Annie will do just as well.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

(looks at Annie)

Annie, would you like to say a few words?

ANNIE

I'm not as good as my father in giving a speech. Now, you might ask why am I doing this. First of all I owe it to my family and to Vincent to keep this business in the MacRae name. Secondly, I've personally seen what sometimes happens when a new owner takes over. They make changes and sometimes people get hurt. I'm not going to let some stranger fu, uh screw up this company. Thirdly, These are tenuous times for our country. There has been talk of a recession and you know what that could mean. Not many people will be able to afford cigars. Down the road, the MacRae Cigar Company may introduce a line of low cost women's clothing and uniforms. We have the space to expand. Some of you may be running sewing machines or cutting material. Personally, if a depression hits this country, I'd rather run a sewing machine than stand in a soup line. Lastly, I want you all to know that I will not let you down. Thank you.

John MacRae smiles and the workers give Annie a hearty round of applause.

FADE OUT.

INT. ST. LUKES HOSPITAL MATERNITY WARD - MORNING

John and Molly MacRae are looking through a large window in the maternity's nursery at a newborn baby. He has blond curly hair and is sleeping peacefully while the other babies around him are crying loudly. A gold ribbon is in his blond hair.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiling)

Look Annie. He's got blond curly hair just like our Bonnie had.

Molly starts to tear up.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

I wish that damn nurse wouldn't have put a ribbon in his hair. Say, what are you crying about? He's looks like a healthy young fellow to me.

MOLLY

(wipes her tears away)  
One of the nurses told me that Annie wouldn't even look at him. She refuses to nurse him and doesn't want to see him. She did tell the head nurse that we will be taking him with us.

JOHN MACRAE

(embraces Annie)  
I can understand her feeling that way. Annie went through a lot with Carlo. She still blames herself for Vincent's death. Look, lets be thankful she decided to have this baby. Would it be okay if we named him Vincent?

MOLLY

(starts to tear up again)  
Yes. That would be good.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - DAY

John and Molly MacRae are relaxing in their living room. John MacRae is reading a letter. Molly is reading a book. Molly glances at John MacRae then puts the book down.

MOLLY

You're in a rather cheerful mood.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles)  
I want you to read this letter from Annie. A while back, she started making custom uniforms for the local fire and police department big shot. This developed into a whole line of products for her. She turned out to be quite the business woman.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

Before the great depression hit, her starting to manufacture low cost women's clothes saved the company. Cigar sales dropped to almost nothing but not one lost his job. In fact, she was even hiring people. Truth be told, I was really surprised how those cigar workers took to running sewing machines. Now she's talking about making raingear for the military out of some new fangled product called Vinyl.

MOLLY

(with a slight frown)

Yes. That's all fine and good but she still refuses to acknowledge Vince as her son. He still thinks that Annie is his Aunt. She won't even let us bring him to Milwaukee.

JOHN MACRAE

Just let it go. Maybe someday sh will change her mind about Vince.

MOLLY

I'm you stopped calling him Vinny. Vince sounds much better. Speaking of Vince, do you think it's such a good idea teaching him how shoot all those guns of yours? He's only twelve years old. Fishing and camping are okay but guns?

JOHN MACRAE

(grins)

Well, I do remember that you handled that double barreled shotgun rather well. So you know, Vince has been asking me teach him to drive my Auburn. I told him he has to wait until he's thirteen.

MOLLY

Johnnnn!

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - EVENING

John, Molly and Vince MacRae are listening to President Roosevelt's "Day of infamy Speech".

Vince MacRae is over six foot tall. He's lost his curls and his blond hair is cropped short. Vince is muscular and resembles his grandfather but with more rugged features.

JOHN MACRAE

It sure the hell is a day of infamy. Those fucking Japs!

MOLLY

(frowns)

Boy, your language has sure gotten nasty in your old age.

VINCE

(grins)

Hey Grandpa, are you ready to go back in? I see you still have your old uniform hanging up in the attic. I'm probably gong to have to salute you. They probably will make you a General.

JOHN MACRAE

(shakes his finger)

That's not funny. I hope you don't do anything stupid, my boy. You're not thinking of enlisting? Are you? I forbid it. I've already lost a son. I don't want to lose a grandson too.

Molly gets a worried look on face but says nothing.

VINCE

(looks at John MacRae)

You have nothing to say about this. Besides, I enlisted in the Marine Corp this morning.

JOHN MACRAE

(screams)

What? Are you crazy? You have a degree from the South Dakota School of Mines and with your job at Homestead, you won't get drafted. Why?

VINCE

(in a serious tone)

Why? What's wrong with fighting for my country. I'm not going to sit on my ass at home after what happened yesterday at Pearl Harbor.

(MORE)

VINCE (CONT'D)

I hear the Japs might even try to invade our west coast. Grandpa, I appreciate all you and Grandma have done for me but this has nothing to do with you.

Molly is sobbing. Vince gets up and kisses her on the forehead then leaves the room. John MacRae sinks down in his chair and shakes his head for side to side.

ANNIE

GOD, help us.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Well, he's a MacRae alright!

FADE OUT.

I/E. THE DEADWOOD TRAIN DEPOT - DAY

John and Molly MacRae are saying their goodbyes to Vince. Vince kisses Molly on her forehead. She hugs Vince tightly and kisses him back. John MacRae shakes Vince's hand then hugs him. As Vince steps in the passenger car, John MacRae shakes his finger at Vince.

JOHN MACRAE

Remember what I told you. Never volunteer for anything and keep your mouth shut.

Vince smiles and nods. As the train pulls away, Molly starts crying. John MacRae gives her a long hard hug.

FADE OUT.

I/E. BOOT CAMP HEADQUARTERS CAMP PENDELTON - DAY

Vince is told by his Platoon Sergeant to report to the Company Commander at once.

VINCE

(with a worried look)  
Am I in trouble?

The Platoon Sergeant does not answer. Vince rush to Headquarters. He enters Captain O'Hara's office. Captain O'Hara is a portly man in his late forties with grey hair. Vince stiffly snaps to attention and salutes.



VINCE (CONT'D)  
 (in a nervous tone)  
 Sir, Private MacRae reports to the  
 Company Commander as ordered.

CAPTAIN O'HARA  
 (returns the salute and  
 smiles)  
 Relax, MacRae. Sit down. Would you  
 like a cigarette?

VINCE  
 No thank you, Sir. I don't smoke.

CAPTAIN O'HARA  
 You will by the time this is over  
 with. MacRae, I'll get to the  
 point. The Corp is way short of  
 officers. Hell, they even called up  
 an old World War One Vet like me".

He picks a folder

CAPTAIN O'HARA (CONT'D)  
 I've been getting good reports  
 about you. Your Platoon Sergeant  
 says you display leadership  
 qualities. You have good education.  
 Have you ever considered going to  
 Marine Corps OCS and becoming an  
 officer?

VINCE  
 I thought about it but I'd  
 rather serve as an  
 enlisted man.

CAPTAIN O'HARA  
 Why?

VINCENT  
 (fidgets and squeezes his  
 utility cap)  
 My Grandfather went to West Point  
 and was an officer during the  
 Indian Wars. He told me stories  
 about some of his patrols his  
 patrols and the officers and  
 enlisted men he served with. I'd  
 rather serve an enlisted man.

CAPTAIN O'HARA

(frowns slightly)

Well, that's your choice but let me know if you ever change your mind. There are some good privileges one gets as an officer. By the way, how did you get to be such a good shot? I'm told you are the best shot in Charley company.

VINCE

(smiles)

My Grandfather taught me on his '73 Winchester but that '03 Springfield is a much better rifle. It's got a longer range than the '73 and it's more powerful.

CAPTAIN O'HARA

Yes, they are a fine rifle. I carried one in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Very reliable. It never let me down in those muddy trenches. If the rumors I hear are correct, you guys will soon be getting M-1 Garands. I hear it's a fine rifle. Okay, MacRae. your dismissed.

Vince stand, snaps to attention and salutes Captain O'Hara. Captain O'Hara returns a half hearted salute. Vince does an about face and leaves.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

John MacRae is reading a letter to Molly. Molly is knitting.

JOHN MACRAE

Well, I've got good news and bad news. First, the bad news and it ain't that bad. Vince was wounded on Okinawa, He was hit in his arm, leg and chest. The good news is that He'll be okay. He will be coming home. I guess he's really been pretty lucky. He survived Tarawa and got a purple heart on Guadalcanal. He said he was hit during a suicide attack during the last week of fighting.

(MORE)

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

I heard over 2700 Marines were killed at Okinawa. He finished his military career as a Staff Sergeant with two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. He did his duty. We can be proud of him.

MOLLY

(stops knitting)  
Where is he now?

JOHN MACRAE

He's somewhere in the Pacific on a Hospital ship.

MOLLY

Thank GOD. Are you going to tell Annie?

JOHN MACRAE

I don't see the point. When I saw her last month and told her about Vince getting wounded, she told me to shut up. She didn't want hear it. As I mentioned to you, Annie looked terrible. She got mad when I asked about her health. Something's wrong with that girl.

FADE OUT.

INT. A HOSPITAL SHIP SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC - DAY

Vince is sleeping on a hospital bed. He is unshaven and his blond hair is unkempt. He suddenly wakes. A young nurse hears a commotion behind the curtain. Lieutenant Gina Rosano is young and beautiful with short dark brown, almost black, hair and flashing blue eyes. She slides open the curtain and finds Vince thrashing about as he tries to sit up. Gina quickly restrains Vince and gently lowers him down unto the bed.

VINCE

(snarls)  
Where the fuck am I? Dammit, let go of me.

GINA

(smiles)  
Relax Sergeant, you've been in a coma for five days. You were wounded on Okinawa and you're on a hospital ship.

(MORE)

GINA (CONT'D)

You've had a very serious operation and you have to take it easy. You almost lost a leg and we almost lost you.

VINCE

(snarls)

Who the hell are you, lady?

GINA

(in a stern voice)

I'm Lieutenant Rosano and I'll be taking care of you. Now calm down or I'll have some restraints put on you.

Vince notices Gina's beauty and calms down. He notices the silver bar on Gina's cap.

VINCE

(grinning)

You're pretty GOD damn young to be a First Louie. I'd salute you but my right arm's in this fucking sling. If I gave you a left-handed salute, the Corp would bust me down to a Private.

GINA

(not amused)

Just behave yourself and watch your language.

Vince starts to cough violently. Gina gives him some water to drink and gently holds him until the coughing subsides. Vince looks up into Gina's eyes.

VINCE

(softly)

Look LT, I'm sorry for being such asshole, I mean jerk. Do you have any news on how it's going on Okinawa?. I been on several island battles and Okinawa was the worst of the worst. I've seem a lot of good men die. The Jap's fought to the death. We even lost our commanding General.

Gina points to the newspaper on a small table.

GINA

When you feel better, you can read all about it in the Stars & Stripes. The Japanese surrendered two days ago. For what its worth, their General committed suicide rather than surrender. I'll be back later to check on you. Is there anything you need right now?

Vince press two fingers to his lips.

VINCE

Yeah. Can you get me a cigarette?. I'm dying for a smoke.

GINA

No smoking for you, Sergeant. With that chest wound, a cigarette would probably kill you.

Vince sighs. Gina leaves and closes the curtain.

FADE OUT.

INT. A HOSPITAL SHIP SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC - LATER

Gina slides open the curtain. Vince is clean shaven and his blond hair has been trimmed. He sitting up in bed and reading the Stars & Stripes. Gina is startled by the change in Vince's appearance and demeanor.

GINA

(studies Vince)  
How are you feeling, Sergeant?

VINCE

(in a polite and soft tone)  
Just fine, ma'am. Thank you.

FADE OUT.

INT. NURSE HEADQUARTERS ON THE HOSPITAL SHIP - LATER

Gina approaches the Chief Nurse. The Chief Nurse a full figured and slightly attractive woman in her mid thirties.

GINA

I'm wondering if I could see Sergeant MacRae's dossier?

CHIEF NURSE

(frowns)

Why? Well, I know why. He looks pretty good all cleaned up. Listen, you don't ever want to get involved with a patient, especially an enlisted man and a worse yet, Marine. Those guys are crazy. I'm speaking from experience. I've been burnt and burnt badly.

GINA

(pleading)

Please, Captain?

CHIEF NURSE

Okay. It's your ass.

The Chief Nurse goes to a file cabinet and retrieves a file folder. She hands it to Gina.

CHIEF NURSE (CONT'D)

Here, but remember what I told you. You're too young and too good a kid too get hurt. It's wartime and these guys will say anything to get laid.

GINA

(smiles)

Thank you, Captain.

FADE OUT.

INT. A HOSPITAL SHIP SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC - MORNING

Gina slides open the curtain. Vince is standing with the aid of crutches. An orderly is standing behind Vince to steady him.

GINA

(smiles)

How's the patient doing today.

VINCE

(takes a few steps)

Okay, I guess. They tell me I'll have a limp for the rest of my days. I suppose I should be thankful that I'm still able to walk. I'm going to.

Vince loses his balance and starts to fall. Gina and the Orderly catch Vince and help him get back into the bed. After they get Vince settled, Gina turns to the orderly.

GINA

Thank you for your help, Private.  
I'll take care of the Sergeant.  
There's a Corporal in number 12  
whose dressing needs changing.

The orderly leaves and Gina closes the curtain.

VINCE

Say LT, is there anyway I could get a list of the patients on this ship? I'm a Platoon Sergeant and I want to see if any of my men made it here. A lot of them got wounded in those suicide attacks. Also, any chance of a cigarette yet?

GINA

I'll see what I can do. And No, you can't smoke anything with that chest wound. Sergeant, I'm curious, why did you refuse to go to OCS and turn down two battlefield commissions?

VINCE

(snaps at Gina)  
How the hell did you find that out?  
That's personal stuff.

GINA

(blushes)  
I noticed that on your dossier when we looked for an address to notify your folks. I was just curious. I guess. Sorry if that offends you.

VINCE

(in a calmer tone)  
Look LT, I'm sorry I was rude to you. It's not an excuse but I've been through a lot of shit. It's a long story why I chose to remain a non-com. I wouldn't want to bore you with it.

GINA

(sits on the end of the  
bed and looks into  
Vince's eyes)

(MORE)

GINA (CONT'D)

You wouldn't be boring me. I'd really like to hear your story.

VINCE

My Grandfather went to West Point. He was a Captain in the Calvary during the Indian Wars. He told me stories about some of his patrols and the officers and enlisted men he served with. You ought to hear the story he told me about a certain the Wounded Knee Massa care. I just figured I could do more good as an enlisted man. That's really about it, LT.

GINA

I think I understand. Please call me Gina, Vincent.

VINCE

(chuckles)

Do you want to get me court martialled, Gina? And it's Vince, not Vincent.

GINA

(laughs)

I'll never tell. Vince, I see you're from South Dakota. I've never been out west. I'm from Chicago.

VINCE

Small world. My great Grandfather had a cigar factory in Milwaukee. I hear Chicago is close to Milwaukee. I've never been to either place.

GINA

Your last name is MacRae. Are you Scottish? My parent are immigrants from Italy but I was born in the states.

VINCE

(grins)

Actually, I'm Slovenian. My great grandfather is from Yugoslavia. I don't remember for sure but his last name was something like Macranowich? He changed it to MacRae when he got to Milwaukee.

(MORE)



VINCE (CONT'D)

They tell me he was an educated man  
and spoke several languages. My  
aunt runs his cigar factory.

GINA

That's fascinating.

As they talked, Gina slowly edged closer to Vince. Suddenly  
the curtain opened and the Chief Nurse appeared. She notices  
Gina sitting on the bed, close to Vince.

CHIEF NURSE

(in a harsh tone  
Rosano, we need help in the  
operating room. Now.

Gina gets up and gives Vince a quick kiss on his cheek. Out  
the corner of her eye, the Chief Nurse notices the kiss. On  
the way to the operating room, the Chief Nurse turns to Gina.

CHIEF NURSE (CONT'D)

(in a stern tone)  
You're playing with fire, young  
lady.

FADE OUT.

INT. A HOSPITAL SHIP SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC - MORNING

Gina slides open the curtain. Vince is Vince was eating  
breakfast. He points to a plate of scrambled eggs.

VINCE

(smiles)  
This Navy chow sure beats the C-  
Rats I've been eating for the past  
month. You look sad. What's the  
matter, LT... uh Gina?

GINA

(sits close to Vince)  
I'm here to say goodbye, Vince.  
This ship is filled and going back  
to the states. I'm being  
transferred to a mobile hospital on  
Okinawa.

VINCE

(frowns)  
Ohhh. I was hoping we could get to  
know each other better.

GINA

So was I.

Vince hands Gina a sheet of stationery and looks into her eyes.

VINCE

Gina. I'd like to write you. Could you please put your address down here?

As Gina finishes writing her address, a Sailor enters and salutes Gina.

SAILOR

Ma'am, the launch is getting ready to leave.

GINA

(hands the sheet to Vince)  
Be right there.

VINCE

(holds Gina's hand)  
I, uh I...

Gina puts her finger on Vince's lips. She looks at Vince for a few seconds then embraces him and kisses him hard on his lips. Vince's wounds cause him to wince. Before Vince can respond, Gina leaves hurriedly. After Gina boards the launch, she begins to tear up. The Sailor notices Gina's tears.

SAILOR

Are you okay Ma'am?

Gina looks at the Sailor but does not respond.

FADE OUT.

INT. A HOSPITAL SHIP SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC - LATER

Vince sits at a small desk and writes a letter then studies it intensely. He frowns and wads the letter up. He walks over to a porthole. Vince cracks open the porthole and tosses the letter into the sea. The letter disappears in ocean's waves.

FADE OUT.

I/E. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - DAY

John MacRae is reading a newspaper with the headline "Japanese surrender. Molly is reading a book. John MacRae puts the newspaper down and lights a pipe.

JOHN MACRAE

(blows a puff of smoke)

I'm glad the war's over with but now they say we've entered the nuclear age. That's pretty darn scary if you ask me. Oh, by the way, we have to meet Vince on Saturday at the train depot.

MOLLY

(looks up and smiles)

That's the best news I've heard in a long-long time. That pipe smells good.

Vince's train arrives at the depot. John and Molly MacRae are there to meet him. Vince steps onto the platform and with the aid of a cane and slowly limps over to his grandparents. John and Molly hug their grandson. Molly tears up. John MacRae stares at the ribbons and medals on Vince's uniform.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles)

You did your duty, grandson. We are very proud of you.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE ROSANO HOME IN CHICAGO - DAY

Gina is looking at a registered letter from South Dakota. She grasps it as if to tear it in half. Gina stops and studies the letter intensely. She places the letter in a dresser drawer without opening it then walks into the kitchen. Gina's parents are eating spaghetti. They both have slight accents. A bottle of Chianti in on he table. She sits down and pours herself a glass.

GINA'S MOTHER

(smiles)

Who was that letter from? Must be important if it was registered.

GINA

(takes a sip of wine)

It's from that Marine I took care of in Okinawa.

GINA'S MOTHER  
 (in a curious tone)  
 What did he say?

GINA  
 I don't know. I didn't open it.

GINA'S FATHER  
 (wipes sauce off of his  
 chin)  
 If I were you, I'd toss that letter  
 in the garbage. He's probably just  
 a horny ex Marine looking for some  
 fun. From what I heard, there  
 aren't too many beauties out there  
 in South Dakota.

GINA'S MOTHER  
 (frowns)  
 Oh Vito, you just shush yourself.  
 Gina told me all about him. He  
 sounded like a nice young man. His  
 grandparents sound like good people  
 too.

After supper, Gina goes back into her bedroom and reads the letter.

Super:

Dear Gina,

I hope this letter finds you well. Even though we only knew each other for a few days, you have remained in my thoughts. I miss you and want to see you again. I'm back at my old job with the Home Stake Mine in Lead, South Dakota. I live with my Grandparents and told them all about you. They would love to meet you. Enclosed is a train ticket to Rapid City, South Dakota. Please send me a telegram and I'll meet you at the train depot.

Love, Vince

Gina sits down on the edge of the bed. A tear runs down her cheek.

FADE OUT.

I/E. INSIDE OF A MOVING TRAIN PASSENGER CAR - DAY

Gina is looking out of the passenger car window. She is wearing a tailored two piece Victory suit and her dark hair is longer.

The train passes a sign that read "**Rapid City - 20 miles**". The train pulls into the Rapid City depot. Gina enters the depot and looks for Vince but does not see him. Gina sits down by a window and has a sad look on her face. An Auburn Roadster pulls in and parks. Vince gets out and slowly limps into the depot. Gina breathes a sigh of relief and rushes to Vince. He lets his cane fall to the floor. They embrace. Vince looks into Gina's eyes.

VINCE

Sorry I'm late. We had a bit of snow by us. GOD, I've missed you LT.

GINA

(smiles)

I've missed you too Sergeant.

Gina kisses Vince hard on his lips.

VINCE

My parents are looking forward to meeting you. How long will you be able to stay?

GINA

I have to be back in ten days. I'm going to be stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Station near Chicago. I was thinking of re-enlisting.

Vince frowns slightly then hugs Gina again. They walk to the Auburn. Once inside, they embrace and kiss again. It starts to snow.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

John and Molly MacRae enter the foyer and Vince introduces Gina to his Grandparents.

MOLLY

(gives Gina a hug)

It's so nice to meet you my dear.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles then shakes Gina's hand)

Welcome to South Dakota, Gina. My wife will show you to the guest room and after you get settled, we'll have some dinner.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - MORNING

John MacRae, Molly, Vince and Gina are having breakfast.

GINA

(smiles)

I don't think I've ever had steak for breakfast before.

JOHN MACRAE

(grins)

Gina, we do things a little different here out west. When I was in in the Army, we sometimes had Buffalo for breakfast. Once we had Rattlesnake meat in our eggs. It wasn't bad either. Well, I'm going to excuse myself. I'll be back before noon. Vince, why don't you take Gina for a drive through Spearfish Canyon after I get back?

MOLLY

I'll go with you, Johnny. Our accountant said there were some papers I need to sign for the store.

After his Grandparents leave, Vince takes Gina by the hand and leads her into the parlor. They sit together on a large brown leather couch. Vince holds Gina's hands and looks into her eyes.

VINCE

Do you believe in love at first sight?

Gina is startled by the question, She blushes and before she could answer, Vince replies.

VINCE (CONT'D)

(grins)

Truth be told, I don't believe in love at first sight.

Gina a displays a slight look of disappointment. Vince senses Molly look.

VINCE (CONT'D)

(in serious tone)

I don't believe in love at first sight but I surely believe in love at second sight. Gina, I've fallen in love with you.

Gina's face light up. She looks into Vince's eyes.

GINA

(smiles and a tear runs  
down her cheek)

And I've fallen in love with you,  
Vince. I was so worried that you  
wouldn't love me.

VINCE

(smiles)

Well, your worries are over with.  
I love you, Gina. You know, I might  
have fallen in love with you the  
very first time we met. I want to  
spend the rest of my life with you.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA - AFTERNOON

Molly is waiting in the Auburn Roadster while John MacRae in the telegraph office. He gets in the Auburn Roadster with a grim look on his face and slams the door hard.

MOLLY

(looks at John MacRae)  
Johnny, what's wrong?

JOHN MACRAE

(hands Molly a telegram)  
Here, read this.

Super:

**Dear Father,**

**I've been diagnosed with CJD also known as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. They tell me I have less then three months.**

**It's time I met my son. Please call me at the office.**

**Annie**

MOLLY

(with a deep sigh)

Oh my GOD. We're going to lose  
another child. What on earth did we  
do to deserve this?

John MacRae does not answer Molly's remark.

JOHN MACRAE

Let's drive back to the store. I  
want to call Annie.

John MacRae starts the Auburn Roadster and drives to the  
Molly MacRae Dress Store & Emporium.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE THE MOLLY MACRAE DRESS STORE - LATER

Molly is talking to a clerk. John MacRae picks up a  
telephone.

JOHN MACRAE

Operator, please get me long  
distance, Orchard 2-7633. (waits)  
Hello Mary, this is John MacRae.  
Would you get Annie on the phone  
for me? Thank you.

ANNIE

Hello Father.

JOHN MACRAE

My GOD, Annie. What's happening? I  
got your telegram.

ANNIE

Well now you know why I look like I  
do.

JOHN MACRAE

Your mother and I will be on our  
way to Milwaukee tomorrow.

ANNIE

Father, I want you to bring Vincent  
with you.

JOHN MACRAE

(frowns)

I don't think that's a good idea,  
Annie. It would be best to let  
things go. Vince has a good life  
now. I think he's found someone  
he's going to marry. He still  
thinks your his Aunt.

ANNIE

(sobs)

Please father.

(MORE)



ANNIE (CONT'D)

Many years ago, I begged you to tell Vincent that I was dead. Now I'm begging you to bring him to me. I want to set things straight and die in peace.

JOHN MACRAE

(sighs)

Alright, I'll bring Vince to meet you but he will have to be told about his father. There can be no more secrets in the MacRae family.

ANNIE

Thank you, father. Tell him the whole story.

JOHN MACRAE

Yes. I will. We will all be in Milwaukee a few days. Annie, we love you.

ANNIE

I love you too, father.

John MacRae walks over to Molly. They embrace.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - DAY

Vince and Gina are drinking coffee. There is a bottle of Brandy on the table. They hear John MacRae and Molly arrive. Vince starts to stand. John and Molly enter the dining room. They still have their overcoats on. There is a sad and distraught look on their faces.

JOHN MACRAE

Don't get up.

VINCE

(with concern)

What's wrong Grandfather? Was there bad news in that telegram?

John MacRae helps Molly take her coat then takes his off. He throws them over a chair.

JOHN MACRAE

Yes Grandson. Very bad news. We all have to leave for Milwaukee right now. Your Aunt is very ill.

VINCE

(with a puzzled look)

All of us? Me too? What about Gina?

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at Vince then Gina)

Yes, you too. Gina, The train stops in Chicago before Milwaukee. We can all ride together to Chicago. I'm real sorry about cutting your visit short but my daughter is seriously ill. We all need to go to her. Please forgive me.

GINA

I understand, Sir.

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at Molly)

I have something to go over with Vince. Why don't you and Gina drive into Deadwood. You can show her the dress shop and the emporium. Afterwards, take Gina out for an early supper. Take the Chrysler.

MOLLY

Sure, but I'd rather take the Auburn. That Chrysler drives like a truck.

Molly and Gina leave. John MacRae and Vince go into the study. John MacRae pours himself a glass of whiskey. He offers Vince a drink. Vince refuses.

VINCE

What's up, Grandpa?

John MacRae takes a big swig of whiskey then bites his lower lip.

JOHN MACRAE

(in grim tone)

Vince, I want you to prepare yourself for some very shocking news. Your Aunt Annie is really your Mother and she is dying.

VINCE

(shouts)

What the hell? Are you serious?

JOHN MACRAE

Please. I know this is a shock. Let me tell you the whole story. When your mother worked in Chicago, she got involved with a guy named Carl Rocci. He was with the mob. He wanted my son Vincent to let him use the cigar factory trucks to transport illegal liquor. Vincent refused and went to the FBI. The mob had Vincent killed. It was Carlo Rocci who murdered your uncle. Carlo Rocci is your father and your mother killed him. After Vincent's death, your mother was never the same. She blamed herself for Vincent's death. It was not her fault. Maybe it was wrong, but she did not want you to know about your father. Your mother never married. She took over the cigar business, probably out of guilt. She is dying now and wants to see you.

Vince gets up and pours himself a glass of whiskey, takes a big swig then stands in front of John MacRae.

VINCE

(in a sarcastic tone)

I don't want to see her. After all these years, now she's my mother? What the hell good would it do? And you, Grandfather, you kept this to yourself all these years. I'm really a bastard? Aren't I.

John MacRae's face gets flushed. He stands and slams his fist on the desk.

JOHN MACRAE

(loudly)

You are a MacRae and don't forget it. Sit down. Please. Your mother did what she thought was right. I might have done the same. Vince, I've already lost a daughter and a son. Now I'm going to lose another daughter. You are all I have left. I don't want to lose you too. Please see your Mother. She has suffered enough. Let her die in peace. Please.

VINCE

(sits down)

Alright, Grandfather. I'll meet her but I can't promise anything beyond just meeting her. I'll just say hi and that will be it. She never wanted me as a son.

JOHN MACRAE

Sound's like you hold that against her?

VINCE

(in a curt tone)

Wouldn't you?

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF A MOVING TRAIN PASSENGER CAR - DAY

John and Molly MacRae are silent with sad looks on their faces. Vince and Gina hold hands. They are constantly talking to each other.

INT. CHICAGO UNION STATION - DAY

The train stops. A conductor announces that the train will depart on one hour. John MacRae and Molly depart and get a cup of coffee. John MacRae buys a Chicago Tribune. They sit silently. Vince and Gina are sitting on a nearby bench. A loudspeaker blares "All aboard on track twelve for Milwaukee and Green Bay". John MacRae and Molly get back on the train. Through a window, Molly see's Vince and Gina engage in a lonf and passionate kiss. She turns to John MacRae.

MOLLY

(smiles)

We may get to see great grand children some day.

John MacRae continues to read the Chicago Tribune.

I/E. THE MILWAUKEE TRAIN DEPOT - AFTERNOON

The train pulls into the Milwaukee train depot. John MacRae, Molly and Vince walk out onto the platform. John MacRae looks at he pocket watch.

JOHN MACRAE

Vince, get the luggage. I'm going to call Annie.

John MacRae enters a phone booth and dials.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
Hello Annie. We've just arrived in Milwaukee. We'd all like to come over if it's okay with you.

ANNIE  
I'm very tired. Why don't you stop over tomorrow morning for breakfast. Afterwards, we can all go to the cigar factory. Is Vincent with you?

JOHN MACRAE  
Yes, he is. Do you want me to bring him with me tomorrow morning?

ANNIE  
Please do. Did you tell him the whole story about Carlo and I?

JOHN MACRAE  
The whole story.

John MacRae walks over to Molly and Vince.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)  
Annie s very tired. We're all going over to her place tomorrow for breakfast. Let's go to the Pfister and dump the luggage off. We can go to Karl's for dinner. It's within walking distance. Vince, you'll gets a taste of some good German food.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - MORNING

A taxi parks in a circular driveway on Milwaukee's Lake Drive. The grey stone Tudor is located on the east side of Lake Drive and overlooks Lake Michigan. John MacRae, Molly and Vince enter the foyer. A nurse with grey hair wearing a gingham uniform greets them. John MacRae notices a wheelchair in the foyer. He sighs and turns to the nurse.

JOHN MACRAE  
Ma'am, I'm Annie's and this is my wife. Could you please tell me how's she doing? Oh, and this is our grandson, vince.

NURSE

(in a quiet and somber  
tone)

All I can tell you sir, is that  
Miss MacRae has taken a turn for  
the worse in the past month. Her  
doctor will give the details.

The Nurse lead the MacRae's into a large parlor. Annie is seated in a large leather padded wheelchair. She is looking through a large picture window, watching the waves from Lake Michigan softly roll unto the shore.

NURSE (CONT'D)

(in a soft, friendly tone)

Miss MacRae, your family has  
arrived.

The Nurse gently turns the wheelchair around. John and Molly are shocked to see that Annie had aged way beyond her years and her once dark hair is almost pure white. They both try not to show their surprise at Annie's appearance. Vince has a blank look and staring at the ceiling.

MOLLY

(holding back tears)

Hello Annie.

ANNIE

(softly)

Hello Mother. Hello Father.

John and Molly MacRae both embrace their daughter for almost a full minute then kiss her. Annie looks at Vince.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

(softly)

And this must be Vincent?

Annie extends her hand out to Vince. Vince is speechless and is at a total loss for words. He shakes Annie's hand.

VINCE

Hello.

ANNIE

(with tears in her eyes)

How are you, my Son?

Vince looks at the frail and helpless woman sitting before him. Suddenly all of the feelings of resentment he has for his Mother vanishes in an instant. Vince bends down and embraces Annie. Tears run down his cheek.

VINCE  
I'm just fine, Mother.

ANNIE  
(wipes her tears)  
Oh Vincent, I don't know where to start. I did you a terrible wrong. I want.

VINCE  
(interrupts Annie)  
You don't have to say anything, Mother. Grandpa told me the whole story about my uncle Vincent and my father.

ANNIE  
It's so wonderful to see you all. Betty, my nurse has prepared breakfast for us. She's been wonderful. I don't know what I'd do without her. After we eat, we lets go the cigar factory.

JOHN MACRAE  
Are you up to it, Annie?

ANNIE  
(smiles slightly)  
Yes Father, I still go in every day. Betty goes in with me.

JOHN MACRAE  
I'll call a taxi.

ANNIE  
That won't be necessary, Father. There's another car in the garage that will hold all of us. The keys are in this drawer. Betty will take her own car.

Vince drives everyone over to the cigar factory in Annie's 1940 Cadillac Fleetwood Sedan. The White 1920 Rolls Royce Phantom Limousine remains covered in Annie's garage.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - MORNING

Vince helps Annie into her wheelchair and wheels her into the cigar factory office.

MARY

(smiles)

Good morning Mr. MacRae. Good morning Mrs. MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles)

Mary, how many times do I have to tell you my name is John.

MARY

Yes sir.

Mary glances at Vince.

ANNIE

(points to Vince)

Mary, this is my son, Vincent.

MARY

(with a slightly surprised look)

How do you do, Vincent?

Vince nods

ANNIE

Let me give you all a tour.

They begin the tour in the cigar manufacturing section. Vince takes charge of wheeling Annie in her wheelchair.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

It seems like cigarettes have taken over. Even though cigar sales are low, this part of the business still remains in the black thanks to your uncle Vincent's innovations. Let's go to the second floor?

They all take an elevator to the second floor. They enter the sewing department. The majority of the sewing machine operators are men.

VINCE

(looks around the area)

Wow! This is quite an operation.

ANNIE

(smiles)

This is now the heart of the MacRae business.

(MORE)



ANNIE (CONT'D)

Our line of Police and Fireman uniforms really took off after the war ended. We may have to move to a larger building.

John MacRae bites his lip and looks down. As they tour the sewing area, Annie points to the various sewing and cutting machines. Vince listen intently to Annie and keenly studies the area.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I want you all to come over to my home this evening for dinner. Don't worry. It won't be me cooking. I'll get one of the Chef's from Karl's to make dinner. Why don't you folks relax. Mary will drive me back home.

VINCE

I'd like to stay a bit. Maybe Mary could drop me off at the hotel?

John MacRae nods. Annie smiles

FADE OUT.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE - LATER

John MacRae and Molly are sitting in a doctors office. The doctor walks in. John MacRae stands up and shakes his hand.

JOHN MACRAE

I'm John MacRae, Annie's father. This is Annie's mother. Her nurse said you could fill me in on Annie's condition.

ANNIE'S DOCTOR

(smiles slightly then takes on a somber tone)

Annie was diagnosed nine months ago with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. CFD disease is a very rare, irreversible brain disorder that is ultimately terminal. Normally, a patient will have a least one year after being diagnosed with CJD. Annie has only two months left at the most. I'm sorry.

Molly starts crying. John MacRae give a sad sigh.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

John MacRae, Molly, Vince and Annie are in Annie's dining room eating German food. They are reminiscing mostly about Vincent. Vince is unusually silent.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles)

Did I ever tell you all how I met Molly?

Molly kicks John MacRae's ankle.

MOLLY

(frowns at John MacRae)

That's enough Dear.

VINCE

(breaks his silence)

What's going to happen to the business?

Annie and Molly were startled by Vince's remark.

JOHN MACRAE

(frowns)

Don't worry about it. Everything is being taken care of. Now is not the time to discuss this.

Vince glares slightly at John MacRae then looks away. He looks down and shakes his head from side to side.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

(turns to Annie)

I see you still have the Rolls Royce.

ANNIE

(smiles slightly)

Yes and it still runs. I've been offered a small fortune for it. I just couldn't sell it. I want Vincent to have it. By the way father, do you still have that Auburn Roadster?

JOHN MACRAE

(lights a cigar and grins)  
Yes, and it still runs. It's  
getting late. You've had a big day,  
Annie. It's time for us to go.

ANNIE

(smiles at Vince)  
I've had a wonderful day.

VINCE

(looks at Annie)  
Mother, would you mind if I stayed  
here over night. I'd like to spend  
some time with you. I can sleep on  
a couch.

MOLLY

Vince, you come back to the hotel  
with us. It's been a long day and  
your mother is tired. You can come  
back here tomorrow.

ANNIE

(tries to stand up)  
No. No, mother. I'll be just fine.  
I'd love to have my son stay over.  
Vincent, I have a nice guest  
bedroom. You don't have to sleep on  
any couch.

FADE OUT.

I/E. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - EVENING

MOLLY

I see you didn't tell Vince that  
you will be selling the business.

JOHN MACRAE

No, I didn't tell Vince. I don't  
want another MacRae in that damn  
business. I should have listened to  
you a long time ago and sold it. It  
cost us a son and a daughter. I  
don't want to lose Vince. He's all  
we have.

MOLLY  
(kisses John MacRae's  
cheek)  
Well, finally you listen to me.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Annie and Vince are sitting at the dining room table.

VINCE  
Are you getting tired, Mother?  
Would you like to go to bed now?

ANNIE  
(smiles)  
I'm fine Vincent. Let's go into the  
parlor. Would you please pour me  
bit of Sherry? Help yourself to  
whatever you like.

Vince wheels Annie into the parlor. He pours a glass of  
Sherry for Annie and Scotch for himself. Vince raises his  
glass in a toast.

VINCE  
(smiles)  
Salute.

ANNIE  
(smiles)  
Didn't your grandfather teach you  
how a Slovenian toasts?

VINCE  
Oh, you mean nostrovia? I learned  
salute from my Italian girlfriend.  
We're gonna get married.

ANNIE  
(smiles)  
Nostrovia to you and your girl.  
What's her name?

VINCE  
Gina. Gina Rosano.

Annie takes a sip of Sherry. She begins to tear up.

ANNIE  
(starts sobbing)

(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Vincent, I'm so sorry for what I did to you. I just couldn't bear to tell you that I killed your father. I was so ashamed and I felt responsible for my brothers death. I was falling in love with your father until I found out he killed my brother. I was very foolish. I hope that you can forgive me.

Vince gets up and goes to his mother. He hugs her.

VINCE

That's okay, mother. Grandpa told me the whole story.

ANNIE

(wipes her tears)  
Thank you, son.

VINCE

(sits down)  
Mother, what's going to happen to the business?

ANNIE

(slightly startled)  
Didn't your Grandfather tell you? We're going to sell it.

VINCE

(in a serious tone)  
Mother, I want to run the business.

ANNIE

(sighs)  
You will have to discuss this with your Grandfather. I don't think he will permit it. Oh Vincent, how I wish I could turn the clock back.

FADE OUT.

I/E. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - MORNING

Annie and Vince are having breakfast in the dining room.

VINCE

(looks at his watch)  
I'm going to speak to my grandfather this morning about running the family business. I better call a taxi.

ANNIE

(smiles)

Vincent, take the Rolls Royce. It will start. I have neighbor start it once a week and drive it around for a bit. He want's to buy it from me but it's yours now. The keys are in that desk drawer.

Vince drives back to the Pfister hotel on Lincoln Memorial Drive. He stops for a minute and watches Lake Michigan's waves roll onto the shores of Bradford Beach.

FADE OUT.

INT. DINING ROOM AT THE PFISTER HOTEL - LATER

John and Molly MacRae are eating breakfast. Vince joins them.

JOHN MACRAE

So how did it go last night with your mother?

VINCE

(ignores the question)

I understand you are selling the family business.

JOHN MACRAE

Yes. Why do you ask?

VINCE

I don't want you to sell it. I want to run it.

JOHN MACRAE

(in a loud voice)

No. It's out the question. I absolutely forbid it.

MOLLY

(looks at John MacRae)

Shush, People are looking at us.

VINCE

(in a calm tone)

Why is it out of the question, grandfather?

JOHN MACRAE

Why in God's name would you want to run a business you know nothing about?

VINCE  
(with a sly grin)  
Because I'm a MacRae.

JOHN MACRAE  
I'll need more than that, grandson.  
That cursed business has already  
cost me son and a daughter. I don't  
want to lose you.

VINCE  
You asked me how it went with my  
mother last night. Grandfather, I  
now know the terrible burden my  
mother has carried through the  
years. I understand why she did  
what she did. I probably would have  
done exactly the same thing. She  
told me last night that she wishes  
that she could have turned the  
clock back. I want her to die in  
peace.

JOHN MACRAE  
(pauses)  
Let me think about this.

VINCE  
Please do.

Vince leaves.

MOLLY  
(frowns)  
I hope you're not going to let our  
Grandson get involved in the  
business.

JOHN MACRAE  
(shakes his head from side  
to side)  
I don't know what the hell to do.  
The kid does have a point. Annie's  
not had a good life. Maybe this  
will give her some peace.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM IN PFISTER - EVENING

Vince is in his hotel room on the phone

VINCE

Hello Gina. This is Vince. How are you, dear? I miss you.

GINA

Just fine. I miss you too.

VINCE

When I see you. I have a lot of news for you. Could I come over this weekend? I'm still in Milwaukee.

GINA

That would be great. I sure hope it's all good news.

VINCE

Well it's a mix of good and bad news. I found out that my Aunt Annie is really my mother. It's a long story and I'll tell you more when I see you. I'm moving to Milwaukee and I'll be running the family business. The bad news is that my mother is vey sick and she won't be with us much longer.

GINA

Oh my goodness.

VINCE

I've been spending my days with my mother and grandfather learning the cigar and clothing business. I'm looking forward to rolling up my sleeves and jumping in.

GINA

I'm sure you will do just fine.

VINCE

I love you, LT.

GINA

I love you too, Sergeant.

FADE OUT.

INT. DINING ROOM AT THE PFISTER HOTEL - MORNING

John MacRae, Molly and Vince are having breakfast.



JOHN MACRAE

(smiles at Vince)

Well, I must say you're doing a good job of learning the business. We're all very impressed. I'm really happy, now, that you asked to run the business.

John MacRae takes a sip of coffee.

JOHN MACRAE (CONT'D)

Vince, why don't you send a wire to the Homestake Mine and give them your notice. I see no reason for you to go back to South Dakota. When I get home, I'll tell them the reason why you had to leave on such short notice.

VINCE

(smiles)

Sounds good, Grandfather. Would you mind if I went to Chicago for a few days? I want to see Gina. There's a train that goes there every day.

JOHN MACRAE

Take the Cadillac. I wouldn't drive that Roll's to Chicago.

VINCE

Thank you grandpa. I'm going pickup mother now.

Vince leaves.

JOHN MACRAE

(looks at Molly with a sly grin)

Other than saying he's a MacRae, There may be another reason Vince wants to run the business. Might be that cute little Italian girl who lives in Chicago?

MOLLY

(smiles)

You might be right but so what? Let's let things stay as they are. Annie seems at peace with herself and I'm sure Vince and Gina will be happy together.

JOHN MACRAE

(smiles)

You are a wise woman, my dear.

FADE OUT.

I/E. THE ROSANO HOME IN CHICAGO - DAY

Vince drives the Cadillac to Chicago's near west side also known as Little Italy. Gina's parents live in a brown brick bungalow just off of Taylor street. Gina meet Vince in a screened front porch. They embrace then kiss passionately. Gina's mother is peeking through the curtains. She turns to Gina's father.

GINA'S MOTHER

(smiles)

Oh my, what a handsome young man.

Gina's father says nothing. Gina and Vince enter. Gina introduces Vince to her parents. Gina's mother shakes Vince's hand. Gina's father nods at Vince but does not shake hands.

GINA

(tugs on Vince's arm)

Vince will be staying with us for a few days. He can use the guest room.

Gina's father softly sighs, Gina frowns at her father.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE ROSANO HOME IN CHICAGO - EVENING

Vince, Gina and her parents are eating dinner. During dinner, Gina, her mother and Vince converse. Gina's father is quiet.

GINA

(looks at Vince)

How do you like the Ravioli? Mom makes the sauce from scratch.

VINCE

(wipes his chin)

Oh, it's really good. Not many Italian restaurants in Deadwood.

GINA'S MOTHER

Vince, have some more. I hear you will be moving to Milwaukee?

VINCE

Yes. I resigned my position at the Homestead Mine in South Dakota.

GINA'S FATHER

(perks up)

So what did you do at the mine?

VINCE

I was a supervisor in one of the shafts and on the safety committee.

GINA'S FATHER

I used to work in a sulfur mine in Sicily before I came over. The working conditions were terrible. I lost a lot of good friends.

Gina's father warm's up to Vince. They converse about mining.

GINA'S FATHER (CONT'D)

(looks at Vince)

Dinners over. Let's you and go on the porch and have us some Anisette and a cigar.

VINCE

Sounds good, Sir.

Vince and Gina's father go into the porch. They drink Anisette and smoke cigars while conversing about mining.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE ROSANO HOME IN CHICAGO - LATER

Vince and Gina go into the porch area. Her parents are sitting in the living room. Gina's mother stands up.

GINA'S FATHER

Now don't go peeking out the window again. You know, I kinda like that Vince guy. He's okay in my book.

Vince and Gina sit on a wicker live seat.

VINCE

I was worried that your father wouldn't approve of me.

GINA

(laughs)

Oh, he likes you. I can tell. He doesn't drink Anisette with just anyone. Dad used to be a policeman and he has a suspicious nature.

VINCE

(holds Gina's hand)

I'm not going to beat around the bush. I know you are concerned about living in South Dakota. We can live together in Milwaukee. Gina, I love you with all my heart. Will you marry me?

GINA

(her eyes light up)

Yes, Vince. Yes, but we will have to wait until my tour of duty is up. It's only for three months.

VINCE

(embraces Gina)

I'd wait a hundred years for you.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE CIGAR FACTORY - DAY

Vince is wheeling Annie around in the sewing department. She slowly points to each sewing machine as they pass by. They stop by a cutting table. Annie unrolls a drawing and shows it to Vince. She begins to cough and drops the drawing.

VINCE

(looks at his watch)

Mother, you look tired. I think that's enough for today. I'm going to take you home now.

ANNIE

(in a weak voice)

Okay, son.

Vince wheels Annie out to the Cadillac and helps her get inside.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Vince is on the phone.

VINCE

Grandfather, you and grandma better come over right now. Mom does not look good. Her nurse called the doctor and he's on his way over.

JOHN MACRAE

We're on our way.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - LATER

John MacRae, Molly and Vince are standing outside of Annie's bedroom. The doctor come out. He has a grim look on his face.

ANNIE'S DOCTOR

I'm sorry. There's nothing more that can be done anymore. It will be a matter of a few hours. You can go in now.

John MacRae, Molly and Vince enter Annie's bedroom. Her eyes are closed. They gather around her bedside. Shortly thereafter, Annie opens her eyes.

ANNIE

(with a faint smile and in a weak voice)

Oh mother, father. Oh my sweet Vincent.

Vince holds Annie's hand. Annie looks at Vince then closes her eyes and passes away. Vince kisses Annie's forehead. Molly starts sobbing. John MacRae embraces Molly and hugs her tightly.

FADE OUT.

EXT. ON THE STEPS OF OUR LADY OF POMPEII CHURCH IN CHICAGO - DAY

Vince and Gina come out of the church and stand at the top of the church steps. Gina is wearing a beaded wedding gown. Vince is wearing a black tuxedo. John MacRae and Molly are standing next to Gina's parents. The crowd throws rice on the couple. Some the crowd yells "Chin Don". John MacRae turns to Gina's father.

JOHN MACRAE

(smile's)

Vito, what the hell does Chin Don mean?

GINA'S FATHER

(laughs)

In Italian, it means "health for a hundred years". Later on I'm going to teach you and Molly how to do the Tarantella.

JOHN MACRAE

(grins)

I heard of that. Well, I'll teach you how to polka.

John MacRae and Gina's father shake hands.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - EVENING

John MacRae and Molly are eating dinner. A bottle of red wine is on the table.

MOLLY

That's a good wine. What kind is it?

JOHN MACRAE

It's Chianti. Vito sent me a case of it.

Vince fills Molly's glass.

Vince called me today. He say's the manufacturing of uniforms is much more interesting than making cigars. He's became interested in plastics and designed a line of light weight vinyl raincoats. Vince also went on to develop a line of inflatable products including life preserver's. When plastic buttons became scarce, he bought an infection molding press and manufactured the buttons himself. He's really found his niche.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Vince and Gina are relaxing in the living room.

GINA

It was so nice of your mother to  
will your home. I just love the  
view.

VINCE

(smiles)  
I'm so glad you are happy here.

GINA

So how are things going at the  
factory?

VINCE

I'm thinking of manufacturing  
disposable medical products.  
They've come out a new way of  
sealing vinyl with high frequency  
radio waves. Also, I'm going to  
have to look for someone to help  
out in the design department. Betty  
is pregnant and will be leaving us  
in six months.

GINA

(her eyes light up)  
What about me? I've been taking  
courses at the Layton School.  
You've seen my paintings and you  
know I like to dress in fashion. I  
could learn a lot from your  
grandmother.

VINCE

(smiles)  
You know, that's not a bad idea.  
I'm sure my grandma would be happy  
to work with you.

Gina get's up and give Vince a long passionate kiss.

GINA

(smiles)  
Thank you, sweetie.

Vince stands up. He hugs Gina and pats her on her behind.

VINCE

(grins)  
Lets go upstairs.

GINA  
 (holds Vince's hands)  
 Okay, but first I've got something  
 to tell you.

VINCE  
 (with a concerned look)  
 What is it?

GINA  
 (smiles)  
 Sergeant MacRae, you're going to be  
 father.

FADE OUT.

INT. ST. LUKES HOSPITAL MATERNITY WARD - DAY

SUPER: June 24, 1947

Molly is in a hospital bed holding a newborn infant. The  
 infant dark brown-almost-almost black hair and blue eyes.  
 Molly hands the infant to Vince.

GINA  
 (smiling)  
 Here's your new son, Sergeant. What  
 shall we call him?

VINCE  
 How about John Vincent MacRae?

MOLLY  
 That's fine with me. I don't think  
 Vito MacRae sounds quite right.

VINCE  
 Did they say how long you will be  
 here?

GINA  
 (frowns)  
 For at least a week. They have a  
 policy that all new mothers must  
 stay in bed for five days. Can you  
 believe that? Did you call your  
 grandparents?

VINCE  
 Yes. They are all excited. My  
 grandfather said they will be in  
 Milwaukee in two weeks. He sounded  
 different, sort of tired like.



GINA

That will be perfect. I'll have  
some time to get organized.

Johnny (John Vincent MacRae) begins to cry loudly. Vince  
hands Johnny back to Gina and smells his hands.

VINCE

Whew! I think he did his business.

GINA

(laughs)  
Well, you better get used to it.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER: Two weeks later

Vince, Gina and Johnny are in the parlor. Gina is giving  
Johnny a bottle. Vince is on the phone. He finishes talking  
and goes over to Gina. Vince has a grim look on his face.

GINA

Vince, what's wrong?

VINCE

(frowns)  
That was my grandma. They won't be  
coming to Milwaukee. My grandfather  
just had a real bad stroke. He's in  
a hospital in Deadwood.

GINA

Oh my GOD!

VINCE

My grandma said he was given the  
last rites. I want to see him. Do  
you think little Johnny can travel.  
I'd like my grandfather to see him.

GINA

I think that would be okay but  
let's travel in a private railway  
coach.

VINCE

(kisses Gina on her  
forehead)

(MORE)

VINCE (CONT'D)  
 Thank you dear.  
 I'll go make the arrangements.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM IN ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, DEADWOOD - DAY

John MacRae is lying on a hospital bed. He is dozing and his eyes open and close. Molly is sitting next to him. Vince and Gina enter the room. Vince is carrying Johnny. Molly looks at Vince.

MOLLY  
 (holds John MacRae's hand)  
 Johnny, there's someone here to see  
 you.

Vince stands beside John MacRae and holds Johnny up.

VINCE  
 Hello grandfather. This is your  
 great grandson, John. We named him  
 after you.

John MacRae is unable to speak but his eyes open wider and he blinks several times and a faint smile appears on his face. Vince hands Johnny to his grandmother. Molly gently hugs Johnny then kisses him. Johnny is sound asleep.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM IN ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, DEADWOOD - LATER

Vince, Gina and Molly are gathered around John MacRae. His eyes are closed and his breathing is labored. Annie is holding his hands. Suddenly John MacRae opens his eyes and looks at Molly. He tries to speak but is unable and mouths "I love you". John MacRae closed his eyes and passes away.

MOLLY  
 (kisses John MacRae's  
 forehead)  
 Goodbye Johnny.

Molly turns to Vince and Gina.

MOLLY (CONT'D)  
 (with a faint smile)  
 He had a good life. I'm so happy he  
 was able to see his great grandson.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE JOHN AND MOLLY MACRAE DINING ROOM - MORNING

Molly, Vince and Gina are eating breakfast. Molly is holding Johnny.

MOLLY

I just can't believe he's gone. I don't know what I'm going to do without him.

VINCE

(smiles)

I know. Grandma, why don't you come back with us to Milwaukee. We have plenty of room and you could help us take care of little Johnny.

GINA

(enthusiastically)

Please say yes.

MOLLY

(taken by surprise)

Are you sure? I don't want to be a burden on anybody.

GINA

(takes Molly's hand)

You wouldn't be a burden. You would be a big help to us.

Johnny wakes up and starts to cry. Molly comforts Johnny and he stop[s crying. Molly kisses him and smiles.

FADE OUT.

I/E. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - DAY

A six year old Johnny is sitting on the floor with Molly. They are building a house out of Lincoln Log. Johnny looking at Molly with admiration.

A ten year old Johnny is sitting on a bench outside of Leon's Custard stand. They are both eating Ice Cream cones.

A fifteen year old Johnny is skiing down a black diamond run at Alpine Valley Resort.

A seventeen year old Johnny is giving Molly a ride in a 1953 Ford convertible. The top is down. Molly is smiling.

At eighteen years of age, Johnny has become a handsome young man, over six foot tall, with dark hair and blue eyes.

Wearing a cap and gown, Johnny is receiving his high school diploma from Boy's Technical High School. Vince, Molly, Gina and her parents are in the audience.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE - LATER

Vince, Molly, Gina and her parents are seated in a small private dining room. Johnny enters. He puts his diploma on the table and sits.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

Sorry I'm late. We had to turn our gowns in.

GINA'S FATHER

(smiles)

Congratulations, grandson. We're all very proud of you. I heard you made the upper third of your class.

Gina's father turns to Vince and points to a menu.

GINA'S FATHER (CONT'D)

What do you recommend, Vince?

VINCE

Try the Sauerbraten or Pork Shank.

The group engages in a lively conversation throughout the meal.

GINA'S FATHER

(looks at Johnny)

So what are you going to do now, Johnny?

Johnny starts to respond.

VINCE

(interrupts Johnny)

He's going to work again in the plastics department this summer then we'll get him enrolled at the Milwaukee School of Engineering. We can use a good engineer and someday he'll be taking over the business.

JOHNNY

Oh father. I'm sorry but I won't be around for that.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I joined the Marine Corps. I'm  
leaving for boot camp in two weeks.

VINCE

(in a loud voice)

What? Did I hear right? Goddammit.  
What the hell's wrong with you?  
Have you lost your mind?

Johnny starts to stand up. Gina motions for him to sit down.

GINA

(in a firm voice)

Johnny, please sit. Vince, you  
quiet down. We will continue this  
conversation at home, period.

VINCE

Okay. Okay. I'm Sorry. Let's order  
dessert.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - LATER

Vince, Gina and Johnny are sitting in he parlor.

VINCE

(sighs)

John, why have you done this to us?  
I had big plans for you. Someday  
you'd be running the business. Now  
you might end up in Vietnam. People  
are getting killed over there.

JOHNNY

I'm really not interested in  
running your company or even going  
to college. I want to do my own  
thing. When I worked in the  
plastics department last summer,  
some of your workers called me  
'daddy's little boy". I don't need  
that kind of shit.

VINCE

But why join the Marines?

JOHNNY

(shakes his head)

I don't know. It just seemed like  
the thing to do. I might even make  
a career out of it.

VINCE

Oh GOD.

FADE OUT.

EXT. GUARD POST AT THE PHU BAI BASE IN VIETNAM - DAY

SUPER: January 30, 1968 Phu Bai Combat Base - Vietnam

Johnny is reading a letter. A tear runs down his cheek.

MARINE CORPORAL

What's wrong, Sarge? Bad news from home?

JOHNNY

(folds the letter)  
Yeah. My grandma died.

MARINE CORPORAL

Sorry to hear that.

JOHNNY

She lived to be over a hundred. I loved that old gal.

Gunfire and explosions begin to sound.

MARINE CORPORAL

Shit! Here they come.

FADE OUT.

INT. ARMY HOSPITAL IN VIETNAM - DAY

Johnny is lying in a hospital bed. A Surgeon is examining his dressings.

SURGEON

(cheerfully)  
How are you feeling today, Sergeant?

JOHNNY

(in a raspy voice)  
Okay, but I can't feel my leg.

SURGEON

(puts his hand on Johnny's shoulder)  
We had to amputate your left leg below the knee.

JOHNNY

(with a faint smile)

Well, if that's the worst thing that happens to me today, then it ain't too bad of a day. Some of my buddies were weren't that lucky.

SURGEON

I hope you'll feel that way when the morphine wears off. You will be going to Japan for some rehabilitation then back to the states.

FADE OUT.

INT. ARMY REHABILITATION HOSPITAL IN JAPAN - DAY

Johnny, using crutches, is slowly walking around the hospital. Some of the patients are missing limbs and some are lying motionless in bed and connecting to various medical devices. A tear runs down his cheek.

JOHNNY

(under his breath)

I guess I'm pretty lucky.

FADE OUT.

INT. SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

Johnny and a fellow Marine named Jim are walking through the terminal. Both are in uniform. Johnny is on crutches. Jim is missing his right arm. They walk past a group of protesters. The protesters are repeatedly shouting "Baby Killers". One of the protesters spits on Jim and Johnny. Using his left arm, Jim rips off his Purple Heart and flings it at the protester.

JIM

(shouts)

Here, stick this up your ass, you asshole.

A man in seventies looks at the protester.

MAN IN AIRPORT

That was a Purple Heart you son of a bitch.

JOHNNY

(looks at Jim)

They have a right to voice their opinions but why do those bastards have to spit on us? We didn't start the damn war,

JIM

(shakes his head)

I don't know, Johnny. I just don't know.

FADE OUT.

INT. MILWAUKEE MITCHELL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

A loud speaker blares "Flight 84 from Chicago arriving at gate number nine". Vince and Gina watch a one legged Marine on crutches slowly walking towards them. Gina holds back her tears. Vince and Gina embrace Johnny.

VINCE

(smiles)

Welcome home, son.

FADE OUT.

INT. MASON STREET GRILL - LATER

Vince, Gina and Johnny are having dinner. Vince and Gina converse. Vince is somber and quiet. He chugs a beer.

GINA

(looks at Johnny with a concerned look)

Johnny, are you okay? You're so quiet.

JOHNNY

(forces a smile)

I'm okay mother. It's just that all of those protesters at the airports really pissed me off.

VINCE

How's your steak, son?

JOHNNY

(smiles)

This is the first good steak I've had in a long time.



VINCE

(looks at Johnny)

Son, I know it's probably too early to discuss this but have you given any thought to what you're going to do now? My offer still stands about paying for your college education. If you don't want to go to college, you can have a decent position in our plastics division. I can always use another good salesman.

JOHNNY

(sighs)

I don't really know, father. I haven't given it much thought.

Gina watches Johnny take a big swig of beer. She frowns slightly.

FADE OUT.

EXT. BRADFORD BEACH ON LAKE MICHIGAN - DAY

Johnny is sitting on a picnic table drinking a can of Pabst Blue Ribbon beer. Several empty cans are on the ground. He lights a cigarette and stares at the waves rolling up onto the beach. He finishes the cigarette. Johnny walks over to a red 1896 Mustang. He gets in and drives away

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAUKEE - EVENING

Vince, Gina and Johnny are watching television. Walter Cronkite is reporting on the war in Vietnam. Vince is reading the Milwaukee Journal. Gina is reading a book, Johnny is listening intently to Walter Cronkite and drinking a PBR. Walter Cronkite starts talking about conflict between Republicans and Democrats.

VINCE

(looks up)

Those GOD damn politicians.

JOHNNY

(takes a swig of beer)

So, what's the big difference between Republicans and Democrats?

VINCE

(frowns)

Well, they say the Democrats are for the working man and the Republicans are for the business man. All they really care about is keeping their jobs.

JOHNNY

So what are you, Pop?

VINCE

I'm a God damned independent.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE MILWAUKEE ARENA - EVENING

The marquee says "Milwaukee bucks - L.A. Lakers". Johnny and Eddie are approaching the entrance. Senator Pernell is greeting people and shaking hands. He shakes Eddie's hand.

SENATOR PERNELL

(smiles)

Hello young man. I'm Edward Pernell, your Wisconsin Senator. How are you tonight?

EDDIE

(holds on to the Senator's hand)

How do you feel about gun control?

SENATOR PERNELL

(smiles)

Well, do you feel about it?

JOHNNY

(looks the Senator in the eye)

Senator, he asked you how you feel about it.

SENATOR PERNELL

(stammers)

Well now....

Senator Pernell gives a thirty second rambling reply that makes no sense. Eddie releases his grip. Johnny and Eddie shake their heads in disgust and walk away.

JOHNNY

Well, that was a bullshit answer.

EDDIE

Yeah, he could have just as well  
been speaking in Chinese or  
Russian.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF A MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY - DAY

Johnny is seated at a table reading a book entitled "Modern American Politics". On the table are books entitled "History of the Democratic Party" and "Republican Policies". Johnny periodically write notes on a pad.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE -  
EVENING

Vince, Gina and Johnny are having dinner.

VINCE

Johnny, have you given any more  
thought about your future? You've  
been doing a lot of reading lately.

GINA

(frowns slightly)  
And a lot of beer drinking too.  
Let's talk about this another time  
and enjoy our meal, Vince.

JOHNNY

(grins and takes a swig of  
beer)  
That' okay, Mother. Yes father, I  
have. Does your offer still stand  
to pay for my tuition?

VINCE

(smiles)  
Great. Let's stop by the Milwaukee  
School of Engineering tomorrow and  
see what courses are available.

JOHNNY

I plan on going to the University  
of Colorado in Boulder.

VINCE

(frowns)

What's the hell's wrong with the Milwaukee School of Engineering? They have one of the best engineering schools in the country.

JOHNNY

(bites his lip and looks down)

I'm not going to be an engineer. I'm going to major in Political Science and History. Boulder has an excellent Political Science program.

VINCE

(in a loud tone)

Oh that's just great. What are you going to do? Run for President?

GINA

(tugs at Vince's sleeve)

Vince, people are looking at you.

VINCE

(points finger at Johnny)

Son, you're on your own on this one. You better think this over carefully. This isn't a question of money but a matter of principle. I'm not going to waste my money on some useless education.

GINA

(smiles)

We'll see about that, my dear. Say, Johnny, would you mind driving me to Illinois tomorrow?

JOHNNY

I'd like to but I'm getting fitting for my prosthesis tomorrow. I have to be at the VA at nine in the morning.

FADE OUT.

EXT. DRIVEWAY BY ANNIE'S HOME - MORNING

Johnny hooks up a small U-Haul trailer to the Red 1969 Mustang. He loads clothing, books and personal items into the trailer. Gina comes outside and kisses Johnny goodbye.

Vince is peering through a window as Johnny pulls away. Johnny drives and then notices a sign that says "Boulder City Limits - Elevation 5430 feet". He smiles and pulls up to a small apartment complex.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Vince is watching the Green Bay Packers on Television. Gina is reading a letter. Green Bay scores a touchdown.

VINCE

(yells)

Alright, way to go.

GINA

Johnny says he's studying international politics and political theory. Did you know he had a 3.5 grade point average in his first semester.

VINCE

(frowns)

We'll see how long lasts.

GINA

Oh, knock it off, Vince. Johnny says he's sharing his apartment with a Vietnam vet from California. This kid also lost a leg in Vietnam. Say, why don't we visit Johnny at Christmas time?

VINCE

(frowns)

Shit. Another fumble.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE COLLEGE CLUB PUB - AFTERNOON

Johnny is sharing a pitcher of beer with Ralph, a tall, slender and wiry young man with long blond hair.

JOHNNY

(takes a swig of beer)

I'd sure like to meet a nice foxy chick to go out with. All of the one's I've bumped into so far are stuck up as hell.

RALPH

(grins)

Join the ski club. I did and I've met a couple of real beauties there.

JOHNNY

(laughs)

You gotta be shitting me. You can't ski on one leg.

RALPH

(in a serious tone)

The hell you can't. I started skiing when I was three years old at Mammoth Mountain. I was on my high school ski team and damn good too. In Giant Slalom, I placed first almost every time. I even thought about trying out for the Olympics. Skiing is a part of me. There are definitely ways to ski with one leg.

JOHNNY

(apologetically)

Wow! Ralph, I'm sorry for that dumb-ass remark. I've heard of Mammoth Mountain. You know, I did belong to my high school ski club. I used to ski a lot in Wisconsin but I've never skied out west. I do miss skiing.

RALPH

Tell you what, my friend, there's a ski area called Eldora a half hour from here. I'm going there on Sunday. Why don't you come with me?

JOHNNY

I don't know, Ralph. I can't ski on just one leg.

RALPH

(smiles)

Now don't be such a big pussy. At least give it a shot. I'll drive. Those wide ovals on your Mustang won't do the job out here. Go to the Slalom Ski Shop on south Main and ask for skip. Tell him I sent you and you want to rent a boot. Okay?

JOHNNY  
Okay. I'll give it a shot.

RALPH  
(smiles and bumps Johnny's  
glass)  
Good.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE ELDORA MOUNTAIN SKI AREA - DAY

The sun is shining brightly. Johnny and Ralph are at the base of a beginner run named "Tenderfoot". Ralph is helping Johnny put his ski equipment on. Johnny points to sign that says "Tenderfoot".

JOHNNY  
(laughs)  
Well, you've certainly have me on  
the right run.

RALPH  
(smiles)  
Okay, we're going to start you out  
on what's called "The three rack  
method". Here's how it works.  
You're going to ski on one ski and  
each ski pole with have an  
outrigger on it. After you get this  
method down pat, we'll get you  
filled with a special adapter for  
your prosthesis and you'll be able  
to ski on two skis.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE ELDORA MOUNTAIN SKI AREA

Johnny and Ralph are skiing down the Tenderfoot run. Johnny is making slow controlled turns. Midway down, they stop on the side of the run.

JOHNNY  
(smiles)  
Wow! Never in my wildest dreams did  
I ever think I'd be skiing again. I  
can't thank you enough, Ralph.

RALPH

You're doing great old buddy. It won't be long and you'll be skiing black diamond mogul runs. Let's take a break an then I'll ski a mogul run for you.

They ski down to the base. Johnny sits on bench. Ralph takes a chairlift up. He skis a black diamond run with moguls. Johnny watches Ralph skillfully traverses the moguls. Ralph joins Johnny and they drink a beer together.

JOHNNY

Man. You skied that better than most guys with two legs.

RALPH

(smiles)

You will too. All you have to do is ski in control and know when to plant your pole. Say, how about joining the ski club next week?

JOHNNY

(nods)

Sounds good.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Vince is watching Television. Gina is reading a letter.

VINCE

(looks at Gina)

So what does the kid say now.

GINA

Johnny still has a 3.5 grade point average. Oh, he said he's joined a ski club.

VINCE

(frowns)

That kid's nuts.

GINA

I'm sick of hearing this. I heard you were pretty independent yourself. Why can't you accept him for who is.



VINCE

Well, maybe your right, my dear. I remember my grandfather getting really pissed off when I joined the Marines. The kid's got some MacRae blood in him.

Gina sighs.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE VAIL MOUNTAIN SKI AREA - DAY

The sun shining brightly. Johnny is skiing down a double black diamond run called "Highline". He is slowly skiing deep moguls making precise controlled turns. The skier in front of him takes a hard fall. Rachel is a very pretty twenty year old blond with emerald green eyes. She is wearing a well fitted red one piece Freedom suit. Johnny skis along side of her and stops. He helps her stand back up.

JOHNNY

Are you okay?

RACHEL

(brushes snow off)

I'm okay. I'm just not used to skiing moguls like these.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

You're trying too hard. You gotta slow down a bit. Here, watch me. Don't forget to plant a pole before each turn.

Johnny makes a dozen turns then stops and looks uphill. He motions for the Rachel to follow. Rachel slowly skis towards Johnny and stops next to him.

RACHEL

(smiles)

Wow, that felt a lot better.

JOHNNY

May I make a suggestion? There's a run to the left called "Whiskey Jack". It's got much smaller moguls and parts of it are groomed.

RACHEL

Whiskey Jack. I'll have to try it but I need to take a break.

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Whiskey Jack. That run wore me out.  
Thank you for the tips, sir.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

My name's John. My dad's name was  
Sir. I need a break too. Could I  
buy you a hot chocolate?

RACHEL

That sounds good. Oh, my name's  
Rachel.

Johnny and Rachel converse ride a chairlift back to the  
summit.

JOHNNY

So what brings you to Vail?

RACHEL

I'm with our ski club. I go to  
Naropa College in boulder.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

Well it's a small world. I'm  
studying political science at the  
University of Colorado in Boulder.  
I'm from Milwaukee.

RACHEL

My major is Environmental Science.  
I'm from Colorado.

Johnny and Rachel reach the top and disembark the chairlift.  
They ski over to the Two Elk's Lodge and remove their ski's.  
Johnny limps slightly as they enter the lodge. They get a hot  
chocolate and sit down.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Are you okay? You seem to be  
limping a bit.

JOHNNY

(reluctantly)

I'm okay. I lost a leg in Vietnam  
and have to ski with a special  
prosthesis. It's good for skiing  
but lousy for walking.

RACHEL

(her eyes widen)

My goodness.

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)  
 You ski better than some of the ski  
 instructor's I've had.

Johnny and Rachel finish their hot chocolate.

JOHNNY  
 Are you up to trying "Whiskey  
 Jack"?

RACHEL  
 (smiles)  
 Sounds good.

Johnny And Rachel proceed to the "Whiskey Jack" ski run. They  
 make two runs together. At the bottom of "Whiskey Jack",  
 Rachel looks at the clock on the lift operator's shack.

RACHEL (CONT'D)  
 Oh darn, I need to run. I have to  
 meet my girlfriends at three  
 o'clock. It was nice meeting you,  
 John. Thanks for the lessons.

Rachel shakes Johnny's hand. Johnny holds on to her hand.

JOHNNY  
 (looks into Rachel's eyes)  
 Rachel, would you have dinner with  
 me sometime?

RACHEL  
 (with a slight bit of  
 hesitation)  
 Johnny, I really enjoyed meeting  
 you today but I'm seeing someone.  
 We'll be getting engaged.

Rachel slowly moves her hand away from Johnny's grip.

JOHNNY  
 (tries to hide  
 disappointment)  
 Well, you take care now, Rachel.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE COLLEGE CLUB PUB - AFTERNOON

Johnny and Ralph are enjoying a pitcher of beer.

RALPH

(takes a swig of beer)  
So how was Vail? Did you get to ski Highline or Blue Ox? I couldn't make the trip. My parents were in town.

JOHNNY

OH, I met a real cutie out there but she was taken. She said she was getting engaged. In fact, I met her on Highline.

RALPH

We'll be graduating in June. I'm gonna be going back to California. I'll be working with my old man in the family business.

JOHNNY

(takes a swig of beer)  
Yeah, my dad wanted me to work for him. He was really pissed when I came here for their political science program. He's loosening up a bit. He finally started talking to me again. He might even come to my graduation.

RALPH

(smiles)  
How about next winter, you visit me in California. We'll ski the bumps at Mammoth. They are frigging awesome.

JOHNNY

(fills his and Ralph's glass)  
You got a deal, my friend.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE MATTERHORN SUPPER CLUB IN BOULDER, COLORADO -  
EVENING

Johnny, Vince and Gina are having dinner.

JOHNNY

(looks at vince)  
I'm so glad you and Mom were able to attend my graduation.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

This is one of the better  
restaurants in town. You folks  
gotta try the Trout. It's one of  
their specialties.

Johnny, Vince and Gina converse during dinner.

VINCE

(looks at Johnny)

I'm not a seafood person, but this  
Trout is excellent. Good choice,  
Johnny. Speaking of choice's, have  
you given any thought to what  
you're going to do now?. Son, I  
need to say something to you  
straight out. I'm really sorry for  
being so negative about your choice  
of education. You are a MacRae and  
you did your own thing in your own  
time. Your mother and I are very  
proud of you. A 3.7 grade point  
average is nothing to sneeze at.  
Just for the record, there will  
always be a place for you in the  
family business but I'll respect  
any career choice you decide on. We  
love you, son.

Vince shakes Johnny's hand. Gina becomes teary eyed.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

I love you too, father. I've  
accepted a position as an Executive  
Assistant on a Colorado Senator's  
staff. Normally, they require two  
to four years experience but I  
think my grade point helped get me  
the job. Truth be told, I've grown  
to love Colorado, especially the  
skiing out here. The mountains are  
just beautiful especially in the  
winter time. I'm going to have to  
trade my Mustang in on something  
with four wheel drive. This Senator  
has a home in the foothills just  
outside of Denver.

GINA

(wipes her eyes)

Johnny, we want to wish you the  
best of everything in your new  
career.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

Why thank you, Mom. I think i'm going to really enjoy my job. For my first assignment, the Senator wants me to do some research on the history of the Arapaho Indians in Colorado. He wants me to give a presentation of my findings to a committee he heads. It will be at a private get together at his home in Evergreen.

VINCE

(smiles)

Son, a long time ago, I made a smart-ass remark about you running for president. Well, who knows now what you might be someday. For your graduation present, your Mom and I are buying you a brand new four wheel drive Chevy Blazer. Of course, you're going to have to give me your Mustang.

GINA

(laughs and points to  
Vince)

Second childhood, Vince?

FADE OUT.

INT. SENATOR MERLE JOHNSON'S HOME IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO -  
EVENING

US Senator Merle Johnson, a fit and well tanned tall man in his sixties with grey hair is hosting a dinner for a group of six committee members. They converse while dining on huge steaks. Johnny listens but does not join in the conversation.

SENATOR JOHNSON

(stands up and smiles)

Thank you all for being here tonight. I hope you enjoyed the food. I'll let you all in on a little secret. That wasn't beef you were eating. You were eating Buffalo rib eyes.

The group smiles and claps.

SENATOR JOHNSON (CONT'D)

Thank you. Since we will be discussing Indian affairs, I thought it apropos to have Buffalo on the menu. Without further ado, I'd like to introduce John MacRae. John is a member of my staff. He's going to give a presentation on the history of the Arapaho Indians in Colorado. John, the floor is yours.

Johnny walks over to a podium. Next to podium is a slide projector on a stand. Johnny rolls down a screen then stands behind the podium.

JOHNNY

(clears his throat)

Thank you Senator Johnson. Good evening, gentlemen. The Arapaho Indians began settling in Colorado around 1750 when they reached the Rocky Mountains and came into conflict with the Utes, who prevented them from entering the mountains. The Northern Arapaho settled near the Rocky Mountains in Wyoming, while the Southern Arapaho settled near the Arkansas River in Colorado.

Johnny continues with the presentation with photo', charts and graphs. The group listens intently. Suddenly Rachel appears in a doorway. She smiles at Johnny then disappears. Johnny is momentarily distracted bur quickly regains his composure and finishes the presentation.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

That concludes my presentation. Thank you for your kind attention, Gentlemen.

The group give Johnny a hearty round of applause. Johnny sits down and listens intently to the next speaker.

FADE OUT.

INT. SENATOR MERLE JOHNSON'S HOME IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO - LATER

As Johnny was packing up the slide projector and screen, Rachel appeared, wearing blue jeans and a red turtle neck sweater.

RACHEL

(smiles)

Hello, Johnny. Do you remember me?

JOHNNY

(with a startled look)

Yes, I do, Rachel. What are you doing here?

RACHEL

(pours herself a glass of left-over wine)

I live here. Senator Johnson is my father.

JOHNNY

I thought you were getting engaged. Do you and your husband live here?

RACHEL

(takes a small sip of wine)

I never did get engaged. That guy was a real piece of work. He was seeing two other women plus myself. One was a Congressman's daughter and the other was the daughter of a guy who owns a lot of land in the Denver area. The jerk was a gold digger and probably looking for the best deal. I should have given you my phone number. Does your offer of dinner still stand?

JOHNNY

(with a slight frown)

Well, I'd like to but I don't think it would be appropriate with me working for your father. What would everyone think?

RACHEL

(takes a bigger sip of wine)

The hell with what everyone thinks. I've talked to my father about you several times but it was after I noticed your resume on his desk. I told him all about us meeting each other at Vail. My dad was also a Marine. During World War II, he lost one of his legs at Iwo Jima and earned a bronze star.



JOHNNY

(frowns slightly)

Well, I hope he didn't hire me out of sympathy.

RACHEL

(in a serious tone)

Johnny, believe me, when I say there was no sympathy involved. He was impressed with your credentials. I noticed your resume on his desk and I did talk with him about you several but it was after he made the decision to hire you. I did tell him that you were a polite individual, not bad to look at either.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

Well, in that case, how would you like to go skiing with me on Sunday. We can have dinner afterwards. I've been skiing a lot at A-Basin. It's not as glitzy as Vail but the skiing is fantastic.

RACHEL

(with a big smile)

I'd love to. I've never skied at A-Basin. Most of my skiing's been at Breckenridge. My dad has a condo there.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE A-BASIN SKI AREA - DAY

The sun is shining brightly. Johnny and Rachel are skiing down a run called "Ramrod". When they reach the bottom, Rachel motions to Johnny.

RACHEL

(grins)

I can see why you like it here. It's not so crowded and the runs are fabulous. Whew! I need to take a break.

JOHNNY

I'll meet you inside. I want to make one run down Palavacinni.

RACHEL  
 (looks uphill and frowns)  
 Oh, Johnny. That looks scary.

JOHNNY  
 Oh, I'll be okay.

Rachel walks towards the lodge. Johnny takes a chairlift up. He slowly traverses Palavacinni's moguls, making precise turns. Rachel is waiting for him at the bottom.

RACHEL  
 Like I said, you ski better than most of the ski instructor's I've had.

FADE OUT.

INT. JAKES STEAKHOUSE IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO - EVENING

Johnny and Rachel are having dinner. They converse during dinner. After dinner, they hold hands and look into each other eyes.

FADE OUT.

I/E. SENATOR MERLE JOHNSON'S HOME IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO - EVENING

SUPER: Ten months later.

Johnny pulls in the Senator's driveway. He shuts the ignition and turns to Rachel.

JOHNNY  
 (in a serious tone)  
 Rachel, we need to talk. I need to tell you something straight out.

RACHEL  
 What is it, Johnny?

JOHNNY  
 (stammers)  
 I'm very fond of you. You're such a wonderful person. We sh.

RACHEL  
 (interrupts Johnny)  
 What are you trying to say, Johnny?

JOHNNY

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(regains his composure and  
talks slowly)

You're the nicest person I've ever  
been with. I really like you a lot  
but I'm not ready to get serious  
with anyone. I don't want to waste  
your time. We should date other  
people. I hope you understand.

RACHEL

(sighs but hides her  
disappointment)

Okay, If that's what you want. I  
understand.

Johnny walks her to the door. He gives her a quick kiss on  
the forehead and leaves. A tear rolls down her cheek as she  
enters the home.

FADE OUT.

INT. JAKES STEAKHOUSE IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO - EVENING

Johnny, Vince and Gina are having dinner.

JOHNNY

(looks at Vince)

So Dad, how's the business doing?

VINCE

Pretty good. We're going to start  
manufacturing disposable hospital  
products. There's a big market out  
there for that kind of stuff and  
we've got the equipment to do it.  
How's your job coming along?

JOHNNY

Pretty good. The Senator is great  
to work with. He's involved in lots  
of committee's and I'm kept real  
busy. Long hours, but I'm getting  
some good experience.

VINCE

(lights up a cigar)

I heard about Merle Johnson. He's  
okay in my book. As I told you,  
most politicians care only about  
remaining in office and don't give  
a shit about their constituents.

(MORE)

VINCE (CONT'D)

Johnson is an exception. He's okay  
in my book.

GINA

(looks at Johnny)  
How are you and Rachel doing? Your  
father and I love that girl. When  
are you two getting engaged?

JOHNNY

(looks down)  
We're not getting engaged. I  
stopped seeing her two months ago.

GINA

(with a surprised look)  
What? Why?

JOHNNY

I don't know. I just don't want to  
get tied down. I told her I didn't  
want to waste her and we should  
date other people.

VINCE

(grins)  
So how's the big swinger doing?

JOHNNY

Truth be told, I haven't had a  
single date since I stopped seeing  
Rachel.

VINCE

(blows a big puff of  
smoke)  
That might be telling you  
something, Son.

A woman at a nearby table frowns at Vince as the smoke passes  
by her. Vince gave her a big grin.

GINA

Vince, put that darn thing out.

Vince reluctantly extinguishes his cigar then salutes the  
woman.

GINA (CONT'D)

(looks at Johnny)  
Johnny, it's none of my business,  
but if I were you, I'd get that  
girl back before someone takes her.

Vince vigorously nods in agreement.

VINCE  
You're mother's absolutely right,  
Son.

Johnny sighs and nod's in agreement.

JOHNNY  
Yes, she is.

FADE OUT.

INT. SENATOR MERLE JOHNSON'S HOME IN EVERGREEN, COLORADO -  
AFTERNOON

Johnny and Rachel are sitting on a sofa.

JOHNNY  
(smiles)  
Thanks for seeing me on such short  
notice.

RACHEL  
I had a date but cancelled it. You  
sounded, well, sort of different  
and I was worried. Are you okay,  
Johnny?

Johnny's holds Rachel's hands and looks into her eyes.

JOHNNY  
(in a serious tone)  
Rachel, I think about you  
constantly. I didn't know at the  
tome but I fell in love with you  
when we first met on that ski  
slope. I love you, Rachel.

Rachel's eyes widen slightly.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Will you see me again? I won't be  
wasting your time.

RACHEL  
(smiles)  
Yes I will. I was hoping you would  
say those things to me. I love  
You too, Johnny.

Johnny and Rachel embrace then kiss.

FADE OUT.

I/E. ON THE STEPS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN BRECKENRIDGE,  
COLORADO - DAY

SUPER: Ten months later

Johnny and Rachel come out of the church and stand at the top of the church steps. Rachel is wearing a plain wedding gown. Vince and Ralph are wearing a black double breasted tuxedos. Vince and Gina are standing next to Senator Johnson and his wife. Johnny and Rachel kiss. Ralph approaches Johnny.

RALPH

(shakes Johnny's hand)  
Congratulations, old buddy. Okay if  
the best man kisses the bride?

JOHNNY

(smiles)  
You sure can. If it weren't for  
you, I'd never have the bride.

The wedding reception is held in the church hall. Johnny and Rachel are dancing alone then their parents and the wedding party join in. After the dance, Senator Johnson puss Johnny aside.

SENATOR JOHNSON

I sure enjoy talking to your Dad.  
He's an interesting fellow. I think  
he'd of made a good politician.  
Speaking of that, John, I've been  
giving this some serious thought. I  
want you to consider going to Law  
School. Someday, I'll be needing a  
successor. It would be nice to keep  
it in the family, Son. The  
University of Colorado Law School  
is in Boulder. It's an excellent  
school. They've been around  
since 1892.

JOHNNY

Wow! Gee, sir. I don't know what to  
say. It's always been a goal of  
mine, to serve my country again

SENATOR JOHNSON

Let's get that law degree first and then some practical experience. Down the road, you can start your political career by running for a state office, maybe state Senator?

Johnny and Senator shake hands.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER: 1977

Gina is reading a letter for Vince.

GINA

We have an invitation from Johnny. HE's going to be graduating from the University of Colorado Law School in Boulder with honors. He's going to work at law firm in Denver.

VINCE

(smiles)

I'll bet someday he runs for some kind of office. I'll get some plane tickets reserved.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER: 1982

Vince is reading a letter for Gina.

GINA

How did the election turn out?

JOHNNY

Our son is the new State Representative in Colorado's 27th district. Rachel helped Johnny with his campaign and I'm sure Senator Johnson's endorsement was also a big help.

GINA

(smiles)

Oh, my. I'm so happy for him.

VINCE

This was his first taste of "dirty politics". During the campaign, his opponent referred to John MacRae as "Merle's baby boy" and called Johnny a "war monger". Johnny said Senator Johnson told him to refrain from bashing opponents and answering their insults. Tell the voting public exactly what you're going to do and how you're going to do it. Let your opponents behave like school children and make insults.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER: 1992

Vince is reading a letter for Gina.

JOHNNY

(frowns)

Not good news. Senator Johnson had a series of minor strokes which forced him to resign. When that happens, the seventeenth Amendment allows the governor to select a replacement to finish out the term. I heard Johnson's not very happy with is replacement. He told Johnny it's time for him to step up the big league. He want's Johnny to run for Senator in the next election.

GINA

Do you think he will?

VINCE

(smiles)

He's a MacRae, ain't he?

FADE OUT.



INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER: 1994

Vince and Gina are watching television. A news anchor announces that John MacRae has been elected United States Senator in the state of Colorado.

VINCE

I just got off the phone with Johnny. He says politics can be rally get dirty. During the Senatorial debates, the incumbent Senator and other candidates from the opposing party ganged up on him. When he was asked abortion he said "I believe that life begins at conception". They shouted insults at him and called him a racist. Johnny said he never lost control or raised his voice and was well prepared for questions on the economy, national defense, race relations and foreign policy. He was also accused of having an affair with a campaign staffer. The story was false and initiated by a member of his opponent's staff. You gotta have a thick skin for a job like that. Also some not so good news. Merle is not doing well.

GINA

I imagine they'll be moving to Washington. Did you know that all of their children attend public schools?

FADE OUT.

EXT. ARLINTON NATIONAL CEMETERY - DAY

Gina and Johnny are sitting on either side of Senator Johnson's wife. A firing squad fires a seven gun salute. A Marine removes an American flag from the casket. He neatly folds it and gives it Senator Johnson's wife. A bugler sounds Taps. Johnny stands and salutes. Tears run down his cheek.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITAL BULDING - DAY

Johnny and an elderly Senator with wavy white hair are seated in a meeting room.

JOHNNY

What can I do for you, Joe?

SENATOR JOE

(smiles)

It's what I can do for you. We need your vote to pass bill S62440. I'm sure you are well aware who will benefit when it passes. They're prepared to wire a substantial amount of cash to s Swiss bank of your choosing. Are you with us on this?

JOHNNY

(shakes his head in a no  
and frowns deeply)

No, I'm not. I don't play that game.

SENATOR JOE

(laughs)

Don't be stupid, John. Get with the program. You also will have access to a private jet and their island in the Caribbean. It's fool proof. C'mon on, man.

Johnny stands up and firmly pokes his finger in Senator Joe's chest.

JOHNNY

(in a loud, angry tone)

Stick the island and that jet right up your ass, you rotten son of bitch.

INT. JOHNNY AND RACHEL HOME IN WASHINGTON - EVENING

Johnny and Rachel are having dinner.

RACHEL

So how was your day? You look a bit out of sorts.

JOHNNY

(frowns)

Just fucking great!

RACHEL  
Oh, my. What happened?

JOHNNY  
A Senator from my own party offered me a bribe. From my own party! I told him to stick it up his ass.

RACHEL  
(smiles)  
You did the right thing, Dear. I'm proud of you.

JOHNNY  
(shakes is head)  
I'm thinking of getting out of politics.

Rachel stands up and takes Johnny's hand.

RACHEL  
(wit a twinkle in her eye)  
You've had a bad day and you're uptight. The kids are not here. Let's go upstairs.

Johnny stands up and pats Rachel on her behind.

JOHNNY  
(grins)  
That's the best offer I've had all week.

FADE OUT.

Johnny and Rachel are relaxing in bed. Rachel takes Johnny's hand.

RACHEL  
I know you're getting tired of politics, but have you given any thought to what else you would do?

JOHNNY  
(smiles)  
Not really. I'll figure something out. Maybe I'll become a ski instructor.

Rachel laughs. Johnny gives Rachel a kiss.

FADE OUT.

INT. PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM AT PFISTER HOTEL - DAY

Vince is addressing a management team of six people.

VINCENT MACRAE

I've called you all here today to talk about some changes I will be making. First of all, I'm going to be discontinuing the manufacturing of cigars. Why am I doing this? As you all know, our medical products and plastics divisions have grown to over twenty million in sales. I might add thanks to all of your hard work. Let's concentrate our efforts and talents there. We can become a leader in the industry. Let me know if any you are interested in taking over the cigar business, otherwise I'll look for a buyer. Oh, and more thing, We've been operating under the name of MacRae Products. We're gong to have a more suitable name, Meditron Industries. I also want to explore building a new facility, on one floor. We are bursting at the seams.

The group applauds.

VINCE

Thank you. Let's eat. We can discuss this more, during dinner.

FADE OUT.

INT. JOHNNY AND RACHEL HOME IN WASHINGTON

SUPER: 2010

Johnny and Rachel are having dinner. The phone rings. Johnny answers the call. He talks the hangs up. He has a grim look on his face.

RACHEL

Johnny, what's wrong?

JOHNNY

(in a somber tone)  
My parents were just killed in an automobile accident.

RACHEL  
Oh my GOD! What happened?

JOHNNY  
I don't have the details but they were in the Mustang. He shouldn't have been driving that Mustang. He's ninety years old. We'll have to leave for Milwaukee right away I'll call the kids.

RACHEL  
I'll start packing.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF AN AIRPLANE - DAY

A loud speaker says "This is the Captain. We're beginning our final approach into Milwaukee. Please make sure your seat belts are fastened. Thank you.

JOHNNY  
(turns to Rachel)  
This probably is not a good time to bring this up but it's been on my mind. In my fathers will, I get all the stock in the company. The company has become one of the leaders in the disposable medical products industry. This might give me the opportunity to get out of politics. What do you think?

RACHEL  
I don't know. What do you know about plastics?

JOHNNY  
Nothing but I could learn. My father did, plus there's some good people running the day to day operations. Maybe some of our kids might interested.

RACHEL  
(with a slight smile)  
Might not be a bad idea after all. Wisconsin's a pretty state. Would we still keep our condo at Vail?

JOHNNY  
(nods)  
Of course.

FADE OUT.

INT. MEDITRON INDUSTRY'S BOARD ROOM - DAY

Johnny is addressing Meditron Industry's management team.

JOHNNY  
With Meditron being a privately held corporation, I'm sure you are all wondering what's going happen with the death of my parents. I now own all of the stock. I have no intentions of selling Meditron. I want to keep it in the MacRae family. I've been wanting to get out of politics for some time and I'm going to resign as a Senator and become chairman of the board.

Frowns appear on some the faces.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Some of you look concerned. I'm not going to micro-manage. I'm going to concentrate mainly on the financial end of the business. I do have experience in financial matters. Are there any questions?

The group is silent.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Johnny and Rachel are enjoying a glass of wine in a screened patio overlooking Lake Michigan.

RACHEL  
How did your meeting go today?

JOHNNY  
(takes a sip of wine)  
Well, I really don't know. Right the meeting, the president and controller resigned and left immediately. No notice or anything.

RACHEL

(frowns)

Well, that's shitty of them.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

Wait, it gets better. Before he left, the president told some of the people "I'm not going to work for some dumb ass politician".

RACHEL

Wow. That's really shitty. What are you going to do?

JOHNNY

(fills their glasses)

Well, first of all, with that kind of attitude, it's good the president left. Nobody is irreplaceable. I'm going to ask Julie Anne's husband if he'd be interested in becoming president. I don't think Sarah Anne will leave the entertainment industry but I'll ask her anyways. Our son, Merle is a colonel in the Air Force and he wants to be a general someday. I can handle the controller's duties until we find someone. Let's start looking for home.

RACHEL

(smiles)

Why don't we stay right here. I love the view.

JOHNNY

(smiles)

That's fine with me.

FADE OUT.

INT. INSIDE OF KARL'S GERMAN RESTAURANT IN MILWAUKEE

SUPER: One year later

Johnny and Rachel are having dinner.

RACHEL

I had lunch with Julie Anne today. She and Ken are expecting. They seem to be very happy here.

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)  
They're going to building a new  
home in Mequon.

JOHNNY  
(smiles)  
Well, we're lucky to have Ken as a  
son-in-law. He's doing an  
incredible job as the president of  
Meditron. I gave him a free hand to  
run things and under his  
leadership, we just went over  
thirty million in sales. Both the  
customers and employee's like him.

RACHEL  
(smiles)  
We are two very lucky people!

JOHNNY  
Yes, we are my dear.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

SUPER:

**2023 The United Sates of America is in turmoil. Inflation is at it's highest level since 1981. The nation is no longer energy independent. Open borders have allowed millions of emigrants to enter the country illegally, flooding major cities. Crime is rampant throughout the nation. The United Sates of America has lost the respect of it's allies. The nation is divided as never before**

Johnny is watching the news on television. A news anchor is showing clips of presidential candidates bashing each other. Rachel is reading a book.

JOHNNY  
(shakes his head)  
Boy, are we ever in trouble.

RACHEL  
(looks up)  
Why do you say that, dear?

JOHNNY  
(points to the TV screen)  
Those people are more interested in  
throwing insults at each other and  
making cutesy remarks then actually  
addressing the important issues.

(MORE)



JOHNNY (CONT'D)

You ought to see our son-in-law in action. I've accompanied Ken on sales calls to our major customers. Never, ever, does Ken bash a competitor. He tells them what Meditron can do for their business and how he will accomplish his promises. Why can't they all get some unity, and come up with a consortium or team of the most capable and qualified people for the cabinet positions, president and vice-president. Tell the voters why each person was selected. Tell the voters how the team will operate and solve the country's problems.

RACHEL

(closes her book)

That all sounds good, Johnny, but where could you find someone who could organize and spearhead something like that?

Johnny gets a big grin on his face.

FADE OUT.

INT. MEDITRON INDUSTRY'S BOARD ROOM

SUPER:

**The 2024 Consortium**

**The dictionary defines a Consortium as an agreement, combination or group formed to undertake an enterprise beyond the resources of any one member**

Johnny is addressing a group of twenty people.

JOHNNY

Thank you all for meeting with me today. I'm going to dispense with formalities and introductions. I'm sure most of you know each other. I know all of you personally and I've worked with many of you in the past. I've called you here to listen to an idea I have.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I'm sure we all realize that we have one more chance to save this great country of ours. In this room are some of the most experienced and brilliant minds in the country, perhaps in the world, in the area's of finance, foreign affairs, energy, business and manufacturing, education, defense, military affairs, health care and of course, politics. Successful business's are run by a qualified and proficient board of directors. The director's of a successful business put their ego's aside and work for the good of the business. Gentlemen, that is exactly what we're going to do. I want to take a consortium or team and form a new independent party named **2024**. This team will select and recruit a cabinet, president and vice president candidates and a plan to solve America's problems. We're not going to bash other candidate or parties. Instead, we're going to tell the voting public why we made our selections and exactly how we will accomplish our goals. Let the other parties do the bashing and hurl the insults. What do you say, gentlemen?

The group stands and gives Johnny a hearty round of applause. They start shouting "President MacRae - President MacRae".

Johnny raises his to stop the shouting.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(smiles)

Thank you. Thank you. I'm a bit too old to serve as president. One thing I would like todo before we leave is select someone to be the chairman of **2024**.

The group shouts "Chairman MacRae - Chairman MacRae".

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

That I can do. I accept the Chairmanship of **2024**. One thing we need to do right away is select a good location for our headquarters. Please think of any good people you know that could serve on our team.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

These are our goals. Let's go to work.

SUPER:

**Achieve and maintain a balanced budget**

**Reduce the national debt**

**Achieve and maintain a USA inflation rate under 2%**

**Make the USA energy dependent again**

**Secure our borders**

**Stop crime in major cities throughout the USA**

**Rebuild our Military**

**Develop a sound foreign policy and regain the respect of our allies**

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Rachel greets Johnny as enters the foyer. She gives him a hug.

RACHEL

How did your meeting go today? I should have been there but I had to help Julie with the baby.

JOHNNY

Oh, pretty good, I think? Word really got around quick. After the meeting, four ex-senators joined 2024, two from each party. A few guys called and told me not to waste my time. I also had one death threat.

RACHEL

Oh my. You better be careful. Boy, I'll say word gets around quick. Just before, on the TV, one of the well know anchors said "has the ex-senator lost his marbles".

JOHNNY  
 (smiles)  
 Let's go upstairs, my dear.

FADE OUT.

INT. MCCORMICK PLACE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS - DAY

SUPER: September 1, 2024 **The 2024 Townhall Meeting**

Johnny and the entire 2024 team are having lunch in a private banquet room. Standing behind a podium, Johnny addresses the group. Sitting at a head table is the 2024 presidential candidate, Tom Mills and the vice-presidential candidate, Ron Durham.

JOHNNY  
 (smiles)  
 I thought we'd have a late luncheon meeting. The actual town hall meeting won't start until 6:00 o'clock. I'll just say a few words then Tom Mills will have the floor.

Johnny points to Tom Mills. Tom Mills waves and smiles.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
 Our plan is working but it's because of your hard work and diligence in getting the word out to the voting public. They like our cabinet selections and our candidates. Not only telling people what you plan on doing but specifically how you are going to do it is what people want to hear. We just went up another 5% in the polls. Campaign donations have been steadily increasing which has allowed us to hold this town hall meeting here at McCormick Place. Without further ado, Tom is going to brief you on tonight's activities. Tom.

As Tom Mills stand up, two female servers retrieve MP5 machine guns from a serving cart. One of the server's gun jams and will not fire. She is immediately tackled and restrained. The other server opens fire and hits John MacRae in the shoulder and chest. He falls behind the podium. The server fires a long burst at Tom mills then turns towards the group. Before she can squeeze the trigger for another burst, a shot rings out.

She is hit in the head with a 9mm round and falls to the ground. Marine Colonel Daniel Adams holsters his pistol and rushes to Tom Mill's side.

Johnny and Tom Mills are put on stretchers and rushed to a hospital.

FADE OUT.

INT. NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL - LATER

Rachel and Marine Colonel Daniel Adams, a tall fit man in his forties, are standing by Johnny's bedside. Johnny is connected to several medical devices.

DANIEL ADAMS

(in a sad tone)

I wish I would have reacted quicker and saved Mr. Mills. He would have been a great president.

JOHNNY

(in a raspy faint voice)

Yes he would have, but please don't blame yourself, Danny. You saved a lot of lives. How did the town hall go?

DANIEL ADAMS

(smiles)

It went very well. When the video clip of you giving a thumbs up from your hospital bed was shown, there was a five minute standing ovation. Oh, by the way, the shooters were illegal immigrants from a south American country. One of the shooter's died at the scene. The other one isn't talking. They got her on a suicide watch. She tried to kill herself.

JOHNNY

Well, my wounds weren't as serious as they looked. I'll be on my feet in less than a week.

DANIEL ADAMS

That's really good news because there is strong talk of you becoming the 2024 presidential candidate.

Johnny smiles. Daniel Adams touches Johnny's hand.

DANIEL ADAMS (CONT'D)  
I'll leave you in Mrs. MacRae's  
care. Get well quick, sir. We need  
you.

Daniel Adams leaves. Rachel holds Johnny's hands.

RACHEL  
(with a concerned look)  
Johnny, you're seventy six years  
old. Aren't you a bit too old to be  
running for president?

JOHN MACRAE  
(with a faint smile)  
Hell, at seventy six, I just  
entered the 4th quarter. I've got  
another twenty four years to go.

FADE OUT.

INT. LION HEART NEWS HEADQUARTERS - EVENING

SUPER: Candidate MacRae

A Lion Heart News anchor is interviewing Johnny and Rachel.

LHN ANCHOR  
(turns to Johnny)  
Senator, the latest polls say  
you're getting closer to your  
opponents. Why do think that's  
happening?

JOHNNY  
I think it's mainly because we  
refrain from bashing and insulting  
our opponents, instead, we tell the  
people what we are going to do, and  
most importantly, exactly how we  
are going to do it. 2024 also has  
selected their entire cabinet prior  
to the election. I don't think  
that's ever been done before. We  
selected our cabinet on the basis  
of experience, knowledge and  
integrity, not as a political  
favor.

LHN ANCHOR

(smiles)

You are looking fit, Senator, but some of your opponents are questioning your age.

JOHNNY

(laughs)

Well, I invite them to ski a mogul run with me at Vail. I'll pay for their lift tickets and lodging. I'll even take em' out for dinner after.

LHN ANCHOR

(turns to Rachel)

With only one leg? Is he serious?

RACHEL

(sternly)

Yes. He still skis as good as the day we met, almost fifty years ago.

LHN ANCHOR

(turns to Johnny)

Senator, what about the allegations that a large corporation paid for your condo in Vail and Meditron gave bribes to certain senators for favors?

JOHNNY

(frowns slightly)

That was all disproved after I furnished my personal tax returns and Meditron's financial statements from the time I took control of Meditron until now. I was also accused of having an affair with a young female staffer. That was also disproved when the staffer admitted she was paid to accuse me.

Rachel smiled and nodded her head.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(smiles)

Why don't we talk about 2024's plans to solve the border crisis?

FADE OUT.

INT. GOLDEN GOOSE COCKTAIL LOUNGE IN WASHINGTON DC - EVENING

Kevin Sanford, a slender, balding man in his early thirties enters the lounge. He appears to be slightly inebriated. He sits at the bar and raps his knuckles on the bar. James Wallace, a fit, muscular man in his late twenties is tending bar.

KEVIN SANFORD

(loudly)

Hey, bartender. I'll have a Rob Roy.

JAMES WALLACE

(in polite tone)

Sir, are you sure you want a drink. How about a cup of coffee?

KEVIN SANFORD

(in a snotty tone)

Do you know who I am? I work for Senator John. Don't gimme any shit. Just gimme a drink.

James Wallace frowns and serves Kevin a drink. The lounge becomes empty. Kevin Sanford starts talking to James Wallace as he wipes the bar.

KEVIN SANFORD (CONT'D)

(slurring his words)

Yeah, someday the Senator will be president and I'll be his chief of staff. I might even get a cabinet post. I know to get things done. I handle special jobs for the Senator. We took care of Mill's and we'll get that idiot, MacRae.

JAMES WALLACE

(presses the cellphone in his vest)

Excuse me. I didn't get that.

KEVIN SANFORD

(with a drunken smile)

I said we took care of Mill's and we'll get that asshole, MacRae. I've got a real future with Senator John. Gimme another one.

JAMES WALLACE

(sternly)

No more drinks for you. I'll call Uber. You're in no shape to drive.



KEVIN SANFORD

Oh, alright. Here ya go. Thanks.

Kevin Sanford throws a twenty on the bar. After Kevin Sanford leaves, James Wallace makes a call on his cellphone.

JAMES WALLACE

Hello Colonel. This is Jim Wallace. Remember when you told me to inform you of anything I ever hear out of line?

DANIEL ADAMS

Yes, Sergeant. Go ahead.

JAMES WALLACE

This is way too important to talk about on the phone. Can I see you right away? You won't believe what I'm about to tell you.

DANIEL ADAMS

Sure, Sergeant. Drive right over.

FADE OUT.

INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Kevin Sanford is seated in a room with three FBI agents. A tape recorder is on the table.

FBI AGENT

(in a polite tone)

Mr. Sanford, please tell us all you know about the assassination of Tom Mills.

KEVIN SANFORD

Why ask me? I don't know anything.

FBI AGENT

(in a stern voice)

We think you do. Do you recall your recent conversation with the bartender at the Golden Goose lounge?

KEVIN SANFORD

(in a belligerent tone)

Do you assholes know who I am? Do you know who you're dealing with?

(MORE)

KEVIN SANFORD (CONT'D)

What, you jerks gonna take the word of some shit-ass bartender?. I'll have your jobs for this.

FBI AGENT

Okay, wise guy. We want you to listen to this.

The FBI Agent presses a button on the tape recorder. The tape recorder sounds "I said we took care of Mill's and we'll get that asshole, MacRae. I've got a real future with Senator John. Gimme another".

Kevin gets a look of horror and buries his face in his hands.

KEVIN SANFORD

Oh, my GOD. No. No.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - EVENING

Johnny and Rachel are watching the news on television. A news anchor is speaking.

LHN ANCHOR

Here's the top news of the day. Kevin Sanford, a member of Senator John's staff has been arrested for his part in the assassination of Tom Mills. Sanford told the FBI that there were two senators involved in the assassination, his boss, Senator Mills and a senator from the other party, Harvey Long. To Sanford's knowledge, the senators acted alone. It was a perfect plan gone wrong. The two shooters were professionals. No one would ever suspect two women servers to be a security risk. Had the gun not jammed, 2024 would ceased to exist. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the two senators. Senator Long was tipped of his impending arrest. Prior to his arrest, he succumbed to an overdose of barbiturates and alcohol. The Senator John was taken into custody. The evidence from his staffer was damning and the Senator John was cooperative.

(MORE)

LHN ANCHOR (CONT'D)

The senator confirmed Kevin Sanford's story and said they did act alone.

JOHNNY

I worked with both of those guys. One of them was from my old party. He's the one of the son of s bitches who offered me bribes.

RACHEL

Do you think they will execute him?

JOHNNY

Probably not, the way things are nowadays.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE WALNUT STREET THEATRE PHILADELPIA PA - EVENING

Johnny and the two candidates from the other parties are engaging in a presidential debate. The two other candidates are doing a lot of yelling, waving their arms and finger pointing, directed mostly at Johnny. Johnny remains calm and collected.

CANDIDATE 1

(in a snotty tone)

So, Senator, you say inflation is way too high. How in the hell are you going to reduce it?

CANDIDAATE 2

(with a smirk)

Yeah, I'd like to hear that one too.

JOHNNY

(in a calm and deliberate tone)

First, I will make us Energy Independent again. Second, I will remove the restrictions that hamper business growth. Thirdly, I'm going to secure our borders.

The audience cheers and claps loudly.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Also, I truly believe...

CANDIDAATE 2  
 (interrupts Johnny and  
 yells)  
 That's a big crock. What are you?  
 Retarded?

The audience booed loudly

JOHNNY  
 (calmly)  
 Sir, if I may please finish.  
 I truly believe electric vehicles  
 are a top priority and we need go  
 electric as soon as possible,  
 however, we are not there yet. I'm  
 going to lift the ban on gasoline  
 powered vehicles and I'm going to  
 establish a commission to speed up  
 the research on electric vehicles.  
 I've been around a long time and  
 I've seen how computers and  
 cellphones have evolved. EV's will  
 evolve the same way but it will  
 take time. And for the record, I'm  
 only going to serve one term. My  
 vice-president, Ron Durham will be  
 intimately involved everything we  
 do so he will continue the policies  
 and plans of the 2024 Party.

The audience cheers and claps loudly.

FADE OUT.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME IN MILWAKEE - MORNING

Johnny and Rachel are watching the news on television. A news anchor is interviewing a news pundit.

LHN ANCHOR  
 So what are your thoughts on last  
 night's debate?

PUNDIT  
 (smiles)  
 Well, I believe that MacRae clearly  
 won the debate. He acted  
 presidential and gave clear,  
 concise answers to the questions.  
 When MacRae was asked a question  
 that should be answered be with a  
 simple yes or no, he answered  
 either a yes or no.

(MORE)

PUNDIT (CONT'D)

The other two candidates changed the subject and went off on a tangent that was irrelevant and made absolutely no sense at all.

LHN ANCHOR

And here's some breaking news. The pollster's have just announced that the election is too close to call.

RACHEL

(smiles)

I'm so proud of you, dear.

JOHNNY

I only wish my father could be here to see this.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE VAIL MOUNTAIN SKI AREA - DAY

SUPER: November 5, 2024

Johnny is slowly traversing the moguls on Highline. At the bottom of the run, several reporters are sitting on snowmobiles. When Johnny reaches the bottom, they rush over to him.

REPORTER 1

(smiles)

You look pretty good out there, Senator. Wish I could ski moguls like that.

JOHNNY

(lifts his goggles to his forehead)

Why thank you. You just need to ski slow and plant your poles at the right time.

REPORTER 2

(looks at his watch)

It's almost noon out east. I would think you'd be glued to the TV. They say the race is a toss up.

JOHNNY

(with a slight smile)

I've done all I can. It's in the hands of the voters now and the Lord above.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
I'll be flying to 2024 headquarters  
later on today. Now if you  
gentlemen will excuse me, I want to  
make one more run down Highline.

As Johnny boards the chairlift, the reporters shout "Good  
luck, Senator".

FADE OUT.

INT. 2024 CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS - EVENING

Johnny and the 2024 entire team are watching Lion Heart News  
on a large screen television.

LHN ANCHOR  
This just in. Senator MacRae's two  
opponents have just conceded the  
election. John Vincent MacRae  
Has been elected the forty seventh  
president of the United States of  
America by a record landslide. I  
don't think there will any  
disputing this election.

The 2024 team cheers. Rachel hugs Johnny. He faces the 2024  
team and waves for silence.

JOHNNY  
Thank you. Thank you. This victory  
belongs to all of you.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC - DAY

SUPER: January 20, 2025

It is a bright and sunny day. Johnny and Rachel walk down  
Pennsylvania Avenue. The sidewalks are filled with people  
cheering and waving small American flags. Johnny walks onto  
the viewing stand. He places his right hand on a Bible.

JOHNNY  
(in a solemn tone)  
I do solemnly swear that I will  
faithfully execute the Office of  
President of the United States, and  
will to the best of my ability,  
preserve, protect and defend the  
Constitution of the United States.

Rachel hugs Johnny. The crowd cheers.

FADE OUT.

INT. LION HEART NEWS HEADQUARTERS - EVENING

SUPER: Two years later.

A Lion Heart News anchor is interviewing former secretary of state, Newell Gordon, a man in his early eighties with snow white hair.

LHN ANCHOR

(enthusiast fully)

We have with us tonight, former secretary of state, Newell Gordon. How are you, Mr. Secretary/ You're looking fit, as usual.

NEWELL GORDON

(smiles)

I'm doing well. Thank you.

LHN ANCHOR

Mr. Secretary, you've been around many presidents through the years. How would you assess President MacRae's first two years?

NEWELL GORDON

President MacRae has served the country well. The 2024 team immediately went to work. President MacRae installed his cabinet as promised. Then he reached out to the leaders of both parties and asked for their help in unifying the nation. You will recall that soon after, an incredible history breaking event occurred. Senators and Representatives from both major parties began to switch their allegiance to the 2024 party. As Senators and Representatives moved to the 2024 party they were scoffed at by the diehards in their own party but praised by their constituents. The House and Senate were in a state of chaos for a brief period. The chaos stopped when the 2024 party gained control of the House and Senate by a slim majority.

(MORE)

## NEWELL GORDON (CONT'D)

Then the Senate, House of Representatives and President MacRae went to work. There were still debates in the House and Senate but they were healthy and constructive debates. Both parties worked together and important bills were passed. Things did not change overnight but by the end of 2026, inflation was under 2%, the nation was energy dependent again, our borders were secure again, crime in major cities diminished, our military was rebuilt, the USA was again respected as a world leader and the nation has a balanced budget. The United States of America is united again.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE OVAL OFFICE - EVENING

President MacRae is seated at his desk, addressing the nation.

SUPER:

**As the 2028 elections approach, both major parties followed 2024's team concept and presented a cabinet and concise plan of action.**

**The 2024 Party changed their name to 2028. The voting public now has several viable choices to choose from. It is a completely different atmosphere in Washington.**

**The United States of America is united again.**

JOHNNY

My fellow Americans, in closing I want to thank each and every one of you for helping to unify this great nation of ours and making America great again. **GOD bless America!**

**The End**