

Start #1

MASON

Sonofabitch... I need to get to the bathroom... Like, pronto.

DONNA

Mason, dammit!

JIMI

Heeeey, Priscilla. I got a pocketful of twenties burnin' a hole, honey.

DONNA

Don't call me that, weasel.

(to Mason)

Mase, I can't believe you... really? Again? Dealing with that slimeball? And you had to do it here -- I wish you locked that guy up while you had the chance.

MASON

Someone will do it eventually. It's inevitable.

JIMI

Or put a bullet in his head.

DONNA

Couldn't happen soon enough. Chantilly OD'd a month ago, she pulled through but hasn't been back since. Great company you keep, Mason. You can't trust Sal.

(re: the drugs)

Do you know what you are getting? That ~~shit~~ is gonna kill you one day. *crap*

MASON

I'm too dead already to kill, Donna. I've lived and breathed this shit for ten years -- how do I know? -- I know. Wish I didn't. Not so well. Hell, Sid Vicious got his stash from his own mother and it killed him.

DONNA

So, you heading to the bathroom? Alley? Gonna do it right here at the table?

MASON

Will you please give me a break?
This isn't my fault and you know
it!

(beat, calming)

I'll kick it, Donna. Just need one
more go-around. I know it this
time. In my heart. I'll kick it.

(then)

How's your dad?

DONNA

... I had dinner with him before
work. He's been "laying low". Kinda
like you.

MASON

What is it with women who are
attracted to men that remind them
of their fathers?

DONNA

Who says I'm attracted to you?

Mason smirks as he stands. He pauses beside her, brushing
some hair off Donna's shoulder. Loving. Gentle. Non-
threatening. Mason gestures to Jimi, walking away.

MASON

Let's go, Jimi.

End

Mason and Jimi start walking out. Donna watches Mason go, a
slight look of longing across her face.

4

INT. MANHATTAN PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

4

~~Vin and Amil at the "Mob Headquarters". A swanky suite
penthouse reserved for the best... or worst. Both in the
midst of getting reamed out by the BOSS, ALPHONSE BORCHIA
DENTE' (60s). Balding and well-fed. Bloated by too much power
and red meat.~~

~~DENTE'~~

~~Tell me again about Valenzuela.
Where are my dogs?~~

~~AMIL~~

~~They're in the back getting--~~

~~DENTE'~~

~~Am I fuckin' talking to you?~~

MASON

And Soylent Green is people, let's go.

28

INT. CLASSIC'S SECTION. BOOKSTACKS - MOMENTS LATER

28

Mason and Donna scanning the shelves. Donna removes the correct book, flipping through it.

MASON

Wow, you really like Oscar Wilde, huh?

Start #2

DONNA

My father did. I gave him this book -- this exact book. I recognize the frayed cover, the peeling here... I got this book at the same time as "Picture Of Dorian Gray", but this one wasn't a first edition.

MASON

How would the library have the actual same book as you gave your dad?

DONNA

I don't know but he led us right to it.

(flipping more)

There's nothing inside.

MASON

Oh, but there is. That book is about a guy who leads a double life -- his alter ego is somewhat a lowlife. He steals, lies...

DONNA

Umm... Yeah. What's your point?

MASON

Your father made some bad choices. He worked for Dente' -- maybe something went down that he didn't like or agree with and decided to take matters into his own hands.

(taking the book)

He's using this as a metaphor for redemption. Redemption after death.

(MORE)

MASON (CONT'D)

Ernest" loved a woman in this book.
In your father's case, the woman...
is you.

Donna holds back a sudden rush of emotions. She pulls it together. They start walking.

DONNA

Okay... So he leads us to this library to find this very book -- the book that I gave him -- drops this metaphor on us and... hides a shitload of heroin?

crap

MASON

The same heroin he acquired for the mob and then stole.

DONNA

Okay, so he led us to this library, to this very book -- the book that I gave him, that he gave to the library somehow. It makes sense so far but what about the stolen drugs, what about the other books that are missing?

End

Mason is putting it all together in his head. He puts a finger up... walks hurriedly back to the librarian.

MASON

'Scuse me. What do you do with books that are donated? Rare and expensive books at that?

LIBRARIAN

They are inspected and categorized, most eventually make their way to the shelves. Some books that are very rare may be read here in the library, but may not be checked out.

MASON

Can you look up if a Mr. Richard Valenzuela made a donation in the last few days?

LIBRARIAN

I can tell you that the computer won't show anything...

A disheartening look comes over Donna's face.