

BOUND

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1 INT. DINER - DAY

1

JAMES, late 20's, full beard, clean haircut, wearing a jacket and jeans, is seated at the counter, drinking his coffee.

A customer walks through the door and he quickly turns to look as if expecting someone. It's not them.

He keeps twisting the ring on his finger. Eventually taking it off and placing it in his inner pocket.

He looks at the door again. Then turns back to his coffee.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

Menu please.

WAITRESS (O.S.)

Coming right up.

James tilts his head to the direction of the soft voice. He smiles. Brushes through his hair with his hands and walks over to the lady.

CATHERINE, mid 20's, immaculately beautiful, hair flawless, is going through the menu.

James sits opposite her.

JAMES

Am sorry have we met before?

Catherine looks at James doubtfully for a while and then smiles.

CATHERINE

No, no I don't think we have.

JAMES

Name's James.

CATHERINE

(smiling)

Catherine.

JAMES

Catherine? That's a nice name, what are you having Cathy?

Catherine rolls her eyes.

CATHERINE

Am not quite sure, any suggestions?

JAMES

Try their pancakes, absolutely delicious.

CATHERINE
Alright maybe I will.

JAMES
You from around here?

CATHERINE
No just visiting a friend.

JAMES
Really? Business or pleasure?

Catherine busts into laughter.

JAMES (CONT'D)
What?

CATHERINE
Am sorry, I can't.

JAMES
(laughing)
What? Come on...

CATHERINE
Let's cut the B.S James.

JAMES
I had to give it a try.

CATHERINE
You're really funny. I missed you.

JAMES
I missed you too.

James caressing her face with his hands.

CATHERINE
(shy)
Not here, you know that.

JAMES
Sorry.

Waitress approaches the table.

WAITRESS
What will you be having?

CATHERINE
(looking at james
seductively)
I'll have your pancakes.

JAMES
(not taking his eyes off
catherine)
To go, we'll have them to go.

WAITRESS

Alright then.

The waitress leaves.

CATHERINE

How you been? How's work?

JAMES

Same old, definitely not getting that promotion, thinking of going solo.

CATHERINE

Well, I know it will go well, you're really good at photography.

JAMES

Thanks, how about you, how you holding up? How's the child?

CATHERINE

Child? Really?

James shrugs his shoulders.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

The child is fine, he speaks now.

She reaches out for her phone, scrolls through and hands it over to James.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Have a look.

JAMES

(going through the gallery)

Wow, he is seriously handsome, I always said you'd make cute babies.

CATHERINE

(blushing)

Oh shut it.

JAMES

How's the husband?

CATHERINE

What marriage is perfect, best we don't talk about it.

JAMES

Fine.

Waitress walks over with the package.

WAITRESS

Here are your pancakes, ma'am.

CATHERINE

Thank you.

Catherine reaches for her wallet.

JAMES

It's fine I got it.

CATHERINE

You sure?

JAMES

Yeah, yeah.

James pays the lady and they both get up to leave.

2 INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

2

We hear keys fidgeting to open the door.

James and Catherine bust in making out.

They are both struggling to undress each other.

Catherine is holding the pancakes.

CATHERINE

(while kissing)

Where do I put this?

JAMES

(while kissing)

Just throw it anywhere.

She places it on the table.

They make their way to the bed.

Clothes on the floor. James in his boxers, Catherine in her underwear and bra.

As they are making out, James feels the ring on Catherine's hand. He now can't stop looking at it.

MOMENTS LATER.

James and Catherine are laying side by side on the bed. James lights a cigarette.

He takes a puff.

CATHERINE

Pass it.

JAMES

(smoking)

I always forget you smoke now.

He passes her the cigarette.

JAMES (CONT'D)
(looking at the ceiling)
I noticed you had the ring on.

CATHERINE
Cause am married James, or did you forget?

JAMES
No I didn't, it just since we started doing this thing of ours, you'd always take it off when we'd meet, now you just leave it on.

Catherine turns to James.

CATHERINE
James, you're blowing this whole thing out of proportion, it doesn't matter whether it's on or off, doesn't change the fact that once every month, you're sleeping with a married woman.

JAMES
I know, it just feels wrong that's all.

CATHERINE
Are you kidding me? Now it feels wrong?

JAMES
Just saying.

CATHERINE
What are you really trying to say.

JAMES
Oh boy.

James gets up, reaches for his pants and puts them on.

CATHERINE
No tell me.

JAMES
Am sorry I brought it up.

CATHERINE
Well now lets finish it, do you want to end this?

JAMES
Maybe it's best...

CATHERINE
Oh my God, I don't believe this....

Silence.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

You know when I had Max, we couldn't think of a name, I tried to name him after you, maybe in my own crazy world, I'd lie to myself that he was yours. But Patrick wouldn't let me.

JAMES

Aw Catherine.

CATHERINE

You still don't get it. Since high school you've always been the one.
(sniffles)

I could marry a million guys, have a million babies, but I'd always come back to you. You broke my heart maybe cause you were afraid to commit but I still waited.

JAMES

Am engaged Cathy.

CATHERINE

Oh.. Congratulations.

JAMES

Yeah.

CATHERINE

Do you love her?

JAMES

Do you love Patrick?

CATHERINE

I asked first.

JAMES

Let's get some rest.

CATHERINE

When's the wedding?

JAMES

Soon, maybe a month from now.

CATHERINE

Oh, and when were you going to tell me?

James shakes his head.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

After the wedding?

JAMES

This isn't you, lets sleep, talk
about it in the morning.

CATHERINE

I think I'll get another room.

JAMES

Come on, don't be like this.

She gets up and starts collecting her clothes, as she heads
for the door, James grabs her.

Catherine starts crying.

JAMES (CONT'D)

You don't have to do this.

He kisses her.

She goes back to the bed. James looks on.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Just hand me a pillow, I'll sleep
on the floor.

Catherine throws the pillow at him.

She tucks herself in and turns off the light.

James is on the floor staring at the ceiling.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

James?

JAMES

Yeah?

CATHERINE

Come lay with me, please?

JAMES

Alright.

MORNING.

James is by the table scrolling through his phone, while
looking outside.

3 EXT. MOTEL PARKING - DAY

3

A sedan pulls up to the motel. Looks like a rental.

4 INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

4

James is now smoking.

Catherine wakes up.

CATHERINE

What time is it?

JAMES

8

CATHERINE

Shit! Am supposed to be at my hotel.

JAMES

I thought you were flying back?

CATHERINE

Its Patrick, funny enough he had business this side, had to go before him. Promised to book the hotel room, which I haven't even done, pass me my phone please.

James tosses it to her.

JAMES

Would you leave him?

CATHERINE

Patrick?

JAMES

Yes, if i asked you too?

The phone rings.

CATHERINE

Shit, its him.

Catherine clears her throat.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

(on the phone)

Hey babe, morning, where am I? At the.. Huh.. Hotel of course, have you arrived yet? Not yet? OK, I'll be waiting, yes... love you too.

JAMES

I take it all is well.

CATHERINE

I've got 2 hours to get to that damn hotel.

Catherine gets up and starts dressing.

JAMES

Remember that notebook we used to exchange notes?

CATHERINE

Yes, I do.

JAMES

I still have it. Read it every once in a while. You were a lot vulgar then.

CATHERINE

That was ages ago.

JAMES

Yeah, but I also realized that's the only time I felt something real. And after what transpired yesterday, I concluded we can't keep hiding, taking off rings.

CATHERINE

Oh, I got the message, you don't have to tell me twice.

JAMES

Which is why I asked, would you leave him, Catherine, for me?

CATHERINE

What about Max?

JAMES

Am willing to be part of Max's life, obviously we're talking about a long custody battle, but am up for it.

CATHERINE

What about your wife to be?

JAMES

Sent her the text this morning, my phone should blow up any minute now. So tell me...

CATHERINE

Yes.

JAMES

Really?

CATHERINE

Are you deaf? The answer is yes.

JAMES

OK then, what happens now.

CATHERINE

I have to break the news to Patrick.

JAMES
Do you want me to come with?

CATHERINE
No, this is something I must do
alone, I'll call you.

JAMES
OK.

Catherine is now dressed she kisses James and opens the door
to leave.

CATHERINE
It's about time.

James smiles.

Catherine leaves the room, shutting the door behind her.

James is now staring at the phone on the table.

5 EXT. MOTEL PARKING - CONTINUOUS 5

Catherine steps out the motel room, makes her way down.

We see hands clinch the wheel with anger inside the car.

The car door slightly opens.

Catherine crosses the road and waves for a taxi. One arrives
and takes her.

A man steps out of the car. He is trying to lower his jacket
as to hide something in the back of his trousers.

6 INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS 6

James is smoking, still staring at his phone.

It starts ringing.

JAMES
Here we go.

There is a knock at the door.

7 INT. TAXI - DAY 7

Catherine is in the back seat, she cant stop smiling.

She looks at the ring on her finger. She twists it a bit
then takes it off.

8 INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS 8

James looks at the phone ringing and then the door.

The knock at the door gets louder.

JAMES

Just a moment.

James leaves the phone on the table and goes for the door.

JAMES (CONT'D)

I hope you didn't leave anything...

The door bursts open just before he can open it.

James' face is filled with horror.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Oh shit!

PATRICK, mid 30's, taller than most, pot belly, sunken red eyes, is holding a gun pointed at James.

PATRICK

(walking towards James)

You know, you always fear for the worst but hope for the best.

JAMES

Patrick, hold on just a moment...

PATRICK

I always wondered why Catherine was going on these business trips on a constant basis. I thought she'd joined some kind of cult..

JAMES

Dude, i can only imagine what you're going through...

Patrick smacks James right in the face with the handle of the gun.

James' nose starts bleeding.

PATRICK

(menacing look)

Imagine? Can you imagine your wife fucking her high school sweetheart while you're footing the bill?

JAMES

Look, this is something you and Cathy must talk about.

PATRICK

You call her Cathy?

(a tear rolls down his right cheek)

She wouldn't even let me call her that. It all makes sense now.

James looks down at the floor defeated.

JAMES

So what now?

PATRICK

I don't know. Just let me think.

JAMES

Can I at least put my shirt on?

Patrick nods.

James grabs it.

As James is dressing up, Patrick lowers his gun.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Am sorry it had to end up like
this.

PATRICK

Am sorry too. I have nothing to
live for anymore. I can't have
Catherine.

Patrick points the gun at his own head.

JAMES

Patrick, we can figure this whole
thing out!

9 EXT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

9

PATRICK (V.O)

Neither will you.

GUN SHOT.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.