

To Rock on the Block

by

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1 INT. ARLENE'S GROCERY, NYC - BASEMENT - NIGHT

1

The basement is jam-packed with YOUNG ROCK FANS: 20- and 30-somethings who look like they smell like pot. Some double-fist glasses of tequila. Others knock back bottled beer. The FOG MACHINE in the corner pumps out mist turned hot red and purple by stage lights.

Onstage is JUDE BROOKS, 27, rockstar party-boy with a shaggy head of hair. He's glistening with sweat and has the audience by the balls.

JUDE

Thank you all so, so much for coming out tonight. We've got one song left for you. Brand-new, never-been-heard-before. It's called "Choke Me Down." Eat your hearts out, Lower East Side.

Jude RIFFS on guitar, leans into microphone HUMMING as the CROWD HOLLERS with excitement.

DISSOLVE TO:

2 INT. NYC APARTMENT - NEXT MORNING

2

CU on a sleeping Jude, last night's goopy glitter smudged on his cheeks in patches. We hear a WOMAN'S voice.

WOMAN (O.C.)

Wake up.
(beat)
I said, wake up!

Jude is SHAKEN AWAKE by the Woman--it's his fiery bandmate IRIS, 28.

JUDE

What the hell, Iris? Where are we?

IRIS

Queens.

JUDE

How did we end up here?

IRIS

Dunno, but my head is pounding. We gotta get out of here. It's almost 10 AM.

Jude GROANS DRAMATICALLY, longing for more sleep. Iris pulls him up by the arm.

IRIS
Third time this week.

JUDE
(muffled, face in pillow)
They say it's a charm.

Iris shoves a piece of paper at Jude.

IRIS
This fell out of your guitar case, by the way. When were you going to tell me you inherited a mansion upstate?

JUDE
Huh?
(squints to read)
My grandma died.

IRIS
I didn't even know you had a grandma.

JUDE
She left me her house.

IRIS
That's what it says.

JUDE
This came in the mail like, two weeks ago. But I kept putting off actually reading it, the font is so tiny.

IRIS
Maybe you need glasses.

JUDE
Rockstars don't wear glasses.

The TENANT groggily enters in a T-shirt and no pants.

TENANT
Hey...
(forgetting their names)
You guys. Can someone confirm if we had an orgy last night?

SMASH CUT TO:

3 EXT. ALLEN HOME, MAPLE STREET - TARRYTOWN, NY - DAY 3

A gorgeous, well-kept Colonial-style home.

4 INT. KITCHEN - DAY 4

CU on a bright blue bowl of dry cereal into which milk is poured. A spoon PLUNGES into it. Pull back to reveal the spoon handler: HORACE ALLEN, 47, British, graying, clean-cut and sensible. His doting wife, THEA ALLEN, 40, in a full face of makeup, fries eggs on the stovetop.

THEA

Just one egg, Horace, dear, lest you go hungry--

HORACE

No time, Thea. There is too much riding on this contract, I can't be late. SugarFlakes will have to carry me through my morning meeting.

Thea picks up the box of cereal with disdain.

THEA

There is zero nutritional value in SugarFlakes. Every time you buy these, an angel loses its wings.

We hear FOOTSTEPS descending the stairs. Thea hurries to hide the cereal box. Horace shovels cereal into his mouth and turns to hide it from his children as they enter: AMELIA, 15, eyes glued to her new cell phone; SHARON, 12, whose glasses went out of fashion in the 1970's; and the small, precocious EDMUND, 9.

HORACE

Sharon, you've got a lead foot coming down those stairs. Try to sound less like an elephant and more like a lady, will you?

SHARON

How do you know it was me?

HORACE

Because I've known you for the last 12 years.

Amelia, Sharon, and Edmund each take a seat at the kitchen table. Thea serves up plates of eggs and toast.

THEA

Amelia. No phone at the table. You know better.

Horace turns.

AMELIA

It's only Dex from across the street.

HORACE

Oh? And what does Dex from across the street want?

AMELIA

He's asking about the geometry homework.

HORACE

Asking to copy the geometry homework?

AMELIA

No, it isn't like that, Daddy.

HORACE

You're supposed to be setting an example for your siblings. Hand it over.

Amelia begrudgingly gives him her phone.

HORACE (CONT'D)

I told you getting her a mobile was a bad idea, Thea. Perhaps we should reconsider.

AMELIA

No! Please. All my friends have had phones for years. And they're always making jokes and references that I don't get because I'm the only one without social media.

HORACE

Amelia, if your friends' parents let them go jump off London Bridge, would you follow suit?

AMELIA

No, but--

HORACE

What if bridge-jumping was the latest
Internet trend? First it was drinking
laundry detergent. Then licking
toilets. Next it'll be bridge-jumping.
(holding Amelia's phone)
This is mine until after the weekend.
(fussing with it)
How do you turn this bloody thing off?

AMELIA

This is so unfair! Mother, do
something!

THEA

What your father says, goes.

Beat as Amelia STEWS.

EDMUND

Why's Daddy got cereal?

Horace deposits his bowl in the sink quickly.

HORACE

No idea what you're talking about,
son. It's impolite to make up stories.
Been spending a bit too much time with
Sharon.

SHARON

I didn't even say anything.

HORACE

(glancing at watch)
I should go. We're closing a number of
deals today, kids. Wish me luck.

AMELIA/EDMUND

Good luck, Daddy.

SHARON

Luck.

Horace pecks Thea on the cheek, ruffles Edmund's hair.
Hastily grabs coat and briefcase, exits.

5 EXT. ALLEN HOME - CONTINUOUS

5

Horace closes and locks the door behind him. Whips out his
car keys. Sees the driveway. Jaw drops. Pull back to reveal a

massive MOVING TRUCK blocking the driveway.

Horace rounds the truck, peers into the driver's seat. It appears to be deserted. He hears VOICES and LAUGHTER from the MEGA MANSION next door.

6 INT. MEGA MANSION - CONTINUOUS

6

Jude is sprawled on a plastic-covered couch with a shoebox on his lap. The MOVERS are his captive audience. He shows them old photographs of his grandmother.

JUDE

Is it weird for me to say she used to be hot? Like in her 20s, I mean.
'Cause she was my grandma, but facts are facts.

Movers LAUGH. Horace enters tentatively.

JUDE

Damn, I can't believe she's gone. Such a force of nature.

Jude holds up a photo of his grandma with an Elvis impersonator.

JUDE (CONT'D)

Check that one out.

The Movers pass around the photos.

JUDE (CONT'D)

And to think I missed the funeral and everything. I'm gutted, fellas.

HORACE

Hello, pardon me. I live just next door. If that's your truck outside, it's blocking my driveway, and I'm in a hurry to get to work.

Jude leaps to his feet, walks right up to Horace.

JUDE

Apologies, my man! We got a little sidetracked over here. See my grandma?
(holds up a photo to show Horace)
She left this place to me. Sure beats the hell out of the 2 by 4 I was living in below an unlicensed Korean

spa in Bushwick.

HORACE
 (nodding slowly)
 Right. I've got to get into the
 office. Would you mind--?

Jude turns to the Movers.

JUDE
 You heard the man. Get that truck out
 the way!

Movers eagerly exit.

HORACE
 (turning to leave)
 Thank you.

JUDE
 Wait! What do they call you, boss man?

HORACE
 No one calls me "boss man." Horace
 Allen.

Horace sizes up Jude, grimaces. His eyes land on Jude's long
 muscle tank with a skull, deliberate rips where the eye
 sockets should be, revealing his nipples.

JUDE
 Pleasure to know you, Horace Allen.
 I'm Jude Brooks.

Jude goes for a fist bump as Horace goes for a handshake.
 They switch approaches awkwardly. Settle on a nod.

HORACE
 Ah, well. Best of luck with your move,
 Mr. Brooks.

Horace nods to Jude, leaves. Jude leans in the doorway, CALLS
 after him:

JUDE
 Bet! Hope to see you at the
 housewarming!

Jude looks down at the photo of his grandma. Grins.

JUDE

I'll do right by this place, Gram.
Promise.

CUT TO:

7 INT. ALLEN HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

7

Amelia, Sharon, and Edmund watch from the bay window as the Movers unload Jude's eclectic belongings: a beanbag chair, poorly-packed boxes with clothing sticking out, pingpong table, a clear box with stacks of sheet music, neon signs, a 5-piece drum set, amps and speakers, wacky floor lamp, etc. Some pages of sheet music fall out.

THEA (O.C.)

The bus is going to be here any
minute. Are you three ready?

The kids are fixated. Jude comes on the scene, supervising. He lights a cigarette with another behind his ear. Thea enters.

THEA

When I ask a question, I expect an--
(she looks out the window)
--answer.

THEA'S POV as she ogles Jude's biceps, a slow-motion flex of the muscles.

Thea SNAPS HERSELF OUT OF IT.

THEA

It's impolite to stare. Go wait on the
porch for the bus.

SHARON

He looks so cool.

THEA

Is his perceived "coolness" worth
risking your perfect attendance
record? Go. Now.

Amelia, Sharon and Edmund exit. Thea watches them leave the room, then turns back to the window. She's flustered.

8 EXT. PORCH - DAY

8

Amelia has an arm around each of her siblings, leads them to

the bus as it pulls up. Still watching Jude.

DEX (O.C.)
Hey, Amelia.

Amelia's snapped back to reality by DEX, 16, star high school athlete, the neighborhood's favorite teen.

AMELIA
Dex. Hi.

Edmund makes KISSY NOISES. Amelia glares, shoos them away. Sharon and Edmund board the bus.

DEX
Looks like you've got a new next-door neighbor.

AMELIA
Yeah. It's whatever, I guess.

Short beat.

DEX
You never answered my text about--

AMELIA
Yeah, sorry. My parents were, like, totally hovering.

DEX
I get it. It's cool.

Amelia and Dex get on the bus. As it pulls away, Jude is oblivious to the schoolchildren staring at him in awe.

CUT TO:

9 INT. ALLEN HOME - BEDROOM - DAY

9

Two full beds at either side of the room, one Thea's and one Horace's.

CU on Thea's hand placing a ROMANCE NOVEL on her nightstand. We don't see her, but we do suddenly hear the sound of VIBRATING.

CUT TO:

10 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - DEN - DAY

10

Jude has Iris on speakerphone.

IRIS (O.C.)

I don't want to live in Tarrytown. I couldn't even pick that out on a map.

JUDE

Don't write it off just yet, Iris. Listen, this place is massive. Five bedrooms, none of us would have to share. It's under an hour back to the city.

IRIS (O.C.)

There's no way. I'll never be convinced.

JUDE

No rent.

IRIS (O.C.)

I could possibly be convinced.

JUDE

Mortgage totally paid off.

Beat.

JUDE

I can hear you thinking.

IRIS (O.C.)

It's a big change, Jude. I'd have to think about it. Really, really hard.

JUDE

Come on, embrace the unknown. Where's your adventurous spirit?

IRIS (O.C.)

Right now, it's at Sushi Express on Tenth Avenue. Do the 'burbs even have sushi?

Short beat. He doesn't know.

JUDE

In spades!

Beat.

IRIS (O.C.)
Have you talked to the others?

JUDE
Not yet, but something tells me they
won't be too hard to persuade.

CUT TO:

11 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - DEN - NIGHT

11

Jude and his bandmates, MAURY, 26, the stocky bassist who laughs at everything, and CAIRO, 25, quiet, curly-haired drummer, sit on the floor cross-legged, sharing a joint. Open pizza box with a few slices left. Music PLAYING LOUDLY.

MAURY
Why's all the furniture covered in
plastic?

JUDE
Dunno. I think it's an old people
thing.

MAURY
Speaking of old people, how'd your
grandma die?

JUDE
She was 98.

MAURY
Damn. Taken too soon.

Jude takes another hit.

JUDE
You doing all right over there, Cairo?

Cairo smiles and NODS.

CAIRO
All right.

MAURY
You meet any of the neighbors yet? Any
hotties in this town?

JUDE

Only this guy Horace from next door.
 (off Maury's look)
 Regular neighbor, not a hottie.

JUDE

Purple-faced, conservative, Brady
 Bunch-looking ass.

MAURY

Yikes. Jude Brooks moving in on a
 residential neighborhood full of
 families? You're going to corrupt the
 place in no time.

JUDE

Come on, Maury. It's not my intention
 to corrupt anyone. We'll all just stay
 in our respective lanes.
 (takes a hit)
 Unless someone should, you know, need
 corrupting.

Maury LAUGHS OC.

CUT TO:

12 INT. ALLEN HOME - FOYER - NIGHT

12

Horace and Thea are on their way out the door. ROBIN STARR,
 23, the family's nanny, ushers them out.

HORACE

Emergency numbers are on the fridge.
 Make sure they finish all their
 homework, and then it's straight to
 bed. No television.

THEA

We'll only be ten minutes away at the
 quaint little Italian place that just
 opened.

HORACE

Thank you again, Robin. We'll be home
 by 9.

ROBIN

No rush, Mr. and Mrs. Allen. Stay out
 as late as you want.

Beat.

HORACE

We'll be home by 9.

As Horace and Thea exit, Robin makes a face as she catches a WHIFF OF POT. Watches Horace and Thea get into their car and drive off.

EDMUND (O.C.)

I've already finished all my homework.

Robin spins around.

ROBIN

Awesome. It's still pretty early. You want to play Boggle or something?

EDMUND

No, thank you. I'd rather continue reading *War and Peace*.

Edmund goes upstairs. Robin turns back to the open front door, INHALES deeply.

13 INT. AMELIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

13

It's not your typical teenage girl's bedroom: walls bare save for one piece of expensive art, one single stuffed animal on the bed, beige sheets. Everything in its place.

Amelia lays on her bed on her stomach, chatting on the house phone.

AMELIA

No, my parents are out. We've got a babysitter. (Beat) Kind of insulting, actually...I swear, they infantilize me more and more every day.

Amelia glances out her window. Sees Robin MARCHING UP to Jude's front door.

AMELIA

I'll have to call you back, Romy.

Amelia hangs up. Watches through the window.

14 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - DEN - NIGHT

14

Jude, Maury, and Cairo LAUGH as they take turns doing IMPRESSIONS of cartoon characters. High as kites. There's a KNOCK at the door which none of them notice. Then the DOORBELL.

MAURY

OH BABY! Don't tell me you already got a sneaky link here.

Jude rises to answer the door.

JUDE

(laughing)

Not yet.

Jude opens the door to see Robin, her arms crossed.

JUDE

(in a bad British accent)

'Ello, love! What can I do for ye?

ROBIN

Oh. Hello. Um, I'm sorry to barge over like this, but I thought I smelled marijuana. Coming from this...general vicinity.

Jude stares with reddened eyes.

ROBIN

And I had to say something because-- you know, I'm babysitting right next door and there are a lot of kids on this block and, well, we don't really do that here.

JUDE

(under his breath)

Dammit, Maury.

(to Robin)

Sorry about that. I just arrived today. Didn't know the hood had rules.

ROBIN

They're sort of unwritten rules. It's OK, though, you didn't know. If you have any other questions, my name is Robin Starr. I'll be over at the Allens' until about 8:55.

JUDE

Good to know, Robin Starr. I'm Jude Brooks. Thanks for the pro-tip. We'll be a lot more careful about our drugs.

Jude starts to close the door. Robin sticks her hand in the way.

ROBIN

Wait. What?

JUDE

I said we'll be a lot more careful. Wouldn't want someone like a cop finding us in this sorta state. We're lucky it was just a chick like you.

ROBIN

A "chick" like--? No, no, no--the whole point of my coming over was to make it clear that you can't smoke around here. Not just that you can't get caught.

Beat.

JUDE

I'm not following you.

Maury and Cairo appear behind Jude.

MAURY

What's happening?
(noticing Robin)
Dude, I thought you said you didn't have a sneaky link!

Robin looks appalled.

JUDE

This is Robin Starr. She's come to yell at us. This is Maury and that's Cairo. Apparently we can't smoke around here, pals.

(beat)

So then what's the neighborhood policy on edibles?

Robin throws her hands up, exasperated, walks away back towards the Allen house. Cairo appears off Jude's shoulder.

CAIRO

I think I saw her in a dream, once.

MAURY

Yeah, she's hot as hell.

Jude closes the front door.

CUT TO:

15 INT. ALLEN HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

15

Sharon is doing homework.

SHARON

Did you meet the rockstar?

ROBIN

The who?

SHARON

HE'S IN THE WHO?!

ROBIN

What?

SHARON

The guy who just moved in next door. He had all these instruments and amps and things like that. He must be a world-famous rockstar who wants to get away from all his adoring fans and live the quiet life.

ROBIN

Yeah, I don't think so. Are you almost done with your homework?

SHARON

No. It's creative writing. It's taking forever.

ROBIN

I thought you loved creative writing.

SHARON

I do. I'm on page 18. The problem is, the assignment was only supposed to be 2 pages max.

Amelia descends the steps.

AMELIA
What've I missed?

SHARON
Robin met The Who.

AMELIA
The what?

ROBIN
That's enough, Abbott and Costello.
Amelia, is your work done?

SHARON
Probably not. Amelia's dangerously
close to flunking her classes because
she spends all her time on her new
cell phone talking to Dex.

AMELIA
Sharon--!

SHARON
Only Mom and Dad don't know because
she blocked the school number on both
of their phones.

ROBIN
Amelia! Is that true?

AMELIA
Of course not, Robin, you know
Sharon's always making up stories.

SHARON
And she's trying to nickname herself
"Ames" but it isn't exactly sticking.
It's hard to watch, honestly.

Beat as Amelia turns red and gives Sharon a look that would
easily stun a lesser being.

ROBIN
I miss two years ago when none of you
had developed personalities yet.

We hear MUSIC BLASTING from Jude's place. It is SO LOUD that
all three girls cover their ears. Robin stomps into the...

16 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS 16

Robin looks at the emergency numbers on the fridge.

INSERT:

ON A STICKY NOTE: "Department of Environmental Protection -
555-306-0603"

17 EXT. OLIVE GARDEN - NIGHT 17

CUT TO:

18 INT. OLIVE GARDEN - NIGHT 18

Horace and Thea read their menus in silence. Each of the surrounding tables has a lit candle except for theirs.

THEA

I think I'll have the shrimp alfredo.

HORACE

Hmm.

Thea glances over the top of her menu at her husband.

THEA

How was work, darling?

HORACE

Fine, I suppose.

THEA

Closed those deals?

HORACE

Well, the plan was to close, but the Japanese are making us wait 'til next week.

THEA

Oh.

Beat.

HORACE

Thea, let me ask you something.

Thea lights up.

HORACE

Are you aware there's going to be a delinquent living next door to us?

THEA

Oh. What?

HORACE

Our new neighbor is a wannabe Jon Bon Jovi. Makes me nervous for the kids.

THEA

Horace, darling, you're overthinking things. It's not as if the man is going to be playing heavy metal concerts for nudists in the front yard.

HORACE

Don't be so naive. Infestations always start out small, and then they grow and expand and before you know it the wood has completely rotted.

THEA

Who knows? Maybe you'll be pleasantly surprised and the two of you will have something in common.

HORACE

Unless this Jude fellow has an interest in Shakespearean theatre or fatherhood or skee ball, I highly doubt that. If he causes even the slightest disturbance to us or the kids with his big-city ways, I will drive him out so fast he won't know what--

WAITER comes to take their order.

WAITER

Good evening, folks. Can I get us something to drink?

HORACE

Sparkling water for the table. And we know what we want to eat. I'll have the herb-grilled salmon.

WAITER

And for you, ma'am?

THEA

Can I please have the shrimp alfredo?

HORACE

We'll forego the breadsticks. You don't really want all those carbs, do you, dear?

Short beat.

THEA

No, of course not.

The Waiter takes their menus and exits. The table is quiet again.

CUT TO:

19 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - NIGHT

19

Jude, Cairo, and Maury JAM OUT, headbanging to their own EP. Cairo grabs a fistful of hard candies and THROWS THEM at the others.

MAURY

Ow, ow--!

JUDE

Jeez, Cairo!

Jude picks one up. CLOSE ON: The recognizable hard candy in a strawberry wrapper.

JUDE

Where did you find these?

CAIRO

They are everywhere.

Maury grabs the hard candy.

MAURY

Do you think they're laced?

He unwraps one and pops it in his mouth. Jude looks thoughtful.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK:

20 INT. MANSION - NIGHT

20

SUPER: "2005"

We see YOUNG JUDE sitting cross-legged on the floor. He plucks a strawberry hard candy from a small bowl on coffee table and unwraps it. GRANDMA HAZEL, 81, sits in a rocking chair.

GRANDMA HAZEL

You like the strawberry better than the butterscotch, Judy?

YOUNG JUDE

Yeah. Mom and Dad never let me have candy at home.

GRANDMA HAZEL

Aw. That's what makes Grandma's house so sweet.

YOUNG JUDE

That's funny, Gram.

GRANDMA HAZEL

Oh, I love you, honey.

YOUNG JUDE

Love you too.

(short beat)

Am I ever going to live with my Mom and Dad again?

Grandma Hazel looks surprised--she wasn't expecting that. Before she can respond, there is VERY LOUD KNOCKING ON FRONT DOOR. Young Jude looks around.

YOUNG JUDE/PRESENT JUDE

Wait, I don't remember this part.

GRANDMA HAZEL

That's because it's happening now.

The O.S. voice of MAURY merges with Grandma Hazel's.

GRANDMA HAZEL/MAURY

Earth to Jude.

BACK TO PRESENT

Jude is snapped out of his reverie. The KNOCKING gets louder.

CAIRO

Do you think it's the dream girl
again?

MAURY

If so, she's developed a very
masculine knock in the last thirty
minutes.

Jude answers the front door. It's two POLICE OFFICERS.

JUDE

(under his breath)

Well, this is inconvenient.

21 EXT. JUDE'S MANSION / ALLEN HOME - CONTINUOUS

21

Iris holds her phone up in front of her face.

CU: ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Jude's location on "Find My Friends." It indicates that Iris is nearly next to him. She drops the phone down, spots the POLICE CAR.

IRIS

Yeah, that seems about right.

22 INT./EXT. JUDE'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

22

Jude SHOUTS over the music:

JUDE

(in a bad Irish accent)

Top o' the evenin' to ya, officers.
What can I do for ye?

OFFICER #1

We received a noise complaint.

JUDE

Is that right?

Maury TURNS OFF the music quickly.

MAURY

That's so weird, considering we are
currently generating no noise.

Jude turns to Maury with a look that says, "Let me handle this."

JUDE

(continuing in Irish accent)
 Fellas, how do I adequately express my appreciation for your stopping over? I'm brand new to the neighborhood-- moved in this morning, actually--and, well, you see, I'm a bit shy, really. So by playing our original music loud enough for the neighbors to hear, we hoped it might encourage them to stop on over and introduce themselves, and we could all share our love of music...together.

Beat as the Officers look suspicious.

OFFICER #2

Sounds like an honest mistake.

OFFICER #1

Definitely. We've received way worse noise complaints in the past.

OFFICER #2

But the caller also expressed concern over an unnerving smell.

JUDE

Oh, did they, now? Touchy subject, that. See, the reason I'm even in here is that me Nan just left this existence for a better one in God's blissful heaven. Bless her soul.

He makes the sign of the cross. Maury and Cairo follow.

JUDE

Nan died at home. It all happened so quickly, we haven't been able to get the stench out quite yet. Got all the windows open to air the place out a bit. Perhaps I haven't noticed it as I just miss her so terribly.

OFFICER #1

That's understandable.

OFFICER #2
We're very sorry for your loss,
Mister...

JUDE
O'Flanagan. Jude O'Flanagan.

Iris appears behind/between the two police officers.

JUDE
Blimey! This must be one of the
neighbors, now. Come to share the joy
of music, have you, lass?

Iris looks extremely puzzled.

OFFICER #1
Not a neighbor, I'm afraid. We know
everyone around here. And this--
(sizing her up)
--is an entirely unfamiliar face.

IRIS
(unfazed)
Visiting.
(to Jude)
Heard the music from down the block.
Love your sound. Who's your
keyboardist?

JUDE
Lovely lass, I'll be sure to get you
her number.
(to the cops)
Think we're all done here, officers?

OFFICER #2
Absolutely. Now that we know Hazel
Marchum was your grandmother, we won't
need to bother you again.

OFFICER #1
Yes, she was a wonderful member of the
community. We miss her too. Never knew
her daughter married an Irish guy.

JUDE
Oh, well, Mammy was a private lady.

OFFICER #2
You folks have a good night now, yeah?

JUDE

Sláinte!

As the cops leave, Iris slips inside. Closes door behind her.

23 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

23

IRIS

What the hell was that?

Maury playfully punches Jude's arm.

MAURY

That was Jude O'Flanagan, baby!

CAIRO

An Oscar-worthy performance, indeed.

Jude HUGS Iris.

JUDE

Knew you'd come. But I never gave you the address. How did you--?

IRIS

I have your location, remember? Followed it all the way here. Don't say I never did anything for you.

JUDE

Spending the night, I take it? Upstairs, first bedroom on the right.

Iris reluctantly grins as she trudges up the stairs. Jude turns to Maury and Cairo.

JUDE

I'm gonna need you two to write down everything I just said to those cops, because there is no way I'm gonna remember it once I sober up.

Maury watches the cops DRIVE AWAY, then turns the music BACK ON.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. ALLEN HOME - NIGHT

24

Horace and Thea pull into their driveway. The car BOUNCES from the vibrations of the music next door. Horace and Thea

exchange a look.

25 INT. ALLEN HOME - CONTINUOUS

25

Horace enters with gusto, Thea trailing behind him. Robin emerges.

HORACE

Kids aren't asleep, then?

ROBIN

They're all in bed, but, uh, no, not asleep. It's too loud next door.

HORACE

Did you call the cops?

ROBIN

Yes. They came and everything. I filled out an incident report. They spoke to the rockstar and left, just like that.

HORACE

He is not a rockstar! He is some wannabe-Rolling-Stone delinquent whose flashy liberal agenda is going to run this town right into the ground and I refuse to stand by and let that happen!

Horace races up the stairs. Thea tags along, followed by Robin.

26 INT. MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

26

Horace opens the window wide, sticks his head out.

HORACE

Brooks! Hey, Brooks!!!

From across the way, we see the BLINDS on one of Jude's windows PULL UP to reveal Jude in the bathroom. He's taking a bubble bath. His tattooed arms and chest are on full display. Thea BLUSHES. Robin ROLLS HER EYES as Jude WAVES to Horace.

JUDE

(shouting)

What up, Horace Allen?

But we can't hear him.

HORACE

I hope you know, this means war!

JUDE

What?

Jude makes massive gesture of "I can't hear you." Frustrated, Horace grabs a marker and notepad from the bedside table, scribbles on it and holds it up to the window.

27 INT. JUDE'S MANSION - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

27

From JUDE'S POV: The notepad in Horace's window, which reads "THIS MEANS WAR."

Jude NODS, smiles, genuinely amused.

We see Horace lower his own blinds. Jude sinks lower into the bath.

JUDE

"This means war." Pretty good name for a song, don't you think?

Jude glances at the FRAMED PHOTO of him and his grandma hanging on the wall. It's grainy, from years ago--probably when he was about 10. They are both smiling as she hugs his neck from behind.

JUDE

It never was my intention, Gram...but if they want war, we'll give 'em hell.

Jude CHUCKLES at the thought, HUMS to himself.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE.