HOLyISTER
(needles her)

SARA

And she heads back into the kitchen. Hollister stands there a beat... looks over as Jackson drags Dante, a Labrador twice his- size, through the room. Home sweet lome.

25 INT. HOLIISTER HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT
Start on ELIZABETH HOLLISTER, fit, beautiful, soulful, as she gets dressed for dinner. She's about to put on a pair of earrings, pauses... looks over at the photo menagerie on the shelf. One of them catches her eyes. she picks up a framed photo - it's of her with an infant in her arms.

Just then, Hollister enters:

## HOLLISTER

Hey.
She doesn't respond, still caught up in the emotion the photograph's evoking.

HOLLISTER (CONT'D)
What are you doing?
ELIZABETH
Getting ready. Big night.
She sets down the photograph, turns to him. Fe senses her emotion:

ELIZABETH (CONTD)
How was your day?
Hollister grunts, starts to empty his pockets. Wallet, badge, gun...

HOLLISTER
It was a little... ah... the usual.

He kisses her. Outside, the sOUND of the car engine turning

ELIZABETH
Is that my car?

HOLLISTER
What? Oh, yeah the kids are going out for pizza...

ELIZABETH
You told Alison she conld drive with Jackson in the car?

HOLLISTER
She told me that you said...
ELIZABETH
That I said "what?!"
Hollister sags, realizing he's been duped.
ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
I don't like it when she lies, Dan.
HOLLISTER
I hear you.
He drifts over to...
INT. HOLLISTER HOME - MASTER BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS
Dan enters and turns on the shower.
Dasid's parents Ere diforced, night?
Suddenly, he sees something on the counter, reacts.
27
INT, HOLLISTER HOME - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS
Elizabeth continues to sew.
Yeah/ The Mom'sABETH
Hollister walks back in the room, holding up an unopened HOME PREGNANCY TEST. She looks up. He waits for an answer.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
(hesitating)
...I'm late.

How late?

ELIZABETH
(beat)
A week.

HOLLISTER
You're never late.

ELIZABETH
Tell me about it...
HOLLISTER
What are you waiting for? Take the test now.

ELIZABETH
After dinner.

HOLLISTER
Why? Take it now.
ELIZABETH
This is an important night for Sara. I don't want to be distracted.

Hollister stands there, stunned.
HOLLISTER
Wow. . .
They look at each other. Shower's RUNNING. The dog starts BARKING outside.

ELIZABETH
You're upset.
HOLLISTER
It's just a lot to get my head around.
ELIZABETH
I know... but if it happens, it could be wonderful. Couldn't it, Dan...?

HOLLISTER
Sure... quess, I'll keep my day job, for a while longer.

She fills with emotion.

ELIZABETH
Please don't be upset...
He holds up the pregnancy test again, puts on a good face.

HOLLISTER
After dinner then... whatever happens, we' ll work it out.

Elizabeth feels a little better, reassured. Hollister begins to strip out of his clothes.

ELIZABETH
Better throw the shirt away. she doesn't miss anything.

HOLLISTER
Hmm?

ELIZABETH
Blood doesn't come out.
He looks down. The blood splatter.
HOLLISTER
Yeah, okay...
He turns to walk into the bathroom.
ELIZABETH
Love you.
HOLLISTER
(off her look)
Love you, too.

INT. HOLLISTER HOME - MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT
 SHOWER

Hollister lets the water run over him. He leans against the wall and closes his eyes, the weight of the world on his shoulders.

The ritual of cleaning.
He grabs a washcloth and scrubs, as if the soap can somehow wash away the experience of his schizophrenic day.

INT. HOLLISTER HOME - FOYER - NIGHT
Entering the house is DAVID GRAHAM, 23, lean, tall with a mop of sandy hair. He smiles down shyly at his girlfriend, Sara. Her anxiety melts away at seeing him.

SARA
Hey,

JAY (CONT'D)
Are you coming?
Scene *2
DAVID
... I'm going to stay here with sara.
JAY
(disgusted)
Jay and Skye exit. A lond, uncomfortable silence.
(to David)
I'm sorry, David, I don't know what to say.

But David turns to Hollist申r:
DAVID
Mr. Hollister --
HOLLISTER
I apologize, Davi申. I should've kept my cool --

DAVID
That was the first time in my life that I ever saw anyone stand up to my old man. He's a bully.

Hollister admits a small grip.
HOLLIS TER
World's full of 'en.
David nods, then turns to Saga:
DAVID
My dad's an asshole right...

Sara hugs David, relieved. As she does, she looks over his
INT. HOLLISTER HOME - MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT
The home pregnancy box sits open on the counter next to the sink. Pull back to reveal Elizabeth in her bathrobe holding the test wand in her hand.

ELIZABETH
Two pink lines, I'm pregnant. One pink line, I'm drying up.

HOLLISTER
What do you mean?

ELIZABETH
Early menopause. It happens.
(off his look)
Jennifer Harcourt started getting hot flashes a year ago and she's younger than I am...

HOLLISTER
... let's find out.

ELIZABETH
Still love me?

HOLLISTER
Like crazy.
ELIZABETH
Here we go,
She opens her hands and stares at the little window.
Hollister watches her face to gauge her reaction. Tears well up in her eyes. Hollister waits, puzzled, anticipating the outcome.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
(with a touch of melancholy)
... I guess were off the hook.
She slips deeply into his arms. He holds on tight.
 Bittersweet.

INT. HOLLISTER HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT
IN BED - A LITTLE LATER
Dan's winding down, TV remote in hand, He FLIPS through the channels until he lands on the news. The phone RINGS.
Hollister glances at the clock, then answers.
On the other end. (in phone) HOLLISIER
34

