HOLLISTER  
(needles her)  
Uh-oh.

SARA
I just don't want you to start telling stories about "cracking heads" and "kicking in doors." He won't be into that.

HOLLISTER
Got it, Sara. I'll only talk about wine and poetry and stuff.

SARA
That's not funny.

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 home.

INT. HOLLISTER 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. He senses her emotion:

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
How was your day?

Hollister grunts, starts to empty his pockets. Wallet, badge, gun...

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

(CONTINUED)
He kisses her. Outside, the SOUND of the car engine turning over.

ELIZABETH
Is that my car?

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

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

HOLLISTER
She told me that you said...

ELIZABETH
That I said "what?!"

Hollister says, 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.

HOLLISTER
David's parents are divorced, right?

Suddenly, he sees something on the counter, reacts.

INT. HOLLISTER HOME - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Elizabeth continues to sew.

ELIZABETH
Yeah. The Mom's in San Francisco. The dad's bringing his lady friend.

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.

(Continued)
How late?

(beat)
A week.

You're never late.

Tell me about it...

What are you waiting for? Take the test now.

After dinner.

Why? Take it now.

This is an important night for Sara. I don't want to be distracted.

Hollister stands there, stunned.

Wow...

They look at each other. Shower's RUNNING. The dog starts BARKING outside.

You're upset.

It's just a lot to get my head around.

I know... but if it happens, it could be wonderful. Couldn't it, Dan...?

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

She fills with emotion.

Please don't be upset...

He holds up the pregnancy test again, puts on a good face.
CONTINUED: (2)

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.

Happy

28 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.

29 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.

(Continued)
32 CONTINUED: (7)

JAY (CONT'D)
Are you coming?

DAVID
... I'm going to stay here with Sara.

JAY (disgusted)
I'm not surprised.

Jay and Skye exit. A long, uncomfortable silence.

SARA
(to David)
I'm sorry, David. I don't know what to say.

But David turns to Hollister:

DAVID
Mr. Hollister--

HOLLISTER
I apologize, David. 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 grin.

HOLLISTER
World's full of 'em.

David nods, then turns to Sara:

DAVID
My dad's an asshole, your dad was right...

Sara hugs David, relieved. As she does, she looks over his shoulder and takes a look with her dad.

33 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.

(CONTINUED)
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 we're off the hook.

She slips deeply into his arms. He holds on tight.

Bittersweet.

34 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.

HOLLISTER
(in phone)
Hello...

On the other end...

GREER'S VOICE
Dan, it's Bill.

(CONTINUED)