

A Class of Their Own

PILOT EPISODE

By

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FADE IN:

CAROLINE (O.S.)
...the question is: can we let a
brutal criminal walk around us,
threatening our children;
threatening ourselves?

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

People listen patiently, nervous anticipation on their faces. They look at CAROLINE FELDMAN, 32. She stands in the middle of the room, her face calm, eyes focused.

CAROLINE
We've seen the evidence. We've
heard the statement of the eminent
pathologist, Doctor Olivia
Green. We've seen, with our own
eyes, that all the evidence points
in one direction. And that is of
course, at the defendant.

She turns to face DEFENDANT. He is an elderly man, who looks like everyone's idea of a grandfather. He smiles to her politely and fixes his glasses.

CAROLINE
Your honor, members of the jury. I
ask you - do not be blinded by
appearances. However hard, the
truth stays the truth. And today
the truth is that this man
kidnapped and killed four
people. Please, ladies and
gentleman. Think of our
future. Thank you.

Caroline sits down. The jury is a mass of different facial expressions. Caroline looks down at her notes.

The sound MUTES.

Caroline closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline sits alone in a fancy-looking apartment. She sips wine, going through some papers.

A phone RINGS.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Feldman.

LIV (O.S.)
Oh come on, stop doing that, you
know it's me...

INTERCUT:

INT. PUB - SAME

Easy music plays in the background. Buzz of people who chat around. OLIVIA GREEN, 32 stays in a slight distance from a group of merry people.

LIV
...drop the formalities.

CUT BACK TO:

LIVING ROOM:

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Well, maybe it's someone calling
from your phone. How can I be
sure?

PUB:

LIV
(into phone)
Ah, never mind that. Why aren't
you here?

LIVING ROOM

CAROLINE
(into phone)
I have work.

She looks at the papers and takes another sip of wine. She stands up and walks towards a window-wall.

(CONTINUED)

LIV (O.S.)

We've just won a case! Everyone's celebrating, everyone's talking about you! We all thought it was going to be a lost cause, but you made it! As usual. And we put the bastard into the well-earned jail cell at last. Bloody idiot. Thought the jury would fall for his innocent looks, but he didn't think he would cross paths with great Caroline Feldman...

CAROLINE

(into phone)

How many drinks did you have exactly?

PUB:

LIV

(into phone)

A few.

LIVING ROOM:

CAROLINE

(into phone)

Bye Liv.

PUB:

LIV

(into phone)

No- No, wait! Ah, damn it Caro...

(hangs up)

Just once. Just once you could act like a human.

She turns on the spot and walks back to the group of people. They welcome her comeback with cheerful sounds.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Caroline puts her phone onto the table. She takes the glass of wine and walks back to the window-wall, leaning on it. She stares into the dark distance, her expression unclear.

MAIN TITLES: A CLASS OF THEIR OWN

EXT. FORECOURT - DAY

Muddy vehicles stand on the ground. People with sponges work around them. There is a sign above them that reads: CHARITY CAR WASH.

Caroline looks at it, revulsion on her face.

CAROLINE
So why am I here?

Liv stands beside her, beaming.

LIV
I told you. We are needed.

CAROLINE
I thought you meant we had a case...

LIV
It is a case. A case of washing cars!

CAROLINE
I'm sorry, I don't have time for this. I have work to do...

She turns to leave, but Liv catches her elbow and drags her back.

LIV
Well, you can keep on living your boring work-life, or you can stay here and help people with problems bigger than a grumpy attitude.

CAROLINE
I don't have... I'm doing enough for charity already, okay?

LIV
Oh come on... It's good publicity! Every influential person is doing it. Look, there's Justice Cameron over there.

She points towards a balding man with small oval glasses. It's JUSTICE JEREMY CAMERON. He grins and waves when sees their stares. Liv waves back cheerfully. Caroline grimaces in a smile.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

Too bad he didn't have the serial killer case. He always works well with me. Persuading the jury would have been even simpler...

LIV

Well I think you did well without him anyway. Oh look, detective Stevenson is here as well!

CAROLINE

Who?

LIV

Goodness' sake Care... The one that investigated the serial killer case in the first place! Honestly, how can you not know? You bloody worked with him!

Caroline skims the lawn. She spots DUNCAN STEVENSON, 40. He washes the car with undisturbed focus.

CAROLINE

Oh... That one. Yeah I know the face.

LIV

He asked for you yesterday.

CAROLINE

Oh.

LIV

He's quite good looking. You could do with a man.

CAROLINE

I don't need a distraction.

LIV

So you say...

CAROLINE

Go on and say hello if you're so fond of him.

LIV

As a matter of fact, I will. And you can get to work! The cars need you.

(CONTINUED)

The disgust on Caroline's face deepens. She gazes after Liv.

Liv smiles and cheerfully chats with Duncan. He is gloomy. Judge Cameron joins them.

Caroline looks resigned. She frowns suddenly and looks down.

A little girl stands next to her. She tugs on her jeans. It's EMILY SCOTT, 11. She studies Caroline with curiosity.

CAROLINE

What?

EMILY

You're that barista.

The corner of Caroline's mouth twitches. Her eyes remain cold.

CAROLINE

No I'm not. I am, however a barrister, if that's what you had in mind.

Emily blushes.

EMILY

Yeah... The barrister! You're that barrister, aren't you?

CAROLINE

What barrister?

EMILY

The one that made this bad man go to prison! I saw in the telly!

CAROLINE

Yes I am that barrister. And?

EMILY

It's so great! You're like a superhero, you catch the bad men!

CAROLINE

Don't you have somewhere else to be?

(CONTINUED)

EMILY

Is it hard? Do you think I could be a superhero like you?

CAROLINE

I'm not-

EMILY

Cause that would be cool... And I would be on the news and all...

Caroline gazes around, desperately. Liv still chats to Justice Cameron and Duncan. Duncan is more relaxed now.

Caroline looks back at Emily.

CAROLINE

Look. I don't know who you are, but I think it would be better for you to pop off now. Your parents may be worried.

EMILY

No, they're not. They're never worried.

Caroline frowns. She opens her mouth, but-

ANGIE (O.S.)

Em! For God's sake, I've been looking everywhere for you!

ANGIE SCOTT, 15, runs towards them. She sends Caroline a harsh look.

ANGIE

And who the hell are you?

CAROLINE

I'm Caroline Feldman, and you'd better mind your tone.

ANGIE

Whatever. Em, we need to go.

Her eyes flash quickly over Caroline's shoulder at Liv, Justice and Duncan. Caroline doesn't notice.

EMILY

Angie, this is that barista! Maybe she could...

ANGIE

Shut up! We're going. Now.

CAROLINE

I'm sorry, who are you?

There is a spark in Caroline's eyes.

ANGIE

None of your bloody business.

Angie grips Emily's hand and drags her away.

CAROLINE

Where are you taking her?! Hey, young girl. Are you her sister?

LIV

Who are you shouting at?

Liv rejoins Caroline with a couple of sponges and a bucket.

Caroline frowns. The fiery spark leaves her eyes.

CAROLINE

No one. Let's get this done.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Sun shines brightly. Couples walk around. Dogs bark cheerfully. A group of children play catch in the distance.

Caroline sits on a bench, a paper cup in her hands. She watches the children. The eruptions of laughter are almost rhythmical.

She takes a sip. Her eyes shift to the right. She frowns.

Duncan leans against the fence, studies the group of children. He takes out his phone and takes a picture. He types something and slides it into his pocket.

Caroline takes another sip, her expression blank.

Duncan glances around and walks away.

LIV (O.S.)

I'm so sorry!

She drops next to Caroline, out of breath.

(CONTINUED)

LIV (CONT'D)

They brought me students and I had to show them livers and... Well, you don't need to know that. Had a good day?

CAROLINE

Marvelous.

LIV

Won a case?

CAROLINE

Started a case.

LIV

Will you win?

CAROLINE

I always do.

She finishes her drink and bins the cup.

EXT. PARK - LATER

Leaves dance on the path. The wind moves the leafless branches.

Caroline and Liv stroll along. Liv gesticulates vigorously. Caroline keeps her hands in her pockets, her neck buried in the large scarf. Her gaze is locked on the pavement.

LIV

...and so, we found that the cause of death was not the bullet, but the ruptured aortic artery. It popped seconds before. The forensics in London are appalling, honestly. And the lawyers weren't helpful. Duncan is not fond of them too...

CAROLINE

Duncan?

Caroline frowns and drags her stare at Liv.

LIV

Yes, he told me the other day when we-

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

Since when do you two talk?

LIV

Well it's started after the serial murderer case, I told you he asked about you... I can arrange something, if you're interested?

CAROLINE

I most certainly am not. But I think I'm working with him again.

LIV

Oh, that's great! You'll get a chance to meet him better. Maybe you'll warm up to him.

CAROLINE

I don't see why would I have a need to do that.

LIV

You could do with a man. You're lonely.

CAROLINE

I'm fine.

They walk past two girls. One visibly older. She tries to get the younger one to leave a squirrel.

It's Emily and Angie.

Caroline stops.

LIV

Care?

Caroline blinks.

It's not Emily and Angie.

CAROLINE

Sorry, something in my shoe. It's gone now.

LIV

Are you sure?

CAROLINE

Yes. Come on.

KNOCKING FADES IN...

INT. CAROLINE'S OFFICE - DAY

Caroline sits behind a desk, her back towards it. She gazes through the window.

CAROLINE
Come in!

The door open slightly. Caroline frowns.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Hello?

The door opens widely and Emily marches in. Caroline's eyes widen, she swings in her chair to fully face the door.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Oh... Hello. What are you doing here?

Emily gazes around the room, her mouth open, her eyes shining. She holds a small teddy bear by its arm. Caroline studies her from behind a desk.

Emily skips to the chair in front of the desk and climbs in. Her feet dangle above the floor. She continues to stare around the room.

EMILY
Why do you have papers on the walls? Is that an adult thing? Do we get papers when we get older and have to put it on the walls?

CAROLINE
They're my certificates and diplomas. They allow me do my job.

EMILY
Oh, so like name tags?

CAROLINE
No. They are the proof of my degree.

EMILY
Your temperature?

CAROLINE
My qualifications.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY

Oh.

She nods, still uncertain. She locks her gaze on the floor. Caroline hesitates.

CAROLINE

Emily? How did you find me?

EMILY

I saw in the newspaper... It said that when you have a problem you can come to you and I...

The door opens again. Duncan walks in. He shuts the door and shoots a look at Emily. He frowns.

DUNCAN

Busy?

CAROLINE

Obviously.

DUNCAN

Justice Cameron wants us to go over the Jenkins & Bellamy case.

CAROLINE

Give me a few minutes.

He nods and leaves. Caroline focuses her stare on Emily. The girl tugs at the teddy bear. She suddenly seems very small in her chair.

CAROLINE

Emily?

She jerks and drops the teddy bear.

CAROLINE

Emily, why are you here?

She springs to her feet.

EMILY

I don't know. I shouldn't. Angie will get mad...

CAROLINE

Emily... Tell me. What's wrong? Angie is your sister, right?

EMILY

There's a bad man... A bad man.

Caroline stands up too. She leans against the desk.

CAROLINE

What bad man, Emily?

EMILY

Bad...

She recoils and steps back. She gets to the door and runs quickly.

CAROLINE

Emily!

She runs after her and gazes through the door. Dozen of faces stare at her with confused expressions.

CAROLINE

Really? No one thought to stop her?

Caroline shuts the door. She leans against it and breaths quickly. She spots the teddy bear on the floor.

END OF ACT ONE

EXT. PARK - DAY

SONG: Guns N' Roses - "Welcome to the Jungle"

Caroline jogs through the park. Eyes locked in front of her, focused. Earphones cut her out of the world.

A group of children in yellow waistcoats stand on the side. The teacher notices Caroline and smiles.

TEACHER

Oh, Mrs. Feldman! What a surprise to see you here, maybe you could spare a few minutes to...

Caroline runs past them. Her eyes never leave the spot in front of her.

TEACHER

Ah, well... Maybe some other time.

Caroline goes by the same spot she was yesterday. Her eyes leave her trail for one second to glance at the field where the children were playing yesterday. It's empty. Her eyes snap back to focus in front of her.

INT. CLASSY HALLWAY - DAY

Caroline walks through the hall, she pants. She gets to her door. She opens it. Her eyes widen and her face falls. She closes the door quickly. Takes a few breaths and opens them slowly again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two people sit in Caroline's living room. One of them is Liv. The other person is CHLOE FELDMAN, 22. She wears a white dress and her hairstyle is elf-like. Both her and Liv drink tea, biscuits at the small, glass table between them.

Liv jumps. Caroline enters her apartment slowly.

LIV (O.S.)
Care! I'm sorry, I let myself
in! But we just wanted you to have
a surprise.

Chloe smiles warmly.

CHLOE
Carrie! How lovely to see you! I
brought some pictures from our
childhood, look...

Liv smiles tensely and glances at Caroline shyly.

CAROLINE
What are you doing here?

Chloe shifts in her seat.

CHLOE
Mum was getting nervous.

CAROLINE
And she sent you?

CHLOE
I offered.
(beat)
We haven't heard from you in ages.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE
I sent a Christmas card.

CHLOE
Two years ago, yes.

Caroline takes her headphones out of her ears and puts them at a small table near the door along with her phone and keys.

CAROLINE
Was it two years? It seems less than that.

Chloe takes a sip, calmly. Liv's eyes dash from one to another. She tugs at her sleeve.

CHLOE
Of course. You lead such a busy life. It wouldn't hurt you to just pop by sometimes, you know. We all miss you.

Caroline leaves. Liv stares at Chloe sympathetically.

CAROLINE (O.S.)
Liv!

Liv jumps again.

LIV
I'm just... Gonna...

CHLOE
It's okay.

She takes a sip.

Liv runs out of the room stiffly.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

The room is the size of a bedroom. Fancy bathtub in one corner, shower in another. It's all black and white. One wall's upper part is covered with a mirror.

Caroline sits on the closed toilet.

Liv closes the door behind her.

(CONTINUED)

LIV

I'm so sorry. She just turned up. She just called me and asked if I still had your keys and that she wanted you to have a surprise and you know how I always get with her, I just can't refuse.

CAROLINE

It's fine.

LIV

Are you sure? I know you don't want-

CAROLINE

It's fine. Did she tell you anything? Why is she here?

LIV

I think she's just missed you. It is a human thing, you know.

CAROLINE

Can you tell her to go?

LIV

Excuse me?

CAROLINE

I don't want her here.

Liv blinks quickly and her grip tightens on the mug she's still holding.

LIV

Look. I understand you have your issues, but I can't see why-

CAROLINE

Well, you don't understand then, do you?

LIV

I just sometimes don't get what's wrong with you. You can't keep closing yourself off.

She puts the mug on the edge of black marble sink.

Caroline looks up at her and raises her eyebrows.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

Liv?

LIV

I'm sorry. I won't do your dirty work for you. You want her gone, do it yourself.

She leaves the bathroom.

Caroline blinks after her. She hides her face in her palms.

LIV (O.S.)

Bye Chloe! It was lovely to see you!

The front door SHUTS.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Caroline emerges out of the darkness. She still wears the running gear.

CAROLINE

So you're still here?

Chloe perches on the couch, gazes through the window wall.

CHLOE

I just don't understand, Carrie. What have we ever done to you?

Caroline sighs and sits on the couch opposite her.

CAROLINE

Nothing. That's it.

CHLOE

Why can't you even call once a few months? Surely you're not that busy...

CAROLINE

No, it's not that, you just... Just don't try to understand, please.

Chloe moves to sit next to her. Caroline turns away.

CHLOE

You know you can tell me if anything bothers you. I'm your sister.

Caroline looks at the photos, scattered around the table. She picks one up.

EXT. OXFORD UNIVERSITY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

CAROLINE (O.S.)
It's my graduation day.

The forecourt is filled with newly graduates.

Caroline poses to the picture with her parents and Chloe, who looks much younger. Caroline wears blue poplin, edged with white fur fabric. She smiles widely, an odd expression for present Caroline. Her parents embrace her, her mum kisses her temple.

CHLOE (O.S.)
We're still here, Carrie. And we miss you.

CAROLINE (O.S.)
I miss you too.

CHLOE (O.S.)
Why are you so afraid of letting us back in your life?

Caroline's dad steals her hat and throws it up in the air. Caroline laughs.

CAROLINE (O.S.)
You all care. So much. And I can't. I can't care. Not in my profession.

CHLOE (O.S.)
You always say that. But you don't see that you can't just carry on living like that...

Caroline's mum gives dad a patronising look, her knuckles on her hips.

CAROLINE (O.S.)
Well, but that's the point. I'm fine and then you come around and I feel weak and emotional again. And you really couldn't have chosen a worse moment to arrive.

The hat falls down slowly. It touches the ground.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Chloe puts her hand on Caroline's arm. She shakes it off.

CHLOE

What case are you working on?

CAROLINE

It's not a case. Not yet, I don't think.

CHLOE

What happened?

Caroline hesitates. She looks at another photo on the table - her and Chloe, much younger, embrace each other and smile. Caroline gazes through the window. She bites her lip.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Carrie, I... Please don't shut me out.

She hesitates for a moment and reaches into her bag. She pulls out a small porcelain elephant. She puts it onto the table. Caroline looks at it, her eyes glassy.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I do try, you know that...

CAROLINE

I know.

She blinks a couple of times and inhales heavily. She looks back at Chloe.

CAROLINE

Chloe... You work with children, don't you?

CHLOE

Oh... Yes, why?

CAROLINE

If they... disliked someone, how would they conceal it to let you know without saying anything?

CHLOE

They probably wouldn't try to conceal it, I mean they are children, they openly mock one another all the time...

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

Yes, but let's assume they don't want everyone to know.

CHLOE

I don't know... They would probably act weirdly around them, I think?

CAROLINE

Yes, but what if that person is not aro-

(beat)

Oh.

Caroline sits upright. Her eyes widen, her mouth slightly opened.

MONTAGE - FLASHBACKS

A) Angie looks above Caroline's shoulder at the car wash, her eyes terrified. Behind Caroline there's Duncan and Liv talking lively.

B) Duncan watches children playing in the field. He takes a picture.

C) Duncan bursts into Caroline's office. He grimaces at Emily. She shivers.

END MONTAGE.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CAROLINE

Oh my god.

CHLOE

Carrie, what-

CAROLINE

I think I know... I have to go.

Caroline runs to the door and opens it. She stops in mid-way. She turns to Chloe.

CAROLINE

Thanks, sis.

Caroline shuts the door behind her. Chloe blinks. She looks at the elephant and smiles.

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

The space seems a bit less fancy than in Caroline's building. Still an expensive looking place.

Caroline BANGS on the door. There is no answer. She BANGS again, more aggressively.

CAROLINE

Liv! Olivia! Please, let me in! I know you're in there. I need to talk to you!

LIV (O.S.)

Yeah? What do you need me to do now?

CAROLINE

I'm sorry I was acting like a spoiled brat, but I really need to talk to you. Please, Liv. I need you.

Caroline sighs and leans against the door. She hits the wall behind her with her fist, unconsciously.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I know you're mad. I never meant to use you even if it seems like I do. You're the only person I truly trust.

A rattle of the lock.

The door opens. Liv's head peeks from her apartment. She frowns, doesn't smile.

LIV

You must be really desperate.

A corner of Caroline's mouth twitches upwards.

CAROLINE

I really am.

Liv bites her lip.

YOUNG LIV (O.S.)

Mine!

INT. FELDMAN MANSION - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Liv and Caroline sit next to each other at the kitchen table. They are both around 10 years old.

Liv's mouth is filled with chocolate cake.

YOUNG CAROLINE

Livie!

YOUNG LIV

Showee...

Caroline rolls her eyes and laughs.

Liv gulps and joins in the laughter.

The lock rattles in the background. Caroline's eyes flash expectantly towards the door.

Her parents walk in, their arms filled with packages.

MR FELDMAN

Sounds like we're missing all the fun.

His wife looks at him and gasps, overly-dramatically.

MRS FELDMAN

How dare you! And walking around the shops with me wasn't fun?

MR FELDMAN

Was, until you started stopping by every single baby skirt.

Mrs Feldman leaves the packages on the table and it is now visible that she's pregnant.

Mr Feldman approaches the table and puts the shopping on it. He kisses Caroline's head.

MR FELDMAN

Hello, princess.

She leans away from him and crosses her arms.

YOUNG CAROLINE

Stop it! I'm not a princess!

MRS FELDMAN

She's a superhero, John. Have you forgotten?

(CONTINUED)

Caroline stands on the stool in a majestic pose.

YOUNG CAROLINE
I will fight for the people of
Earth! I will put an end to crime
and injustice!

Liv watches her with wide eyes, her mouth opened.

MR FELDMAN
Sure, you will, princess.

YOUNG CAROLINE
Daddy!

MR FELDMAN
I'm joking, easy.

He grabs her by her waist and carries her around the room. She laughs.

Mrs Feldman looks at Liv who now watches Caroline and her dad, longing on her face. She puts a hand on Liv's arm. She jumps and tears her eyes away from Caroline.

MRS FELDMAN
How are you, Livie?

YOUNG LIV
I'm fine, thank you, Mrs Feldman.

MRS FELDMAN
Oh darling, I've told you many
times. Just call me Grace.

YOUNG LIV
Okay, Mrs Feldman.

She puts her hand on her mouth, her cheeks pink. Mrs Feldman laughs and ruffles her hair.

Liv stares back at Caroline and her dad, who now paces the room with Caroline piggy-backing. Liv's lips quiver. Her eyes absent.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. LIV'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The place is finished with a less posh touch than Caroline's. It looks modern and neat. Not too big.

Liv sits an armchair next to a small, electric fireplace, her legs curled up. She frowns at Caroline, who sits opposite her.

LIV
Are you serious?

CAROLINE
What?

LIV
Duncan? Really?

CAROLINE
I'm not joking, Liv.

LIV
No, seriously, you can stop. I'm not mad anymore. I just hope you worked out things with your sister.

CAROLINE
It's not about her, Liv!

LIV
Isn't it always? Isn't it why you escaped your family?

CAROLINE
What?

LIV
You just never appreciated anything, did you? And when she came around, you just couldn't bare not being the only child in your dad's eye, could you?

She jumps to her feet and starts to pace around.

CAROLINE
Where is this coming from?

LIV
You just don't understand anything, do you?

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

No, right now, I don't think you understand... It's a serious situation, it's not about us anymore, Liv... I honestly don't know what your problem is.

LIV

You just really don't get anything, do you?

CAROLINE

How many times do you want me to apologize, Liv? Did you just take a liking to me being all weak and on my knees, ready to open up to you?

LIV

I won't say that it wouldn't be bloody nice if you opened up once in a while!

Caroline stands up as well.

CAROLINE

I'm trying! Can't you see? I'm trying to open up, but you don't care about anything I have to say, do you?

LIV

You know it's not that. You just don't do things like that, Caroline. It's like I don't even know you anymore.

CAROLINE

Well, maybe you've never known me then.

LIV

Maybe.

Heavy silence fills the room. Both women eye each other, ready to fight.

Caroline shakes her head and looks away.

CAROLINE

Okay. Forget it.

She runs to the door and SHUTS it behind her.

END OF ACT TWO

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

The place seems busy. There are papers scattered on the tables, people pace up and down, phone calls ring in the hum of chattering.

Some of the officers gaze up at Caroline when she storms past.

OFFICER #1
Morning, Ms Feldman!

OFFICER #2
Nice to see you Mrs Feldman, can we help?

OFFICER #3
Cool outfit...

Caroline gazes down and realizes she still wears her running gear. She doesn't stop to think about it. She gets to the door with a label that reads *DI DUNCAN STEVENSON*. She bursts in without knocking.

INT. DUNCAN'S OFFICE - SAME

Duncan is halfway through dressing in his jacket. He stops when sees Caroline and frowns.

DUNCAN
Oh... Caroline. I wasn't expecting you. Is that about the case?

CAROLINE
It's not about the case. What is your relationship with the little girl named Emily?

DUNCAN
What?

CAROLINE
The girl that was in my office when you burst in. What is your relationship with her?

(CONTINUED)

DUNCAN

I honestly don't know what you're on about. That was the first time I saw her.

CAROLINE

Why would you send her that awful look?

DUNCAN

What look? You're imagining things.

CAROLINE

You know that girl and you were afraid that she was in my office to tell me all about you.

Duncan's surprise fades to concern.

DUNCAN

Caroline. I think you need to rest. You're just not making sense. I promise, that time in your office was the first time I saw this girl.

Caroline takes a while to inhale. She looks at him and frowns. Her face back to the old focused expression.

CAROLINE

What about the park? I saw you taking pictures of those children.

DUNCAN

Children?

(beat)

Oh... That was for a case I'm working on now. I can show you the pictures. They are in the files, right here.

He shuffles through the documents at his desk. He finds a folder and hands it to Caroline. She skims through it, her face relaxing. There are pictures of one child, noted *JIMMY JONES, SON OF THE SUSPECT*.

CAROLINE

I'm sorry.

DUNCAN

Are you sure you're alright?

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

Yes. I have to go.

DUNCAN

I can drive you home if you want me to.

CAROLINE

No, thank you. I have my car.

DUNCAN

Okay. I was leaving anyway, we can go together.

Caroline nods slowly and moves to leave the room. Duncan opens the door for her. She passes him without a word.

EXT. CAR PARK - NIGHT

Caroline and Duncan walk side by side in silence. Their footsteps ECHO. The car park is empty, with just a few cars left. There are no people around. Dogs BARK in the background. Street lamps light the area dimly.

There's a muffled SCREAM.

Duncan grabs Caroline's hand. She pulls away.

CAROLINE

What do you think you're-

DUNCAN

Keep your voice down.

His eyes are narrowed. He gazes towards the bushes near the car park.

He signals Caroline to follow him. They approach the bush.

EMILY (O.S.)

Leave meeee... You can't do it...
I don't want it... I'm gonna
teeell...

MAN (O.S.)

Shut up. You're not gonna say
anything, can you hear me? You
just do as you're told. Behave,
like your sister.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

I know those voices...

They move to a little gap in the fence. Through it on the other side the dim light of the lanterns shows Emily struggling to get away from a MAN.

DUNCAN

Isn't that...

The MAN moves into the light and they see him clearly now.

It's JUSTICE JEREMY CAMERON.

Caroline jerks upright and tries to get through the bushes. Duncan grabs her around the waist and puts one hand over her mouth.

CAROLINE

No... Let me...

DUNCAN

You can't do it now. Come on. You can't help her now.

CAROLINE

Let me go!

Duncan picks her up and tries to carry her to her car.

Emily's SCREAM pierces the air again.

Caroline jerks in Duncan's arms.

The scream and the muffled voices die.

Duncan relaxes his grip. Caroline stumbles away.

CAROLINE

What the hell is wrong with you? Why didn't you let me go there? You're a detective for God's sake!

DUNCAN

You need to calm down. I can't just go there and take him down. He is too powerful.

CAROLINE

That's bullshit.

DUNCAN

Listen. I know how this works. I can't just burst in there and arrest him. Plus, you're risking your career.

CAROLINE

What am I going to do then, huh? Just sit here and wait until the next time Emily comes over to ask for help tell her to go home and wait for him to come for her again, because I have my hands tied for some reason?

DUNCAN

No.

CAROLINE

What do you propose, then? That wouldn't be too powerful to you?

DUNCAN

Build a case. With enough evidence you can take him down.

Caroline glances at him. Her eyes determined.

INT. LIV'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The place is dark. The door bell RINGS aggressively.

The lights turn on. Liv straggles across the room, she wears her dressing gown. Her hair messed up, her eyes swollen.

LIV

I'm coming...

The door bell RINGS more aggressively.

LIV

I'm coming! Jesus...

She looks through the spyhole. Duncan leans against the frame, frowns.

Liv blinks and quickly runs her hands through her hair.

She inhales and opens the door.

(CONTINUED)

LIV
Duncan! What's-

Duncan moves away to reveal Caroline. Liv raises eyebrows at Duncan, Caroline walks past him into the apartment.

INT. LIV'S APARTMENT - LATER

Caroline sits in the armchair, her knees under her chin, her eyes absent. Liv approaches her slowly.

LIV
Care... I'm so sorry. I really don't know what happened to me before.

CAROLINE
It was him, Liv... All along. Under my nose.

LIV
It wasn't just you, Care. He fooled all of us. But Duncan is right, if you went after him tonight it would hurt you more than him.

Caroline's face is emotionless. Liv sits in the chair opposite her. Duncan perches on the arm of it.

CAROLINE
That's not what our job is. We fight for justice... We trust the Justice.

Liv and Duncan exchange looks.

LIV
You can still fight, Care.

CAROLINE
How? Building a case will take forever. They don't have that much time. It's happening to them now. It's happening cause you didn't let me fight!

She shoots an accusing look at Duncan.

LIV
He was right, Care...

(CONTINUED)

A phone RINGS. Liv and Duncan look at Caroline. She frowns and realizes it's her device.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Hello?

CHLOE (O.S.)
Carrie? Are you alright?

Caroline stands up and puts her hand on her forehead.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Yes, I'm sorry.

CHLOE (O.S.)
It's okay, I was just
worried. Will you come back for
the night?

Caroline looks at Liv. She shakes her head adamantly.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
I don't think so...

Caroline walks away from the pair.

CHLOE (O.S.)
Thought so. I had to leave, but I
used the spare keys to lock the
door.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Thank you.

CHLOE (O.S.)
I will stick around town, if you
want to grab a cuppa, or
something... Anyway. Good luck
with anything that's going
on. You're still a hero to me.

Caroline hangs up. She taps her hand with the phone. She stares into distance.

She walks back to Liv and Duncan. Liv looks at her with concern. Duncan paces the room, his arms folded.

CAROLINE

She wanted me to come home. She's worried of being alone, you know. She's not very familiar with the place after all.

DUNCAN

I'll drive you.

CAROLINE

You left your car at the car park.

Duncan opens and closes his mouth.

LIV

Care, I really don't think you should go anywhere now...

CAROLINE

I'll be fine.
(to Duncan)
Come on, I'll drive you to the car park.

Duncan hesitates. He gazes at Liv.

DUNCAN

Will you be alright?

Liv studies Caroline. Then she jumps and looks at Duncan.

LIV

What? Me? Yes, yes sure! Thank you.

Duncan nods and opens the door for Caroline.

LIV (CONT'D)

Call me when you get home, okay?

Caroline nods. She doesn't look at her.

END OF ACT THREE

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Caroline drinks coffee in her car. Her eyes tired but attentive. She takes out her phone. Stares at it. Begins to dial. She cancels and puts the phone away.

She leans back in her chair. Takes a sip, bangs her fingers on the steering wheel.

(CONTINUED)

She takes the phone again and dials. *CALLING JUSTICE CAMERON.* No answer. She puts it away. Punches the steering wheel.

Her phone calls. She jumps. *JUSTICE CAMERON CALLING.*

She clears her throat and sits up straight.

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Feldman.

JUSTICE CAMERON (O.S.)
Hello? Caroline? It's the middle
of the night, what happened?

CAROLINE
(into phone)
Is it? Oh, I'm so sorry. I was
working on the Jenkins & Bellamy
case and thought I'd ask for your
opinion on one thing. Is it okay
if I come by?

JUSTICE CAMERON (O.S.)
(pause)
I'm sorry Caroline, I'm not
home. I could try and help you on
the phone though?

CAROLINE
(into phone)
No, that would be too hard to
describe on the phone. Don't worry
about that. I'll ask you tomorrow
if I still struggle. I'm sorry for
the late call again, good night.

Caroline hangs up. Her fingers clutch the phone. She
stares through her windscreen.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Big, fancy mansion. Windows bright with light.

Justice Cameron hangs up. He frowns. He downs a bottle of
beer next to him. He shouts at someone. Angie, head low,
enters the room with another bottle of beer. He takes the
beer, looks at it, puts it down to the table aggressively.
He shouts at Angie. Pulls her hair, tilts her head back.

INTERCUT:

(CONTINUED)

CAR:

Caroline looks away. She inhales deeply. Checks the neighborhood. Slides downwards in her chair. She locks her gaze in front of her again.

STREET:

Cameron drinks at the table by himself. He downs the second beer and bins the bottle. He gets up and walks into the house. The lights go off. The house disappears into the darkness.

CAR:

Caroline's eyelids droop. Caroline fights to keep them open. She gives in. Her head falls to her side.

INT. CAR - DAWN

SLAM.

Caroline jerks awake. Sunlight lights up her face. Her stare locks in front of her.

CAROLINE'S POV:

Angie and Emily stand in front of the house. Emily hides her head in her arms.

ANGIE

Damn it... I told you to shut it quietly. You're gonna wake him. You know he doesn't like him when we're here when he wakes up...

EMILY

I'm sorry, it just slipped...

ANGIE

You just can't do anything right...

EMILY

I'm sorry, I'll try next time, I promise!

ANGIE

Shhh, Jesus... Keep your voice down.

Emily mutters something as the answer.

CAR:

(CONTINUED)

Caroline straightens up in her chair. Her eyes move as she watches the girls walk away from the house.

She starts the car. It moves slowly. She follows the girls.

EXT. SCHOOL FORECOURT - DAY

Groups of teenagers. They chat, giggle, greet the newcomers. Some boys throw a rugby ball. One group of girls look at them in awe.

Emily and Angie make their way through the courtyard. Both have their heads down. Some of the students send them disgusted looks, look down on them, point and giggle.

Angie turns to Emily before the entrance of the school. She crouches to face her.

ANGIE

Okay. Same as usual, yeah?

EMILY

I don't want you to leave me again...

ANGIE

It won't be long, I promise. Just two more weeks till the summer break. What is your first lesson?

EMILY

Art with Miss Wallace.

ANGIE

Oh that's good, you like her, don't you?

Emily nods. Angie lifts her head up by her chin.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Don't worry. It will be fine.

BOY (O.S.)

Aw, does little miss wet-pants need her big sister to wipe her butt again?

One of the rugby boys left the group and now leans against the wall next to the girls. He tosses the ball.

(CONTINUED)

ANGIE
Back off, Brad.

BRAD
Or what, you're gonna threaten me
with piss?

A group of followers gathers around Brad. They laugh in approval.

ANGIE
Come on, Em, we don't have to
listen to this.

Angie pushes Emily into the school.

BRAD
Alright! Spoilsport! You can't
even stand up for yourself
properly, can you? Piss-wiper...

They laugh again. The girls disappear in the school.

Around the corner of the building, Caroline leans against the wall, clenches her fists. The laugh still rings in the air.

She makes her way to the entrance.

BRAD
Hello Miss, do you need help?

CAROLINE
No, thanks.

BRAD
Are you the new sports teacher?

Caroline looks at her clothes. Realises she's still in her tracksuit. Again. She walks past Brad.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Caroline enters the school. Brad waves in the background, still outside.

BRAD
I can show you around! Miss! Miss!

Caroline walks to a board with the room names on it.

ART ROOM - ROOM 12, GROUND FLOOR

INT. SCHOOL - LATER

Caroline gets to the door. The plate on them reads *ART ROOM*. She shifts towards the window.

CAROLINE'S POV:

Children sit in groups around the tables. They draw, read, play. The teacher, *MISS WALLACE* circles around them, looking over their shoulders.

Emily sits in the far back corner, alone. She props her head on her hands.

BACK:

Caroline knocks on the door. The teacher signs to her to come in.

INT. DAY ROOM - DAY

Caroline approaches the teacher, quietly.

CAROLINE

Hello. Can I talk to one of the children?

Miss Wallace frowns.

MISS WALLACE

Are you a member of a family?

CAROLINE

Yes, I'm her auntie.

Miss Wallace studies her and signs to Caroline to follow her. They cross the room towards Emily.

MISS WALLACE

Emily, this lady wants to talk to you for a second.

The girl's head is still low. She can't see Caroline.

Caroline sits next to her and puts her hand on her arm. Emily jerks up. Her eyes widen when she sees Caroline.

EMILY

Ooooh... It's you! It's really you!

Caroline looks at the teacher, smiles apologetically.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE
She doesn't see me very often, I
work in London.

Miss Wallace seems relaxed.

MISS WALLACE
Oh, no problem.

CAROLINE
Can I take Em outside for a moment?
(whisper)
You know how children get.

She nods shortly towards a girl in plaits that goes out of
herself to overhear.

MISS WALLACE
Yes, of course. Just don't be
long.

Caroline nods and takes Emily's hand.

EMILY (O.S.)
Are you here to take me home?

INT. SCHOOL - SAME

Caroline blinks. She frowns

CAROLINE
I'm sorry?

EMILY
Please, can I go home with you? I
hate being here and...

CAROLINE
And?

Emily shakes her head.

EMILY
Nothing.

CAROLINE
Emily, where do you go back after
school? Where do you live?

The girl stares at the floor adamantly.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

I can help you. Both of you. But only if you give me something to work with.

EMILY

I can't. Angie said "no talking".

CAROLINE

Angie is afraid, I understand that. But neither of you will have to be anymore if I can help. Emily, you know Justice Cameron, don't you? That's why you got so scared when Duncan mentioned him in my office. That's why you were at the car wash. Because he was there too. Who is he to you?

Emily puts her hands over her ears and shakes her head.

EMILY

I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

CAROLINE

Please.

EMILY

No... If you want to help me then take me hoome...

Caroline looks through the glass window. Miss Wallace gives them impatient stares.

Caroline looks back at Emily and takes her arms.

CAROLINE

I can't take you home now, Emily. Please just answer 'yes' or 'no'. Do you know Justice Jeremy Cameron?

Emily stares at her, blankly.

CAROLINE

You can just shake your head or nod. Anything...

Emily's eyes become glassy. There is a small movement of her head but before it's clear...

(CONTINUED)

ANGIE (O.S.)

You! Again! Stay away from us!

Angie stands in the far end of the corridor.

Caroline straightens up slowly.

CAROLINE

Angie... It is Angie,
right? Please. Can we talk?

ANGIE

I have nothing to say to
you. Leave us alone. Emily, back
inside.

EMILY

But...

ANGIE

Now!

She opens the door for her. Emily gives Caroline last,
pathetic look and enters the room. Caroline waves to Miss
Wallace, sympathetically. She looks back at Angie, her
expression professional.

CAROLINE

I want to help.

ANGIE

I told you before. You can't help
us. No one can.

CAROLINE

Try me.

Angie studies her. She calms down. Her eyes suddenly sad,
not angry.

ANGIE

I can't risk it. You don't
understand... Just,
please... Stay away.

CAROLINE

No. Emily reached out for me. I
can't let her down.

ANGIE

You know nothing about us. She
doesn't realise I'm trying to give
her her best chance.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE

By making her go back to that house every day?

ANGIE

I know what you're doing. I'm not gonna deny or confirm anything. I'm just gonna ask you to stay away one more time...

CAROLINE

And if not, what will you do?

ANGIE

I... I'll apply for a restraining order.

CAROLINE

I don't think that would work out well for you, honey...

ANGIE

See, you're all like that! That feeling of superiority, invincibility. You say you want to help us but you're just like him...

CAROLINE

Like who?

The anger is back in Angie's eyes. She crosses her arms and moves away.

ANGIE

No. You won't trick me. And stay away from Emily. She doesn't deserve anyone making her life more complicated.

CAROLINE'S POV:

Emily draws random shapes on the table with her finger. Her head propped on the other hand.

BACK:

Caroline shifts her eyes back to Angie, but she's not there. Caroline grunts and looks back at Emily.

INT. CAROLINE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Caroline throws the keys onto the table. She looks up and jumps.

CAROLINE
Jesus... You could've warned me...

Liv sits on the sofa. Her eyes are red and swollen. Duncan stares through the window wall.

LIV
Warned you? How dare you! Why didn't you say you weren't going home and where did you go anyway?

CAROLINE
I need a shower.

Liv scoffs exasperatedly.

INT. FELDMAN MANSION - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Caroline and Liv sit in the corner of the living room, surrounded by books. Liv has glasses on, her hair in a messy bun. Caroline lies on the floor, her eyes closed, her hair tight. They look college-age.

LIV
And it was formed in...

CAROLINE
1940, Blackpool.

LIV
You got it!

Young Chloe approaches them. Liv smiles to her.

YOUNG CHLOE
Hi. What are you doing?

CAROLINE
Studying. Can't you see?

Chloe lowers her gaze. She shifts her body sheepishly.

YOUNG CHLOE
I just thought we could play...

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE
I'm busy now.

YOUNG CHLOE
Maybe later?

CAROLINE
If I have time...

Chloe's face lightens up, she smiles widely.

YOUNG CHLOE
Cool!

She leaves them. Liv follows her, she smiles, her eyes sad.

LIV
You could give her a chance, you know...

CAROLINE
What?

LIV
She's your sister. She wants to spend time with you. I've always wanted a sister like her. She's just so sweet...

CAROLINE
Yeah, well, I don't have time for that. And I have you. We basically are sisters, right?

Liv blushes. She opens her mouth and freezes.

She blinks a couple of times. Caroline is too focused on the book to notice anything suspicious. Liv sighs and smiles.

LIV
Of course, Care. Of course we are.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Caroline turns the lights on and looks in the mirror. She winces. The person in the mirror has messy and dirty hair, swollen eyes and wears a scruffy tracksuit.

She wipes her face with her palms. Turns on the water in the shower.

Steam fills the space.

EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY

A cloud of smoke covers a face. It fades to reveal Angie. She perches on stairs at the back of the building. Male legs in jeans and trainers appear next to her. The knees bend and MIKE, 16 sits next to Angie. He takes out his cigarettes. He was in the group of Brad's followers earlier.

MIKE
Had a good day?

ANGIE
Brilliant. You?

MIKE
Splendid.

They take a drag. Exhale at the same time.

INT. CAROLINE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Caroline walks out of the bathroom, dressed in a bathrobe. Her hair wet.

Liv looks up at her. Duncan's stare is locked at the view behind the window.

LIV
Caroline... I'm so sorry! I'm sorry about everything what I said earlier. But please, just talk to me... You can't do it on your own!

CAROLINE
Do what? Build a case? Cause in case you haven't noticed, it's my job.

LIV
You can't go against him on your own. What you did yesterday was stupid, he could have seen you...

Caroline leans into her. Her head shoots at Duncan.

CAROLINE
You followed me?

DUNCAN
Liv was worried. And you can't exactly say she was in the wrong.

(CONTINUED)

Caroline looks back at Liv, fire in her eyes, her jaw tightly clenched. Liv's eyes are still red and swollen. Caroline's expression relaxes. She sits next to her.

CAROLINE

I'm sorry. I'm sorry I didn't tell you. Liv, I meant it when I said I can only trust you. You know how much you mean to me. And I don't hold anything against you. You had every right to say what you did. I know I can be a bit stupid and spoilt...

LIV

...and selfish...

CAROLINE

Yes. Yes, thank you. I was getting there. I know I have and always had problems with letting Chloe into my life but it was because I didn't feel like I needed her. I had you. But she needed me and I couldn't see it. And those girls... They need me now, Liv. I can't make the same mistake.

LIV

I know. I'm sorry I didn't understand earlier... But please, let us help you.

Caroline nods, slightly.

Duncan tears his glare away from the window.

DUNCAN

What did you find out?

INT. CAROLINE'S APARTMENT - LATER

LIV

Is there a way of talking to their teachers?

CAROLINE

They probably don't know much. Angie doesn't allow Emily to talk to anyone and there is no way Cameron would be stupid enough to get himself noticed.

(CONTINUED)

LIV

Well he was stupid enough to be
with Emily near that car park,
wasn't he...

DUNCAN

It was dark and late. He probably
thought no one would notice.

CAROLINE

Or Emily just escaped and he wasn't
planning on it...

INT. ART ROOM - DAY

Emily still sits alone in the corner of the classroom. She
has a piece of paper and some crayons. She draws, the tip
of her tongue sticking out of her mouth.

CAROLINE (O.S.)

She is a smart girl. I don't think
Angie will keep her quiet for
long. She is aware they can't live
like that for too long.

Emily's drawing is visible. It's a stick-woman with books
in her hands and a clearly visible wig on her head. Next to
her there are two smaller figures. Both with happy
smiles. There's a house in the background and green trees
and yellow sun also with a happy smile.

INT. CAROLINE'S APARTMENT - DAY

CAROLINE

But we can't just sit here and wait
until that happens, can we?

LIV

Certainly not. But you also can't
do it yourself.

DUNCAN

I can help you with this.

Caroline rubs her arms and bites her lip. She shifts her
gaze to the teddy bear that sits on the table next to the
door. The one Emily left in her office.

Caroline looks at Liv and Duncan.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE
Can I trust you?

LIV
You know you can.

DUNCAN
You will have to find out, I
suppose.

Caroline nods. She leans in and puts her hair behind her ears.

CAROLINE
Okay. Let's do this.

Caroline gazes at the teddy bear again. She smiles warmly.

THE END.