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CONTINUED: (2)

17

MONICA (CONT'D)  
 He likes to draw, too. Can I see?

She moves closer, trying to get near that gun - then Richie moves the gun. He looks up at her. He shows her the pages.

INSERT PAGES - A gutted female human body - the head hasn't been drawn yet, but there's plenty of gooey entrails. Monica flips through page after page of bloody murder, mixed with Aztec/Mesoamerican symbolism. Reminds us of Tanner's books.

It gets more gruesome the more she flips through. Shaken, she hands back the sketchbook.

MONICA (CONT'D)  
 You have a gift.

18

INT. BIG KAHUNA BURGER - DAY

18

Seth and Vanessa slink out of the men's room, re-arranging their clothes. An old HOMELESS GUY glares at them, apparently waiting his turn.

They quick-slide into a booth. Seth remains amped, nervous - checking around.

FDTD

**START** VANESSA  
 I didn't think you were ever gonna show.

SETH  
 We got a little waylaid. Listen -

VANESSA  
 We shouldn't even be sitting here. You're all over the news. If you're gonna order something -

SETH  
 In a second. Vanessa -

VANESSA  
 Where's Richie? He out in the car?

SETH  
 Just listen to me. The plan's changed.

VANESSA  
 Changed? Plans don't change. Isn't that what you always say? No matter what, we stick to the plan. Meet up here, cross together. That's how we designed it.

(CONTINUED)

Pg 1+10

Seth collects himself.

SETH

What I failed to mention is that sometimes plans get better.

VANESSA

What could be better than you and me on a beach in Cancún?

SETH

You being alive, for one. Any cops find us, they will shoot on sight, which means that if you're in sight of me, you'll get shot, too. I can't risk that, Vanessa.

Seth slides the folded bearer bonds out of his jacket. Before he can even show them to her -

VANESSA

What is that?

SETH

Well, it might look like a couple of folded pieces of paper, but it's really a bulletproof vest.

He opens them up and puts them on the table in front of her.

SETH (CONT'D)

That's a little over four million in bearer bonds. You are going to take this back to Warren Pritchard at K.C. Financial and he is going to convert it for you and wash it all nice and clean. After that, you'll be set. You're not gonna have to worry about anything.

She is completely thrown. She begins to tear up.

VANESSA

For me? All of this?

SETH

Every dime. He's not even gonna take a fee. I'll cover that.

She picks them up. He hangs on her response.

VANESSA

Baby, this is - Wow. Wow... Feels like Vegas up in here! I can hear the bells dingin'.

(MORE)

VANESSA (CONT'D)

I feel like one of those obese ladies sliding quarters into a big ol' plastic cup. Just me and my fat ass, swallowin' up a chair.

Her happiness is infectious.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Do you remember our honeymoon? That time I won at Keno - at Keno - in the Bellagio? You remember that? It was like four in the morning. I'll never forget it 'cause there was this call girl who took the table next to us. She'd just come down from doing her business upstairs and she ordered - I'll never forget this - she ordered a short stack of buttermilks and a black coffee. You remember what you said?

SETH

I don't.

VANESSA

You said, "I guess that's what the whores eat."

(off his look)

I remember thinking to myself, how must that feel? How's it feel for her to walk into a cafeteria and know that everyone knows she sleeps with people for money? How's it feel when everyone in the room knows you're a whore. I guess I know now.

SETH

Vanessa.

VANESSA

I am not a whore - or your bitch. You know what I am, Seth? I am your partner. And do you know what partners do? They make plans and they honor those plans and they stick to them.

SETH

Baby -

VANESSA

Did you forget that I cased that bank for three weeks?

(MORE)

# VANESSA S.I

### VANESSA (CONT'D)

That I knew every teller's schedule up and down? That I knew they'd be loading the ATM when you pushed your way in? It is not my fault you and your brother are the most wanted fugitives in the world right now. That's on you.

### SETH

It is. Which is why you have to let us cross alone.

### VANESSA

I baked a carrot cake for you every year - with real cream cheese frosting. Lit candles and blew them out for you. And what about all those conjugal visits? Every inmate in that boneyard was jealous of you. They could hear us through the Goddamned walls. Don't tell me they couldn't.

### SETH

Wouldn't dare.

### VANESSA

Five years, Seth. Five years. You think all that time I was waiting for money? I was waitin' for you. I love you.

**END**

Seth is caught.

~~INT. DEW DROP INN - GECKO ROOM - BEDROOM - DAY~~

~~Richie continues to draw. He puts the gun in his lap. The VOICES in his head become LOUDER. ANGRIER. Monica sees that blood is smearing on the page from his duct-taped wound.~~

~~Monica also eyes the gun. Alone beside him. New strategy.~~

### MONICA

~~You really should clean that up. I mean properly. I got some experience with that kinda thing.  
(nothing)  
My kids get scrapes all the time.~~

### RICHIE

~~This ain't a scrape!~~

He struggles with the pain - and the voices. Monica clams up, but then Richie feels like shit for yelling. He closes the sketchpad and eyes her. He makes up his mind.