

ELLE
Who doesn't?

CARMEN
We need a babysitter.

ELLE
Oh, you have kids. I mean-- Sure
I'd love to. I have lots of
experience.

Carmen smiles gloriously and is gone.

57 INT. CONNOR'S GUEST ROOM -- NIGHT. 5

Elle, wearing underwear and a bra, stands on the closed
toilet seat, examining her body in the medicine chest mirror.

ELLE (V.O.)
I know what you're thinking. It
was just like when you were hired
as a nanny. But there was one huge
difference.

What Elle can see of her body does not please her.

ELLE (V.O.)
You were way hotter than the mom.
I was nothing compared to Carmen.

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Another Girl

58 INT. EN GARDE KITCHENETTE -- MORNING. 58

Elle pours coffee. She hears footsteps and turns. Smiles.

START → ELLE
Perfect timing.

Dave enters, exhausted. She dumps a packet of cream into the
mug.

ELLE (CONT'D)
Three minutes after brewing, the
antioxidants start to evaporate.

DAVE
Is that Facebook or actual science?

ELLE
Actual twitter.

She hands him the mug. He smiles and sips. His hand is
unsteady.

Sides by Breakdown Services - Actors Access

ELLE (CONT'D)

Rough night?

DAVE

The roughest.

ELLE

What happened?

DAVE

We went to a cocktail party sponsored by a tequila company. I behaved, but Carmen didn't. She-- Well-- Never mind. She'd kill me.

He heads for the door.

ELLE (O.S.)

I won't tell anyone, I promise.

He stops. Thinks. Turns around. Their eyes meet. She smiles. He walks back into the room and leans against the counter.

DAVE

When I met Carmen, she was just a few years out of college and still pretty much a party girl. But she was sick of it. She said she wanted a husband, four kids, and to start her own business. Sounded great to me. We got married, had Esme, but then, out of nowhere, she announces no more kids. Okay. Well. We'll see.

(beat)

When I opened this place, I just assumed she'd help out. Get involved. But she...she doesn't give a shit about it. I mean, she wants us to succeed, of course, for financial reasons, but that's about it.

ELLE

If she's stopped wanting kids and doesn't care about business anymore, then what's left? What makes her happy?

DAVE

Three nights a week, she goes out partying with her old college friends.

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Another Girl

ELLE

So she wasn't sick of it.

DAVE

Looks that way. Anyway, last night--
Man, this is so inappropriate.

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ELLE

My favorite.

DAVE

She threw up on me.

Elle tries not to laugh.

ELLE

Literally?

DAVE

It was no metaphor, believe me.

ELLE

How does that even *happen?*

DAVE

Beats me. I was sound asleep.

(beat)

I assume she just staggered in from
the john and bllaaaghh. When I
woke up, drenched in puke, she was
already passed out on the floor. I
carried her to the guest room. By
the time I'd finished cleaning up,
Esme was awake, demanding break-
fast.

ELLE

You poor thing.

Beat.

DAVE

It's nice to have someone pity me.
I mean, other than myself.

A charged moment. He walks to the door. Looks back.

DAVE (CONT'D)

It's not just 'cause I pay your
huge salary?

← END

She smiles and shakes her head.

CUT TO:

Another Girl

Elle stops and turns--

ELLE
Are you really?

Molly, surprised by her intensity, has no reply.

ELLE (CONT'D)
Doesn't matter.
(beat)
Why doesn't he just leave her? Get a divorce? Is it really just 'cause he doesn't want to lose half his money?

MOLLY
Homeboy loses all of it.
(off Elle's look)
He signed a prenup. If they divorce, he gets nada.

ELLE
But he told me he gets money from a trust.

MOLLY
Untrue. She comes from one of the richest families in El Paso. Her dad bankrolls the company. When she met him, he was selling used cars.

Elle can hardly breathe.

MUSIC UP.

.04 EXT. COMMERCIAL STREET -- LATER -- NIGHT. 104
Elle walks alone, dejected.

105 EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET -- LATER -- NIGHT. 105
A car drives toward Elle, blinding her. She lifts a hand and turns her head away.

106 EXT. CONNOR'S BUILDING -- LATER -- NIGHT. 106

START → She opens the front door when she hears--

MALE VOICE (O.S.)
Hey.

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She turns around. It's Dave, looking terrible.

DAVE
What did she tell you?

ELLE
You're *stalking* me?

Dave has no words. She starts to go inside, but stops abruptly. She looks back at him.

ELLE (CONT'D)
I *should* be angry that you hired me just so you could fuck me -- but I'm so crazy, I'm weirdly flattered.
(beat)
What I can't forgive is that Carmen's not a gold-digging whore. You are. It's just...it makes me sick.

She starts to go inside again.

DAVE
Stop! Let me say something!
Please!

She takes a deep breath, then turns and looks at him.

DAVE (CONT'D)
No matter what happened before, it was different with you. It still is. I love you.
(fighting tears)
I go to sleep missing you. I wake up.... My life feels over. If it weren't for Esme, I swear I'd just end it.

She just stares. Sensing an opening, he moves closer and takes her hand. His tremble.

DAVE (CONT'D)
Carmen's with her parents on Saturday night. Have dinner with me. Please? Just as friends.

Elle musters all her strength.

ELLE
I can't. I have a date.

His shock is palpable.