

ROSIE

He's going through a cat in the hat phase.

CONNIE

That cat did a lot of damage. So, this show, is it like a big deal?

GARY

Define big deal.

ROSIE

God, Gary, stop deflecting -- There are big people in this show. Really, Eric Fischl is in it --

GARY

Jesus, just as they're letting me in the door, I'm starting to see the parade of phonies in the room and want out.

ROSIE

Oh newsflash, there are phonies in the New York art scene! Stop the presses!

(to Connie)

You know, you can -- Come to the opening, Thursday night. Shouldn't she come?

GARY

I dunno, Connie. Do you want to hang out with some pretentious people in black?

CONNIE

I'd love to. You have someone for Hugo?

He hands her a wrapped picture.

GARY

Yeah, the nice old lady next door is gonna attempt it - Help me out to my truck.

ROSIE

I'll bring this one out when I'm done wrapping.

EXT. ROSIE AND GARY'S - CONTINUOUS

The two of them carrying pictures onto the street.

CONNIE

Maybe you'll sell them for a fortune.

THE SLAP

START /

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"CONNIE" EP. CONNIE

14. Sc. 2

GARY

Yeah. And we could move to Vermont or Maine or some place crunchy and live like healthy people.

CONNIE

Please don't move away.

GARY

Since you came to work for us, he's been better. He digs you and Ritchie.

CONNIE

He's a good boy.

Gary's beat-up VW Jetta station wagon double parked. The hazard lights on. They load the three pictures. He looks at her.

GARY

Connie.

CONNIE

What is it? Did I do something?

GARY

I know this must be a drag, but look, we need you to testify - I told Rosie I'd ask you --

CONNIE

Oh Gary, I didn't see --

GARY

We need you, we need everyone -- you saw it, I mean, didn't you?

CONNIE

I was looking the other way when it happened.

GARY

Are you scared? Do you think that guy - You think Harry would hurt you? Did someone ask you not to testify?

(heated)

Did Hector - because of his *cousin* --?

Connie looks at him, appalled.

CONNIE

Hector would never do that, he's not like that -- I just didn't see it -

THE SCAP

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"CONNIE" EP. CONNIE

15. SC. 2

GARY

But you couldn't have NOT seen! Everybody saw what that bastard did --

(beat, he stops)

Oh wow.

CONNIE

What?

GARY

(a sad smile)

It's taken me over. I think about it all the time, it's all we talk about, it's the only subject of --

He stops. Shaking his head. Connie looks at him. He looks stricken. She feels for him.

CONNIE

(quietly)

I want to help.

Gary nods, lost in his thoughts. Rosie comes out with the last painting and Hugo under her arm, roaring.

ROSIE

(cheerful)

Here. Take this dangerous feline beast from me. Hugo, listen to Connie.

She hands her son to Connie.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Did Gary mention testifying --?

GARY

(over her.)

Let's go, Rosie, come on. Let's go.

He ushers her into the car.

END

INT. ROSIE AND GARY'S - LATER

Hugo is asleep, the TV on, Nick at Nite, Sponge Bob submerged by pirates. Connie looking at old photographs of the gang in college.

Close on photo album. Hector at the beach, shirtless.

A younger gang; Aisha, Rosie laughing. No Gary, no Hugo, just these kids not much older than Connie is now.

THE SLAR

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