

# SOM WANG / Gene

21.

At that moment the sound of a BIG TRUCK pulling up can be heard.

Gene looks out the window and runs for the front door. Ben follows.

CUT TO:

39 EXT. DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

39

Som Wang gets out of the Southern Hunk's truck.

Gene stops in his tracks and Ben hangs back watching this disaster unfold.

SOM WANG  
Thanks Michael.

SOUTHERN HUNK  
No problem sweet cheeks.

Gene explodes. He walks briskly towards the truck.

GENE  
What is this? Hey, you! I am  
talking to you!!

The southern hunk peels off in the truck and speeds away.  
Gene turns towards Som Wang.

SOM WANG  
Ben left --

Gene gets in her face.

GENE  
It doesn't matter!!!

Gene turns in a fury and goes back into the house. Som Wang stunned starts to tear up.

SOM WANG  
Gene!

GENE  
(to himself)  
What was I thinking?

BEN  
Dad!

Gene keeps walking without turning.

Start

SOM WANG

Gene!!

GENE

(over his shoulder)  
Just start packing!

Som Wang looks at Ben. Ben can't look her in the eye.

She runs by him into the house.

CUT TO:

40 INT. FRONT DOORWAY - NIGHT

40

Som Wang runs crying into the house.

SOM WANG

Gene!

Catching her breath she notices the burnt lacquered elephant on the floor outside of Ben's room. She picks it up and goes into the guest room.

CUT TO:

41 INT. MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

41

Ben opens the door.

BEN

Dad?

Gene sits on the bed alone.

GENE

I know you are always on my side  
Ben. I'm sorry I let you down. I  
guess I just got carried away with  
this ... plan.

(beat)

I don't mean to replace your  
mother.

(beat)

I just needed something new. You  
may be too young to understand.

(beat)

It's my fault anyway.

Ben awkwardly stays silent for a moment.

BEN  
 Its okay dad - don't be sorry.  
 (beat)  
 She was really good in the parent  
 interview today.  
 (beat)  
 My classmates really liked her.

Gene looks up at Ben.

BEN (CONT'D)  
 And on the way back from school she  
 was talking only about how much she  
 likes you --

GENE  
 Really? Then who was that --

BEN  
 I left on my bike.  
 (beat)  
 The guy just gave her a ride home.

GENE  
 (exhales)  
 Oh gees.

BEN  
 It'll be okay.

~~Stop~~  
 Ben clicks the lighter in his hand. Gene notices it.

GENE  
 I hope your not planning on burning  
 anything.

Ben shakes his head and puts the lighter in his pocket.

Ben turns and leaves the room.

CUT TO:

42

INT. OUTSIDE GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

42

As Ben walks towards Som Wang's room the door is open and she  
 throws in the last of her clothes into a suitcase.

Closing it she starts to cry. She takes the lacquer elephant  
 with her and walks into the kitchen.

From O.S. the sound of a faucet can be heard.