

INT. SOUND STAGE - CRAFT SERVICE TABLE - DAY

Lucy stands alone at a table filled with cheap snacks. She looks around at the bustling set.

People move equipment. People linger. Cass and Agnes stand on an indoor pool set, lost in discussion.

She takes a deep breath and looks down to check her kit. It's filled with things a Production Designer would have.

She's satisfied with her spot check. She takes another deep breath, takes off her hoodie, and ties it around her waist.

A bright red HEART TATTOO with Cassavetes name through it shines off her pale skin. She picks up her kit.

PAULINE, looking very much like someone that always tries to look like everyone else should be doing more, walks up.

PAULINE
You the sub?

LUCY
Uh huh.

PAULINE
Art or G&E?

Lucy looks down at her kit then back at Pauline.

PAULINE
Great. We need you to hang curtains in the motel. It's next door.

LUCY
Oh. OK. Which way?

Pauline is already walking away. Lucy catches Cass's eye and offers him a cute little wave. Cass merely "sup-nods" back.

INT. SOUND STAGE - MOTEL SET - DAY

Lucy stands on a step-stool in a half dressed seedy motel room set. Generic neon beams through the fake window.

She makes her final adjustment and steps backward off the stool. The curtains look pretty straight.

But not to Lucy. She puts a couple of screws between her teeth and climbs back on the stool to re-adjust.

Agnes appears at the edge of the set wall. She leans against it, real savvy like, and watches.

Lucy manages to back down the stool and admire her handiwork without noticing anyone is there.

AGNES
Better be careful or those curtains
will end up hanging you.

Lucy turns around. She's used to being on set enough that abrupt verbal contributions don't make her jump.

LUCY
Oh my god, Agnes. Hi.

She moves to Agnes and pulls her into a warm hug. It catches Agnes off guard. She only reciprocates with one arm.

AGNES
Oh. Hey. Nice to finally meet you.

They back out of the hug. Lucy smiles a little too wide.

LUCY
Sorry. Cass talks about you so much I
feel like we're old pals. Also, I'm
kind of a fan. Eep. Sorry. Is that
mega-goofy?

Agnes is immediately won over by the word "goofy."

AGNES
You're good. I think it's the exact
right level of goofy.

LUCY
It's just. You know how you go down
the rabbit hole sometimes? Me and my
ex were taking forever to break up
and Lovecraft was like my security
blanket or something.

AGNES
You mean - bum bum bum - that ex?

She motions way across to the other side of the sound-stage.
JOHN TRAIN (30) fills a coffee cup at crafty.

LUCY
Oh. Balls. You know him too. I kind
of forgot. Sort of. Blah.

AGNES

No worries. Between you and me, I like Cass way better. Whoah. Is that?

She motions at Lucy's tattoo. Lucy shows it off. Agnes turns her shoulder so she can get a good look.

AGNES

Awesome. Neat trick with the bandage, by the way. He didn't see it coming.

LUCY

No shit. We had a huge fight when he saw it in person for the first time. It was the clumsiest.

She stares down at the tattoo with a smile. Agnes checks a message on her phone and pulls a thick binder to her chest.

AGNES

I gotta run. Me and Cass do lunch at the Rinky Dink - you better join.

LUCY

Yeah. Sure. Wow. Of course.

Agnes nods and walks off. Lucy turns back to the task at hand. Nope. Curtains still aren't straight enough.

She climbs back on the step-stool.

INT. SOUND STAGE - MOTEL SET - DAY

Lucy puts the finishing touches on the room. It officially looks like where dirt is done in a film noir.

She's sweaty and has a few bruises that she didn't before. Her hand absently rubs her tattoo.

Cass walks around one of the set walls. He has a greasy brown paper bag in one hand.

CASSAVETES

Yo.

Lucy turns. Her eyes light up. She throws her arms around Cass. He backs up a step.

CASSAVETES

I'm made up. The hair, you know.

It's true. His hair is professionally sculpted. Lucy leans her face forward and puckers her lips.

Cass glances around before offering her a quick peck.

CASSAVETES

Got some grub if you want it. From a place down the street.

He holds up the bag.

LUCY

What, like a snack? Gimme gimme.

CASSAVETES

Nah. From lunch. We're back in five.

Her expression falls before she opens the bag.

LUCY

You had lunch already?

CASSAVETES

You didn't?

LUCY

I was working.

Cass checks a fairly expensive prop-watch.

CASSAVETES

Gotta jet. I'm done before you, so I'll see you at home.

He pecks her on the cheek and dashes off. Lucy looks around in an exaggerated way. CREAK.

Pauline comes in through the door in the set wall. She scrutinizes the brand new room.

PAULINE

Holy shit. It looks amazing in here.

LUCY

Oh. Yeah, it was fun.

Pauline makes her expression stern.

PAULINE

Did I hear you say you worked through lunch?

Lucy nods and wipes her brow with the back of her hand.

PAULINE

Don't do that shit again. We don't
need more headaches from the union.

Pauline marches off. Lucy sits on the motel Murphy bed. It
creaks something awful.

She absently reaches into the bag and pulls out half a taco.
She digs in and makes a "this taco's cold" face.

INT. LUCY AND CASS'S PLACE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lucy sits at her desk organizing bills. Her bank account is
open on her laptop.

A post-nap Cass shuffles into the room. He plants a cursory
kiss on Lucy's cheek before flopping on the couch.

CASSAVETES

God damn. Movies are exhausting.

His phone is in his hand before he even stops speaking.

LUCY

Did you get your paycheck yet? Our
rents due this weekend.

CASSAVETES

It's like the eleventh.

LUCY

Yeah. Our rents due on the fifteenth.
Plus our electric bill is crazy high
for some reason.

CASSAVETES

AC, maybe?

Lucy turns her chair to face him.

LUCY

Your check?

CASSAVETES

I get my next one a week from
tomorrow.

LUCY

What about your first one?

CASSAVETES

I cashed it. Pop up shop, remember?

LUCY
Cass.

CASSAVETES
Put it on my tab.

Lucy takes a deep breath and quietly counts to five.

LUCY
OK, I can cover you. But you'll have
to give me basically your whole check
as soon as you get it.

CASSAVETES
Done.

LUCY
And lay of ebay.

Cass takes his eyes off his phone for the first time.

CASSAVETES
OK. Roo.

He uses his pet name for her with some major emphasis.

LUCY
Piglet. Just. Settle. I'm still
miffed about lunch today.

CASSAVETES
Ah. Doi.

LUCY
You didn't even apologize.

CASSAVETES
What am I, a PA?

She makes a kind of pouty face.

LUCY
You're my big man on campus and I
wanted to sit with you at lunch.

He runs his hands through his hair, gets up, and swagger-
struts over to her. He leans his face close to hers.

CASSAVETES
Baby. You're my steady Roo.

LUCY
I know it.

She grabs his shirt and pulls him into a kiss. He pulls out of it with a rougeish grin.

CASSAVETES

Think you can float your steady beau fifty bucks? There are some tapes I could turn around for like a hundo.

She shoves him away. Genuinely annoyed but used to it.

LUCY

Oh, fiddlesticks. You were about to get lucky tonight but you blew it.

He leans on the arm of the couch. She turns her attention back to the paperwork.

CASSAVETES

Seriously, though. Tapes are kind of a big deal. There's one I want and I'll sell the rest.

LUCY

We can't afford it. I'll only have like a hundred bucks until you get your next check.

CASSAVETES

I've been looking for this tape for like five years.

LUCY

(Absent minded)

You'll live.

His whole body tenses. Silent rage flashes across his face. It's clear "you'll live" is a trigger for him.

He clomps out of the room. Lucy doesn't pay any attention. He clomps back and SLAPS something down on the desk.

It's a handful of extremely crumpled bills and little bits of paper from his pocket.

CASSAVETES

That's forty. I can't put anything in my account since it's overdrawn, so can you please. Just get on my ebay account and put your card in.

He leans his knuckles on the desk. She holds up her hand.

LUCY
Can you back your aggro energy up a
little? That would be great.

He throws his hands up in a defensive position.
Sarcastically. She stares at him. His eyes are wild.

CASSAVETES
Get the damn tapes.

He turns and storms out of the room. The bedroom door SLAMS.
Lucy stares at the space where he just stood. Stunned.

She looks down at the desk and proceeds to straighten and
organize all the cash. It takes a while. There are singles.

INT. SOUND STAGE - MONITOR - DAY

Agnes and Pauline stand in front of a monitor. The picture
on the screen is of the Motel Set.

ON THE MONITOR

Cass sits on the bed in a white tank top.

BY THE MONITOR

Lucy stands behind Agnes and Pauline, trying hard not to be
intrusive.

PENNY, half made up, comes up behind her. She and Lucy
quick-wave at each other. They talk in a whisper.

PENNY
Hey, lady. Been a while.

Lucy turns her shoulder to show Penny her tattoo. Penny
gives her a smiling thumbs up. She motions at the monitor.

PENNY
What do you think? Your man looks
pretty good on camera, no?

Lucy sighs huge.

LUCY
He's ever so dreamy.

Agnes talks over her shoulder.

AGNES
Lucy, could you close the curtains
all the way? Thanks.

Lucy nods and rushes on to the set.

ON THE MONITOR

Lucy adjusts the curtains. She tries to make eye contact
with Cass to do something cute and coupl-ee.

Cass looks directly at the ground and at nothing other than
the ground. Lucy rushes off set.

BY THE MONITOR

Agnes and Pauline confer. Lucy arrives.

AGNES
Sorry. They look better open.

Lucy turns back to the set mid-stride.

ON THE MONITOR

She adjusts the curtains. This time she doesn't even
acknowledge Cass.

EXT. CRAPPY CATERING TABLES - DAY

A smattering of tables fill up with the usual lunch time set
cliques. G&E at one, Production at another. Et. Cetera.

Lucy sits next to Cass with Penny, Agnes, and Pauline. She
looks at the table farthest away.

John lights a cigarette and lingers pretty far away from
everyone. He looks toward Lucy as soon as she looks away.

CASSAVETES
You cold, Roo?

He holds her hoodie up for her.

LUCY
Um. Huh? Oh. No, I'm good.

His eyes drop to her tattoo for a second. She half rolls her
eyes and pulls her hoodie over her shoulders.

AGNES

I hope it's cool with everyone that we got hot dogs.

PAULINE

(Under her breath)

Really expensive hot dogs.

PENNY

They're Pinks, lady. Don't even sweat it for a second.

Cass shoves half a hot dog in his mouth and chews. Lucy stares at him like they don't know each other.

There are three more hot dogs on his plate.

LUCY

That's. Wow. That's impressive.

Cass looks at her with a "huh?" expression as he chews.

LUCY

It's just. You know. You're always down on me for eating this kind of stuff. I mean. How many nitrates and other shitty things are in those?

Cass's eyes shoot to Agnes. He puts down his hot dog.

CASSAVETES

I dunno. Fuck off, is that how many?

He immediately laughs and nudges her and tries to play it off like it was a joke before anyone reacts.

CASSAVETES

Nah, it's an every now and then kind of thing. Gnarly but tasty as fuck. Plus these are all beef or something.

He looks at Agnes. She's lost in her huge binder. Pauline is on the phone. Penny watches Lucy look down at her plate.

She pulls her hoodie on properly and takes a small bite of her all beef hot dog. Conversation goes on around her.

INT. SOUND STAGE - MONITOR - DAY

Agnes and Pauline stand at attention in front of the monitor. Cass and a very dolled up Penny stand on set.

Lucy works around them. Penny and Cass goof off like she's not there.

She finishes and scurries back to the monitor. She gets behind Agnes and checks her work on screen.

Agnes turns to look at her.

AGNES

(Giddy)

Are you ready, are you ready? They're both amazing in this scene. It's pretty fucking mind blowing.

Lucy offers her a weak smile. Before Agnes notices a 1ST AD does 1st AD things. Agnes turns back to the monitor.

Lucy backs up a step or two and turns around. She walks slowly toward the craft service table.

She picks up the pace. She walks faster and faster. Her head looks directly down at her feet.

The room draws a collective breath. Agnes calls -

AGNES (O.C.)

Action.

- just as Lucy disappears out the side door.

CUT TO BLACK: