Angelic Lane: Welcome To The Neighborhood! Season 1 Episode 1: Escape

Ву

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#### ACT ONE

### EXT. STEPFORD HILLS TOWN SQUARE - AFTERNOON

The sound of a marching band plays the Star Spangled Banner as many families spend their time enjoying the day's festivities. The town is picturesque with buildings resembling that of the 1950's. Many of the people are dressed like they stepped out of a page of old retro magazines. On a large stage the Mayor of the city looks out at the people awaiting his speech.

#### MAYOR MICAH

It's a wonderful day in our beautiful town. My wife and I are excited to see so many smiling faces taking part in the celebration of our nation's birthday.

The crowd begins applauding.

### MAYOR MICAH(CONT'D)

With tonight's celebration of our nation, there will be a fireworks display as our Stepford Hills band play the old classic You're a Grand Old Flag. Now, enjoy yourselves and remember to take time to sample our water.

A beautiful blonde woman comes onto the stage carrying a bottle of water. She's dressed in a Sunday dress with white gloves on her hands and her hair is expertly styled. BETTY JEAN LARSON (38) looks out at the crowd with a smile.

#### BETTY JEAN

I don't give my family just any water. We rely on the cool refreshing taste of water from our wonderful Stepford Hills water purifying company.

Betty Jean struts across the stage and waves her hand toward the large stacks of water on the table she's now standing next to.

# BETTY JEAN (CONT'D)

They're happy, and I can rest easier knowing that they have the best water that I can trust. Stepford Hills Water Company is a brand I can trust. It will change your life. The crowd applaud politely once again. None of them seem to notice a group sneak behind the gazebo in the center of the square.

#### **JEANETTE**

Hurry up you guys, they can't be distracted by that sales pitch for long. Did you bring it?

### TARA

Yes, I grabbed it out of the garage when Sam and I left the house.

#### SAM

And don't worry your parents didn't see us create this thing.

#### **JEANETTE**

Great, in that case you two plant it while Declan and I prepare the countdown to set it off.

#### **DECLAN**

And when you two hear the first set of firecrackers go off you run like hell.

### TARA AND SAM

(IN UNISON)

Got it!

### **DECLAN**

Jeany, we'll need to be prepared to run.

#### **JEANETTE**

Of course. I just hope that no one notices what we're doing back here.

A group of the people walked past the gazebo and not taking notice of the group preparing for their prank.

#### TARA

We set everything up sis. Is the countdown ready?

### **JEANETTE**

Yes, get out of here and hide.

### TARA

I'll grab Sam and we'll hide.

Tara runs away from the gazebo and grabs Sam's hand as the two dive into the nearby bushes to watch.

#### DECLAN

(TAKES A DEEP BREATH)

Ready Jeany?

#### **JEANETTE**

Yes. Let's show them our final rebellion.

Declan sets off the fireworks before picking up Jeanette and running to hide. The crowd begins screaming and panicking. A few people begin running away while others are tripping over themselves to get away. Mayor Micah looks out at the crowd and tries to calm them down.

#### MAYOR MICAH

Everyone don't panic! It's just a fire! Our fire department will put it out!

### **BETTY JEAN**

Darling, do you want me to contact them?

#### MAYOR MICAH

Yes please.

Betty Jean pulls out her phone from her bag and calls the fire department.

### MAYOR MICAH(CONT'D)

Remain calm everyone! we'll have everything handled very so--

Mayor Micah sees Declan and Jeanette hiding behind a bench. He narrows his eyes and points at the two.

#### MAYOR MICAH

Officer O'Hardy grab Declan and Jeanette Lupei!

The police officer and two of his men walk over to where Declan and Jeanette are.

### DECLAN

(SURPRISE)

Let me go!

### **JEANETTE**

What the hell!? Let us go! we didn't go anything!

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Sorry, by order of the mayor, you two are to come with us.

#### **DECLAN**

The mayor has no authority to punish us!

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

Oh, no we're taking you to the church. The elders will be sorting you two out.

#### **DECLAN**

The elders? Oh you mean the zombification team. Yeah no, come on O'Hardy you know that they'll scoop out our brains and eat them for breakfast.

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

You're not going to smooth talk your way out of this one Declan.

#### DECLAN

Who's trying to smooth talk? I'm just speaking of how the church elders crack the skulls of the townspeople's head open and feast on their brains with a side of fava beans and a nice Chianti.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

(FEELING SICK)

They wouldn't do that to you or anyone else in town.

#### **DECLAN**

How do you know? How can you know? You're leading us to our deaths!

# **JEANETTE**

(HOLDS BACK A GIGGLE)
Dec, you're going to make the nice officer lose his lunch. Then again he might want to dine with the elders.

### **DECLAN**

You're right draga mea, he'll want to eat our brains too.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

(GROANS; GAGS)

I think I'm going to be sick!

He lets Declan go and runs off to vomit. Declan then looks at the other officer that's holding Jeanette.

#### DECLAN

You want to lead us to our deaths? Shame you'll let the church elders eat the brains of my pretty wife. I guess I'll have to go home to a life without bunt cakes and meatloaves.

The other police officer lets Jeanette go and looks at Declan.

#### DECLAN

Thank you very much see ya! Come on Jeany.

### **JEANETTE**

(GIGGLES)

See ya!

Declan grabs Jeanette's hand the two of them begin running away from the town square toward the place where Declan's motorcycle is parked.

#### **DECLAN**

We've escaped again.

# **JEANETTE**

For how long this time?

Declan helps Jeanette onto his motorcycle and then gets on. He looks back and sees the mayor is staring at them.

### **DECLAN**

We have uh, 2.4 seconds.

# MAYOR MICAH O.S.

(ANGRILY)

GET THEM!

The townspeople begins running toward them just as Declan takes off on his motorcycle.

# **DECLAN**

(LAUGHING)

This has been fun!

(GIGGLE)

Yes it has.

# INT. YORU HOUSEHOLD - KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

**ALEXANDRA "ALEX" YORU** (44) is under the kitchen cabinet repairing the sink as she reaches her hand out for the wrench she needs.

ALEX

Rissa, hand me that wrench.

**NERISSA YORU** (43) hands her the wrench before taking her seat back at the table and taking a sip of her tea.

#### **NERISSA**

So, when do you think that the kids will be home? I know they went to the town square today.

ALEX

If I know them, Tara's probably with Sam playing video games and Jeanette is with Declan running around and making comments about the celebration.

### **NERISSA**

Hmn, so an average day huh?

The door is heard opening and the sound of fast footsteps is heard. Nerissa sees Tara and Sam running past the kitchen doorway.

NERISSA

Tara? Sam?

TARA

Nothing!

SAM

Yeah nothing!

The two teens run up the stairs to the TV room and the door is heard opening and shutting. Nerissa looks over at Alex with a raised eyebrow.

**NERISSA** 

Alex...

#### ALEX

They're fine! Tara and Sam probably got into a squabble with the children of the corn and that's why they're not telling us anything.

#### **NERISSA**

I don't know, they didn't look like they had gotten into any fights and Tara usually comes in to give us a play by play of the fight.

#### ALEX

Then, they're fine. (LAUGHS) Tara isn't the one we should be worrying about.

### **NERISSA**

Yes you're right, it's Jeanette we should be worrying about.

#### ALEX

Jeanette will take care of herself and she has Declan with her.

#### NERISSA

Exactly. I don't trust those two together. Jeanette could get that boy to do anything she wants if she bats her eyelashes and pout.

#### **ALEX**

Now, you know that's not true. Jeanette would cause the chaos and then Declan would save her.

#### **NERISSA**

I know our daughter. She'll pull a prank, run off, and hide for a week.

# ALEX

You worry too much.

Alex goes back to fixing the sink as the sound of a motorcycle is heard outside the house. Nerissa gets up and looks out the kitchen window and sees Jeanette and Declan hastily get off the motorcycle and run right toward the staircase leading to their garage loft apartment.

### NERISSA

No chaos huh?

Nerissa reaches over and turns the water on the faucet on and waits.

### ALEX

(YELPS IN SURPRISE; ANNOYED) What was that for?!

#### NERISSA

Come on, let's go see what those two are up to.

#### **ALEX**

(SIGHS)

Fine. You didn't have to turn the water on you know.

#### **NERISS**A

(LAUGHS)

You wouldn't have come with me if I asked nicely.

# INT. YORU HOUSEHOLD - GARAGE LOFT APARTMENT - SAME

#### DECLAN AND JEANETTE

(IN UNISON LAUGHING)

Declan sits on the couch and Jeanette walks to the small kitchen and gets the wine glasses out of the cabinet and the bottle of wine from the wine cooler next to the dishwasher.

#### **JEANETTE**

We got away with it! That gazebo burst into flames like Marylin Manson at a baptist revival.

### DECLAN

Well my theory was correct. They started running as soon as they saw the fire.

### **JEANETTE**

Anyone with a brain would run away from fire.

Jeanette sits the glasses down on the living room table and opens the bottle of wine and pours it into both the glasses.

### JEANETTE (CONT'D)

How long do you think it'll take them to come here and drag us to the church elders for judgment?

#### **DECLAN**

With the way we were being chased? they'll probably show up tomorrow. We took every conceivable shortcut to lose them.

#### **JEANETTE**

Or they'll forget about us because they have their celebration to continue.

The two of them take a sip of their wine. a moment of silence passes before there is a knock on the door.

#### **DECLAN**

They found us! Dragă stay there.

Declan gets up after grabbing the bat he keeps near the door. He pulls open the door ready to attack but stops short when he sees Alex and Nerissa.

#### **DECLAN**

Oh, hey mom in-laws.

#### **NERISSA**

Hello Declan, we're here to visit you and Jeanette. we noticed you two were in a hurry to get up here.

### **ALEX**

Rissa's worried that you two caused havoc in town.

# **DECLAN**

We didn't cause much havoc.

#### NERISSA

I see. So you two ran in here to sit on the couch and drink wine?

### **DECLAN**

Yeah. There's a movie we want to watch, we're waiting on the popcorn.

### **NERISSA**

(NOT CONVINCED)

Oh a movie? that sounds nice, we'll join you. Oh! did you two see Tara and Sam in town today?

Tara and Sam? we saw them at the carnival and then they left.

#### ALEX

See Rissa I told you. The kids didn't cause chaos. Kind of a shame, I expected a chaotic mess today.

# NERISSA

Oh but they did.

Nerissa holds up a sheet of paper with drawn schematics.

### NERISSA (CONT'D)

I found this in the garage. You kids should know that I don't approve of chaos unless your mother and I are involved.

# **JEANETTE**

It was short notice. We came up with it last night. Tara and Sam built the flash bang, Declan and I planted it late last night and we all came up with an escape plan.

Alex is looking at the plans that Nerissa is holding.

#### ALEX

So you two sent Tara and Sam to escape first and you two ran away right before it went off?

#### DECLAN

Well, the mayor saw us.

# **JEANETTE**

And he tried to have us arrested but Dec made Officer O'Hardy let us go.

#### **ALEX**

(AMUSED)

Really? OK Dec what did you use? Did you bribe him with doughnuts like last time? Wait, did you pretend to be possessed by a demon?

#### **DECLAN**

None of those. More along the lines of improvising a line from Silence of the Lambs.

(LAUGHS)

Officer O'Hardy was so pale and green after he finished.

# ALEX

You did do the slurping that Hannibal Lecter does right?

#### **DECLAN**

Damn, I knew I forgot something when I said it.

#### ALEX

(DISAPPOINTED)

Declan, I am disappointed. But extra points for your escape.

#### NERISSA

Alex, you know if they escaped O'Hardy then they'll have to lay low for a few days.

# ALEX

The lard arm of the law probably won't snitch or sell them out. He would rather forget about it.

### **DECLAN**

Well, uh, we were seen by the mayor. We made eye contact with him.

### **ALEX**

You what?

#### **JEANETTE**

And they chased us. We lost them though.

### **NERISSA**

Are you sure? when the mayor is furious he won't stop the hunt.

### **ALEX**

Even if they did show up, I'd get them off our lawn. I just installed some high pressure sprinkler systems.

# NERISSA

No one is going to hurt anyone. If they do show up we'll handle them.

Nerissa looks at Declan and Jeanette.

# NERISSA (CONT'D)

You two will have to stay hidden in here for a few days. We'll handle the townspeople.

#### **JEANETTE**

What if they take you and mom to the church elders to be sorted out in our place?

### **NERISSA**

There isn't anything to worry about. We've resisted before and we still can resist.

#### ALEX

There isn't anyone alive that can tell me what to do.

#### **NERISSA**

(CLEARS HER THROAT)
There isn't huh?

#### ALEX

Well except you.

# **NERISSA**

That's better. Anyway, you two will have to stay out sight and we'll be able to protect Tara and Sam if they were seen.

# **JEANETTE**

They got away before we were seen. So they should be safe and I told them to say they were on the Ferris wheel when the fire happened.

### **ALEX**

See? they have everything prep--A FIRE?!

# **JEANETTE**

(NERVOUS GIGGLE)

We might've miscalculated the power of a flash bang made by teenagers.

### **DECLAN**

Yeah, the town's gazebo burst into flames the moment we executed our plan.

We didn't mean for it to happen, but hey it kind of made for a great chance for them to put something else in the center of town.

#### ALEX

Oh man, this is bad, very bad. Nerissa we're going to need to go on the full defensive for this.

### **NERISSA**

There is no way the mayor and the church elders will give up trying to find them.

#### ALEX

And if they don't give up we'll make them wish they never set foot on our property.

### **NERISSA**

Alex. we're not going to maim the townspeople.

#### ALEX

I wasn't thinking of doing that. I'm going to hose them down. I did increase the pressure on our sprinklers.

#### DECLAN

That's a good idea. Knock them off their feet. Unless they melt like the Wicked Witch of the West.

#### NERISSA

No one is going to soak anyone on our property. We'll talk to them like calm and rational individuals.

# DECLAN AND ALEX

(IN UNISON)

Oh come on!

### **NERISSA**

We'll be nice. Now, Jeanette and Declan, you both will need to avoid being seen by anyone in town for awhile.

So like 3 months ago? It's fine, Dec and I wanted to go on a vacation out of town anyway.

#### **DECLAN**

Yeah, I believe a nice B&B in another town would be a great place to vacation.

### **JEANETTE**

We'll have to leave during the night then. So no one can see us.

TARA O.S.

MOMS!

#### **ALEX**

Tara? what's wrong?

Tara runs into the small apartment with Sam following behind her. They have looks of terrors on their faces.

#### **TARA**

The mayor, and the police are at our front door looking for Jeanette and Declan.

# ALEX

Seriously? I guess they must be hopping mad. I'll go deal with them.

# **NERISSA**

I'm coming with you.

#### ALEX

No, you should stay here with the kids in case you need to help Declan and Jeanette stage a daring escape plan.

### **NERISSA**

OK be careful.

### ALEX

I will.

Alex grabs the baseball bat that was leaning against the door frame and takes it with her to meet the Mayor and police.

# EXT. YORU HOUSEHOLD - FRONT PORCH - 10 MINUTES LATER

Alex steps onto the porch as she has the bat propped on her shoulder. She has a menacing look on her face as she looks toward the townspeople. She focuses her attention on the mayor.

#### ALEX

Can I help you?

### MAYOR MICAH

Mrs. Yoru, I do apologize for taking you away from your household duties, we're searching for Declan and Jeanette.

#### ALEX

First, I don't have any household duties to do as I'm not some housewife. And Second, Jeanette and Declan won't be going anywhere with you.

#### MAYOR MICAH

They've cause a disturbance at the festival. And according to the town's bylaws, vandalizing the city's property is against the law.

### **ALEX**

Oh? they've vandalized something? And you want them to pay a fine?

# MAYOR MICAH

No, they're to be taken to the church's elders to be dealt with.

#### ALEX

The church elders huh? You want them to deal with Jeanette and Declan for vandalizing something? Micah, I thought you were the mayor of this city.

### MAYOR MICAH

I am mayor of this fine city but you know the church elders are in charge of ensuring the decency of our town is upheld and our laws are being followed.

#### ALEX

In short, if you do not conform, then you're placed at their mercy.

#### MAYOR MICAH

This has been going on for years Alexandria! Your daughter Jeanette hasn't followed our way of life since your arrivals into town 7 years ago.

#### ALEX

Well, my Jeanette was always a rebel. She is like I am, I don't follow the rules and you seem to be OK with it.

#### MAYOR MICAH

You're a special case Alexandria, you're the, head woman of the house and thus fulfills the role of a man. Even if the church's elders do not approve of your role. After all women are mean to bear children and serve their hu--

Alex points the end of the bat at Mayor Micah with a glint of anger in her eye. Almost challenging him to continue his sentence.

#### MAYOR MICAH

What I meant to say is, that your role should be that of the other women in town.

#### ALEX

Uh-huh, and your role should be what? A whipping boy for the elders? Or spineless coward that's afraid to step out of line?

### MAYOR MICAH

(GETTING ANNOYED)

Alexandria, I came over here to speak with you in a calm and civil manner but I see now that you're hostile. We will have to enter your home and arrest Jeanette and Declan.

#### ALEX

Not without a search warrant or a warrant for their arrests.

#### MAYOR MICAH

We have a warrant for their arrests. Now stand aside before you're arrested too.

#### ALEX

(ANGRY)

Yeah, sure you do. Now get off my property.

### MAYOR MICAH

We will not leave! You're to be arrested for aiding and abetting criminals.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Please forgive me miss. This is for the best.

### ALEX

Yeah right. You're just a child yourself and you're following orders. Darren, you were a good kid before you were brainwashed by this town.

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

(MOMENT OF CLARITY)
Oh god help me...

Officer O'Hardy grasps his head, he groans in pain. He then shakes his head to clear his thoughts and he looks at Alex.

# OFFICER O'HARDY (CONT'D)

Mrs. Yoru, step aside I need to bring Declan and Jeanette to justice for their crimes.

#### ALEX

Over my dead body. Now leave my property now!

# MAYOR MICAH

(SIGHS IN ANNOYANCE)
O'Hardy arrest Alexandria too.

#### ALEX

You touch me Darren and I'll break your arm.

# OFFICER O'HARDY

I have to arrest you for aiding abetting a criminal.

### JEANETTE O.S.

Stop!

Jeanette and Declan rush towards the porch from the garage.

### JEANETTE

We'll go with you. Just don't arrest my mother!

#### ALEX

Jeanette, you don't need to go with them. You've done nothing wrong.

### **DECLAN**

Mrs. Yoru, we caused chaos in the town square. We have to take responsibility for what we've done. We're not going to endanger you.

#### ALEX

I ain't in danger. I'm protecting my family. That includes you too Declan.

#### DECLAN

And you're family, and I have to protect you. We'll go peacefully.

# **JEANETTE**

(SIGHS)

Alright Officer O'Hardy, we'll go with you and the mayor.

# **DECLAN**

But keep your hands where I can see them. Don't touch Jeanette.

Officer O'Hardy handcuffs Declan and Jeanette. He then leads them towards the patrol car. Mayor Micah looks at Alex.

### MAYOR MICAH

We'll talk later about your actions Alexandria.

### **ALEX**

Why you!

# **NERISSA**

Alex, we'll deal with him later. For now we'll need to pray that Jeanette and Declan will come back in one piece.

Alex and Nerissa watched the patrol car drive away with Jeanette and Declan.

### INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - HOLDING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

### **DECLAN**

(SIGHS)

Jeany, are you alright?

#### **JEANETTE**

I'm fine, are you okay? I know that Officer O'Hardy hit you rather hard when you tried to punch him for frisking me.

### **DECLAN**

I'm fine, he didn't land a punch on anything vital. When I get out of here I'm going to shove him into traffic.

#### **JEANETTE**

If we remember what he's done.

#### **DECLAN**

(GROANS)

That's right. They'll brainwash us and we'll be mindless domestic bots.

#### **JEANETTE**

(THOUGHTFUL)

Maybe, if we plead our case and explain our reason they may go easy on u--no they won't even listen to us.

#### **DECLAN**

(GROWLS; YELLS AT OFFICER O'HARDY)

Hey! Are you really going to turn us over to the elders? What's wrong with you? We used to be friends!

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Declan, we are friends and I'm doing this for your own good. You know that our town needs order and it's achieved by everyone playing their parts.

#### **DECLAN**

You never believed that. You said you'd escape the hell that is this place. But you stayed behind for your sister.

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

This town opened my eyes. I was a juvenile delinquent until I made the decision to embrace the perfection of this town.

#### **DECLAN**

Sure you did. You became a spineless wimp with no thoughts of your own. I know that SHE would be disgusted at how you've changed.

Officer O'Hardy for a brief moment looks at Declan with a look of sadness in his eyes before he straightens up and glares at him.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

I've opened my eyes to the truth. Now sit down and wait for the elders to call you in to the community room.

### **DECLAN**

Yeah sure, I'll wait for them to scoop my brains out onto a cracker with cheese whiz as a topping.

# OFFICER O'HARDY

Your words aren't going to get to me Declan. Just sit there and stay quiet.

Officer O'Hardy leaves the room for a brief moment and comes back in carrying a large basket.

### DECLAN

What's in the basket? Another cash bribe from the mayor?

### OFFICER O'HARDY

This is from Laura Jennings. She's been wanting me to court her for some time.

### DECLAN

You mean Laura the laundry maid Jennings? Wow didn't peg you for a

### **DECLAN**

domestic type Darren. Your taste has devolved since your last girlfriend.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Laura is a perfect example of what a woman of Stepford should be.

### **JEANETTE**

Boring right? Obsessed with housework, babies and pleasing her husband? Yeah that's not perfection, that's creepy.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

(IGNORES JEANETTE)
Laura's perfection. She's not rebellious.

#### **DECLAN**

Oh, only someone with half a br--

The door to the elders' chambers open as Mayor Micah walks out.

#### MAYOR MICAH

Declan and Jeanette, the elders will see you. O'Hardy open their cell door.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Alright.

Officer O'Hardy opens the door. A sound of a punch is heard as he falls onto the floor holding his nose. Declan is rubbing his knuckles as Jeanette steps on O'Hardy when she exits the cell.

# **DECLAN**

That's for trying to frisk Jeany.

#### MAYOR MICAH

Go in to see the elders. I do hope they will curb your passion for violence Declan.

### DECLAN

Doubt it. Come on Jeany.

#### **JEANETTE**

At least we know that Dec is human.

The two enter the elders' chambers.

### INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - ELDERS CHAMBERS - SAME

The elders' chambers has a dark atmosphere about it. the only light that's entering the room is the single window behind the long table. Four men are dressed in robes that judges wore in court. They looked at the couple that entered the room with looks of disapproval.

#### WALTER

Declan and Jeanette Lupei, why am I not surprised to see you two here?

#### **DECLAN**

Same reason why I'm not surprised that your toupee doesn't match what little hair you have.

#### **JEANETTE**

(GIGGLES)

Declan, that's mean, you know his hairline cannot help but become a mess, after all sucking the souls out of people cannot save hairlines.

#### **DECLAN**

(LAUGHS)

That's a good one Jeany!

### WALTER

(YELLS)

Enough! You two are out of control and have disrespected this town and destroyed a town landmark!

# **DECLAN**

We did you a favor, it was falling apart. One swift gust of wind and it would've come down.

### **HIRAM**

Declan, you of all people should know that it's important to respect the property of Stepford Hills.

### **DECLAN**

(MOCK SHAME)

Oh waaah! now I feel bad. Bad Declan.

### **JEANETTE**

(LAUGHING LOUDER)

Jeanette falls onto the floor holding her sides still laughing.

#### HIRAM

Are you making a mockery of this council?

#### **DECLAN**

Nah, if I was I'd call Walter over there Lex Luthor and I'd call you the Penguin. So no I'm not making a mockery of this council.

#### **JEANETTE**

(FROM HER PLACE ON THE FLOOR; SNORTS)

Dec, that's offensive.

#### **DECLAN**

Offensive to who? You're feeling bad for these guys?

#### **JEANETTE**

No, I meant it's offensive to Lex Luthor and The Penguin. They're not uptight stuffed shirts that could pop just by blowing a gasket.

# WALTER

Jeanette Lupei, did I give you permission to speak?

#### **JEANETTE**

No, but you aren't my mom or my other mom. So I don't need your permission to speak.

### **DECLAN**

(PROUDLY)

That's my princtesa.

### **JEANETTE**

And another thing, why should you guys decide what punishment we should have? The worst thing that we've done is burn down that tacky pile of wood and paint you called a gazebo.

### HIRAM

Aren't you the least bit of ashamed of yourself? Just look at how you're dressed. Like a tramp.

(TAKEN ABACK)

Excuse me? Dressed like a tramp? How so?

#### HIRAM

Short pants, a top that exposes your tender area and sneakers.

### **JEANETTE**

(ANGRY; SARCASTIC)

Oh no! my belly is exposed to the public! Lock me up and throw away the key! Look old man, I am not some domestic bot that wears frilly dresses and heels.

#### HIRAM

And that's dressing like a tramp. Our town has bylaws and a dress code you must adhere to. Our dress code is to help you understand a woman's place.

#### **JEANETTE**

(FURIOUS)

A woman's place?! Oh I'll show you a woman's place!

Declan grabs Jeanette and holds her back. He glares at Hiram almost challenging him to say something else rude to Jeanette.

### HIRAM

It's nice to see you're at least controlling your wife Declan.

### **DECLAN**

Oh, I could let her go and have her turn you into fettuccine. I'm going to tell you this once, Jeanette doesn't dress like a tramp and she's sure as hell isn't going to start dressing like a drone.

#### HIRAM

Declan, I know you've seen the outside and everything that you've been taught to believe has been overtaken with immoral thoughts and acts. You will need, reeducation. Jeanette's corrupted your mind as well.

#### **DECLAN**

Jeanette didn't corrupt anything. I saw this town for what it was. This isn't a way to live. My so-called reeducation that you want to do on me is immoral!

#### WALTER

It's a shame that the son of a member of the council feels this way. Why we had a set prepared for you to join us.

#### **DECLAN**

Yeah no thanks, I don't believe in brainwashing anyone. I also don't agree with this town's way of life.

#### HIRAM

Which is why we're going to help you and Jeanette embrace it.

### **DECLAN**

Embrace it? Ha! we're not going to embrace anything.

### **JEANETTE**

That's right. We're not becoming domesticated drones.

### IVAN O.S.

Declan.

IVAN LUPEI enters the room. He walks toward the long table and takes a seat at it. He looks at his son with anger.

### IVAN (CONT'D)

You've broken the bylaws of this town and now you and Jeanette will need reeducation.

### **DECLAN**

Father.

### **IVAN**

You and Jeanette are a danger to this town. So you'll need to be taught how wonderful this town can be.

### **DECLAN**

This place is hell! Jeany and I aren't going to let you or your buddies brainwash us.

#### **IVAN**

Declan, now you know that's not true. You love it here don't you? It's safe, secure and away from the outside world that's full of danger. Don't you want to raise a family here?

#### DECLAN

I rather die than live as a bot.

#### **IVAN**

(SIGHS; DISAPPOINTED)
I'm afraid that's the wrong answer.
Ahem, Officer O'Hardy and Micah
please escort Declan to the
reeducation room.

### OFFICER O'HARDY AND MAYOR MICAH

(IN UNISON)

Yes sir.

The two men grab both of Declan's arms and begin trying to lead him towards the open door. Declan manages to break free from their grasps.

#### DECLAN

Don't touch me! Come on Jeany let's get out of her--

Declan falls to the floor as Ivan had used a taser on him. He looks down at his son.

### **JEANETTE**

(HORROR)

DECLAN!

#### IVAN

Now take him to reeducation room.

Mayor Micah and Officer O'Hardy drags Declan through the door. Jeanette watches them in horror before she turns to the men staring at her.

### **JEANETTE**

What are you two going to do to me?

#### **IVAN**

Why nothing my dear. You need reeducation too.

Jeanette feels someone standing behind her. She turns around and sees Betty Jean standing behind her with a wide smile.

### BETTY JEAN

Come along dear.

### **JEANETTE**

I'm not going anywhere with you.

#### BETTY JEAN

(DISAPPOINTED)

But Jeanette, you should really learn to make your husband happy. Now come along with me.

#### **JEANETTE**

Hell no.

# BETTY JEAN

(SIGH)

Oh dear, I guess I'll have to use force. Please smell this.

Betty Jean holds out a bottle of perfume inches away from Jeanette's face.

#### **JEANETTE**

(SUSPICIOUS)

Smell wha--

Jeanette is sprayed in face with the perfume that Betty Jean held in her hand. She falls onto the floor unconscious.

### BETTY JEAN

Poor dear is going to have such a headache. Oh well! Girls come help me with Jeanette!

Betty Jean smiles as she claps. Two young women dressed in frilly dresses and high heels enter the room. The two of them each take one of Jeanette's legs. They begin dragging her toward the second reeducation room.

### **IVAN**

I'll be assisting with reeducation of my son.

### WALTER

What if he resists?

### **IVAN**

He won't resist, if he knows what's good for him.

Ivan exits.

### INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - REEDUCATION ROOM - LATER

#### IVAN

Declan, Declan wake up!

### **DECLAN**

(GROANS IN PAIN)

What happened?

Declan sits up slowly with a hand to his head. His vision is blurred and he can only make out a glowing screen, and a large imposing figure in front of him.

# DECLAN (CONT'D)

Where the hell am I

#### **IVAN**

You're in the reeducation room son. Do you not remember it?

#### **DECLAN**

(CONFUSED)

No, I don't. (CONCERNED) Jeany? Jeany where are you?

#### IVAN

Jeanette isn't in here with you. She's currently being reeducation on our town's bylaws and roles for the women.

#### **DECLAN**

If you hurt Jeanette I'll kill you!

### **IVAN**

No harm will come to her. She's just going to finally obey you.

#### **DECLAN**

Obey me? Jeanette isn't some mindless domesticated drone.

### IVAN

You will be glad with the results. Jeanette will be set free and happy as with all the young ladies in our town.

### DECLAN

And what do you plan to do with me? The moment you let me go I'll just run and save Jeanette.

#### **IVAN**

You won't disobey me or ignore your reeducation. For you see, you know deep down that you would much rather stay here and live peacefully. Maybe even raise a family.

#### DECLAN

Deep down I know that this place is twisted.

#### IVAN

Twisted? No it's perfect. Now how about we talk more over drinks?

#### **DECLAN**

Drinks?

Ivan walks over to the bar that's in the room. He looks at Declan with a small smile as he reaches under the bar and pulls out a bottle of wine. He opens it and pours it into two glasses with ice.

#### **IVAN**

We'll have drinks and talk son. I can help address your concerns.

### DECLAN

Fine let's have drinks.

Ivan merely smiles and puts ice into the glasses. He pours a little bit of the water from the Stepford Hills water purifying plant into Declan's glass.

### End of Act One

# ACT TWO

# INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - REEDUCATION ROOM 2 - 30 MINUTES LATER

### **JEANETTE**

(MOANS IN PAIN)

What? where am I?

Jeanette opens her eyes and sees a blurry figure in front of her. She reaches up to rub her eyes to clear her vision. As she does she looks down at herself and sees she's wearing a red sundress and an apron.

### JEANETTE (CONT'D)

The hell? Why am I dressed like this? Who dressed me like this?!

#### BETTY JEAN

Are you awake now dear? I am very sorry that I had to knock you out like that but you would've resisted.

#### **JEANETTE**

(GROWLS)

I'm going to kill you!

Jeanette leaps from the chair but falls onto the floor. She takes a quick look and sees that her legs are tied together.

#### BETTY JEAN

(GIGGLE)

I couldn't let you escape the moment you woke up. Now we need to begin your reeducation. You do know that it's unbecoming of a lady to attack anyone.

### **JEANETTE**

Ha! I ain't no dainty lady, I fight instead of being soft.

### BETTY JEAN

(DISAPPOINTED)

And we'll need to get that out of you. Now, since we got rid of your trampy clothes, we'll start your treatment.

Betty Jean goes to a table and pours water into a glass. she brings it to Jeanette and smiles.

### BETTY JEAN (CONT'D)

Here you are, have a nice glass of cold water and you'll feel a lot better.

#### **JEANETTE**

Water? I don't want any water! Let me go now.

### BETTY JEAN

But I insist, you cannot resist an offer made by your hostess.

### **JEANETTE**

You ain't my nothing. Now let me go.

Jeanette leans down to try to untie her legs. She sees that she isn't able to undo the knots.

### BETTY JEAN

Don't do that. You'll be freed once you're the perfect woman of the town. Now have some water.

# **JEANETTE**

Hell no! You can't make me drink that stuff!

### BETTY JEAN

Then I'll have to treat you like a child.

Betty Jean snaps her fingers as the girls from earlier enter the room.

#### **JEANETTE**

(SHOCK)

Tiff!? Yasha?!

Both girls don't say a word and grab Jeanette's arms and hold her down.

### **JEANETTE**

Let me go! What are you two doing!?

#### **BETTY JEAN**

They're proper young ladies.

Betty Jean grabs Jeanette's and forces her to drink the water.

(COUGHING; CHOKING)

Betty Jean smiles and moves away. She nods to the two girls to step to the side.

#### **BETTY JEAN**

Isn't it good? Now you can begin your reeducation.

Jeanette's head snaps up and she spits the water into Betty's Jean's face.

### BETTY JEAN (CONT'D)

(SHRIEKS IN DISGUST)
How dare you! that's unladylike!

#### **JEANETTE**

(LAUGHS)

As I said I ain't no dainty flower!

Jeanette looks at Betty Jean with an expression almost as if challenging her to try to force feed her the water again.

### JEANETTE (CONT'D)

You come near me with that swill again and it'll be in your face.

#### BETTY JEAN

(CALMLY; SLOWLY GETTING ANGRY)
You're going to follow our way of
life and accept our reeducation.
You're a disgrace to the town.

### **JEANETTE**

Better to be a disgrace than a domesticated robot.

# BETTY JEAN

You WILL follow our way of life!

# **JEANETTE**

Why? don't you ever get tired of being a man's servant?

# BETTY JEAN

Of course not, my husband and family need me to take care of our home and make them happy.

#### **JEANETTE**

You're a mindless bot. You want to serve men forever?

### BETTY JEAN

I will do what I can to help the community and make sure that everyone's happy and healthy.

### **JEANETTE**

That isn't what you want is it? Come on be honest with yourself, why would you want to live like that.

# BETTY JEAN

(GASPS; MOMENT OF CLARITY) What, why am I dressed like this? Who are you?

#### **JEANETTE**

So, I got through to you?

### **BETTY JEAN**

This isn't right. Why are you tied up?

Betty Jean begins untying Jeanette. She sees a bottle on the desk through the mirror. She turns and goes to the desk and picks up the bottle.

# **BETTY JEAN**

This is...the water from the plant. That's right I was here working on an experiment before...the darkness.

Betty Jean grasps her head and falls onto her knees.

# **BETTY JEAN**

(SCREAMS OUT IN PAIN)
Make it stop! Please! I don't want
to go back!

Jeanette watches in horror but runs to the door and leaves the room. She can hear the sounds of Betty Jean's screams of agony before silence.

### **JEANETTE**

I need to find Dec and get the hell out of here.

Jeanette begins searching for Declan.

### INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - REEDUCATION ROOM

#### IVAN

It's a shame that you never liked this town son. Then again you were always a troublesome case.

#### **DECLAN**

Of course I never liked this town. I hated it here and I still do! I'm only here because I thought you and mom would be happy.

# **IVAN**

We were happy and excited that you finally decided to embrace everything but the moment you showed signs of rebellion again, we became disappointed.

#### DECLAN

Rebellion? Having my own thoughts and personality is rebellion? I don't see it as that. I see it as having freedom.

#### **IVAN**

Declan, you were once a good boy. But now, you've let your wife corrupt you into an outsider.

#### **DECLAN**

Dad, you will watch you say about Jeanette. She didn't corrupt me or turn me against this town. I saw everything and everyone for what it was.

#### **IVAN**

(SIGHS)

And you rejected everything that I ever taught you. I guess we should've worked harder on your reeducation the last time this happened.

#### **DECLAN**

The last time this happened? What are you talking about old man?

### **IVAN**

You see, we took you to the church elders when you were 17 because you

### **IVAN**

kept resisting the town's way of life. Shame all of our hard work was for nothing. You've become an outsider again.

#### **DECLAN**

You brainwashed me before? Is that why I barely remember anything before college?

#### **IVAN**

It was for the best Declan, you were corrupting people. I blame her for it.

#### **DECLAN**

You will not speak of her! You sent her away!

#### **IVAN**

I had to send her away, she was destroying everything that we worked so hard to achieve. Declan, do you think our place in town would've been possible had we let her stay?

### **DECLAN**

(ANGRY)

You threw her away like she was a piece of garbage!

#### **IVAN**

Well, it was for the best. Now that you've married someone with the same spirit, well I have no choice but to help you two become model citizens.

### **DECLAN**

There is no way in hell that Jeanette and I are going to let you do that.

# **IVAN**

Then what am I to do son?

### **DECLAN**

You can let us go. you can let Jeanette and I live our lives as we see fit.

#### **IVAN**

You sure about that? You want to leave our perfect town?

#### **DECLAN**

What is perfection if people have to suffer? That's not happiness that's torture.

#### **IVAN**

It's not torture it's happiness. You just need more time to embrace it. But I can see you've made up your mind. Let's toast to your true happiness.

Ivan pushes the glass toward Declan and smiles.

# IVAN (CONT'D)

To new beginnings.

### **DECLAN**

(SUSPICIOUS)

You're OK with Jeanette and I living our lives as we see fit? You won't interfere?

# **IVAN**

Of course not. You have my word. Now come on join me in a toast.

Declan picks up the glass. He spies a bottle sitting on the bar and realizes that his father had put the water from the purifying plant in it.

# **DECLAN**

Oh I'll make a toast alright. A toast to my father, you're a man who believes so much in this town that you'll drug your own son against his will.

### **IVAN**

Declan what are you ta--

Declan throws the wine in his father's face, runs to the door, opens it and sprints out. He crashes into someone as he looks down.

# INT. STEPFORD HILLS CHURCH - HALLWAY - SAME

**DECLAN** 

(SURPRISE)

Jeany?!

**JEANETTE** 

Dec!

DECLAN AND JEANETTE

(IN UNISON)

Are you alright?

The two of them stand up as they hear the sound of footsteps coming toward them.

#### **DECLAN**

Come on Jeany, we need to get out of here. They're going to kill us if they catch us.

### **JEANETTE**

OK.

The two begin running down the hallway trying to escape. They come to a dead end and they turn seeing the church elders, Officer O'Hardy, Betty Jean, and Mayor Micah.

#### DECLAN

All of you stay away from us. We're not going down without a fight.

Declan sees a window that's next to them. He then notices there is a crowbar near the large shelves of pamphlets.

### **IVAN**

Declan, you can't two cannot escape. This is for the best. You'll lose your rebellious ways the moment we help you two.

# **JEANETTE**

We're not going to let you change us! we're not zombies.

# BETTY JEAN

(DISAPPOINTED)

Jeanette, please do not speak unless you're spoken to. It's the duty of a wife to remain silent.

Oh shut up June Cleaver.

#### **DECLAN**

We're not mindless bots and we won't let you turn us into it. All of you can live your lives that way but we're not living like that.

#### WALTER

You're going to bring down the town's morale and happiness.

#### HIRAM

And the property values will plummet if people find out that two residents are unhappy.

#### **DECLAN**

That's all you care about? Property values?! What about people's freedoms and happiness?

#### WALTER

The residents are happy. You and Jeanette are the only unhappy residents.

#### HIRAM

Is it because you allowed Jeanette to take up a job that's immoral? She's a model! Someone that loves to be gawked at. She's immoral and a tramp.

### DECLAN

Don't call her tramp! I also didn't allow her to take the job! She's her own person and can choose whatever job she wishes.

### HIRAM

(IGNORES HIM)

The career path that you've allowed Jeanette to take is immoral and shouldn't be praised. Why would you allow her to take up a profession that will her out of the home? What will your future children think of their mother if she's never home to care for them?

You're upset that I am not in the kitchen constantly and pushing out children? You want me to be a brainless baby maker. Yeah not going to happen pal.

#### **IVAN**

(DISAPPOINTED)

Declan, if you're truly unhappy here then we'll need to do something about it. For you and Jeanette to be happy.

#### **DECLAN**

What? You're not going to brainwash us.

# IVAN

Actually, I was thinking more along the lines of allowing you two to leave our town.

#### **DECLAN**

(DISBELIEF)

Wait, you're allowing us to leave?

# **IVAN**

Why yes, If you want to leave then by all means you're free to do so. No one is going to stop you son. If you were to disappear during the night then who am I to send the authorities after you?

# **DECLAN**

Is that a threat?

#### **IVAN**

No it's not, it's an offer. You have 8 hours to pack your personal belongings and leave. If you do not leave in the time frame allotted, we'll send you and Jeanette to the reeducation camp.

#### **DECLAN**

8 hours?

# **IVAN**

I'll make it 7 hours if you continue to talk back.

#### **DECLAN**

Fine. We'll leave. But you have to swear to me you will not follow us.

#### **IVAN**

You have my word.

### **DECLAN**

What do you think Jeany?

### **JEANETTE**

(WHISPERS TO HIM)
We should take the offer. If he's sincere then we can escape this place.

#### **DECLAN**

(WHISPERS BACK TO JEANETTE) What if they go after your family as retribution?

### **JEANETTE**

(OUT LOUD)

No harm will come to my family if we leave? My mothers and sister are to be left alone to live here?

# **IVAN**

You have my word.

#### **JEANETTE**

(TO DECLAN)

I believe him.

# DECLAN

Me too. (TO THIS FATHER) Fine, we'll leave before our 8 hour time frame is up.

# **IVAN**

Good, you may leave now.

Declan and Jeanette leaves the hallway through a large door. The rest of the Church Elders, Mayor Micah, Betty Jean and Officer O'Hardy look at Ivan.

#### MAYOR MICAH

Ivan, you're letting your son and his wife escape? What if their rebellion reaches others?

#### **IVAN**

My son and his wife fools.

Ivan snaps his fingers as a group of men come out of the various rooms. All of them with menacing imposing physiques and expressions.

### IVAN (CONT'D)

Make it look clean and an accident. Oh and make sure to bring their bodies to town square to be put up as examples.

The group of men begin heading toward the exit.

### HIRAM

Ivan, we weren't going to kill them.

#### WALTER

That's a little extreme. That's your son and daughter-in-law!

#### **IVAN**

I have no son or daughter-in-law. They're outsiders that disobeyed our way of life.

Ivan then turns to Officer O'Hardy.

# IVAN (CONT'D)

In case they fail, put up wanted posters and alert our sister cities. Anyone who brings them back dead or alive will receive a huge reward.

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

Sir, I don't think that I could--

### **IVAN**

(ANGRY)

Don't disobey me or you're next.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Yes sir.

# **IVAN**

Declan and Jeanette will see what happens to disobedient people.

### INT. YORU HOUSEHOLD - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

#### ALEX

I'm going down to that church and rescue the kids.

#### NERISSA

I'm coming with you. Jeanette is my daughter too.

#### ALEX

Rissa, you should stay here in case they try to come for Tara.

#### **NERISSA**

They wouldn't dare.

#### **ALEX**

They would.

The sound of the front door opening is heard. Alex quickly picks up her bat and rushes to the entry hallway.

### ALEX (CONT'D)

(GASPS)

Jeanette! Declan! What have they done to you?!

# **JEANETTE**

Mom!

Jeanette runs and hugs Alex. She looks at her teary eyes before burying her head into her chest.

# JEANETTE (CONT'D)

(SOBBING)

We have to leave! Dec and I have to leave! We cannot stay! or else we'll be punished.

### ALEX

What? You two have to leave?!

#### DECLAN

My father thought it'd be best if Jeany and I left town. We have 8 hours to pack everything and leave.

### **ALEX**

That isn't enough time! he's crazy.

We have no choice. Mr. Lupei promised that he won't hurt you, mom and Tara if we leave tonight.

#### ALEX

That's it I'm going down there and shove this bat up his ass! He will not run my child out of town!

#### **JEANETTE**

Mom please! We have to do this to protect you.

#### ALEX

Where will you go?

#### **DECLAN**

We'll try to move to the next town over.

#### **NERISSA**

Or, you two could move to Rosetta Springs.

#### **DECLAN**

Rosetta Springs?

# NERISSA

Yes, that's the town that Doreen's daughter Ashley moved to. She too was an escapee of this insane place.

### **JEANETTE**

Is it safe? Does anyone in town know about it?

#### **NERISSA**

No one knows of it's existence. It's too far away from this place.

### ALEX

If anyone comes looking for you we won't tell them anything.

#### **JEANETTE**

(SIGHS)

What do you think Dec?

# **DECLAN**

We have no other choice draga mea. We'll need to take a chance.

Nerissa goes to the nearby desk drawer and pulls out an old key. She walks back to the two of them and holds it out.

#### **NERISSA**

Here, it may not be much but you two can have a place to stay. There is a house on Angelic Lane that my grandmother once lived in.

#### **JEANETTE**

Grandmother Riva left you a home? Why did you come here?

#### **NERISSA**

Well, we have our reasons.

#### ALEX

That's right. Just take the key and be safe you two.

#### **JEANETTE**

OK...

Jeanette takes the key and puts it in her shirt pocket. She then looks at Declan with a sad look in her eyes.

#### **DECLAN**

Don't worry, we'll be OK. (TO ALEX AND NERISSA) We'll come back for you two and Tara.

#### ALEX

You two care about your own safety. We'll find a way to leave one day. For now be safe you two.

As they speak, they don't notice a shine of a pistol pointing toward the window.

#### **NERISSA**

And we'll make sure you're not followed.

#### DECLAN

Thank yo--- (SEES A REFECTION OF A MAN OUTSIDE THE WINDOW) EVERYONE GET DOWN!

Everyone dives to the floor as gunshots enter the room through the various windows.

#### **ALEX**

Everyone to the garage!

They begin crawling to the kitchen and through the garage door as the gunshots continue to ring out through the air.

#### INT. YORU HOUSEHOLD- GARAGE

#### **NERISSA**

Declan and Jeanette go now! Go and do not look back!

Nerissa pushes the two toward the motorcycle that's parked in the garage.

### **JEANETTE**

What about you two?

#### ALEX

Just go! don't worry about us!

#### **DECLAN**

Come on Jeany.

Declan gets up and pulls Jeanette up with him. The two of them put on helmets and Declan starts the motorcycle once they're on.

### **NERISSA**

Be safe you two.

Alex hears the sound of more footsteps outside the garage. She opens the door before shouting.

### **ALEX**

(SHOUTING)

GO! GO! GO! NOW!

Declan speeds out of the garage on the motorcycle with Jeanette and past the men waiting for them outside. They can hear a few gunshots ringing through the air and a few whizzing past them as they drive toward the only highway leading out of town.

### INT. STEPFORD HILLS TOWN HALL - SAME

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Sir, the men didn't kill Declan and Jeanette. They also were also injured by Alexandria Yoru.

#### **IVAN**

I see, well then we'll go with my second plan. Please proceed in letting other towns know that we have two fugitives that must be brought to justice.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Are you sure that you want to do this? I know you've disowned Declan but he's still your son.

#### **IVAN**

He's a criminal. Better yet make the reward for anyone that can bring them to their senses. If anyone in our sister towns can bring them back as a happy resident of this town, they will received a handsome reward.

### OFFICER O'HARDY

Yes sir.

Officer O'Hardy leaves the room. He shuts the door behind him and looks at the large portrait on the wall of the Lupei family. His gaze settles on one figure in particular. he has a brief moment of clarity.

# OFFICER O'HARDY (CONT'D)

(SIGHS; SADLY)

I tried protecting him like you asked but I might've failed him.

Officer O'Hardy places a hand on his head and looks up at the portrait with a look of disgust.

#### OFFICER O'HARDY

Disobedience must be dealt with. I'll bring those two back if it costs me my life and job.

He exits.

END OF EPISODE 1