

Screenplay

MEMORY LANE

Jessie Lynn must maintain the Donovan Gardens Nursing home in top condition in order to receive her inheritance from her long ignored ailing rich uncle, and she soon discovers that retirement homes

Character Descriptions

Abby Villas - works at the front desk, she trusts no one and is always asking questions in hopes of catching her subjects in a lie

Leo Estaban - Grandson of Esmerelda, he goes to her for advice and advocates for her needs with the staff.

Lana Estaban- New patient, wise latina lady with a jaded past in the punk rock and metal music business where she was a manager. She can play both innocent old lady or hardened hag depending on what is necessary in the situation

Richie Crina - the Don Juan of the Nursing home. He ruffles the hen's feathers, but always manages to escape true persecution due to his relentless, calculated charms.

Gary Winters - The activities coordinator that manages to create an atmosphere of miscalculated mayhem with each well intentioned idea.

Jessie Lynn - Head nurse, the heart of the nursing home, she's concerned for the welfare of the staff and patients, is good at heart to heart talks, elated giggles, forthright speeches and impulsive acts of courage. She is a mother with a loving husband.

Lawrence Maduro - A good guy patient that likes to hang out, participate in the goings on of the nursing home, and has a good natured sense of humor that allows him poke fun at little things that aren't quite right. Can get frustrated and throw fits, but it's funny.

Deondre Baker - a bouncer type orderly with a gentle nature that does the heavy lifting around the nursing home

Alberta Windthroe - patient, regal, proper, dignified mother of six annoying spoiled brats that visit and leave absurd gifts.

Elanore Marcus - A glamorous patient with an overdecorated living area and a gossipy nature. Like to play cards and sneak cigarretes.

Ted Pfeiffer - A retired fire-fighter patient that chimes in with one-liners, can jump in during a crisis.

(CONTINUED)

Michael Voight - a small framed orderly that goes with the flow, mostly physical comedy with little dialog. Often will be the one with the solution to a problem that he will hint at.

Edward Stapleton - The owner of the nursing home, has periferial interest in the goings on at the home, occasionally makes odd requests that relate to his other business interests that may or may not be legal.

Will Emerson - Patient, Conspiracy theorist and inventor. Doesn't really listen to anyone, enters and exits with absurd rants that are innaccurate on the facts. Participates in activities and can fix anything. Compulsive gambler.

COLD OPEN

FADE IN

INT - JESSIE LYNN'S ROOM - DAWN

Alarm clock radio goes off (suggested music: Manic Monday) at 6 am a manicured female hand turns it off. We see the face of an attractive 25 year old JESSIE Lynn, with flannel pastel pajamas. Her room is Retro 80's pastels, clean and well organized with inspirational quotes on the wall and a treadmill in the corner.

JESSIE VO

That was the morning of the day
that changed my life forever.

Phone rings.

JESSIE

Hello, yes this is Jessica Lane.
Yes, I do have an uncle Edward
Stapleton...

JESSIE VO

I thought when my uncle Edward
died, as his sole living relative,
his inheritance would be the
solution to all my problems.

CROSS DISSOLVE

EXT. MANSION - FANTASY

Jessica descends elegant staircase in a sparkled gown holding a glass of champagne, is fawned on by three handsome men in tuxedos. A string quartet plays. a few pedigree lap dogs frolick.

JESSIE VO

I was going to live in a beautiful home, with designer clothes, and great company...

EXT. SPEEDBOAT - FANTASY CONT.

Jessica stands facing the wind, driving a speed boat as the three men in tuxedos cheer her on.

JESSIE VO

I thought my life was going to begin, that it would be non-stop excitement. I was sorely mistaken.

INT. NURSING HOME BEDROOM - DAY

Jessica is wearing blue scrubs, protective hat and mask, rubber gloves. She is nealed down, a tiny old lady with outdated glasses and very frizzy hair is sitting up in bed.

OLD LADY

I think I may have overfilled the bedpan... WATCH OUT!

Jessica's eyes widen as she picks up the pan and stumbles towards the frame about to SPLASH the viewer.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - DAY

Jessica, dressed in black holding a white handkerchief gently weeping, sits across from lawyer's desk. A brunette about the same age as her sits to her right, CARLY, and to her left is BRAD as scrawny leather skined guy with a spikey haircut.

LAWYER

...And to Jessie Lane, my only living relative, I bequeth my entire worldly possessions, on the condition that she maintian The

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LAWYER (cont'd)

Donvan Gardens Retirement Community
in five star condition as head
director condition for a term of
three years, the same amount of
time she abandoned me in my ailing
health. If you fail to succeed,
your only inheritance will be the
retirement community itself.

Jessica abruptly quits weeping.

JESSIE

What? This can't be happening!

CREDITS:SEQUENCE- MONTAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF JESSICA MAKING
AN INSPIRATION BOARD FULL OF ALL HER HOPES AND DREAMS OF
MATERIALISM AND SUCCESS. SCENE WITH THE LAWYER. JESSICA
LOOKING DEFEATED AS SHE APPROACHES THE ENTRY OF THE NURSING
HOME. HER STANDING IN HER DIRECTORS UNIFORM OUTSIDE, SHE
DROPS HER ARM TO START A RACE OF ELDERLY IN WHEELCHAIRS, SHE
SMILES, HER INSPIRATION BOARD IS ABOVE HER OFFICE DESK NEXT
TO A BULLITIN BOARD FULL OF FRIENDLY FACES AND PICTURES WITH
PEOPLE FROM THE CAST, THAT ARE INTRODUCED.

ACT ONE

EXT - DOWNTOWN OFFICE BUILDING ENTRANCE PLAZA - DAY

Jessica is walking out of the downtown office building
visibly upset. Brad and Carly follow behind but they can't
keep up with her speedwalking. She breaks a heel. Visibly
see her emotional break down as she takes the shoe off and
gives it a hard throw in a random direction, a car alarm
goes off. She lets out an animalistic grunt and takes off
the other shoe.

Carly approaches from behind.

CARLY

Jessica! Get a hold of yourself!

JESSIE

Get a hold of myself? I have
nothing to hold on to! My whole
world is destroyed!

CARLY

It's only for three years. How hard
can it be? Some people work their
whole lives without such an
opportunity.

(CONTINUED)

JESS

I can't take any of your peaches
and cream reality right now.

Brad catches up and joins the conversation

BRAD

I just wanted to say.

JESSIE

YES?!?

BRAD

I just wanted to say... Good luck,
maybe I'll see you in three years?

He runs away, going into the distance. Jessica throws her
other shoe and hits him in the back.

BRAD

OW!

He runs faster until he is a speck in the distance as the
girls continue their conversation.

CARLY

I told you he was a jerk.

JESSIE

You might as well go too. I'm
going to be up to my ears in grey
hairs for a long time to come.

They start walking.

CARLY

I have to say with your temper and
pessimistic attitude, it's
tempting.

JESSIE

You don't understand. My Uncle
Edward is setting a trap for me. I
know it.

CARLY

A trap? You could see it as an
opportunity.

JESSIE

I'm doomed! I could have to change
bedpans and watch wheel of fortune
forever! I bet there is no way to

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE (cont'd)
keep this "Five Star Rating"
whatever that is, for three years.
He KNOWS I'm a low achiever.

CARLY
Maybe he has faith in you, and yeah
maybe you should have given him a
little more of your time since you
knew he was going to leave
everything to you.

CROSS DISSOLVE

INT. JESSIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jessie looks at her ringing cell phone and sees that her
uncle is calling, she ignores the call and continues to
aerobicize jumping on a mini trampoline.

CUT TO.

Jessie looks at her ringing phone, sees it's her uncle,
ignores it, and continues to make her microwave dinner,

CUT TO

Jessie looks at her ringing phone, sees it's her uncle,
ignores it, and continues eating popcorn, feet propped up,
watching a movie with Brad sitting by her on the couch, he
makes his move.

FADE TO BLACK

EXT - LEAVING DOWNTOWN OFFICE BUILDING, CONT. -DAY

They walk in silence and stand at a blue sedan parked at a
meter on the street.

JESSIE
Maybe you're right Carly, thanks
for coming to the reading of the
will. I really needed you here.

CARLY
Yes you did.

JESSIE
I went to nursing school because I
knew he would approve. I've been
working my whole life, so what if I
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE (cont'd)
blew him off for the past few
years. I've been tired and
busy. He was just retired, I
didn't know he was going to die. I
just...

CARLY
Maybe you fear death?

JESSIE
Yeah, death. I'm going to miss that
guy. (sob)

Carly throws up her hands and gives her a hug.

JESSIE VO
Carly has been my best friend since
grade school, and she's always been
there for me.

CROSS DISSOLVE

INT. SECOND GRADE CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK

Two girls sit in classroom desks with about 30 other students. Two girls with similar haircuts and clothing styles are recognizable as a YOUNG JESSIE AND YOUNG CARLY. Everyone is sitting in silence, engaged in a math worksheet activity. The sound of scooting chairs and silence. A MEAN BOY BLAKE in the back of the class is spitting spitballs, he hits the pencil sharpener, he hits the clock, then he hits the back of Jessie's neck. She hits the back of her neck with her hand like she's swatting a mosquito. Carly sits behind Jessie and sees the whole thing.

JESSIE
Hey! Save your spit for someone
that cares!

CARLY
Jessie! Get a hold of yourself!

Jessica folds her arms and slumps in her seat. The tired middle aged teacher in a cardigan takes notice from his desk.

TEACHER
Is there a problem Jessie?

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE

No sir.

TEACHER

Go to time out.

Carly interrupts.

CARLY

Blake is spitting spitballs. Look at the clock and the pencil sharpener. (she points) He also hit Jessie's neck. She was just reacting to his unfair abuse, she should be commended, not punished.

The teacher gets up from their seat and inspects the clock and the pencil sharpener and then looks at MEAN BOY BLAKE.

TEACHER

Blake go to time out.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. SEMINAR FOR DIRECTORS OF ASSISTED LIVING HOMES

A big beige hotel seminar room with dry erase boards and a speaker at the front. Water on the tables. Jessie is sitting in the "classroom" with much the same disposition. She's absorbed in her work. In the back row, a man JOSHUA, a director of a prestigious five star assisted living community, strangely resembling a mean boy blake is taking notice of Jessie.

SPEAKER SEMINAR LEADER

The five star rating system for assisted living falls into three parts, healthcare, orientation and blah blah blah.

Jessica touches the back of her neck like she can feel his eyes on the back of her neck.

making notes about activites. Wine tasting, water ballet, shuffle board, bird watching, bingo, Soul Train dance offs, giant chess and checkers, bean bag throw, Chimenea.

INT. JESSIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

She is stacking books in order of their endings by setting them next to notecards labeled: Happy, Tragic, Inconclusive.

CARLY

I think this little project of yours is putting you in the OCD category.

JESSIE

I just really need to think this through. I've read all these books, but what are they really teaching me? I want a happy ending.

CARLY

I don't think it works that way.

JESSIE

Of course it does. I don't need to give into self-defeating behaviors. I can be like, (she picks up a book) Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz.

CARLY

I think your ending up in a padded cell, friend.

JESSIE

Nonsense, until this is over, I'm only going to think like winners. Surey it will help.

CARLY

What you should be doing is going over the fine points of the will. Look here. It turns out the three years of five star ratings need not be consecutive, instead they add up over time.

Jessie looks over Carly's shoulder.

JESSIE

So, even if I mess up, it's still possible to get my inheritance... eventually? Yeah, I get it. This is EXACTLY the sort of game my Uncle likes to set up. It could take me five, ten, fifteen years to get that many ratings!

(CONTINUED)

CARLY

Well currently Donovan Gardens has a four star rating. You just have to bring it up a notch. You've got this.

JESSIE

What else did you read in there.

CARLY

Just your competitive salary.

JESSIE

What?

CARLY

Girl, you are going to make twice what you did as a nurse. You've got one of the top 100 professions in the contry.

JESSIE

Yeah, I hear it's a growing industry.

CARLY

You joke, but most people might even express a little gratitude for being given a plum position like this.

JESSIE

I was just looking forward to kicking back living the easy life for once. This is going to take up my entire life.

Phone rings.

JESSIE

Uh Hello Brad.

BRAD VO

Hey, no hard feelings eh? I wanted to say hello from Norway!

JESSIE

Norway?

BRAD

Yeah, I was feeling bad about what happened between us and then I met this girl Katrina, she is the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRAD (cont'd)
director of a cruise ship. One
thing lead to another and I'm here
helping her out with her resort.
Ironic eh?

JESSIE
Uh Brad. I've got to go.

BRAD
Yeah well Farvel! That's Fare well
in norweigian!

CARLY
Before you say anything, I honestly
think he was trying to be nice.

JESSIE
Yeah, he was never very good at
nice.

CARLY
Just put one foot in front of the
other. You'll get to where you need
to be.

JESSIE
Where do I need to be?

CARLY
At your new job, first thing in the
morning. She throws a pillow at
her.

EXT. ENTRANCE DONOVAN RESORT - DAY

Jessica is wearing a businesslike suit jacket and matching
skirt. Her hair is pulled up. She's ready for that five star
rating. She arrives in her blue sedan.

Jessie shows up at the nursing home. It's a spanish
colonial style estate, much like the old hollywood's Garden
of Allah, There's a pool surrounded by cabana's on each
side, and then several other courtyards flanked by cabana
type rooms. The paint is peeling, the wheelchair access is
askew, and several eyesores reveal that an five star rating
will not be easily attained.

JESSICA VO
Everywhere I looked there was
something broken, out of order or
just plain dysfunctional.

(CONTINUED)

Jessie is in the distance and observes:

Approaching the entrance, a young handsome latino boy of about age 18, LEO, Pushes a sweet looking round faced latina lady of about age 75, LANA, in a wheel chair across a bumpy sidewalk. He is stopped at the entryway by DEONDRE, 30, a bouncer sized orderly, a gentle giant.

DEONDRE

Welcome. Let me help you up the ramp, it's a little rickety.

He takes over and pushes her up the ramp getting noticeably stuck three times before crossing the threshold. Lana holds her dignity as she is jostled along, but her hands dramatically grip at the arms of her chair.

DEONDRE

Are you visitors?

LEO

No. We're checking in today. I mean my grandmother Lana Esatban is checking in.

LANA

I'm right here, and I can speak for myself. We met Abby a month ago when we signed the agreement.

LEO

That's right.

DEONDRE

Pleased to meet you both. That's wonderful, I think you'll find yourself right at home here. I'm around if you need me.

LEO

I understand.

Leo pushes Lana to the front desk of the reception area of the nursing home. She's wearing a cute shirt with a bear on it and a gaudy necklace with matching earrings. The woman at the desk, Abby, is on the phone and gives them an acknowledging nod as she continues to talk.

ABBY

Yes, we have single and double rooms and a bungalow by the pool available... yes, we are very customer friendly.

(CONTINUED)

She hands a form on a clipboard to Leo. He looks at the form and then frowns, placing it down on the counter.

ABBY

Are you certain you can deliver that today? Yes. Yes. Thank you.

She hangs up and looks at the new arrivals as if for the first time.

ABBY

Hello. How can I help you.

LEO

I'm here to check in my grandmother Lana Estaban. I believe we are on the schedule?

ABBY

Oh yes. Welcome To Donovan Gardens. We hope you will feel at home.

LEO

Yes mam.

ABBY

Are you the caretaker of Lana Estaban?

LANA

Excuse me, Leo is my grandson, and he takes good care of me, but he needs to have his own young life without the burden of taking care of me.

ABBY

Caretaking needn't be a burden.

LANA

There's more to life than bedpans and wheel of fortune.

LEO

For the record, I've never done either.

ABBY

Well, that's our business, but this is a nice place. You're in good hands.

Enter Jessica.

JESSIE

Hello, you must be Abby. I'm
Jessie Lyn, the new director.

ABBY

Edward's niece, yes I've heard you
were coming.

JESSIE

Well, there's lots of work to do.

ABBY

And where would you like to start
first?

JESSIE

Do you have a grounds keeper? I saw
about five things that needed to be
fixed just walking in the entrance.

ABBY

That would be Michael, but he's
really a tech person. Maybe
Deondre?

JESSIE

Maybe? (Sarcastically) Great.

ABBY

Let me take care of our new guests,
Mrs. Lana Estaban and her grandson
Leo have just arrived I was about
to take them on a tour if you'd
like to come along?

JESSIE

Uh, sure.

ABBY

Let's get started.

Abby places a "Back in 5 minuets" sign on her desk and walks
around the counter to lead the tour.

JESSIE

So no one is at the desk while you
are taking us on the tour?

ABBY

It's never been a problem before.
May I suggest you know where you
are before you start questioning
everything?

(CONTINUED)

Lana coughs for attention.

LANA

I hate to interrupt, but a tour sounds great.

JESSIE

May I join you? I think you are right, I do need to get oriented a bit.

ABBY

Right this way.

JESSIE VO

I know what you're thinking. Way to take charge! But that's never been my strong suit, and if I was to get anywhere, I was going to need backup

ABBY

This room is unoccupied.

She continues walking in a way that invokes suspicion because she obviously doesn't want to go in.

JESSIE

Well, may I see the room? I'd like to think it was ready for occupancy.

ABBY

I'm sure Ms. Estaban isn't interested in a time-consuming inspection.

Jessie opens the door, and is met by resistance. A box of medical equipment falls down.

ABBY

Uh, this is awkward, but we were using this unoccupied room as storage.

JESSIE

We'll talk about this later.

ABBY

Yes... let's go look at the pool area. A true treasure of the place. Our guests love it!

(CONTINUED)

One guy is kicking around in the pool draped over the side of a large tropical innertube.

Two ladies sun in deck chairs. It just looks empty, feels lazy and the only sound is of a humming fan.

JESSIE VO

If the health code didn't get us
the quality measures would, and no
body was even noticing.

INT. LANA'S NEW ROOM

Lana is sitting up in her new bed, in a sparse area by the door, to her side, with the window view is Elenaore Marcus. Her area is noticably posh with a lamp, beadspread, bookshelf, painting on the wall like a nice hotel. Plastic divider curtain between rooms.

LEO

Well, here's to your new beginning!

LANA

Get out of here and don't look
back.

He hugs her

LEO

yes, Grandma, I'll see you Sunday.

He leaves slamming the door behind.

ELANORE

No one's looking.

She pulls a bottle of whiskey from beneath the mattress and pours it into her paper cup set on her lap tray.

ELANORE

Do you play cards? What's your
game.

Shuffles cards on her lap tray.

LANA

Gin rummy

INT. BREAKROOM - DAY

Abby and Gary are "going at it" in the breakroom with an upstanding embrace and fevered kissing. Each time Gary goes for her breasts she moves his hand back.

ABBY

I have to get back to the desk soon.

GARY

You always say that, just when we get started. I guarnatee we have 15 minutes, just work with me here.

ABBY

You are so romantic.

GARY

I brought you a mint.

ABBY

So funny.

EXT. OPEN-AIRED ACTIVITY AREA - DAY

The open-aired courtyard is set up with folding chairs set six feet apart facing two side by side tables and a dry erase board on an easel, set up for a game of bingo.

Glitter Cannon

Bean Bag toss set up. Giant Chess Board, Giant checkers, free time.

introduce the more characters and extras in the group

INT. ALBERTA WINTHROPE'S ROOM - DAY

Enter Richie, with a flower and a poem for the lovely Alberta. He makes sure to connect with his eyes. She swoons agreeably. Interrupted by annoying skype with family.

EXT. OPEN AIRED ACTIVITY AREA

Elenore and Ted are playing the giant chess set with a frantic intennsity.

(CONTINUED)

Lana finds a rose just like the one he left for Alberta in the previous scene by her name placard. She picks it up and gracefully smells the perfume, then looks around flirtatiously.

Jessie sees, smiles and nods.

INT. WILL AND RICHIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Werewolf gun shoot out dream sequence.

INT. STAFF BREAK ROOM - DAY

The administrative staff is gathered around the table break room. There is a projection of a graph on the back wall, somewhat disturbed by by a wall clock and an inspirational poster.

JESSIE

I've been contemplating some decisions and this is what I've come up with: Repair the ramp, Transfer Richie and quit storage of supplies in empty rooms.

Jessie looks at the others for some reaction, but gets blank stares. She coughs.

ABBY

Michael our repairman is away on vacation, so maybe that should wait, and cancelling our storage agreement may cause some problems with the contractors... And what's your problem with Richie, he's a sweet old man.

JESSIE

A dirty old man is more like it.

ABBY

Oh that. He does like the ladies.

INT. RICHIE IN ROOM - FLASHBACK

Richie is fixing himself up in the mirror. His roommate Ted is sitting up in bed. Richie opens up his top drawer, it is full of several long stemmed roses. He sets one on the top of the dresser, and slicks his eyebrows.

(CONTINUED)

TED

Another rose for the ladies?

RICHIE

I always give a beautiful lady a rose. It saves me time.

TED

Time

RICHIE

I can tell if she takes care of the rose after I give it to her, that she likes me.

TED

Maybe she just likes flowers

RICHIE

Nah, I know what I'm doing.

INT. BREAK ROOM - RESUME

JESSIE

He is just going to cause problems I don't need if it escalates.

ABBY

Ok, we can transfer Richie to our partner assisted living space in Fresno.

JESSIE

I was also thinking of hiring an official grounds keeper, and a chaplin. I notice our sanctuary is being used for storage?

ABBY

No one complained, religion isn't a popular topic.

JESSIE

Many of our guests are making their last stop here, there are things they probably want to square away.

ABBY

With God?

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE

Even if it is just to tell him to fuck off.

JESSIE

And Gary, as activities director I want to give you some more resources. I'd like to see some classes too. Maybe a wine tasting? Belly dancing?

GARY

These are good ideas!

Abby jabs him hard under the table, Gary reacts and then recovers quickly.

GARY

I'd like to start an aerobics class, where we are dancing to the oldies like Richard Simmons.

ABBY

The oldies have changes from Richard Simmon's day. It's no longer dancing to something cute like Louie Louie, but more Search and Destroy.

GARY

I hear you Abby, Patti Smith and Cher, but aerobics and pop music is a combo that never get's old.

JESSIE

Maybe we can turn one of these unoccupied rooms into a studio instead of storage? One thing for certain, we need to up our capacity and make our profits that way. The storage is just a racket with no benefit to our clients.

ABBY

Your uncle was the one that started the storage "racket" as you say, as a favor to some of his "friends."

She looks at Jessica knowingly and uses her fingers for quotation marks.

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE

What kind of friends?

ABBY

The kind of friends that don't take no for an answer.

JESSIE

Well enough is enough. We can just tell them that the new director is cleaning house and they can take their "racket" somewhere else.

She gets a tentative round of applause from the others.

DEONDRE

The occupants complain about having the same mushy food every day. Maybe we could do something about that?

JESSICA

People love to complain about the food, even if you improve it. In my opinion it isn't a priority because they wouldn't like the changes either.

DEONDRE

What if we had a Spaghetti dinner and a movie once a week?

JESSICA

Well, that could work. I'll look into it. Now about this storage situation...

Suddenly the electric lights flash dramatically, there's a loud electric sound and the lights go out. Only animated whites of their eyes can be seen.

JESSICA

Don't panic! Don't Panic! Don't Panic

Jessica is panicking.

ABBY

Oh... I forgot to tell you, we have blackouts from time to time.

(CONTINUED)

EVERYONE

Mumbles of agreement

ABBY

The back-up system will kick in soon. Michael set it up.

JESSICA

Back-up system?

ABBY

Yeah, we aren't exactly on "the grid" it's a "zoning" thing.

The electric lights flash on dramatically with a buzzing electric sound.

JESSIE

I must talk to this Michael guy.

ABBY

Uh, yeah.

JESSICA

Well... Good meeting.

DEONDRE

Thank you.

They all abruptly leave, Jessie is sitting there. She notices that while it was dark someone turned all the inspirational posters upside down.

EXT. GARY FIXES THE HANDICAPPED RAMP - DAY

The toolbox becomes a bag of gags as Gary tries to quickly fix the fence so he can have some lovey time with Abby.

He sets down the tool box. It's visibly windy outside and his cap keeps flying off. The glare from the sun is keeping him from getting an accurate measurement. He bends down and the seams in his pants split on the side. He plays with the string. He shakes the rickety railing. He takes a wedge of wood from his toolbox and hammers it at the bottom of the ramp and gives the railing a shake. It holds. He is pleased and pulls himself up on the railing, but this time it gives way and is more broken than before. He hammers some more and adds some duct tape. He shakes it, and it is slightly wobbly. His phone rings. Abby's name is in the phone.

(CONTINUED)

GARY

Yes, the break room. I'll be right there, sweetheart.

He takes a potted plant and shakes the dirt at the base of the ramp and stomps it in with his foot. He brushes away the mess he's made with his hands. Gives the Rail another shake and it seems solid. His phone rings again. He wedges the toolbox behind a bush and runs off, slicking his hair back with a pocket comb.

INT. SEMINAR FOR DIRECTORS OF ASSISTED LIVING HOMES -
RESUMED

A big beige hotel seminar room with dry erase boards and a speaker at the front. Water on the tables. Jessie is sitting in the "classroom" with much the same disposition. She's absorbed in her work. In the back row, a man JOSHUA, a director of a prestigious five star assisted living community, strangely resembling a mean boy blake is taking notice of Jessie.

SPEAKER SEMINAR LEADER

The five star rating system for assisted living falls into three parts, healthcare, orientation.

Jessie touches the back of her neck like she can feel his eyes on the back of her neck.

making notes about activites. Wine tasting, water ballet, shuffle board, bird watching, bingo, Soul Train dance offs, giant chess and checkers, bean bag throw, Chimenea.

JOSHUA

If you're interested in seeing a five star rating at work, you should come by my home.

Jessie looks up from her list.

JESSIE

Home?

He hands her his card

JOSHUA

The Twin Pines assisted living home. We're nearby to you.

(CONTINUED)

JESSIE

That makes us rivals.

Joshua gives a hearty laugh

JOSHUA

We're a first rate place. Maybe we
can give you some inspiration?

JESSIE

Maybe some other time.

She squares off with her notes and drinks some water.

INT. FRONT DESK AREA - DAY

A happy montage giving hope that things are going well at
Donovan Gardens. Sunrise, birds chirping, people splashing in
the pool, laughter between staff, then there are leather
shoes with argyle socks walking up the entrance
walkway. The feet trip slightly. See two men in suits with
clipboards and hats walking up towards the entrance.

Abby is at her desk fiddling with the printer. She talks
without looking up to make eyecontact.

ABBY

Hello, how can I help you?

INSPECTOR

Hello, I'm the CMS inspector.

ABBY

Your a day early

INSPECTOR

Oh, yes, sorry about that, it
couldn't be helped, I'm unable to
make it tomorrow due to a change in
the schedule.

ABBY

I'm sure. NO problem. Would you
like a tour?

She frantically dials her phone.

INSPECTOR

I can find my way around.

He spends time inspecting the plants in the greeting area.

(CONTINUED)

He goes into the cafeteria where he sees about six patients holding signs protesting the food.

flush the mush, Food with Flavor, Eat it, and chanting, we want food, better food

Food Protest.

A delivery driver shows up with 200 boxes of electronics and expects to deliver them to an unoccupied room

ABBY

You can't leave this here.

DELIVERY GUY

Mr. Caruso says it's ok.

INSPECTOR

And you are storing this electrical equipment on campus?

Enter five women patients with Lana and Elenore leading the charge.

LANA

Abby, Abby, you Can't let them take Richie!

ELENORE

Where did he go?

ABBY

Fresno, I think.

DEONDRE

Maybe Twin Pines?

PATIENT #1

Where's Richie?

ABBY

Please, can we talk about this later?

The ladies want to complain because Richie is being transferred for creating a disturbance. Very upset and loud protesting.

Still havent removed all the glitter from the pool.

Food protester gets angry and takes a golf cart, a streamer is following it as a tail and winds around a pole, it begins to wind on itself and forces the cart to move in a motion

(CONTINUED)

that swipes all of the belly dancers into the pool. aims it at the aerobicising belly dancers, charges, they all jump in the pool to get out of the way.

INSPECTOR

This pool is full of glitter, and there should be no daily wear in the pool. Only swimsuits!

THE HANDICAPPED RAMP WASN'T PROPERLY REPAIRED.

Jessie begins to protest, following the inspectors as they write in their clipboards, walking in circles in the lobby area, she still follows.

JESSIE

We were well aware of the standards and were doing everything in our power to meet them before you came a day early.

An inspector stops and g

the power goes on the fritz.

Stumble on ramp as they leave. The rating went down instead of up. Close up of Jessie zooms out to a long shot representing how suddenly small she feels. The entire cast is hovering in the background, glaring.

JESSICA VO

People love to tell you I told you so, and I could feel the glares from the residents and staff that this was their happy opportunity.

INT JESSIES APARTMENT

JESSIE

Wow, it really wasn't what I was expecting.

CARLY

How so?

JESSIE

Well, you know, a lot of bedpans and old people just sitting around, but this place had a spark.

(CONTINUED)

CARLY

a spark.

JESSIE

yeah, a spark of life. They're just people after all, wanting to enjoy the time they have left. Like maybe I could do this for them. Make it a nice place.

CARLY

So you're still in?

JESSIE

Yeah, I'm still in.

CARLY

And you can get your big bucks.

JESSIE

Oh Yeah! I do want that money. That is certain.

She turns around and walks to her car, with her skirt tucked awkwardly in her pantyhose. Not perfect, but nobody wants to burst her bubble.