

INT. MORGAN'S BAR - NIGHT

Debra joins Patrick at the bar.

DEBRA

Hey Scoop.

PATRICK

When are you gonna stop calling me that? Makes me sound like a pet accessory.

DEBRA

Relax baby brother, I'll think of a new moniker.

PATRICK

Can't wait.

DEBRA

So, what's up?

Patrick drains his beer.

PATRICK

I told Maggie about Karen.

DEBRA

Well, you had to at some point. Poor Maggie, I wouldn't like to be in her shoes. Or yours, for that matter.

Patrick smiles ruefully.

PATRICK

Thanks, sis. Beer?

DEBRA

Sure.

Patrick looks over to the barman.

PATRICK

Two more.

Debra rubs his shoulder.

DEBRA

Don't beat yourself up. Listen, I got something I want to run by you.

PATRICK

Shoot.

DEBRA

I found some invoicing anomalies at the clinic that are bothering me. Several girls that have donated eggs or been involved in surrogacy haven't collected their payments. I found three cases dating back over five years. All of them are from poor backgrounds, y'know trailers out in the boonies..Kentucky, Arkansas..those sort of places. Couldn't track any of them down, but I managed to get hold of this one girl's mother who was expecting her back within a few days of her discharge from the clinic, but she didn't show up and hasn't been heard from in a year.

PATRICK

Those kinda girls don't have much of a plan. They drift around.

DEBRA

Wouldn't they take their money before they hit the road? It's a lot of money for them.

PATRICK

Yeah. How far back did you say the files go?

DEBRA

The oldest dates back about five years and the most recent, just under a year. There might be more.

PATRICK

Do you have a theory?

DEBRA

Well, Dawson is running drug trials at the behest of his Pharma buddies. I mean, it's all totally legal, but one drug in particular has very strong side-effects. I'm wondering if these girls got really sick.

PATRICK

You think it was covered up by Dawson, so he could continue the trials?

She shrugs.

DEBRA

I thought you could check hospital records or death certificates.

PATRICK

Yeah, that's a good place to start. Do you know anything about Dawson's friendship with Governor Monroe? Has Monroe ever come to the clinic?

DEBRA

Only when it was first opened. Monroe is Dawson's political clout and they're best friends, I hear.

PATRICK

I saw them arguing recently. I wonder if there's something going on at the clinic that the Governor isn't happy about.

DEBRA

Should I start looking for another job?

PATRICK

Not until we've figured out what's going on.

INT. MAGGIE'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - DAY

Maggie has showered and cleaned up the broken bottles and mess.

She sits on the floor against the couch, watching the crow wander around, cautiously trying out it's wing.

Maggie sifts through some broken bits of junk on the coffee table - buttons, a bottle top, a piece of blue plastic and a toothbrush head. She picks up a small pink button and examines it, then tries it on her shirt.

MAGGIE

Must be one of Jodi's.

There's a knock on the door, she gets up and opens it. It's Louis Petrie.

OFFICER PETRIE

Hey, Maggie.

MAGGIE
Have you found something?

OFFICER PETRIE
Just stopped by to see how you're
doing.

MAGGIE
Patrick send you?

He shoots her an awkward look.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
I'm fine. Come in, Louis.

Petrie follows her into the open-plan lounge.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
About Patrick..he left my house
soon after the kids that night. Did
you verify that he was at home all
night working, like he says?

OFFICER PETRIE
Patrick's night is accounted for.

MAGGIE
How can you be sure?

OFFICER PETRIE
Trust me, Maggie, I've checked.

MAGGIE
Was he with Karen?

Petrie pauses.

OFFICER PETRIE
He was with her the whole night.
She's confirmed it.

MAGGIE
Everybody knew, but me!

Maggie laughs and wipes a tear from her face.

The crow attempts a short flight.

OFFICER PETRIE
What's this! You got a new pet?

MAGGIE
We're mending together.

She smiles sadly.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I found him with a broken blood feather, by Robert's boathouse. There's a whole bunch of them out there.

OFFICER PETRIE

Robert likes them on the property, thinks of them as good omens. He feeds them, so they stay. Looks like this guy's doing pretty well.

MAGGIE

He likes bringing me small bits of junk. I've got quite a collection already.

She opens her palm to reveal the button.

OFFICER PETRIE

Crows have been known to bring little gifts for the humans that feed them. You might find he hangs around longer than you think.

MAGGIE

Locke helped me fix him up. Do you know Silas Lockewood?

OFFICER PETRIE

I know him well.

MAGGIE

What do you make of him?

OFFICER PETRIE

Decent man. Likes his privacy.

MAGGIE

Strikes me as the mysterious type. It's a pretty big house for a guy on his own?

Petrie keeps an even expression.

OFFICER PETRIE

I suppose.

MAGGIE

Doesn't look much like a bachelor pad, right?

OFFICER PETRIE
I hadn't noticed.

MAGGIE
So, what's his story?

OFFICER PETRIE
That's his business, Maggie.

MAGGIE
Locke works for Robert. Did he know Elizabeth? Elizabeth Dawson, Robert's sister.

OFFICER PETRIE
Probably, it was a much smaller community back then. Everyone knew her.

MAGGIE
Do you think Locke ever met Jodi?

Petrie sighs.

OFFICER PETRIE
Trust me Maggie, Locke's one of the good guys.

MAGGIE
I noticed that Elizabeth and Jodi look so much alike. And, maybe, you know, the cases are linked somehow?

OFFICER PETRIE
The cases happened more than thirty years apart with no similarities. Elizabeth's death was suicide, there was no doubt in the coroners assessment. Her father made sure it was thoroughly investigated. Look, I know you want answers, but you're trying to make connections where there aren't any.

MAGGIE
I'm not a detective, Louis. Help me out, here.

He squeezes her arm.

OFFICER PETRIE
We're doing everything we can.