25

25 INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING (1)

Newspaper under her arm, a pissed Val marches over to a drinking Cy. He's looking pretty comfortable, jacket off, his wallet and keys on the table (revealing a topless mermaid keyring, classy stuff).

STAPET->

VALERIE

Taking a little break?

CY

Hey there darling, how you faring out here?

VALERIE

Not great, actually--

CY

Well I'm going to get back to your baby first thing. (he smiles at her) Despite what this looks like.

Val smiles back, trying to play it cool.

VALERIE

So do you think it is going to need the spark plugs?

CY

It might need a lot of new things, we'll see.

Val, trying to muster up some form of dignity now ..

VALERIE

You know what? I'd just like to get it now if that's okay. Get it back to LA, looked at by someone closer to home, you know?

Cy makes a little tic with his mouth.

CY

Look, at the very least it's going to need a new fan belt. That thing's older than this wine. Plus I've locked up for the night, and I'm on my third drink. Safety first.



VALERIE

(trying to be hard. It's an act)

Cy. I appreciate the help but I would like my car back, and I would like it tonight.

Cy, knowing he's got all the power here now.

CY

Well, sometimes you just gotta say to yourself, what I'd like is not always what I'm going to get.

He takes a long sip of his wine. Val, all out of chutzpah, goes to say something -

CY (CONT'D)

You know what helps me when I'm feeling a little pissy?

He grabs another glass, pours some wine into it, inviting Val to take a seat.

CY (CONT'D)

Have one on me.

END->

Val, defeated by this guy, sits down. When in Rome.

26 INT. MOTEL LOBBY - EVENING (1)

26

A series of little shots:

A stressed Alex wanders through the motel lobby. He's looking out for Serena... but doesn't see her. He pops his head into the restaurant, clocks Cy at the table, thinks better of it. Walks back towards the bar. Tentatively goes in.

27 INT. BAR - EVENING (1)

27

Alex enters. (NB: there's no sign of Laura) He scans the room for Serena. Phew. Serena free.

AT THE BAR: Alex is finally ready to relax.

ALEX

Old Fashioned please.

He lets out a long exhale... just as we see Serena enter.