

A HEART FULL OF CHRISTMAS STITCHES

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INT. BEDROOM - DAY

MADELINE, 28, scrambles around a plain bedroom. Her face is tense as she grabs a knitted Christmas sweater. She folds it and puts it in a GIANT suitcase.

Next to it is a matching, equally HUGE suitcase. This suitcase is packed with a matching Christmas sweater, and a LIST on top of it. Every item has been checked three times.

Madeline is a buttoned up, sleek bun, no frills kind of girl. She fills the suitcases with sweaters and pants. She pulls out a tape measure. She measures each piece to ensure they're all equal. She smiles, satisfied.

TROY, 28, enters as she puts in the first aid kit. Troy is dressed sharp from work - he's in the corporate banking world. He tenses when he sees what she's packing.

MADELINE

You really should've done this two weeks ago, like I did. I'll barely have time to go over our travel checklists.

TROY

Madeline, I didn't pack because -

Madeline opens a drawer and grabs a first aid kit for his suitcase.

TROY (cont'd)

Why are you taking the first aid kit?

MADELINE

Kits. Plural. I have one for each of us. Do you have any idea how often trains derail?

TROY

And you think some band-aids are going to save us?

MADELINE

You're right! What am I thinking?

Madeline grabs a neck brace and adds it.

MADELINE (cont'd)

I just want to say thank you.

TROY

What for?

MADELINE

For spending Thanksgiving with my family. I know they can be a bit much. Especially my mom. This really means a lot to me.

TROY

Madeline, wait. We need to talk.

She goes back in the closet and comes back with something orange and plastic.

MADELINE

I agree. It's time we talked about Christmas. I really think we're ready to host and, I don't want to freak you out, but I talked to my mom about it. And guess what?

TROY

What is that?

MADELINE

What? This? It's an inflatable life vest.

TROY

Are we going swimming?

MADELINE

She agreed! You and I are officially hosting our first Christmas this year!

Madeline opens a drawer. She takes out a small fire extinguisher and puts it in her suitcase.

TROY

Madeline, seriously, stop, I don't -

Madeline opens another drawer. She takes out a whistle and puts it in her bag. She tries to put more sweaters in Troy's suitcase. He takes out the life vest.

TROY (cont'd)

Madeline, stop.

Madeline puts it back. He takes it out. She puts it back.

TROY (cont'd)

I can't do this anymore.

MADELINE

Do what?

TROY

This.

MADELINE

Pack? I know. That's why I'm doing it.

TROY

No. This.

Troy lifts up the first aid kit and life vest.

TROY (cont'd)

This isn't normal.

MADELINE

I'm not trying to be normal. I'm trying to be safe.

TROY

Exactly! You're obsessed. You'd rather calculate the odds of a tornado hitting us than go out and live a little.

MADELINE

We can't go out and live if we've been ripped apart in a tornado, which there is a 4.5% chance of.

TROY

This isn't how I saw my life. It's so predictable. Everything we do is planned and re-planned and checked for safety.

(then)

I want to be spontaneous! I want to get in the car without any idea where we're going and just drive.

MADELINE

That sounds great!

(then)

But we should at least have a little plan. Like the city. And the hotel. And find out where the gas stations are. And the rest stops. And maybe check the tire pressure and -

TROY

You see! Just the idea of being spontaneous makes you break out in a nervous sweat.

MADELINE

I'm fine. It's just warm in here. Did you turn up the heat?

TROY

I'm sorry Madeline, but you and I, we're too different. We want different things.

MADELINE

Well yeah, all couples have differences. We can't be exactly alike.

TROY

I want to go surfing in Hawaii and zipline through the jungle in Costa Rica.

MADELINE

Zipline? That's hilarious. Like we're actually going to ride that death wire.

TROY

This has been coming for awhile.

MADELINE

What? Thanksgiving?

TROY

No. Me. And you... going our separate ways.

MADELINE

Separate ways? What are you talking about?

TROY

My brother has offered to let me rent his spare room. He's going to help me move while you're gone.

MADELINE

The words you're saying don't make any sense together.

TROY

I'm not coming with you. I'm moving
in with my brother.

(then)

I'm sorry. But one day you'll realize
this was for the best.

MADELINE

You're breaking up with me? Now? As
in right now?

TROY

I'm sorry.

MADELINE

But I already made our matching
Christmas sweaters!

Madeline holds up one of the hand knitted sweaters.

TROY

You better get going. You know how
your mom worries.

Troy exits. Madeline is in shock. She gets a text message on
her phone.

TEXT MESSAGE MOM

Just want to make sure you packed
your life vest.

Madeline ignores the text. Another comes in.

TEXT MESSAGE MOM (cont'd)

Better bring a fire extinguisher too.
You never know!

Madeline continues to get more text messages from her mom.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - DAY

Madeline throws her suitcase in the trunk of her car. She
looks across the street. The house across from her has the
garage door open, and someone is working inside of it.

INT. ANDY'S GARAGE - DAY

ANDY, 28, sands down an old, beat up chair. His garage is
the workshop for his downtown store (where he sells
refurbished and custom made furniture).

Andy is a handsome guy with a bright and happy demeanor. He wears jeans, an old sweater, and a green apron. He whistles Jingle Bells as he works. His happiness is contagious.

He looks at Madeline and waves. She throws her arms up in frustration and goes back in the house.

Andy looks at his watch. He walks over to his truck and jumps in. In the back of the truck is a LARGE chair, tied down.

INT. ANDY'S TRUCK - DAY

Andy sends a text message.

TEXT MESSAGE ANDY

On my way with the chair. Should be there in an hour!

Without looking behind him, Andy backs up the truck. He doesn't realize Madeline is backing up at the same time, also texting and not looking.

CRUUUUUNCH

He looks back to see Madeline's trunk has popped open. White smoke is pouring out of it.

ANDY

Uh oh.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Madeline and Andy both run around to assess the damage. Andy sees the white smoke is coming from Madeline's bag.

MADELINE

My bag! I can't believe this is happening.

ANDY

Should I be worried that's going to explode?

MADELINE

It's a fire extinguisher. It must've gone off in the accident.

ANDY

Are you okay? Did we do any damage?

Andy looks around both cars.

ANDY (cont'd)
We got lucky. Just a few scratches.
That can be buffed-

MADELINE
Lucky? You call a near death
experience lucky?

ANDY
I don't think we were in that much
danger.

MADELINE
I have to go.

Madeline closes her trunk and runs back to her car.

ANDY
Hey, hold on! Shouldn't we exchange
information or -

Madeline drives off.

ANDY (cont'd)
Okay. Nice to meet you also. I'm Andy
by the way.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - DAY

Madeline arrives at her Aunt Aby's house, a few hours away.

INT. MADELINE'S CAR

Madeline looks at her cellphone. She writes a text message
to Troy.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE
Can we talk about this?

She sends the message. She doesn't get a response.

AUNT ABY, 45, opens the door to the house and comes out.
She's a free spirited, warm woman with bright clothes.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Madeline grabs her suitcase from the trunk. It rolls lopsided and drops white goo as she goes. She sees her aunt and forces a SMILE.

AUNT ABY

Hellooooo! Where's Troy? And what's coming out of your suitcase? Did you pack snow?

MADELINE

It's fire retardant. And Troy... He's... oh Aunt Aby. This is the worst Thanksgiving ever.

Madeline's calm resolve breaks. Tears spring out of her eyes.

AUNT ABY

What happened?

MADELINE

He - he left - and his brother - and he thinks I - and I don't understand - and he -

Madeline can barely breathe as she tries not to sob.

AUNT ABY

Come here. It's going to be okay.

Aunt Aby wraps Madeline up in a big hug.

INT. AUNT ABY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline lifts her suitcase onto the bed. She's about to open it when there's a knock at the door.

Aunt Aby cracks open the door and peeks in.

AUNT ABY

Hey. How you feeling?

MADELINE

You can come in, Aunt Aby.

Aunt Aby comes in holding a plate of snowman cookies.

AUNT ABY

I thought you could use one of these.

Madeline takes one.

MADELINE

Thank you. You won't believe what happened as I was leaving. All my clothes are probably ruined.

Madeline unzips her bag. Her mother, CATHERINE, 50, comes in. Catherine has none of Aby's warmth and all of Madeline's tension. She's like a nervous mouse.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Hey Mom.

CATHERINE

What's this about ruined clothes?

MADELINE

The fire extinguisher in my suitcase went off when I got in an accident.

CATHERINE

You were in an accident!?

AUNT ABY

Wait - You had a fire extinguisher in your suitcase? That's...

MADELINE

Not normal? That's what Troy said. He basically called me a safety freak.

Madeline pulls out a silk blouse, also covered in the white goo.

MADELINE (cont'd)

This one was meant for you. I finished making it last night.

Aunt Aby looks it over.

AUNT ABY

You made this?

MADELINE

I'm so sorry it's ruined.

AUNT ABY

Madeline, it's beautiful. I can't believe you did this for me. And it's not ruined. It'll be good as new in no time.

(MORE)

AUNT ABY (cont'd)

(then)

I've always said, you need to open your own store! You're so talented.

CATHERINE

But what about the accident? Were you hurt?

MADELINE

No, it was nothing. I was -

CATHERINE

I'll call Dr. Richards. I'm sure he can fit you in for an emergency.

MADELINE

Mom, it's -

Catherine gets on her phone, ignoring Madeline, and walks out.

INT. AUNT ABY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline comes into the kitchen wearing the neck brace. Aunt Aby is preparing the turkey.

MADELINE

She wouldn't leave me alone until I put it on.

(then)

So what can I help with?

AUNT ABY

You just relax. I've got it covered.

Catherine comes in, wound up with nervous energy. She's wearing safety goggles and an orange safety vest.

CATHERINE

Relax? Who can relax? We have so much to do for tomorrow's meal. I'll start the potatoes, Aby you peel carrots, and Madeline you can set the table. Where did I leave that potato peeler?

Aby pours each of them a glass of wine. She hands one to Madeline. They clink glasses as Catherine peels potatoes like her life depends on it.

CATHERINE (cont'd)
If anyone wants them, I brought extra
goggles. You'll need them when we
carve the turkey.

Madeline and Aunt Aby put on the goggles and laugh.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madeline sits in bed, looking at her text to Troy. She
hasn't gotten a response.

Three ellipses appear. She lights up. The ellipses
disappear, and she sinks back with sadness.

A knock at her door.

MADELINE
Come in.

Catherine enters. Madeline quickly puts the neck brace on.

CATHERINE
I just wanted to make sure you're
okay. I know breakups are never easy.
Especially when you've been together
a long time.

MADELINE
Thank you. I think I'm okay. I just
can't believe it's over.

CATHERINE
Do you want to talk about it?

MADELINE
He said I worry too much. Is that
true? Do I ruin all the fun with my
worrying?

CATHERINE
Of course not. You're just being
responsible. Nothing wrong with that.

MADELINE
Thanks Mom. I love you.

CATHERINE
I love you too.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline returns with her suitcase. She turns on the lights. She looks around at the big house, so lonely with just her in it. The dining room table is gone - Troy took it when he moved out.

She sits down on the couch. Her phone rings with MOM. She answers.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

Did you get home okay? I was afraid you got in another accident.

MADELINE

No, I'm home. Everything went fine. It's just lonely in here. And Troy took the dining room table. I wish he'd told me he was going to do that. Now I have to buy one for Christmas.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

You aren't still planning on hosting, are you?

MADELINE

Yeah, of course. It'll give me something to look forward to. In fact, I think I'm going to start decorating now.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

Are you sure? We can always change it to my house.

MADELINE

No, I'm sure. I've been wanting to do this for years. I can't let Troy ruin everything.

CATHERINE (O.S.)

If you change your mind, let me know.

MADELINE

I will. Bye.

LATER:

Madeline has finished decorating. Lights twinkle on the fireplace mantel. Tinsel hangs from the windows.

It looks festive and has brightened Madeline's mood.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE, CUBICLE - DAY

Madeline sits before her computer. She hangs tinsel on her computer and sets up some Christmas decorations.

She gets a phone call at her desk.

MADELINE
Happy holidays, this is-
(then)
I'll be right there.

INT. MRS. DELPHINE'S OFFICE - DAY

Madeline sits across from MRS. DELPHINE. Madeline is in shock.

MADELINE
You're - firing me!? But - why?

MRS. DELPHINE
We're going through a bit of a restructuring. We're downsizing and combining several departments.

MADELINE
But it's almost Christmas. You're really going to let people go NOW?

MRS. DELPHINE
Christmas is an excellent time to find a new job, what with all the retail stores hiring and all. We're really doing you a favor.

Mrs. Delphine stands up and walks to the door. She holds it open.

MRS. DELPHINE (cont'd)
Please, have your things packed up by the end of the day.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE, CUBICLE - DAY

Madeline stands at her desk, packing up her Christmas decorations. At the cubicle next to her, an EMPLOYEE packs up.

MADELINE
You too?

EMPLOYEE

Yeah. What a Grinch, right?

MADELINE

I know. And I really needed the money. I guess I'll be serving Christmas dinner on a card table.

EMPLOYEE

You need a new table?

MADELINE

Do you happen to have one?

EMPLOYEE

Unfortunately no, but I bought one used from this store downtown. They sell custom furniture as well as refurbished stuff. You should give it a try.

The Employee gives Madeline a business card.

MADELINE

Thanks. I'll check it out. Maybe they have something on sale.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - DAY

Madeline walks through the festive downtown, which is decorated for Christmas. She looks at the business card the employee gave her and arrives at the location:

ANDY'S ANTIQUES & MORE

She looks in the window and sees a beautiful antique Singer sewing machine on display. The wood is refinished, the machine polished, and it draws Madeline to it.

A cold wind blows snow over her. Beside the table is a sign that makes her smile:

FREE HOT COCOA INSIDE!

INT. ANDY'S SHOP - DAY

As soon as Madeline steps inside, the warmth envelopes her. She approaches the counter where the man working there faces away - she's unaware it's Andy.

ANDY

One hot cocoa, coming up.

MADELINE

Why, thank you. How did you know -

Andy spins around. He holds a mug of hot cocoa with a candy cane, plus whipped cream and chocolate sprinkles on top.

ANDY

Hey neighbor! Didn't expect to see you in here today.

MADELINE

You're Andy?

ANDY

The one and only. We haven't officially met. And you are - ?

MADELINE

Leaving.

ANDY

At least have the hot cocoa. I can see you're freezing.

Madeline takes a sip of the hot drink.

ANDY (cont'd)

How's your car? Did you get that white smoke thing figured out?

MADELINE

It's fine.

Madeline takes another sip of the warm drink.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Mmmmmmm. This is so good. I didn't realize I needed it.

ANDY

You okay?

MADELINE

Oh yeah. Just having the worst week of my life, but other than that, super!

Madeline turns and looks at the shop.

ANDY

Please, look around. Take your time.

Madeline looks around at the gorgeous, refurbished antiques. She finds an antique chair with a beautiful red finish. She touches the wood, enamored.

She heads for the window and looks over the antique Singer sewing table.

ANDY (cont'd)

That's one of my favorite pieces I've restored. Would you like to try it? It works and everything.

MADELINE

I shouldn't. I'm just looking for a table. A simple table. Very simple. Preferably in the clearance section.

ANDY

But you like to sew, don't you?

MADELINE

I love to. My grandma actually had one just like that. I used to sew on it all the time. I would pretend I owned my sewing shop, and all of my dolls were my customers. I made custom outfits for each one, and I... I'm telling you way too much.

ANDY

Not at all. It's great to meet another business owner. What's the name of your shop?

MADELINE

My sewing shop?

ANDY

"My Sewing Shop". I like it. Simple yet effective.

MADELINE

No, sorry, that's not the name. There is no sewing shop. I work in an office. Or I did... I actually got fired. They're "restructuring".

ANDY

I'm sorry to hear that. And hey, if you ever do decide to open your own sewing shop, I'd be happy to tell you what I know about owning a business. I'm by no means an expert, but I've learned a few things I think would help.

MADELINE

Thank you. That's really nice of you. I should go. I need to work on my resume.

ANDY

Wait, I didn't get your name.

MADELINE

Madeline.

ANDY

I'm Andy.

Andy reaches out and shakes her hand. As they shake, they both feel the spark of attraction.

The shop door opens, and MARY, 45, enters.

ANDY (cont'd)

Hey Mary! Good to see you. Everything okay with the roll top desk?

MARY

Absolutely fantastic. My husband loves it. He said it was the best birthday present ever.

ANDY

I'm glad to hear it.

MARY

I was just passing by, and I wanted to ask if you had any more spaces open for your kids woodshop event?

ANDY

Unfortunately, I'm all booked. But if anyone cancels, I'll let you know.

MARY

Thank you. Oh, and if you know anyone hosting a sewing workshop, could you let me know?

(MORE)

MARY (cont'd)

My daughter has been asking for weeks, and I can't find anything local.

ANDY

Well, it just so happens you're in the presence of a professional seamstress.

Andy motions to Madeline.

MARY

How wonderful! Do you have anything coming up?

MADELINE

I, um, I'm sorry, there's a misunderstanding, I -

ANDY

Madeline, could I talk to you for a second? Just one second, Mary.

Andy pulls Madeline aside.

MADELINE

What are you doing?

ANDY

What are you doing? This is your chance!

MADELINE

My chance to what?

ANDY

To start your business!

MADELINE

I don't have a business.

ANDY

You just got fired, right?

MADELINE

I did.

ANDY

And you have sewing materials at home?

MADELINE

I do.

ANDY

And you'd like to charge \$50 per kid for an afternoon of fun, wouldn't you?

MADELINE

Fifty dollars!

Mary looks over.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Fifty dollars?

ANDY

Yep. And guess what? Every kid who comes brings a parent who you can promote your services to.

MADELINE

That's actually really smart.

Madeline returns to Mary.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Sorry about that. I am in fact hosting a workshop. We're making Christmas ornaments.

MARY

And you have space available?

MADELINE

I sure do! How many should I put you down for?

MARY

Well, it's my daughter, and her cousin, and... I think I should call you. Can I get your card?

MADELINE

Absolutely.

Madeline hands Mary one of her corporate business cards. Mary is confused.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Please ignore the logo. And job title. That's my old card. I'm having more of my new ones printed. I'm the...

(MORE)

MADELINE (cont'd)

(looks at window)

The Singer Seamstress. Just call the number on the card and we'll work out the details.

MARY

Thank you so much! Is your workshop this weekend also?

MADELINE

I - no - yes - no - I mean, yes, this weekend.

MARY

Perfect! I can't tell you how happy this will make the girls!

MADELINE

I can't wait to meet them. It was a pleasure to meet you, Mary.

MARY

You too! Merry Christmas!

MADELINE

Merry Christmas!

Mary leaves.

ANDY

Alright! Welcome to the world of small business, Madeline!

Andy puts his hand up for a high five. Madeline is about to hit it, but then lowers her hand.

MADELINE

What did I just do?

ANDY

You just made 100 dollars. Maybe more, if you get more kids by this weekend.

MADELINE

That was so spontaneous.

ANDY

Yeah, it was awesome.

MADELINE

No, not awesome! You don't understand. I don't do spontaneous.

(MORE)

MADELINE (cont'd)

I do planning and charting and cross charting.

ANDY

What's cross charting?

MADELINE

I'm having a nervous breakdown. That's what this is. I'm losing my grip on reality. It's because of the accident. I must've hit my head.

ANDY

I think you should sit down.

Andy guides Madeline over to a rocking chair. She sits down, dazed.

MADELINE

I need to tell Mary this was a mistake!

Madeline runs out of the shop.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - DAY

Madeline looks up and down the street. Mary is gone. Andy comes out.

MADELINE

She's gone!

ANDY

That's usually what happens when people leave.

MADELINE

This is wrong. This is all wrong. I have to go home. I need to go over every single bill and budget myself for the next month. Maybe two. Three to be safe. I'll just do the whole year.

Madeline goes to her car.

ANDY

Hey, wait. Madeline!

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline sits on her couch, obsessively going over her resume. Her doorbell rings. She opens the door to Andy.

ANDY

I just wanted to make sure you were okay. You were pretty upset when you left today.

MADELINE

I wasn't exactly myself earlier, but I'm better now. I think I'm still rattled from the crazy few days I've had.

ANDY

Anything I can do to help?

MADELINE

I wouldn't mind another one of your hot chocolates.

ANDY

Your wish is my command.

Andy snaps his fingers.

ANDY (cont'd)

Hmmmm. I seem to be all out of magic. I'll have to fix them the old fashioned way. Do you want to come over?

MADELINE

Yeah, sure. I should probably take a break from cross charting anyways.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Madeline and Andy walk across the street.

ANDY

So what exactly is cross charting?

MADELINE

It's basically a system of assessing risk.

ANDY

You really like to think things through.

MADELINE

I got it from my mom. I always swore I wouldn't be like her, and I'd throw caution to the wind, and be adventurous and bold. So much for that.

ANDY

It's not too late to change.

MADELINE

According to my cross chart, it is.

INT. ANDY'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Andy serves them each a mug of hot cocoa.

MADELINE

I can't believe you've lived here for six months and we've never met.

ANDY

I guess we were both pretty busy.

(then)

Cheers to new neighbors.

MADELINE

Cheers.

(then)

So you work out of your garage?

ANDY

For now. I'm hoping to get a bigger space eventually. A place where I can have a workspace behind the store. But for now, I'm happy with it. Come on, I'll show you where the real magic happens.

INT. ANDY'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline and Andy stand in his garage. It's full of tools, paint cans, boards, and equipment.

ANDY

I know it's not much, but you'd be surprised what you can do with a little. You just have to be creative.

MADELINE

Not much? Are you kidding? This is amazing. I would love to turn my garage into a sewing center.

ANDY

So do it.

MADELINE

I couldn't. Troy thinks... You know what? Troy's gone! Maybe it's time to move my sewing machine in there.

ANDY

That's the spirit!

Madeline sees another antique Singer sewing machine and table. Unlike the one in the store, this one looks like it came from a scrap yard.

It's beat up, rusty, and covered in dirt.

MADELINE

It's like the one in the store. Are you going to restore it?

ANDY

Nope. You are.

MADELINE

Haha.

ANDY

I'm serious.

MADELINE

I don't know anything about restoring furniture.

ANDY

Not yet. But you're a maker. This is what you do.

MADELINE

A maker?

ANDY

You make stuff. You don't just think "where can I buy that"? You think "How can I make that"? You're a craftsperson, an artisan. You're good with your hands. Am I right?

MADLINE

I mean, I know how to sew. And I did make everyone candles last year. And I also made our soap. So yeah. I guess I'm a maker. I never thought of it that way before.

ANDY

Do you know what most people see when they look at this table? They see something that belongs in the junk yard. But I know what you see. I saw it in your eyes. You see its potential. You see what's really hiding under that dirt, and you want to bring it to life.

MADLINE

I may have had a moment of curiosity. But I don't have anything to work on it with.

ANDY

Lucky for you your neighbor does! Now let's see, what do you need?

Andy walks around, putting items in a box.

ANDY (cont'd)

Sandpaper. Paint brush. Lacquer. What color stain do you want?

MADLINE

Do you have a cherry walnut?

ANDY

Excellent choice.

MADLINE

Wait, no - I can't just -

ANDY

Be spontaneous? Don't worry, I've already cross charted this, and all lines point to yes.

MADLINE

That's not how it works.

Andy puts the box on top of the old Singer.

ANDY

I'll grab my dolly and we'll move it over. Where do you want it?

MADELINE

I guess in the garage.

ANDY

You mean your sewing center.

MADELINE

"My sewing center". I like the sound of that.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline and Andy stand before the old Singer, now in Madeline's garage.

MADELINE

So what do I do?

ANDY

First things first, sand it down. You need all that old paint off, so that when you put your stain on, it brings forth that beautiful natural wood.

MADELINE

And then?

ANDY

Then you stain, then lacquer, then polish up the foot pedal and machine.

Andy looks underneath.

ANDY (cont'd)

You'll also need a belt.

MADELINE

What for?

ANDY

The belt connects the foot to this wheel here. It's what makes the needle go up and down.

MADELINE

I don't know. I'm afraid I'll do it all wrong and mess it up.

ANDY

You know what happens if you do?

MADELINE

What?

ANDY

You sand off what you don't like and you do it again.

MADELINE

You make it sound so easy.

ANDY

It is! I promise. You can do this. And when you feel you're overthinking stuff, and you're about to cross chart your cross chart, come out here and sand. You'll be surprised how much it helps.

A car pulls up out front. Catherine gets out and walks up.

MADELINE

It's my Mom.

Catherine hurries up, full of nervous energy.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Hey, Mom, this is -

CATHERINE

I've been calling all day.

ANDY

I'm gonna go ahead and -

CATHERINE

I was afraid something terrible had happened.

Andy walks back to his house.

MADELINE

Bye, Andy! Thank you!

ANDY

You're welcome! Have fun!

CATHERINE

Who is that? Are you dating already? Because if you are, I've done the diagonal charts and I -

MADELINE

What's a diagonal chart?

CATHERINE

It's my new system. I'll show you later. The point is, without Troy, you're now paying all the rent alone. I think you should move in with me.

MADELINE

With you? No. No way. Thank you, but absolutely not.

CATHERINE

Why not?

MADELINE

I'll be fine.

CATHERINE

Are you sure? Did you get a work bonus this year?

MADELINE

Not exactly. I actually got fired.

CATHERINE

You got fired!? Why?

MADELINE

They let half the company go. But I've been thinking, and I think it's for the best. I can start over and do something I really love now. Something that has nothing to do with corporate offices or cubicles or sitting before a computer all day.

CATHERINE

Like what?

MADELINE

I was thinking of opening my own sewing shop.

CATHERINE

That's a wild idea!

MADELINE

I know, isn't it great!? I'm really starting to -

CATHERINE

I meant wild in a bad way. You aren't usually like this. Are you running a fever? A high fever can make you hysterical.

MADELINE

I don't have a fever. And I'm not hysterical. In fact, I'm -

CATHERINE

That's way too risky.

MADELINE

But I -

CATHERINE

Do you have any idea how many businesses fail? You need to find a job. A real job. Something with a 401K and insurance.

MADELINE

You mean something like my old job.

CATHERINE

Exactly!

Catherine finally notices the old Singer machine and table.

CATHERINE (cont'd)

What is that?

MADELINE

It's a project. I'm going to fix it up.

Catherine's face softens.

CATHERINE

Just like your dad.

MADELINE

What do you mean?

CATHERINE

He loved to restore old furniture.

MADELINE

He did? I don't remember that.

CATHERINE

It was his hobby. He wanted to eventually quit his job and open a restoration business.

(then)

I'm surprised you don't remember. You used to be his little assistant.

MADELINE

Oh wait, I do remember sewing pillows for something. He restored an old chair, didn't he?

CATHERINE

Yep. You worked side by side in the garage. You called it Santa's Workshop.

(then)

So shall I help you take it to the dump?

MADELINE

What? No. I want to do this.

CATHERINE

You can't be distracting yourself with some old sewing machine. You need to be looking at job listings. And besides, restoring old furniture is best left to the professionals. There's all kinds of splinters and rusty nails on these things. Have you had a tetanus shot recently?

MADELINE

Mom.

CATHERINE

You should probably get a flu shot while you're at it.

MADELINE

Mom.

CATHERINE

And get that mole checked.

MADELINE

Mom, you're making me nervous. Just, take a deep breath. Everything's going to be fine.

CATHERINE
How do you know? Did you diagonal
chart it?

MADELINE
You know what? We need hot chocolate.

CATHERINE
Why?

MADELINE
Trust me.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madeline and Catherine sit on the couch with mugs of hot
chocolate. Catherine is much more relaxed.

MADELINE
You see?

CATHERINE
Why is this so good?

MADELINE
It's chocolate. It's warm. What's not
too love?

Catherine grabs Madeline's resume off the table.

CATHERINE
Oh good, you're working on your
resume. Can I just make a few
suggestions?

Madeline takes the resume from her.

MADELINE
It's already finished.

CATHERINE
I'm sure you'll have a new job in no
time.

MADELINE
Can you at least be open to the idea
of me starting my own business?

CATHERINE
I just don't think -

MADELINE

(yawning)

Oh wow, look at the time! I'm pretty beat. I better get some sleep. I've got a lot of applications to go through.

CATHERINE

You're right. I'll let you get some rest. Good night, honey.

MADELINE

Good night, Mom.

Catherine and Madeline hug. Catherine leaves.

Madeline grabs a pad of paper and returns to the couch. At the top she writes "Opening my own sewing business." Then she makes two columns, with PROS on the top of one and CONS on the top of the other.

Under cons she writes things like possibility of financial ruin, humiliation from failure, loss of savings, end up homeless, life destroyed.

Under pros she writes things like living my dream, would love what I do, could sell my own designs one day, exciting, passion.

She underlines "life destroyed" on the CONS side. She puts the list aside.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline picks up the sanding block. She begins sanding, not sure of herself at first.

But as the old paint peels away, she really gets into a zone, and she sees herself reflected in this old table. It's as if she's shedding an old layer of her own self, getting down to the real Madeline.

She's done a good portion and she steps back. She's lighter and happier. It really did relieve her stress. Her phone rings with an UNKNOWN number.

MADELINE

Hello?

MARY (O.S.)

Hi, Madeline? This is Mary. I met you in Andy's shop today.

MADELINE

Mary, yes. Hello! How are you? I'm great. I mean, sorry, how can I help you?

MARY (O.S.)

It's about the sewing workshop.

MADELINE

You can't do it. I totally understand -

MARY (O.S.)

No, it's not that. I mentioned it to some other moms at the Girl Scout meeting tonight, and they all want to join. They all need a sewing badge, and I didn't know if you'd be able to fit 12 girls in.

MADELINE

Twelve?

MARY (O.S.)

It's too much. I knew it. I told them I'd ask but I said it was probably too late.

MADELINE

It's definitely not too late. I'll just make a special workshop, just for the Girl Scouts.

MARY (O.S.)

You'd do that?

MADELINE

Yeah! Absolutely. Is this Saturday still good?

MARY (O.S.)

You bet! I'll let the other Moms know as soon as I hangup.

MADELINE

Um, okay! Great! So we're having a sewing workshop. It's fifty dollars per girl. I'll provide all the materials, plus some extra for practicing at home. Each girl will hand sew two ornaments that she can give someone as a gift.

MARY (O.S.)

Thank you so much! This really means a lot to us. We buy so much stuff that's factory made, and we can't wait to show the girls how special it is to make something yourself.

MADELINE

I couldn't agree more. It really does mean so much when you make something yourself. Um, okay. So I'm going to put all the details together and I'll email over my - what do you call it - my invoice! Ha. Okay. Great. Yes.

MARY (O.S.)

Do you want my email address?

MADELINE

Yes! That would be good. Can you text it to me? Thank you so much, Mary! I'll see you Saturday.

Madeline hangs up, excited. She runs across the street.

EXT. ANDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline pounds on the door. Andy opens the door.

ANDY

Hey. Are you okay?

MADELINE

I'm more than okay! I'm doing it! I'm in business!

Madeline jumps forward and hugs a surprised Andy.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Thank you.

ANDY

No need to thank me. This is all you.

MADELINE

No, you don't understand. No one has ever believed in me before. I'm always hearing all the reasons I can't. I mean, except for my Dad. He always told me I could do anything.

ANDY

He sounds great.

MADELINE

He really was.

ANDY

If you need any help with your sewing table restoration, let me know.

MADELINE

Thank you. For everything.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - DAY

Madeline is PUMPED for this new day. She makes coffee and sits down at her computer.

She creates a website for the SINGER SEAMSTRESS. She advertises her services - hemming, alterations, workshops, and custom embroidery.

Then she writes up an invoice for the Girl Scouts. She creates a professional looking page, and she emails it to Mary.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - DAY

Madeline does a full clean and organization of the garage. She moves all kinds of stuff out, and brings in her sewing supplies.

She looks at the old Singer, which is half sanded. She pushes on the metal pedal. It squeaks and barely turns.

With an old sponge and some rust cleaner, she cleans the entire foot pedal. Then she finds an oil can in the box of supplies Andy loaned her.

After a few squirts of oil, she gives it a push. It works perfect! She's thrilled with her progress.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - DAY

Madeline writes up a flier for her new business. She then designs some business cards and sends it all to the local printer.

Her phone rings with MOM. She hits ignore. She gets a flurry of text messages.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE

How did the job search go?
 (then)
 Did you apply for unemployment?
 (then)
 Maybe I should loan you some money.
 (then)
 Are you there?
 (then)
 Do you need help?
 (then)
 Hello?

Madeline silences her phone.

INT. ANDY'S SHOP - DAY

Andy finishes up with an ELDERLY WOMAN.

ANDY

I can absolutely have that ready by Christmas.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Thank you so much, Andy. I can't wait to give my granddaughter a custom crib. She's going to be so delighted.

ANDY

I can't believe you're going to be a great-grandmother. What's your secret?

ELDERLY WOMAN

I go dancing twice a week. It keeps me young.

Madeline enters the store, holding a box from the print shop.

ANDY

I'll call you as soon as it's ready.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Thank you.

The Elderly Woman exits.

MADELINE

Looks like business is good.

ANDY

I honestly can't complain. I just wish I had a workshop here. I feel like I waste half the day just standing here.

MADELINE

Have you looked into getting a new place?

ANDY

I have. And I found the perfect location. It's just not in my budget.

MADELINE

I'm sure you'll get there soon. You seem to be doing everything right.

ANDY

What's in the box?

Madeline opens the box and gives Andy one of her business cards.

ANDY (cont'd)

The Singer Seamstress.

MADELINE

What do you think?

ANDY

These look amazing. I should hire you to make my business cards.

MADELINE

Thank you. I also made some fliers. Do you think I could leave a few on your counter?

ANDY

Absolutely.

(then)

I'm about to take a break. Do you want to grab some coffee?

MADELINE

Sure. Do you mind if we go to the cafe across town? I know it's a little farther, but I know the owner.

ANDY

The Coffee Grind? I love that place!

Andy hangs a sign in the window, saying he'll be back soon.
He flips the open sign to closed.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Madeline and Andy enter The Coffee Grind. The owner,
JESSICA, 30, smiles at them from behind the counter.

JESSICA
Well, hello there stranger!

MADELINE
Hey Jess! How are you?

JESSICA
I'm doing great. Long time no see.

MADELINE
(to Andy)
She's joking. I come here everyday.
Jessica, this is Andy.

JESSICA
Hi. Jessica. Nice to meet you.

ANDY
You too.

JESSICA
What can I get you two?

MADELINE
I'll have a gingerbread latte.

ANDY
And I'll have the... wow, this is
tough. Everything looks so good.

JESSICA
If I could make a recommendation, the
egg nog latte is a best seller.

ANDY
Sounds great.

MADELINE
And I'm paying.

ANDY
I can't let you do that. It's my
treat.

MADELINE

I insist. You just helped me to create my first workshop. It's the least I can do.

JESSICA

Workshop? What for?

MADELINE

I'm opening a sewing business. I think. Yeah. No, I'm definitely opening a sewing business.

JESSICA

A sewing business! That's so exciting!

Jessica rings up two lattes.

JESSICA (cont'd)

Ten dollars.

Madeline pays.

MADELINE

To be honest, I have no idea what I'm doing. I'm kind of scared.

JESSICA

I felt the same way when I opened this place.

MADELINE

Really?

JESSICA

Yeah. I still get overwhelmed sometimes. In fact, I've been thinking of starting some kind of club. Like a women in business group. That way we can support each other and share ideas and not feel alone in all this.

MADELINE

That would be amazing.

ANDY

And a great way to network. I used to go to some of the local business clubs when I first opened.

(MORE)

ANDY (cont'd)

It really helped me to feel like I wasn't making the biggest mistake of my life.

JESSICA

I know exactly what you mean.

MADELINE

I was hoping to hang my flier on your bulletin board. Is that okay?

JESSICA

Absolutely.

INT. COFFEE SHOP LOBBY - DAY

Andy and Madeline sit down with their lattes.

ANDY

How's the restoration coming?

MADELINE

This is going to sound weird.

ANDY

Perfect. I love weird.

MADELINE

When I oiled it and the rust broke free and the pedal started to move, it was like, like I was moving. Like a part of me had been set free also.

ANDY

I know exactly what you're talking about. It's part of why I love restoring furniture. It's like you're discovering something you didn't know was there.

MADELINE

I just wish my mom hadn't gotten inside my head.

ANDY

What did she say?

MADELINE

She thinks starting my own business is too risky. Maybe she's right. What do I know about starting a business?

ANDY

Don't let her get to you. You can do this. You've already got a full workshop coming up!

MADELINE

But what if that was a fluke and I never get hired again?

ANDY

You have to have faith in what you can't yet see. Just because it's not here, doesn't mean it's not coming.

Jessica walks over with two scones.

JESSICA

On the house.

MADELINE

Thanks, Jess.

Jessica leaves.

ANDY

How long have you two known each other?

MADELINE

We practically grew up together. She's an old friend. In fact, she was one of my first clients, if you count the fact that I made her prom dress.

ANDY

You made a prom dress? And you're doubting yourself?

MADELINE

I just -

Madeline looks up. Catherine enters. She makes a beeline straight for Madeline.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Mom. Hey. What are you doing here?

CATHERINE

I was doing some shopping and I decided to grab some coffee.

MADELINE
(motions to Andy)
This is -

Catherine sees the business card with Madeline's name on it.
She picks it up.

CATHERINE
What's this?

MADELINE
For my sewing business! I told you
about it yesterday.

CATHERINE
How much did these cost?

MADELINE
Not that much.

CATHERINE
I really don't think you should be
wasting time designing cards. You've
got to focus on your applications.

MADELINE
Actually, I need to focus on my
clients. I'm a business owner now.

CATHERINE
A few business cards doesn't mean you
have a business.

MADELINE
I have a sold out workshop for this
Saturday.

CATHERINE
A workshop? Where will you host it?
Do you have insurance for that? How
will you manage all the people? And
what about -

MADELINE
Okay, thanks for your input. We were
just leaving.

Catherine glances at Andy.

ANDY
Hi, I'm -

CATHERINE

You've got to return those cards and think about your future. What's your five year plan?

MADELINE

I can't return the cards. They have my name on them. And my plan is to be happy.

CATHERINE

Happiness isn't a plan, it's a feeling.

MADELINE

Then I guess I'll have to feel my way into success!

CATHERINE

What do you mean? That makes no sense.

Madeline stands up, grabs her stuff and then grabs her card back from Catherine. She leaves. Andy stands up, grabs the to-go coffee cups and leaves.

ANDY

By the way, I'm Andy. It was nice to meet you!

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Madeline is huffing down the street. Andy hustles to catch up.

ANDY

Hey, hold on. You forgot your coffee.

Andy gives Madeline the coffee as they continue to walk.

MADELINE

Thank you.
(then)
I'm crazy, aren't I?

ANDY

Not that I know of.

MADELINE

I can't start a business. I have no idea what I'm doing.

ANDY

Don't let your Mom get to you. She doesn't know what you're capable of.

MADELINE

But she was right. I really don't have a place to host the workshop. I told Mary I'd have the location by today, and I keep hoping something will come to me, but I have nothing. I'm going to have to cancel it.

ANDY

What about the cafe? You said Jessica is an old friend. And it sounds like she's supportive.

MADELINE

That wouldn't... you know what, that's actually a great idea. She could sell extra coffee and pastries during the event. I should go back and ask her.

ANDY

Absolutely. But before you do, check it out.

Andy stops in front of a window. A "FOR RENT" sign is on it.

MADELINE

What is this?

ANDY

This is my dream space. I just hope no one grabs it before I can afford it.

Madeline looks in the window.

MADELINE

Wow, it's...

ANDY

Kind of a dump?

MADELINE

Yeah.

ANDY

I know. I'm hoping if I offer to fix it up, I'll get a deal, like maybe a free month of rent or something.

MADELINE

But I can see why you like it. It's big. Lots of natural light.

ANDY

And there's a big space around back for a workshop.

MADELINE

Something tells me this is going to be yours one day.

ANDY

I better get back to the store. And you've got a workshop to arrange!

INT. CAFE - DAY

Madeline talks to Jessica. They shake hands.

MADELINE

Thank you so much!

JESSICA

No, thank you! I've been wanting to host community events here for ages, this is exactly what I've been looking for.

MADELINE

Here's my card. If you ever need anything hemmed, altered or -

Madeline stops when CINDY, 55, approaches her.

CINDY

Hi. I'm so sorry for interrupting, but did you say you do alterations?

MADELINE

I do!

CINDY

Thank goodness. I really hope you can help me.

MADELINE

What's going on?

CINDY

My husband and I are renewing our wedding vows next weekend.

JESSICA

How fun! Congratulations.

CINDY

Thank you, but I'm so embarrassed. I bought a dress six months ago and didn't put it on again until last night. It's way too tight. I couldn't even zip it up. Everyone I know is coming, and I don't have time to get a new dress. I don't know what to do. I'm afraid I'll have to wear sweatpants.

MADELINE

You said next weekend?

CINDY

I know it's soon. I'll pay extra for the rush.

MADELINE

You know what? You're going to wear your dress, and you're going to look beautiful.

CINDY

Really? And you could do it by next weekend?

MADELINE

Absolutely. We'll do a fitting Sunday evening, you can try it Monday, and I'll make any final adjustments and have it done by Wednesday.

Cindy reaches out and hugs Madeline.

CINDY

Thank you so much! How much do you charge?

MADELINE

It depends on how much we need to alter, but based on what you said, it should be around 200 dollars.

CINDY

Two hundred?

MADELINE

Unless you think that's too -

CINDY
I don't care what it costs, as long
as it fits!

MADELINE
Here's my card. Give me a call
tonight and we'll make a plan for
Sunday.

CINDY
Thank you. I'm Cindy by the way.

MADELINE
Madeline.

Cindy leaves. Madeline turns to Jessica.

MADELINE (cont'd)
Is this happening? Am I really a
business owner?

JESSICA
Are you surprised?

MADELINE
I am!

JESSICA
You made me a prom dress so beautiful
I was voted queen.

MADELINE
That's not why you won prom queen.

JESSICA
You really have no idea how talented
you are. You were born to do this.

MADELINE
Thank you. I'll see you Saturday.

Madeline hugs Jessica and leaves.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline sands the rest of the paint off of the old Singer.
There's a knock on the garage door. She opens it to Andy.

ANDY
Hey! I saw the light on.

MADELINE

I just finished sanding.

ANDY

It looks great. You're ready to put the stain on.

MADELINE

I'm glad you're here. I have no idea what I'm doing.

LATER:

A can of open stain sits nearby. Madeline and Andy paint the table together.

ANDY

That's good. Just make sure to spread it out evenly, so that you don't get dark spots.

MADELINE

So how did you get into restoring furniture?

ANDY

I learned from my brother. He used to do it in his spare time, and he sold the furniture to pay off his college loans. He moved to Chicago a few years ago, and I inherited all of his tools. Next thing I knew, I was opening a store. I had no idea what I was doing. Truth be told, I was scared out of my mind.

MADELINE

Really? But you seem so relaxed now.

ANDY

It took me awhile to get to that point. I just had to learn to trust myself, and to know that no matter what happens, I'd get through it. To be honest, seeing you go for it reminds me of what I used to be like.

MADELINE

What do you mean?

ANDY

The old Andy would've rented that space I showed you.

(MORE)

ANDY (cont'd)

I'd just take a leap of faith and know I could do it. But somewhere along the way, I lost my confidence.

MADELINE

But you're so good at what you do. And you're doing great. You'll get there, right?

ANDY

At the rate I'm saving money up, I'll get there in, oh, about 200 years. It's so frustrating, because if I just went for it, I'd have more time to fill orders, and I'd make the rent. But I keep dragging my feet, and I know I'm going to miss out on that place.

MADELINE

What if you had a partner? Maybe you could split the rent with someone.

ANDY

Someone like you?

MADELINE

Me? Would you be interested in that?

Madeline's phone rings with MOM. Madeline ignores it. She then gets a flurry of text messages.

ANDY

Should you get that?

MADELINE

She does it all day.

(then)

Can I tell you something?

ANDY

Sure. Anything.

MADELINE

I think she showed up at the coffee shop on purpose.

ANDY

What do you mean?

MADELINE

I think she knew I was there.

ANDY

You think your mom is stalking you?

MADELINE

I wouldn't exactly say stalking. Just being a little too involved in my life.

ANDY

And you would call that?

MADELINE

Normal?

ANDY

Have you tried telling her you need some space?

Madeline's phone rings again with MOM.

MADELINE

If I tell her that she'll be so hurt. I'm all she has. And she wasn't always like this. I don't think she wants to worry this much. It's not who she really is. She just doesn't know how to stop.

ANDY

Did something happen?

MADELINE

My Dad died when I was 9. He was scuba diving and his tank failed. After that, Mom changed. She began to worry about everything. She became obsessed with the idea that she could prevent something bad from ever happening again. In her mind, if she worries about me too much, it's worth it, because she just wants to keep me safe.

ANDY

It sounds like you've both been through a lot.

MADELINE

We have. But sometimes I think we're stuck in the past. Dad's accident was almost twenty years ago. At some point we have to stop being afraid of everything and learn -

ANDY
OH MY GOD WHAT IS THAT!?

Andy jumps back in genuine fear.

MADELINE
What?

ANDY
There! LOOK!

A little mouse comes sniffing around the garage. Madeline laughs. She grabs a box and captures the mouse in it. She opens the door and lets it free.

MADELINE
I had no idea you were scared of mice.

ANDY
Isn't everyone?

MADELINE
I had a pet mouse when I was kid. They're actually really sweet.

ANDY
Well, at least you know you're not afraid of everything.

MADELINE
So you're saying there's hope for me.

ANDY
Definitely.

MADELINE
Someone should tell Troy, because he seemed to think I was a lost cause.

ANDY
Who's Troy?

MADELINE
A person I pushed away because I was too worried about everything. And now that's exactly what my mom is doing to me.

ANDY
The only way to change that is to be honest with her.

MADELINE

You're right. I'm going to talk to her.

Madeline's phone rings with MOM.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Maybe tomorrow.

Madeline and Andy finish staining the entire desk.

MADELINE (cont'd)

I can't believe we did the whole thing!

ANDY

I hope you don't mind that I helped. I know this is your project and all.

MADELINE

Not all. I'm glad you were here. So what's next?

ANDY

After this dries, you put on another layer. Then after that, you'll put on the lacquer, which will give it a gorgeous sheen.

MADELINE

I can't believe I did this. I feel like I've lived my whole life with this tiny idea of what I could do, and I'm finally waking up to all these new sides of myself.

Madeline's phone rings again.

ANDY

Mom?

MADELINE

No. I don't know who it is. I should answer, maybe someone saw my flier.

ANDY

Good night. And good luck.

Andy leaves.

MADELINE

Thank you!
 (into phone)
 Hello?

CINDY (O.S.)

Hi, Madeline? This is Cindy. We met in the coffee shop today. Is this a good time to talk about my wedding dress?

MADELINE

Absolutely. Let me just step into my office.

Madeline takes two steps and sits down at a little desk in the garage.

MADELINE (cont'd)

So we were talking about Sunday, right?

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - DAY

Madeline has all her items spread out for her workshop. She goes over each item and ensures she has one for each girl - sewing needle, scissors, thread, material, ornament hooks.

She gets a text message from MOM.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE

I found someone that's hiring. I'm going to send the link over.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

I'm getting ready for my workshop.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE

You should still apply. As a backup.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

I'll check it out later. I'm busy right now.

Madeline gets more messages. She ignores them. She doesn't realize one of the messages is from TROY.

She packs all the stuff up in a box.

MADELINE

Here goes nothing.

INT. THE COFFEE GRIND - NIGHT

Madeline has pushed several tables together for her sewing workshop.

The GIRL SCOUTS are each sewing a ball. Nearby, the Moms drink coffee and eat pastries.

MADELINE

Okay, everyone. When you've gone almost all the way around your ball, tie your string off and make a knot. Then turn the ball inside out, so that the sewing is on the inside. Now we're going to stuff our balls, making them into ornaments.

The girl scouts follow Madeline's instructions. On her phone she gets a message from MOM.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE

How's the workshop going?

Madeline sees the message, and then also one from Troy. She's momentarily caught off guard.

GIRL SCOUT

(to Madeline)

Miss Chavez, I think I sewed mine closed.

Madeline puts her phone aside and turns to the GIRL SCOUT.

MADELINE

No problem. We're just going to take out a few stitches, and back up a little. You know, the great thing about sewing is anytime you make a mistake, you just undo it. You always get a second chance.

GIRL SCOUT

I wish I could do that in school.

MADELINE

I felt the same way.

(then)

And there you are. All fixed. Now turn it inside out and stuff it as full as you want.

GIRL SCOUT

Thank you.

Madeline takes a photo of the group. She sends it to Catherine.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE
The workshop is going great!!

She then opens the text message from Troy.

TEXT MESSAGE TROY
I've been thinking about you. Can we get together and talk?

Before Madeline can respond, Catherine sends more messages. Madeline silences her phone and puts it aside.

MADELINE
Wow, those are really looking great. Sofia, I love that. You're doing so good.

Madeline gets up and grabs a pot of coffee. She refills the coffee cups for MOMS.

MADELINE (cont'd)
Thank you all so much for coming. As a former Girl Scout, I'm honored to be a part of continuing the tradition.

GIRL SCOUT MOM
Do you still have your vest?

MADELINE
I do! It's tucked away in a box somewhere.

GIRL SCOUT MOM
You're going to want to get it out. We have a surprise for you.

MADELINE
For me?

GIRL SCOUT MOM
You just earned your entrepreneur badge.

Madeline takes the badge, trying not to cry.

GIRL SCOUT MOM (cont'd)
Are you okay?

MADELINE

I am. It's just, I was having a hard time believing in myself as a business owner. I didn't expect this. Thank you.

INT. CAFE - NIGHT

Everyone has left for the night. Madeline helps Jessica to cleanup.

MADELINE

I can't believe we did that.

JESSICA

You did that! I just served coffee.

MADELINE

Thank you again.

JESSICA

I should be thanking you. I made a killing tonight.

(then)

And here.

Jessica hands Madeline a handful of money.

MADELINE

What's this?

JESSICA

Half the tips.

MADELINE

I can't take this.

JESSICA

You were serving coffee all night, and you helped me clean up. I won't take no for an answer.

MADELINE

Thank you. I'm starting to think I might actually make my rent this month.

JESSICA

Hey, I wanted to ask. Who's that guy you were in here with the other day. Aaron?

MADELINE

You mean Andy?

JESSICA

He was really cute. Are you two dating?

MADELINE

Just friends. He actually lives across the street.

JESSICA

Small world.

MADELINE

Yeah. Sure is.

JESSICA

So when's the next one?

MADELINE

Next what?

JESSICA

Workshop! We have to do this again. We could do New Years, Valentine's Day...

MADELINE

Mother's Day.

BOTH TOGETHER

Easter!

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - DAY

Madeline grabs a box of old stuff. She pulls out her Girl Scout vest. She sews the Entrepreneur Badge onto it.

Her phone rings with TROY. She's about to answer, but then hits decline.

INT. CINDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline puts pins in Cindy's wedding dress and writes down the alteration dimensions.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline sews Cindy's wedding dress. She holds it up, satisfied.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - DAY

Madeline looks at a website for a HOLIDAY FESTIVAL. She applies for a BOOTH.

Her phone dings with a text from TROY.

TEXT MESSAGE TROY

I know you probably don't want to hear from me. But I really need to talk. Please call me.

Madeline pulls up Troy's phone number. She hits CALL, but then her phone rings on the other line. She switches over.

MADELINE

Hello?

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ORGANIZER (O.S.)

Hi, is this Madeline?

MADELINE

It is!

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ORGANIZER (O.S.)

This is Jim, I'm with the Holiday Festival. I just got your application for a booth.

MADELINE

Jim, you are fast. I literally just sent it.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ORGANIZER (O.S.)

I have to tell you, you have incredible timing. We're usually booked up months in advance, but then we had a last minute cancellation today. They called me right before I got your application. It's first come, first serve. Do you want it?

MADELINE

Absolutely!

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - DAY

Madeline looks at all of the items she's made over the years.

She sorts through them, putting price tags on scarves, hats, and so on.

INT. ANDY'S SHOP - DAY

Madeline enters holding one of her scarves.

ANDY

Good afternoon. You're looking happy.

MADELINE

This is for you.

ANDY

Thank you.

Andy puts the scarf on.

MADELINE

What do you think?

ANDY

I love it. But it's not my birthday and Christmas isn't for a few weeks. Oh wait -

Andy sees there's a price tag on it.

MADELINE

Don't worry, you don't have to pay for it. It's a gift. But I am hoping you'll wear it when I sell them this weekend.

ANDY

What's this weekend?

MADELINE

I applied to be a vendor at the holiday festival. I figured I could sell my sweaters, mittens, and all the other stuff I've made over the years.

ANDY

That's a great idea!

MADELINE

And I thought maybe you'd like to join me.

ANDY

You mean as like a model?

MADELINE

No, well, yes. I do want you to wear the scarf, if that's okay.

ANDY

Sure. No problem.

MADELINE

But it's big enough for two. So I want you to sell your stuff also. And if we split the fee, it's only twenty-five dollars each. Plus it would be a great way to promote our businesses.

ANDY

And the student has become the master.

MADELINE

So you like the idea?

ANDY

Like it? I love it! I've got a whole bunch of handmade toys I could sell.

MADELINE

I'm so glad you want to do it! I think it's going to be a lot of fun. And also, I was thinking, maybe it'd be a good test run.

ANDY

Test run? For what?

MADELINE

I've been thinking about us renting that space together. I think it's a really good idea. It's big enough for both of us, and if we're splitting the rent, we could start right away.

ANDY

Uh... I... uh...

MADELINE

Are you okay?

ANDY

I don't know if I'm ready for that. Sorry. I'm just so worried I'll fall behind, and go into debt, and then I'll lose everything. I want to expand, but I also don't want to mess with what's working. It's so risky.

MADELINE

You're starting to sound like me.

ANDY

Maybe I should make a cross chart.

MADELINE

Apparently it's all about diamond charts now.

ANDY

Diamonds? That's exciting.

MADELINE

So you still want to do the Holiday Festival together though, right?

ANDY

Absolutely. All diamond chart lines point to yes!

EXT. DOWNTOWN - DAY

Madeline hands out fliers to CITIZENS walking around.

MADELINE

Be sure and see me at the Christmas festival!

(then)

You can find me on Instagram!

(then)

You'll find workshops on my website!

Madeline hands a flier to someone that doesn't move on. She looks up to see... Catherine.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Mom! Okay seriously, this is getting out of hand. You can't just show up wherever I am.

CATHERINE

How else am I supposed to see you?
You don't return my calls. You don't
respond to my messages.

MADELINE

I do respond. But I can't be on my
phone all day. I'm starting a
business. Remember?

Catherine reads the flier.

CATHERINE

This has your phone number on it!

MADELINE

How else would people call me?

CATHERINE

You shouldn't be giving out your
phone number. You could get phone
calls from stalkers.

MADELINE

I already do.

CATHERINE

You see!

Madeline gives Catherine a pointed look.

CATHERINE (cont'd)

What, you mean me? Is that how you
think of me? As some crazed stalker?

MADELINE

No. Of course not. I know you're just
looking out for me. But sometimes, I
just wish you'd trust I know what I'm
doing. I don't need you checking in
on me every five minutes, asking if I
applied for jobs.

CATHERINE

Well, have you?

Madeline groans with frustration.

CATHERINE (cont'd)

I trust you. I just don't trust
everyone else. Is it so terrible I
want to look out for my only
daughter?

MADELINE

Not at all. I appreciate that you're always here for me. But I'm not a kid anymore. I'm an adult now, and I need to be able to make my own decisions. I need to be able to do my own thing without you jumping out from behind a Christmas tree every five minutes.

CATHERINE

When have I ever done that?

People walk by and listen in on their conversation.

MADELINE

I didn't mean literally. Can we talk about this later? I really want to hand these out.

CATHERINE

Here. Give me some.

Catherine puts her hand out.

MADELINE

What for?

CATHERINE

I'd like to take them to my bowling group.

MADELINE

Thank you. That would actually be really helpful.

CATHERINE

We'll consider it a trade. I'll hand these out, and you apply for three jobs.

(then)

Oh, I almost forgot! I ran into Troy the other day. He was asking about you. I think he wants to get back together.

MADELINE

I doubt that.

CATHERINE

He knows he made a mistake. You should talk to him. He's a good catch. A guy like Troy doesn't come along every day.

MADELINE
I'll think about it.
(then)
I really need to get back to this.
I'll call you later. I promise.

Madeline returns to handing out fliers.

CATHERINE
Call me tonight. I have another lead
on a job.

Madeline gives her a look.

CATHERINE (cont'd)
It comes with a dental plan, that's
all I'm saying.

Catherine walks away.

INT. CINDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Cindy has on her wedding dress. She spins around.

MADELINE
How does it feel?

CINDY
It fits like a glove. I feel like it
was tailor made for me. I can't thank
you enough.

MADELINE
It was my pleasure. You're a
beautiful bride.

CINDY
Thank you so much! How much do I owe
you?

MADELINE
I did both in-seems and lowered the
waist, so it's two hundred and fifty
dollars.

Cindy gets out her purse. She writes Madeline a check.

MADELINE (cont'd)
I think you misheard me, you made
this for two hundred and ninety
dollars. Do you want to write a new
one?

CINDY

I heard you just fine. I wanted to include a tip. You saved my day after all!

MADELINE

Cindy, thank you, I don't know what to say.

CINDY

Merry Christmas.

MADELINE

Merry Christmas.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline sits on her couch in her pajamas. She calls MOM. She doesn't get an answer.

MADELINE

Hey Mom. It's me. I thought we were going to talk tonight, I hope everything is okay.

Madeline writes a text message to MOM.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

We still haven't talked about Christmas. Do you know how many people are coming?

Madeline waits. She gets a text message - from Troy.

TEXT MESSAGE TROY

I'm sorry. I know that's not enough, and if you'll talk to me, I'll give you a real apology. I just want to talk. Please call me.

Madeline doesn't respond. She goes into the garage.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline paints the first layer of lacquer on the sewing table. It's really starting to look professional and beautiful!

She admires her work, and then grabs a pen and paper. She starts writing a list.

THINGS I WAS ALWAYS TOO SCARED TO DO

Her list begins filling up fast, with things such as: Ice skating, baking bread, making s'mores, singing at open mic night, and so on.

She finishes and leaves the list on a pile of scarves she's knitting for the festival.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline finishes knitting scarves. There's a KNOCK at the door. She opens it to Andy.

MADELINE

Hey!

ANDY

Hey! I came to see what we need for our booth this weekend.

MADELINE

We're going to need a sign, which I was hoping you would do.

ANDY

No problem. I'll use my wood burner.

MADELINE

I'm not sure what that is but it sounds perfect. We're also going to need something to display our stuff on.

ANDY

Like a shelving unit?

MADELINE

Yes.

ANDY

No problem.

MADELINE

And let me know how I can help. I know I'm not an expert, but I can definitely hammer a nail or two.

ANDY

Don't worry, I trust your abilities. Have you finished getting your stuff ready?

MADELINE
I just finished knitting the last
scarf.

Andy looks at the scarves.

ANDY
These are really great.

Andy sees her list of things she was afraid to do.

ANDY (cont'd)
What's this?

MADELINE
That's nothing. I meant to throw it
away.

ANDY
You want to go ziplining?

MADELINE
I don't know. Maybe. That one's not
really mine. I just felt like I
needed to include it

Andy's eyes go wide as he reads more.

MADELINE (cont'd)
What? Which one?

ANDY
You've never made a s'more???

MADELINE
Fire hazard.

ANDY
Wait, wait, wait. You've never been
ice skating?

MADELINE
My mom sad the skates were blades of
death.

ANDY
Get your coat.

MADELINE
What? Why?

ANDY
We're going ice skating.

MADELINE
Shouldn't we make the sign?

ANDY
That can wait. This is WAY more
important.

INT. ICE SKATING RINK - NIGHT

Madeline stands on the side of the rink, clinging to the wall. Andy is on the ice, waiting.

MADELINE
I can't do this.

ANDY
You said the same thing about
starting a business, and you're
definitely able to do that.

Madeline loosens her grip on the wall. She inches her way out on the ice. She nearly falls and Andy grabs her. She holds onto him.

MADELINE
Don't let go.

ANDY
I got you.

Andy and Madeline slowly start to skate around.

ANDY (cont'd)
You see? You're a natural.
(then)
So what do you think?

MADELINE
This is pretty fun. I can't believe
I've never done it before.

Andy and Madeline skate around, holding hands.

MADELINE (cont'd)
I think I'm okay. You can let go if
you want to.

ANDY
I'll hold on a little longer. Just in
case.

INT. ICE SKATING RINK - NIGHT

Andy and Madeline sit on a bench, taking off their skates.

MADELINE

This was really fun. Thanks for getting me out of the house.

ANDY

So what's next on the list? S'mores? Open mic?

MADELINE

I'm not ready for an open mic.

ANDY

I do know one you could cross off right now.

MADELINE

What's that?

ANDY

Kiss someone in a public place.

Andy and Madeline lean towards each other, about to kiss. Just before they do, a kid holding his ice skates trips. His skates go flying at them.

ANDY (cont'd)

Watch out!

Andy jumps on Madeline, knocking them both off the bench and onto the ground.

ANDY (cont'd)

Sorry. I didn't want the skates to hit you.

MADELINE

They are blades of death.

Andy helps Madeline up.

ANDY

Are you okay?

MADELINE

A week ago, I would've told you that my life flashed before my eyes, and no, I wasn't okay.

ANDY

And today?

MADELINE

Today, I'm realizing that's a tad
over dramatic, and everything's fine.

(then)

I better get home.

ANDY

Me too. I've got a sign to make.

MADELINE

That reminds me! I had one last idea.

ANDY

Lay it on me.

MADELINE

We should sell your hot chocolate at
the Holiday Market. It's so good, I
know it'll bring in a ton more
customers.

ANDY

I'll be sure and put it on the sign.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline comes inside. She's practically glowing with
happiness. She turns on the light.

Catherine comes out of the kitchen. Madeline screams in
fear.

MADELINE

Mom! What are you doing here? You
scared me half to death.

CATHERINE

I came by to talk. I thought we were
talking tonight. You weren't here, so
I figured I would wait.

MADELINE

Why didn't you call?

CATHERINE

You told me not to call as much.

MADELINE

I didn't mean to never call again.

CATHERINE

Were you at a job interview?

MADELINE

How many times do I have to say it?
I'm starting my own business. That's
my job.

Catherine is holding a stack of papers.

MADELINE (cont'd)

What's that?

CATHERINE

It's your resume. I saw you working
on it and I wanted to help.

Madeline looks over what Catherine changed.

MADELINE

I can't believe you did this.

CATHERINE

You're welcome.

MADELINE

No, not in a good way. Like I can't
believe you re-wrote my whole resume.
I liked it how it was. And that's not
even the point. The point is, I don't
need this. My business is doing
really well. And I'm really happy. Do
you hear anything I say?

CATHERINE

Are you mad at me?

MADELINE

Yeah. Maybe a little.

CATHERINE

Then I guess I'll go.

MADELINE

Mom, wait. We need to talk about
Christmas.

CATHERINE

I already took care of that.

MADELINE

You got me a table?

CATHERINE

No. I've arranged for everyone to come to my house. I know you've got a lot on your plate. I'm happy to do it.

MADELINE

Why did you do that? I was really looking forward to hosting.

CATHERINE

Where would everyone sit? On the floor?

MADELINE

I was going to get a table. I just haven't had time.

CATHERINE

Can you afford that?

MADELINE

Not a new one. But I could get an old one and fix it up. It would hardly cost anything.

CATHERINE

I thought you didn't have any time.

MADELINE

I haven't. But after this holiday festival, I will.

CATHERINE

How do you know? What if something else came up?

MADELINE

I would've made it work. I was asking you to trust me. It's not like I'm totally helpless. I hosted an amazing workshop. And I'm getting clients. I'm quiet capable of running my own life.

CATHERINE

I don't understand why you're so mad at me. Is everything I do wrong?

MADELINE

All I'm asking is for you to believe in me and to give me a little space to breathe. Can you do that? Please?

CATHERINE
Alright. I'll give you some space.

Catherine walks to the door.

MADELINE
Mom, wait. I didn't mean -

Catherine leaves.

INT. ANDY'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Andy is using his wood burner to create a beautiful design.
There's a knock on the garage door. He opens it to Madeline.

MADELINE
Hey. I saw your light on.

ANDY
I was just finishing up the sign.
What do you think?

MADELINE
Andy, this is incredible. You are so
talented.

ANDY
Thank you. I'm glad you like it.

MADELINE
You even got the steam on the hot
chocolate!
(then)
So remember how I said I would talk
to my mom?

ANDY
Yeah?

MADELINE
Well, we talked.

ANDY
How'd it go?

MADELINE
Pretty bad.

ANDY
Are you okay?

MADELINE

Yeah. We've just never fought like that before.

ANDY

What was the fight about?

MADELINE

I feel like she doesn't listen to me. I ask her to do one thing, and she does the opposite. But mostly, I just want her to believe in me. I don't think that's too much to ask.

ANDY

Not at all. Without my parents support, I'd have given up a long time ago. It's scary starting your own business. Having the support of family is really important.

MADELINE

And that's the problem. She says she is being supportive. She thinks she knows what's best for me.

ANDY

You should invite her to the holiday festival. When she sees how well you're doing, she'll start to come around.

MADELINE

Yeah. That might help. I just hope she doesn't try and get inside the booth and hand out my resume.

ANDY

I'll build a guard rail.

MADELINE

I know it's late, but are you up for a little adventure?

ANDY

I love adventure. As long as there's no mice involved.

MADELINE

Number six on my list. Look at the stars from the roof.

ANDY
Say no more.

Andy snaps.

ANDY (cont'd)
One of these days that's going to
work.

Andy grabs a ladder from the wall.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

The ladder leans up against the house. Madeline stands on
it, nervously looking up.

ANDY
It's okay if you don't want to do
this.

MADELINE
I want to do this. I just need a
minute.

ANDY
I don't want to rush you, but you've
been standing on the bottom rung for
twenty minutes.

MADELINE
I have? Shoot. Okay. I can do this.

Madeline starts climbing.

MADELINE (cont'd)
I can do this. I can do this. I can
do this.

Madeline reaches the top of the ladder. She looks over the
roof.

MADELINE (cont'd)
I can't do this.

She looks back down at Andy. He gives her a thumbs up.

MADELINE (cont'd)
I can do this.

Madeline climbs up and over. She's on the roof. She crawls
over a few feet and sits down. A moment later, Andy comes up
and over.

ANDY

You did it!

MADELINE

I did it!

Andy sits down beside Madeline. They look out over the clear night sky. The thousands of stars twinkle before them.

MADELINE (cont'd)

This is incredible.

ANDY

It sure is.

Andy looks at Madeline. They look into each others' eyes. They lean in and - they kiss!!!!

ANDY (cont'd)

Now I can cross something off my list.

MADELINE

What's that?

ANDY

Kiss a beautiful girl on a roof.

Madeline leans into Andy. They look out at the stars. A shooting star goes by.

EXT. ANDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Andy loads stuff into the back of his truck. Madeline comes over with a box.

MADELINE

This is the last one. I think we're ready.

ANDY

Alright, let's - I forgot the sign!

Andy runs into his garage. He grabs the sign for their booth. He runs back out and throws it in the back.

ANDY (cont'd)

Now, we're ready.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL - DAY

Madeline and Andy setup their booth. Half of it is his woodworking projects, and half of it is her sewing projects.

They put the sign out front. They then setup for the hot chocolate. They're ready. They high five.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL - NIGHT

The holiday festival is lit up and full of PATRONS. Madeline sells hot chocolate to a FAMILY. The Mom looks at all the sewing stuff. The kids look at Andy's handmade toys.

Andy sells them each a toy. Madeline sells a sweater.

MADELINE

I can't believe how good we're doing!

ANDY

I know! I might actually sell out.

Madeline looks at her text messages. She's sent several to MOM. No response. She writes one more.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

Hey Mom. I know I asked for space, but I really want you to come tonight. Please come by and have a hot chocolate.

(then)

I love you.

Madeline doesn't get a response. She looks up and is shocked - but not because her Mom is there.

MADELINE

Troy?

Troy stands before the booth.

TROY

Madeline. I didn't know you were working here.

MADELINE

Yeah. I'm trying something new.

TROY

That's amazing. And surprising.

MADELINE
I'm full of all kinds of surprises
these days.

Andy sees Madeline looking flustered.

ANDY
Everything okay?

MADELINE
Yeah. Great. Andy, this is Troy.
Troy, Andy.

ANDY
Hey, nice to meet you.

Andy gets a customer and steps away.

TROY
Who's that?

MADELINE
He's...kind of... well, we're not
exactly -

TROY
Can we talk? Just for a minute.
Please. I know I messed up, and you
don't owe me anything, but I'd at
least like for us to be friends.

MADELINE
You're right. We've known each other
a long time. I'd like to try to be
friends also.

Madeline walks out of the booth.

MADELINE (cont'd)
Andy, I'll be right back. Will you be
okay?

ANDY
Yeah, no problem.

Madeline and Troy walk away. Madeline gets a text from MOM.

TEXT MESSAGE CATHERINE
I'm on my way to the festival. Just a
heads up so you don't say I ambushed
you.

Madeline writes back.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

See you soon.

MADELINE

So what's on your mind?

TROY

Did you really start your own sewing business?

MADELINE

How'd you know that?

TROY

Your Mom told me.

MADELINE

Of course she did.

TROY

She thinks we should get back together.

MADELINE

Well maybe she should try asking me what I want.

TROY

If she did ask, what would you say?

MADELINE

About what? Getting back together?

TROY

Before you say anything, I just want to tell you, I was so wrong. I thought I knew who you were, but you're so much more. You're running a business, and taking risks, and, I messed up. I should've been patient. I shouldn't have rushed into something. Because the thing is, Madeline, you're the most incredible girl I've ever known. There's no one like you.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL (BOOTH) - NIGHT

Andy sells hot chocolate to some KIDS. Catherine approaches.

ANDY

Hey! I'm -

CATHERINE
Where's Madeline? She's been texting
me all night about being here.

ANDY
I'm Andy.

Andy puts his hand out. Catherine shakes it while looking
around.

CATHERINE
Is she okay? Was this too stressful
for her? I knew this was too much too
soon. I wanted to tell her, but she'd
say I was meddling and being too
involved.

ANDY
Don't worry, she's doing great. She's
right over there.

Catherine looks over to see Madeline talking to Troy.

ANDY (cont'd)
Do you know who she's talking to?

CATHERINE
That's her boyfriend, Troy.

ANDY
Madeline has a boyfriend?

CATHERINE
They've been going through a bit of a
rough patch. But it'll pass. They
really are cute together, aren't
they? I always liked him. He has a
very stable job.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL (CROWD) - NIGHT

Madeline talks to Troy, without realizing Andy is watching.

MADELINE
This is hard to say, but -

Troy leans in and kisses Madeline. She pushes him away, but
it's too late, Andy saw everything.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL (BOOTH) - NIGHT

Madeline returns to the booth. Catherine is there, selling hot chocolate.

MADELINE

Mom? What are you doing here? And what happened to Andy?

CATHERINE

Who?

MADELINE

The guy working here.

CATHERINE

He left. He didn't say anything. Just walked out.

MADELINE

I wonder if he went to get food?

CATHERINE

I don't know. But some customers came up, and I didn't know what to do, so I jumped in. Is that okay? Or am I in your space?

MADELINE

You're welcome to stay until Andy gets back. He really didn't say anything when he walked out?

CATHERINE

Nope. He just asked about you and Troy and -

MADELINE

Wait, backup. What did you tell him about me and Troy?

CATHERINE

That he's your boyfriend, you belong together, and then he saw you kiss, and I said I knew it! They're back together. And then he was gone.

MADELINE

You told him Troy's my boyfriend? No wonder he left.

CATHERINE

Now what I have done?

MADELINE

I'm not with Troy. I've told you that so many times. What do I have to do to get you to listen to me?

Madeline runs out of the booth.

CATHERINE

I was just trying to help!
(then)
Should I stay here?

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL (CROWD) - NIGHT

Madeline calls Andy. She gets his voicemail. She looks around for him, and she thinks she sees him.

She runs up to the guy and grabs his arm.

MADELINE

Hey, there you are! I was -

He spins around. It isn't Andy.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Sorry. I thought you were someone else.

Madeline tries calling Andy again. She gets his voicemail. She sends a text.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

Please call me. I can explain.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL (BOOTH) - NIGHT

Madeline returns to the booth. Catherine hands a WOMAN her change.

CATHERINE

That was the last sweater! All that's left are a few scarves. With all you've made tonight, you can probably pay your bills AND your rent.

MADELINE

Great.

CATHERINE

Are you okay?

MADELINE

Andy's not talking to me. I don't know what to do. I really like him.

CATHERINE

I'm sorry, sweetie.

(then)

Who's Andy?

MADELINE

It doesn't matter. You won't hear anything I say anyways.

CATHERINE

Is he the guy that ran off?

MADELINE

Mom, I love you. But it's time for you to go home.

CATHERINE

I don't understand. You wanted me to be here, I helped you with your booth, and now you want space again?

MADELINE

I appreciate the help with the booth, but yes, I want space. I'll let you know when I'm ready to talk.

Catherine is hurt and confused. She leaves.

EXT. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL - NIGHT

The festival is finished. Madeline's friend Jessica helps her to pack up what's left from the booth.

MADELINE

Thank you so much for coming. I thought Andy would come back, but he's still not answering my calls.

JESSICA

What happened?

MADELINE

I walked off to talk to Troy, and my Mom told Andy something about how Troy's my boyfriend. And then Troy kissed me.

JESSICA

Are you and Andy together?

MADELINE

Yeah. I think so. We hadn't exactly made it official, but if he thinks I'm in a relationship with someone else, he's not going to want to be with me.

JESSICA

Just explain what happened. He'll understand.

MADELINE

I hope so. Anyways, thanks again.

JESSICA

Don't worry about it. I was already here anyways.

MADELINE

I'm just glad you have a truck!

JESSICA

I'm just glad you had scarf left! How much is this?

MADELINE

It's yours. Merry Christmas.

Madeline tries calling Andy again. She gets his voicemail.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline sits alone on her couch. She checks her phone. No calls or messages from Andy. She sends him one.

TEXT MESSAGE MADELINE

I at least need to give you the money you made. Can you call me?

Madeline calls her Aunt Aby on video chat.

AUNT ABY

(through video)

Hello! I'm so excited you're calling, I've been following your business on Instagram. You're doing amazing!

MADELINE

Thank you.

AUNT ABY

What's wrong?

MADELINE

It's Mom. I keep trying to get through to her, but all she hears is what she wants to hear. If she doesn't change, I'm afraid we're going to stop speaking to each other.

AUNT ABY

Oh dear. I'm sorry love. I know how she can be. Would it help if I talked to her?

MADELINE

You can try, but so far nothing is getting through.

AUNT ABY

I think I might be able to help. I know how much you mean to her, and I know how to get through to her.

MADELINE

Thank you so much. I don't want us to be fighting. She's my best friend. But I can't go on like this.

AUNT ABY

I completely understand.

(then)

So tell me about your business! I heard you had a booth at the holiday festival, that's so exciting!

MADELINE

It's actually going really well. I held one workshop, and I'm planning to do more. I'm so blown away with how much support I've gotten!

Madeline glows as she continues on with how proud she is.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - DAY

Madeline finishes polishing the Singer sewing machine. The entire table, from top to bottom, looks brand new. It's absolutely stunning.

She pushes her foot on the pedal. It turns but the needle doesn't go up and down. She tries looking around, but doesn't see what the problem is.

Then she remembers - it's missing the belt.

INT. ANDY'S SHOP - DAY

Andy dusts off the furniture. Madeline comes in.

MADELINE

Hi.

(then)

I know you don't want to talk to me,
but I needed to give you this.

Madeline hands Andy an envelope. Andy opens it and sees what's inside. It's full of cash.

MADELINE (cont'd)

It's your portion of the sales. We
did really good.

ANDY

Thanks for bringing it by.

MADELINE

Can we talk?

ANDY

I don't think there's anything to
say. You have a boyfriend. I was an
idiot.

MADELINE

I don't have a boyfriend. And you're
not an idiot.

ANDY

But you were together for a while,
right? Your Mom made it seem like you
were practically married.

MADELINE

We were together for four years. But
we were never right for each other.
When Troy first broke up with me, I
thought it was the worst thing that
had ever happened to me. But now I
see it was actually the best. It
showed me that who I was with him, it
wasn't really me.

ANDY

Then why did I see you kissing at the festival?

MADELINE

He kissed me. It's not what I -

A CUSTOMER comes in. They're all bundled up from the snow. They stand to the side, looking at a table.

ANDY

I better get that.

Madeline exits. Andy goes to the customer. She pulls her scarf down and reveals its Catherine!

CATHERINE

Hi. Andy, right?

ANDY

Hey, Catherine. What are you doing here?

CATHERINE

I'm looking for a table. It's for my daughter.

ANDY

For Madeline?

CATHERINE

Yes. She's been telling me for awhile she needs a table. I probably should've listened to her.

ANDY

I've got one right over here.

Andy shows Catherine a table.

CATHERINE

I'll take it. And the chairs.

ANDY

Great. I can deliver it tonight.

(then)

But, can I ask you something?

CATHERINE

Sure.

ANDY

What changed your mind? Why did you decide you should start listening to Madeline?

CATHERINE

My sister, Aby. She reminded me Madeline has always had a good head on her shoulders, and that I was being ridiculous. She also reminded me of how much fun we used to have, before I became afraid of everything. Did you know we used to go horse back riding?

ANDY

I didn't.

CATHERINE

You can't cross chart a horse. You just get on and ride. And I miss that. I miss feeling the wind in my hair while galloping through a field.
(then)

I also wanted to tell you I'm sorry. I've been pretty rude to you.

ANDY

Ah, don't worry about it. Water under the bridge.

CATHERINE

I shouldn't have said anything to you about Madeline and Troy. The truth is, I had no idea what I was talking about. I was only saying what I wanted to be true, and not what Madeline actually told me to be true.

ANDY

So they're not together?

CATHERINE

No. She's moved on. I'm the one who hasn't. I just hope it's not too late for me to make things right with her.
(then)

So how much do I owe you?

EXT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Andy's truck backs up into Madeline's driveway. The table and chair set is in the back. He walks to the door. He knocks.

No answer.

He takes out his phone. He calls Madeline. No answer.

ANDY

Hey, it's me. I probably should've called first, but I have a delivery for you. Can you give me a call back?

INT. EMPTY SHOP - NIGHT

Madeline walks around inside of the empty store. It's NOT the one Andy had pointed out that he wanted to rent, but similiar.

She walks around with MARK, the landlord.

MARK

The rent is four hundred a month.

MADELINE

The floors are in terrible shape. And it looks like the walls need a coat of paint.

MARK

I'm renting it as is.

MADELINE

If I agreed to refinish the floors, paint and do a few other things, would you give me the first month free?

MARK

You know how to do that?

MADELINE

I'm pretty handy when I need to be.

Madeline's phone rings with Andy. She hits ignore.

MARK

You got yourself a deal.

Mark puts his hand out to shake.

MARK (cont'd)

So what'll you use the space for?

MADELINE

I own a sewing business.

MARK

This is perfect for that. There's even a space out back you could use as a workshop if you wanted.

MADELINE

How soon can I get the keys?

MARK

I've got the lease in my car. If you've got the deposit, we can finish this up right now.

MADELINE

Do you take checks?

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline comes in and throws down her purse. Onto a table. It takes her a moment to realize the table wasn't there before. There's a note on the table. She reads it.

MADELINE

(reading note)

Madeline, I hope you don't mind that your Mom let me in. I tried calling you. I'm so sorry I didn't believe you. I should've listened. Your neighbor, Andy.

Madeline puts the note down.

EXT. ANDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline knocks on Andy's door. Andy answers.

MADELINE

Hey. I saw your note.

ANDY

I hope you don't mind I brought the table in. I didn't want to leave it on the truck all night.

MADELINE

I don't understand. I never bought a table.

ANDY

Your Mom bought it. She didn't tell you?

MADELINE

No. She hasn't called at all.

ANDY

You should probably call her. I think she wants to talk to you.

MADELINE

When did you see my Mom?

ANDY

This afternoon. She came in and bought the table. And she apologized for being rude.

MADELINE

My Mom did?

ANDY

Yeah. I guess you finally got through to her.

MADELINE

Wow. I'll have to call her.

ANDY

How's your Singer coming along?

MADELINE

All finished. Except for one thing.

ANDY

The belt.

MADELINE

The belt.

INT. MADELINE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Madeline shows Andy the refurbished Singer.

MADELINE

I know it's not perfect, but I'm pretty happy with it.

ANDY

Not perfect? Are you kidding? This is incredible! People are going to start hiring you now instead of me.

MADELINE

I doubt that. Although I do hope I've learned something, because I've got a storefront to fix up.

ANDY

What do you mean?

MADELINE

I kind of stole your idea. I found this place, and I offered to fix it up if he gave me the first month free.

ANDY

You're kidding! You got your own place?

MADELINE

Yeah, I guess I do!

ANDY

Can I see it?

MADELINE

Sure! And if you don't mind, I'd like to bring this along.

ANDY

Let's get the belt on and it'll be good to go.

LATER:

Andy loops the leather cord down around the bottom and through the sewing machine.

ANDY (cont'd)

Give it a try.

Madeline pushes the pedal with her foot. The needle goes up and down.

MADELINE

It works! I'm so happy!

Madeline hugs Andy. She looks up at him. They share a sweet kiss.

INT. EMPTY SHOP - NIGHT

Madeline and Andy come in, carrying the Singer. Madeline turns on the lights.

MADELINE

I know it's not much, but I have a vision for it. I think it could look really good. And there's a place in back for a workshop.

Andy looks around, his happiness fading.

MADELINE (cont'd)

Are you okay?

ANDY

Yeah. Great.

MADELINE

You wish it was yours, don't you?

ANDY

No. I'm happy for you. You deserve this. It's not your fault I let my fear get the best of me.

MADELINE

You know, I probably shouldn't have rented such a big space. I'll barely use any of it.

ANDY

It is pretty big.

MADELINE

It would be great to have some furniture to fill it out. Maybe some custom made stuff. And there's a whole workshop in the back I won't use.

(then)

Now that I think about it, I could probably split the rent with someone. Do you know anyone that would want to share this space with me?

ANDY

You want to rent this place together?

MADELINE

Yeah! I can do fittings and alterations over there.

(MORE)

MADELINE (cont'd)
And I'll have my clothes for sale
over here. And you can have all your
furniture here. And -

Andy grabs Madeline's shoulders.

ANDY
You had me at hello.

MADELINE
I didn't say hello.

ANDY
I know. It's a joke. From that movie.

MADELINE
What movie?

ANDY
Jerry Maguire.

MADELINE
I've never seen it.

ANDY
What? How is that possible? Never
mind. I was just trying to say that I
love the idea.

MADELINE
You're not scared?

ANDY
Not when I have you.

Andy leans in and kisses Madeline.

INT. MADELINE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Madeline's FAMILY has gathered around her new table for
Christmas dinner.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Madeline pulls a ham out of the oven. Catherine comes in.

CATHERINE
Mmmmm. That smells amazing!

MADELINE
It looks perfect.

Madeline grabs a knife and lifts it up. She glances at Catherine.

MADELINE (cont'd)
Oh right. The goggles.

Madeline reaches for the safety goggles. Catherine stops her.

CATHERINE
I think you'll be okay without them.

MADELINE
I think you're right.

Madeline slices some of the ham.

MADELINE (cont'd)
Ah! I got some of the juice in my eye! Oh god, it burns!

CATHERINE
I knew this was dangerous! Quick, rinse with warm water before you get an infection.

MADELINE
Mom, I'm kidding.
(then)
I just want to say thank you for telling everyone I was still hosting Christmas.

CATHERINE
You don't have to thank me. I should've never tried to take control of it. You were right. I just needed to trust you.

MADELINE
Thank you.

CATHERINE
And I'm sorry I didn't see that sooner. I haven't been the most supportive person. I hope you can forgive me.

MADELINE
Of course I forgive you! You're my mom. I love you.

Catherine and Madeline hug.

Aunt Aby appears in the doorway.

AUNT ABY
Is that ham coming out or what?
People are starting to fight over the
bread rolls.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madeline comes out with the Christmas ham. Everyone ooohs
and Ahhhs. Madeline sits down next to Andy.

MADELINE
Merry Christmas.

ANDY
Merry Christmas.

FADE OUT