

DOMESTIC RELOCATION

Written by

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INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

A small law office sits among small retail stores and coffee shops on a main street in Nashville, Tennessee.

RONNIE, 44, loving, but emotionally scared woman, hell bent on some sort of justice. KELSEA, 24, daughter of Ronnie, spirited, confused and loyal to her mom. LILAH MAY, 5, daughter of Kelsea, innocent and sweet, mature beyond her years with internal struggles, sit in a lawyers office.

Ronnie stands from chair in front of lawyers desk and walks to window looking onto the street.

Kelsea entertains Lilah May with crayons and paper at a table near bookcase full of law books.

KELSEA

Okay Lilah now how do you write your name?

LILAH MAY

(giggling)

With a crayon mom, duh.

RONNIE

(quietly chuckling)

Your not your grandmas protégé are ya?

LOLA, 65, wise, hard nocks woman, with heavy New York accent. and JOHN, 50, shady professional with a mysteriously helping attitude and a southern accent, enter the office.

LOLA

Ladies, hot off the press. Today is the day you have been waiting for. Hot damn, I'm like a proud momma.

JOHN

(holding back laughter)

Yes, mamm. The ten day hold has been lifted on your money ladies, and I have the paperwork for your new home.

John lays a small stack of legal papers on the desk.

Ronnie moves from the window to the desk without saying a word.

Kelsea, springs from the table to hug Lola.

KELSEA

Thank you. If it wasn't for you none of this would be happening.

Ronnie moves back to the window in a transfixed stare to nowhere.

LOLA

Oh, sweetheart your so welcome but
your wrong. If it wasn't for your
momma being so strong none of us
would have met.

Both women look over at Ronnie at the window.

KELSEA

(whispering)
She's not here right now is she?

LOLA

It's okay honey, give her a minute.

John sits down at his desk and watches Ronnie tenderly.

Kelsea and Lola focus on Lilah May at the table.

FLASHBACK MONOGE - RONNIE REMEMBERS

INT. CAR - DAY

Kelsea drives, DAVE, 45, Ronnie's husband, and Kelsea's dad, mentally damaged, dangerous man, with leftover physical impairments, from stroke, sits in passenger seat, Ronnie sits in back with Lilah May.

Dave holds his hand replicating a gun towards Kelsea.

DAVE

If I Find out you had anything to
do with this.

Dave acts like he is pulling the trigger.

EXT. STORE PARKING LOT - DAY

Dave has entered the store and Ronnie and Kelsea stand outside the car while Ronnie smokes a cigarette.

KELSEA

(simultaneous)
I'm Leaving tonight

RONNIE

He's going to kill me.

Ronnie looks to the store and wipes tears from her eyes.

RONNIE (CONT'D)
We'll say were going to do laundry.

INT. CAR - DUSK

Ronnie, Kelsea, and Lilah May drive away from Daves brothers resort in Washington State, with a car full of laundry.

RONNIE
You know if we do this we can't change our minds. We can never come back.

KELSEA
I have to mom. I can't let him hurt my daughter. I'm leaving with or with out you.

RONNIE
I love you daughter. I can't stay or he will kill me. I wish I could get his stupid family to believe me.

KELSEA
We've tried for six months, mom.

RONNIE
You know we have absolutely nobody to turn to, right? It's just us from now on.

Both women cry in silence watching the landscape change as they travel across the mountains into unknown territory.

INT. FIRST SHELTER - DAY

Ronnie, Kelsea, Lilah May are sitting in a domestic violence shelter.

The women are greeted by a female advocate and follow her through two sets of double doors down a hall and into a smaller office. The advocate sits in amazement as the two women tell their unusual circumstances and their plan to disappear.

INT. ROOM IN SHELTER - DAY

The room is cold, and all white with two single cot-like beds and one metal frame bunk bed. A small college size refrigerator sits to the right of the beds. There is a closet and a bathroom.

Ronnie walks to the window looking out on a courtyard surrounded by the building itself and an eight foot fence to the ally. Much like a prison yard.

Kelsea sits on one of the beds with Lilah May, covers her face and proceeds to cry frantically.

Ronnie joins them on the bed in tears.

KELSEA

How did this happen to us.

RONNIE

I do not know. I never could have guessed that our lives where going to turn out like this.

KELSEA

How could your own father want to hurt you so bad.

RONNIE

I wish I knew the answer to that. He was always a mean man but that stroke did something to him. He is freaking crazy and for some reason he blames us.

Ronnie sets Lilah May, who is crying alligator tears, on her lap.

RONNIE (CONT'D)

Oh, honey it is going to be okay.

LILAH MAY

I wanna go home grandma.

RONNIE

I know you do, but we can't go back to that home. This is going to be our home for a while.

LILAH MAY

But what about all my toy's grandma. And what about daddy and grandpa.

FLASHBACK MONOGE (IN FLASHBACK) - RONNIE REMEMBERS

INT. HOME - NIGHT

A fight breaks out between Dave and STEVEN, 28, Lilah Mays, quiet soft spoken, alcohol induced angry father.

DAVE

Your nothing but a piece of shit.

STEVEN

I'm going to kill you.

Ronnie and Kelsea join the fight and instinctually protect Dave.

Ronnie sees Lilah May in the middle of the fight and rushes to bring her to safety then rejoins the fight. Steven is out of control attacking Dave and Kelsea is beating on Steven to get him to stop. Ronnie helps Kelsea beat on Steven to protect Dave.

FLASHBACK MONOGE (IN FLASHBACK) CONTINUED - KELSEA REMEMBERS

KELSEA

Stop it Steven what are you doing.
Just leave. Look at your daughter
she's terrified. Stop. Stop. Please
stop.

STEVEN

I'm so sorry but I can't. He
deserves to die.

Kelsea manages to get steven outside away from Dave.

Steven goes around the house and breaks's through the sliding glass door.

KELSEA

Mom lets go.

Kelsea grabs her mom and drags her out the front door after pushing Dave outside.

FLASHBACK MONOGE CONTINUED (IN FLASHBACK) - LILAH MAY REMEMBERS

Lilah is at the neighbors staring out the window as she watches her dad, Steven, covered in blood get put into handcuffs and into the back of a police car.

END OF FLASHBACK (IN FLASHBACK)

RETURN TO ORIGINAL FLASHBACK

INT. ROOM IN SHELTER - DAY-

Ronnie turns back to Lilah May

RONNIE

I tell you what Lilah. Hey, look at
grandma.

Ronnie cups Lilah's face in her hands.

RONNIE (CONT'D)

Grandma is going to work so hard
and some day I will buy us a new
house. I promise you.

LILAH MAY

Will I have my own room?

RONNIE

Sure you will. One all decorated in
princess stuff. And a big yard too.

LILAH MAY

Can I have my own puppy?

Ronnie and Kelsea break out in a laughter full of emotion and
exhaustion.

END OF FLASHBACK (RETURN TO STORY)

INT. LAW OFFICE

Ronnie walks to the desk and sits down.

JOHN

Hey there sweet thing. You ready to
do this?

RONNIE

Yes, sir. Where do I sign.

John takes Ronnie through the paperwork having her sign in
several places. When they finish he stands up and hands her a
set of keys.

Ronnie stands and walks across the room. Lola, Kelsea and Lilah May watch as Ronnie approaches. Ronnie bends down in front of Lilah May.

RONNIE (CONT'D)
 Hey, there Lilah.
 (pausing)
 Remember when grandma said I was going to buy us a house.

LILAH MAY
 Yes, I do.

Ronnie hands Lilah the keys.

RONNIE
 Well, lets go see it.

Lilah grabs the keys from Ronnie.

LILAH MAY
 Are you serious right now grandma.

The room breaks out in a tear filled laughter.

LILAH MAY (CONT'D)
 Well, what are we waiting for. Lets go!

Lilah jumps out of her chair and starts tugging on her grandma's hand.

JOHN
 Well, you heard the little lady.
 Lets get to stepping girls.

The women, and Lilah May prepare to leave.

JOHN (CONT'D)
 Hey, y'all. You all head out there and I will be right behind you. I have to make a quick stop.

EXT. DOMESTIC RELOCATION RANCH - DAY

A two story ranch located in No'man's Tennessee approximately one hour out of Nashville Tennessee. Lola, Ronnie, Kelsea and Lilah May are in the front yard of the three hundred acre ranch.

Lilah runs around the yard as the women talk. Ronnie walks over to Lilah May and leads her by the hand up the stairs to the wrap around porch.

RONNIE
Hey Lilah did you hear something.

LILAH MAY
Yea, grandma. It sounds like it's coming from over there,

RONNIE
Over where?

LILAH MAY
Right there, in that box.

RONNIE
Well, maybe we better check it out.

LILAH MAY
No way. I'm not checking it out.
You have to. Your the grown up.

Ronnie stands up and drags Lilah May towards the box.

RONNIE
Oh, no. Your coming too.
(laughing)

Ronnie holds Lilah May from running away and reaches down to reveal a small German Shepard puppy hiding in the box.

LILAH MAY
(excitedly)
Oh, Grandma. Is that my very own puppy.

RONNIE
Yes mamm. She's all yours.

Lilah May hugs the puppy as it kissers her.

Lola and Kelsea approach them laughing as Lilah takes off running with her new friend.

Two cars pull up the long driveway. The women walk to greet the drivers, John and CAT, 28, young lady, quiet, secluded, and scorned.

Ronnie walks up to Cat and shakes her hand.

RONNIE (CONT'D)
I'm so glad you could make it.

JOHN
Well, Ladies lets go check out your new home.

INT. RANCH - ENTRANCE - DAY

The group enters the house for the first time. A set of grand stairs lead up to the second floor and to the right a massive living room greets them with a fireplace. On the left two glass doors reveal a library full of bookshelves with a door to the wrap around porch.

INT. RANCH - KITCHEN - DAY

The kitchen is big enough to hold a twelve seating table. It is surrounded by windows that reach the ceiling and looks out to a grand patio. The pasture behind the house span miles to the surrounding Smoky Mountains.

John holds up a bottle of champaign.

JOHN

I am so honored to be a part of
this adventure with y'all.

LOLA

Oh, you big blubbering boob. Are
you gonna open that bottle or what.

JOHN

Hold on you greedy old lush.

Group breaks out into laughter.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I know that your spirit.
(points the bottle to
Kelsea)
Your wisdom
(points to Lola)
Your innocence
(points to Lilah)
Your experience
(points to Cat)
And your heart
(points to Ronnie)
Will help so many women and change
their world forever. I am proud to
be the first to say welcome home to
Domestic Relocation.

John pops the cork off the champaign. The group cheers with
tear soaked laughter.