

Peter Side 1

START

PETER. Her old school would take her back in a heartbeat.

CALLIE. Her old school, but she —

PETER. But — I mean we have no idea when she'll be able to go back to work — or *if*. The doctors can't say. There could be permanent ... she'll need rehabilitation, maybe home care —

CALLIE. I know.

PETER. She needs her family. And they need to take care of her. *(Silence.)* ... There was a response.

CALLIE. Excuse me?

PETER. The doctor. He said Sara responded to — he told her to squeeze his hand and she ... squeezed.

CALLIE. She did?

PETER. Yeah.

CALLIE. She did!

PETER. Fucking A.

CALLIE. Amazing!

PETER. I thought you'd want to know. *(Callie looks him in the eye.)*

CALLIE. Thank you. *(Pause.)* Sara ... Sara told me ... nice things ... about you — so many ... *(Pause.)*

PETER. She didn't tell me about you. *(Callie looks down.)* She said you were a friend. *(Pause.)*

CALLIE. I am her friend. *(Pause.)*

PETER. And that you knew good restaurants to go to — *(He looks at Callie.)* That's all Sara told me about you.

CALLIE. I see.

PETER. Sara and I —

CALLIE. She told me. *(Pause.)*

PETER. We lived together for —

CALLIE. Yes. *(Pause.)*

PETER. I still —

CALLIE. Yes. *(Pause.)*

PETER. I'd like — I'd like you to tell me what happened that night. *(Silence. Peter waits long enough to figure out Callie's not going to answer.)* Please. *(Slight pause.)*

CALLIE. I'm sorry.

PETER. What.

CALLIE. I can't.

PETER. Why can't you? *(Slight pause.)*

CALLIE. Everything you need to know has been in the papers, on the TV —

PETER. I've seen the newspapers and the TV.

CALLIE. Then you know every —

PETER. No, I don't know everything. I know what *time* it happened, I know *where* and I know that you were there. And now you're here and *Sara* is in there. That's the part I want to know about. Why is *she* in there.

CALLIE. I wish it was me but it isn't.

PETER. Why isn't it? (*Callie doesn't respond.*) Were you hurt?

CALLIE. You don't know what fucking happened.

PETER. Tell me! (*Callie doesn't answer.*) Why couldn't you protect her?

CALLIE. He was big, he was stronger — I tried —

PETER. How big?

CALLIE. I *tried*.

PETER. Bigger than me? (*Callie turns away from him.*) Could I have — (*He turns her back.*) Was he bigger than me?

CALLIE. No! (*Peter steps back. Slight pause.*)

PETER. Why was she protecting you? (*Callie keeps her eyes on his but doesn't answer.*)

END

SCENE THIRTEEN

Callie's apartment. The phone rings. Her machine picks up. Callie runs in from the bedroom and picks it up.

CALLIE. Hello? (*Dial tone sounds over the speaker. She hangs up. She hovers over the phone for a moment. She jerks the receiver up to her ear, dials a few numbers, then abruptly hangs up. She stares at the phone. She picks up the phone, dials seven numbers, then hangs up. She picks up the phone and places it on the floor in front of the sofa.*) Caesar, please? Come on, you've known her longer than I have. I'll dial her number for you. Tell her I — tell her I thought about —