HOW TO COMMIT FRAUD

Written by

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1 MONTAGE

1

We see a montage of television news reports. All reporting on the rise of identity theft and bank fraud as the fastest growing crimes in America...

Intercut with establishing shots of Miami.

2 INT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - DAY

2

Credits roll...

We see RAHEEM (Male 20's) on his computer and credit card encoding machine. He is making counterfeit credit cards.

KELLY (Female 20's) enters the room. We follow Kelly as she walks to the door and lets her friend NIKKI (Female 20's) in. The two women exchange hugs. Raheem enters the room and leaves the apartment with the two girls.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. MALL - DAY

3

Raheem's car pulls into the parking lot of the mall. Raheem gives each of the girls several of the counterfeit credit cards. They all exit the vehicle.

CUT TO:

4 EXT. MALL - SAME DAY

4

We see the group exit the mall, each with their hands full of shopping bags. They load the bags into Raheem's car and pull off.

CUT TO:

5 INT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - SAME DAY

5

Kelly, Raheem and Nikki are in the living-room dividing their merchandise. Kelly collects the counterfeit credit cards from Nikki and puts them on the table. Raheem puts his cards on the table as well, simultaneously taking a card off the top of the cards Kelly put on the table. When Raheem is sure Kelly isn't paying attention, he smoothly slides Nikki the card. The two exchange a quick look.

Nikki then picks up her share of the merchandise, says her good-byes to the couple and exits the apartment.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. MALL - DAY

6

We see Nikki's car enter the parking lot of the same mall the group just 'hit'. Nikki exits her vehicle and enters the mall.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. MALL - DAY

7

We see Nikki being escorted out of the mall in handcuffs by DETECTIVE ROSS and DETECTIVE JACOBS and put into a police car. She is in tears.

CUT TO:

8 INT. POLICE INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

8

Nikki is being interrogated by the detectives. They have the counterfeit credit cards, store receipts and merchandise spread out on the table in front of her.

The detectives are all over Nikki, she succumbs to the pressure. She gives them the names and address of her accomplices Kelly and Raheem.

CUT TO:

9 INT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - DAY

9

Kelly and Raheem are in the living room. They are joined by several 'CUSTOMERS' who are examining the merchandise and paying for items they choose. As one of the 'Customers' opens the front door to leave...

Miami PD comes storming into the house with guns drawn. Seconds later the house is filled with police who order everyone on the floor, face down. The police raid is led by the two Detectives that just arrested Nikki. They take Raheem and Kelly into custody.

FADE TO:

10 SUPER 10

HOW TO COMMIT FRAUD

FADE TO:

11 INT. COUNTY JAIL - DAY

11

A couple days after their arrest, Raheem is escorted to the visiting area of the jail. His sister KAREEMA (Female 20's) has come to pay him a visit. The two greet each other.

KAREEMA

What's up big brother, you alright?

RAHEEM

Yeah I'm good, considering.

KAREEMA

Yeah, we have to get you out of here. \$50,000 cash bond? Damn that's high, they going hard with the charges on y'all. What the hell happened?

RAHEEM

I'm still tryin' to figure that out myself. Right now all I know is that my door got kicked in by Miami PD and the warrant they had was legit. Exactly how they knew what I was doing...

Raheem just shrugs his shoulders.

KAREEMA

Yeah that's crazy, it don't make sense right now but once your lawyers start gettin' discovery and all that other shit, you'll have a better picture. I mean, I ain't no jailhouse lawyer or nothin', but I think they gotta tell you what information they used to get the warrant in the first place. (Beat) And your crib was dirty too, huh?

RAHEEM

Dirty as a ma' fucker. That's why our bail is so damn high. They got blank cards, used cards, stolen cards, the equipment that I use to code the cards... Raheem just shakes his head at the thought of the treasure of criminal conduct that the Miami PD now had in their possession.

RAHEEM (CONT'D)

And I don't even want to think about all the shit they gonna get off that computer.

KAREEMA

Damn.

That's the only response Kareema can muster.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

Well you know I'll do what I can to help out. Right now, I have 40 thousand dollars in my little stash. Zoe and Brittany are gonna let me borrow the other 10. So I should be back here no later than tomorrow morning to bail you out.

To Kareema's surprise Raheem does not seem at all happy about the thought of coming home.

RAHEEM

I appreciate it sis. But here's what you can do. Go pass my crib. Look in Kelly's closet. It's a glass jewelry box. Take whatever's in there to the pawn shop and cash it in. Then, add that to the money you already have, it should be enough for bail. At least this way you don't have to take money from your homegirls.

Kareema agrees.

RAHEEM (CONT'D)

But listen Kareema, when you get the money I don't want you to bail me out. I want you to use the money to get Kelly out first.

Kareema is taken aback.

KAREEMA

What? Rah no, I understand that's your girl and I know it's messed up that she's in here with you but ain't no way I'm taking my entire little stash and bailin' some bitch out...

Raheem cuts her off.

RAHEEM

She ain't just 'some bitch'
Kareema. And it's my fault she in
there. She was just out here tryin'
to pay her way through school. I
put her on to this.

Kareema is not convinced.

KAREEMA

Raheem, these are some serious ass charges you facin'. You need to get outta here, stack your money while you fight this case. So at least you'll be prepared if it don't end in your favor and you have to do some time. I know you're a loyal nigga but...

Raheem cuts her off again, and looks her directly in her eyes.

RAHEEM

Just get Kelly out sis, that's all I need you to do right now, please.

Kareema slumps back in her seat, knowing she cannot changed her brother's mind once its made up.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. COUNTY JAIL - DAY

12

We see Kelly exit the jail and approach Kareema's car. She gets into the passenger seat.

CONTINUOUS

13 INT. KAREEMA'S CAR - DAY

13

Kelly gives Kareema a hug when she gets in. Kareema drives off.

KAREEMA

Welcome home jailbird.

Kareema jokes, trying to loosen Kelly up a bit.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

You hungry? Wanna stop and get something to eat?

KELLY

Nah. I just want to go home and take a shower. I smell like jail.

Kelly is thankful for Kareema's help.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Thanks tho' Kareema. Thanks for everything.

KAREEMA

You're welcome but to tell the truth, I'll do anything for my brother and gettin you out is what he wanted me to do. So you should be thankin him instead of me. (Beat) Hopefully they'll lower his bail when y'all go to court in a coupla days. \$50,000 is hard to come by these days. I mean, I've got a few things lined up but nothin' that'll amount to 50 racks.

Kelly realized that Kareema is just as affected by their arrest.

KELLY

Yeah he definitely needs to come home asap. I don't really feel good about leaving him in there right now. (Beat) But don't get yourself in no trouble Kareema. Raheem would be stressed out even more if he knew you caught a case tryna bail him out.

KAREEMA

Nah, I'm not about to be reckless or nothin'.

Kelly is glad to hear that, she seemingly genuinely cares about Kareema's well being too.

KELLY

Good. But I need to get on the grind too, so let me know if you have anything that I can get into. That is, anything that's not too risky.

Kareema thinks about it for a second.

KAREEMA

You know what? I might, I just might have some work you can do. Let me talk to my girls, I'll give you a call and let you know alright?

KELLY

Cool. In the mean time... Do you still mess with that dude that runs the G Spot?

KAREEMA

Who Jay? Yeah we still kick it every now and again. Why you ask?

KELLY

Well, I was thinkin' maybe you could talk to him about lettin' me work. You know, just so I can have some type of funds comin in.

Kareema is not sure about Kelly's plan.

KAREEMA

I don't know Kelly. Maybe you should talk to Raheem about it first. Do you think he'll be cool with you workin' at the club?

Kelly is a little taken aback. She did not expect any resistance from Kareema.

KELLY

First of all Kareema, Me and your brother met while I was workin at the club. And what you think, he ain't gon' wanna get bailed out cause the money came in singles from the strip club?

Kareema manages to smile at the rhetorical question.

KAREEMA

That's not what I meant. I'm just sayin', who gonna watch your back when you leave the club every night with a pocket full of money and a bunch of horny niggas waitin for you in the parking lot? With my brother not being here you don't have nobody to hold you down. That's all I'm sayin'.

Sensing that Kareema's concern is genuine, Kelly cools her tone. But she is still firm in her plans.

KELLY

I feel that and I appreciate your concern, I do, but I can take care of myself.

KAREEMA

I know, I know you can.

Kareema thinks of a compromise.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

How about this, I'll call Jay and tell him to let you work the bar for now. At least that way you'll be a little more low key in there. Alright?

Kelly gets a little agitated.

KELLY

No that's not alright. I'll make way more dancin' than I ever could workin the bar. And if I'ma be in a club all night wit a bunch of horny niggas, then I want to get paid for it. Nevermind though, I'll take care of it myself.

The girls continue their drive in an uncomfortable silence.

CUT TO:

14 INT. UNMARKED POLICE CAR - DAY

14

We see DETECTIVE WRIGHT (Male 20's), a five year veteran but he only recently made detective. He exits a branch of the Miami Department of Motor Vehicles and takes the passenger seat of the unmarked police car. His partner, DETECTIVE GARRETT (Male 30's) a more seasoned veteran, is in the drivers seat eating a sandwich. He offers Detective Wright a bite.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

No thanks. Well, you were right. The ID used in the bank scam was a real ID. According to our friends here at the DMV a young lady presented all the necessary documents and obtained a state ID under the name of Tasha Murrell at the 22nd avenue location. Now what?

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Well, now we go tell the captain we have to make a trip to Atlanta Georgia. Can you say, overtime?

Detective Wright is only concerned with the case, he could care less about the overtime, which seems to be all his partner lives for.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

So we're going to drive all the way up to Atlanta to talk to Tasha Murrell about a scam we know she didn't do?

DETECTIVE GARRETT

And exactly how do we know she didn't do it?

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

Because the real Tasha Murrell has a Drivers License issued by the state of Georgia, which I pulled this morning while you were having your breakfast donuts. And that photo does not match the photo I just pulled from the Miami DMV.

He shows his partner the two pictures. We see that one of the pictures is of Brittany, who is far prettier than Tasha, not to mention white. Detective Garrett finds the striking difference amusing.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Good work Detective. But answer me this, did the Florida Tasha Murrell use fake documents to obtain her state issued ID?

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

No. The Birth Certificate and social security card she presented were authentic according to the DMV agent I spoke with.

DETECTIVE GARRETT
Hmm. And did the Georgia Tasha
Murrell report her identity stolen?

DETECTIVE WRIGHT
There are no reports in Miami or
Atlanta, no.

DETECTIVE GARRETT
Hmm. Then how or where did the
Florida Tasha Murrell get those
authentic documents?

Detective Wright doesn't bother to answer, he realizes that his partner is a couple steps ahead of him, as usual. By the smug look on his face Detective Garrett realizes it too.

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D) So... we have to go to Georgia to question the Georgia Tasha Murrell to see if she can tell us how the Florida Tasha Murrell got hold of her paperwork... Overtime!

DETECTIVE WRIGHT So do you think it's a crew from Georgia workin' Miami or a Miami crew just got their hands on some profiles from Georgia?

Detective Garrett ponders the question.

DETECTIVE GARRETT We shall see partner... we shall see.

CUT TO:

15 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

15

ZOE (Female 20's) is in her living room with her friends and partners in crime, BRITTANY (White Female 20's) and Kareema. Kareema just walked in. Zoe hands Kareema an envelope.

KAREEMA

What's this?

ZOE

That's me and Brittany's \$10,000 contribution to the 'Free Raheem Fund'.

Kareema is touched.

KAREEMA

That's whats up. See that's why I only mess wit real bitches like y'all.

BRITTANY

We know how hard you ride for your brother, we just wanted to show you that we ride hard for you.

Kareema gives Brittany a hug.

ZOE

Why the hell is his bail so high anyway? They must've found a bunch of shit in the house huh?

KAREEMA

Yeah, they caught them dirty.

BRITTANY

Still \$50,000 cash bail? I've seen murderers get a lower bail than that. With our ten, do you have enough to get him out?

KAREEMA

I would have, but this pussy whooped ass nigga made me get Kelly out first. Now I have to start all over again from dollar one. They go back to court in a coupla days tho'. His lawyer is sure he can get a bail reduction. I hope so, my stash is depleted...

ZOE

What about this Kelly? She helpin out?

KAREEMA

She ain't really in no position to help. Her and my brother lived together so whateva stash she had got snatched in the raid too.

(MORE)

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

And she was out here goin' to school so it's not like she got family or a network out here.

(Beat)

She did ask if she can roll with us to make some moves. I told her that I needed to check with y'all.

BRITTANY

If you say she's cool and you trust her, its alright with me.

ZOE

Do you trust her?

Kareema thinks about it for a second.

KAREEMA

Her and my brother only been together for a few months so...

ZOE

What's a few months?

KAREEMA

Six or Seven...

Both Brittany and Zoe's facial expressions reveal an unspoken distrust for the situation.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

But she's been holdin' my brother down. So yeah, I trust her.

Zoe isn't all the way sold. But she remains silent. Brittany speaks up.

BRITTANY

Well, if you vouch for her then that's all that matters.

Brittany starts to get up.

BRITTANY (CONT'D)

Zoe, it's about that time. Can I use your computer?

ZOE

About that time for what? Oh, yeah. Go ahead, you can use the laptop in my room.

Brittany skips to the bedroom and leaves Zoe and Kareema alone in the living room. Kareema isn't sure about what just happened so she probes Zoe.

KAREEMA

Time for what?

ZOE

Time for her to skype with her 'Boo'.

KAREEMA

Oh yeah, that's right. Sergeant Dillon. Is that nigga in Afghanistan or Alcatraz? He been gone a long ass time.

ZOE

I know, right?

They share a laugh at Brittany's expense. Brittany yells down from the bedroom.

BRITTANY

Y'all know I can hear y'all right?

CUT TO:

16 INT. FORWARD OPERATING BASE AFGHANISTAN - NIGHT

16

Staff Sergeant Dillon is in the computer area for the soldiers' use. We see he is talking to Brittany via skype.

DILLON

Hey Baby. How're you doing? You look good enough to eat.

Dillon licks his lips. Brittany fails at trying to seem unfazed, she blushes.

BRITTANY

What's up honey? I'm doin' fine. Can't wait 'til you come home.

DILLON

Neither can I. How's your mom?

Dillon does not want to broach the subject of him coming home. It causes Brittany to get too emotional.

BRITTANY

She's fine.

DILLON

That background doesn't look familiar. Where are you? I know you're not talkin' to me while you're chillin at Jody's house?

Dillon jokes.

BRITTANY

Who the heck is Jody?

DILLON

Jody is a nickname for any guy who messes with a man's girl when he's away.

BRITTANY

Oh. Well no I'm not at Jody's house and never been to Jody's house either so don't worry about that. I'm at Zoe's.

DTT:T:ON

You better not be at Jody's. They give us big guns to carry. (Dillon jokes) How are your 'partners' Zoe and Kareema anyway?

BRITTANY

They're good. I'll tell them you said hi.

DILLON

Do that. And listen, you be careful out there you hear?

They share a knowing smile. She understands him and he understands her.

CUT TO:

17

17 INT. APARTMENT OF TASHA MURRELL - DAY

Tasha Murrell's (Black female 20-30, homely) apartment is unkept. The apartment is loud with young children, close in age, playing and/or fighting, it's hard to tell which. There is a knock on the door and Tasha yells at the children to be quiet as she answers the door.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT
Hello Ma'am. My name is Detective
Wright from the Miami Police
Department Fraud Unit.
(MORE)

DETECTIVE WRIGHT (CONT'D) (Showing his badge) This is my partner Detective Garrett.

Not expecting police detectives, Tasha was caught off guard but quickly recovers.

TASHA MURRELL

What's this about?

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

May we come in Ma'am?

Tasha hesitates. Detective Garrett speaks up, the "Good Cop".

DETECTIVE GARRETT

It will only take a few moments of your time Miss Murrell. If my partner goes beyond that, I promise to drag him out of here myself.

Tasha stands aside so the detectives can enter her apartment. Still in Good Cop mode, Garrett greets the children and starts to ask them their names and ages. Tasha interrupts.

TASHA MURRELL

What's this about?

Det. Garrett takes over the questioning. To start, he pulls out the photo of Brittany.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Do you know this woman?

Tasha looks at the photo, trying to keep her poker face on. Even though the truth is she does not actually know the woman in the photo.

TASHA MURRELL

No.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Have you ever seen her before?

TASHA MURRELL

No.

That was Tasha's first lie but she was feeling good about her poker face. Detective Garrett extends the photo to her.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Here is a copy of an ID issued to her by the state of Florida. Take a look at it Miss Murrell. Notice anything? Tasha takes the photo out of his hand and gives it a good look. Still trying desperately to maintain her poker face, she gives the answer she knows he's looking for.

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... She has the same name as me.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

That's right. Notice anything else?

Tasha is starting to sweat, the poker face is not holding up.

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... She's white, um she has the same birthday as me too.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Right again.

Detective Garrett is starting to sound like a game show host, intentionally.

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

Another woman with the EXACT same name AND birthday as you? It could all be some kind of weird coincidence. What do you think?

Tasha shrugs her shoulders, careful to say as little as possible. Here comes "Bad Cop".

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

Ms. Murrell it's not a coincidence at all. We checked with the DMV in Florida and it appears this woman presented your Birth Certificate, Social Security Card and other authentic documents to obtain this ID in your name. Do you have any idea how she may have obtained these documents?

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... no...

No more poker face. Detective Wright smells blood.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

Are you sure? You have no idea how this lady might've gotten ahold of all your documents? Do you have your Birth Certificate and Social Security card here right now? Can we see them?

Detective Wright bluffs the question.

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... no... I don't have them, because well.. A coupla months ago I lost my purse when I was in Miami on South Beach. Maybe she found it and used my stuff.

DETECTIVE GARRETT You lost your purse on South Beach?

TASHA MURRELL

Uh huh.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT Did you report the missing items to the police?

TASHA MURRELL

Umm, no.

DETECTIVE GARRETT So have you obtained new documents to replace the lost ones?

The set up question.

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... no. I'm going to but I just been busy and I didn't really need them yet.

DETECTIVE GARRETT You didn't need them to get a new license?

Tasha is confused.

TASHA MURRELL

Huh? A new license?

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Yeah. You said you lost your purse so didn't you need to get a new drivers license. And you're on County too right, so didn't you need to get a new EBT card for your food stamps?

Tasha understands now, she never saw the trap coming but she knows she needs to wiggle out of it now.

TASHA MURRELL

Oh, oh. No I didn't need to do that 'cause that stuff wasn't in my purse when it got jacked.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Jacked? As in somebody robbed you and snatched your purse or you just mean you left it somewhere and somebody found it?

TASHA MURRELL

No I mean I lost it, left it somewhere. But umm, wasn't nothing in my purse but those papers. My EBT card and drivers license was in another purse.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Really? So just so I'm clear here. You lost your purse BUT, just so happens the day you lose your purse you only carried your Birth Certificate and Social Security card. LUCKILY you had your EBT card and Drivers License in another purse that you left at home, even though you drove to South Beach all the way from Atlanta. Is that right?

TASHA MURRELL

Umm.. Yea.

Her answer was barely a whisper. She is starting to sweat, both figuratively and literally. Detective Garrett saves her.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

OK, I think that's all we need for now. Thank you very much for your time Ms. Murrell, you've been very helpful. We may need to speak with you again so we'll be in touch. In the meantime...

Detective Garrett pulls a card from his pocket and hands it to Tasha.

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

If you remember anything about your
trip to South Beach that might help
us find the person who stole... um
I mean found your purse.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

Please give me a call right away. Thanks again.

TASHA MURRELL

Okay, I will.

Tasha exhales in relief as the detectives walk out of the apartment after what seemed like an eternity. She watches them from the window. When they drive off, she picks up her cell phone and dials.

CUT TO:

18 INT. STRIP CLUB - DAY

18

Kelly is in the club getting a crash course on rules from the HOUSE MOTHER. One of the club's dancers RHONDA (Black female 20's sexy) has just entered the club. She sees Kelly, makes a B-Line for her and immediately start babbling.

RHONDA

Hey Kels! What's up girl, long time no see! They told me you was going to start working here tonight. I have to say I was a little surprised, I thought you hung up your stilettos six months back, when you got with that fine ass nigga Raheem. Anyway, this place is cool, the fuckin' tip out is way too high though. But I'll give you the lay of the land before the night starts so you'll know who to stay away from and who it's OK to fuck wit'. A good rule of thumb though... don't trust none of these Bitches.

Rhonda chuckles at her own perceived wit.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

I heard about the raid on your house. Is everything okay? Did Raheem get out yet?

Kelly knows Rhonda is mostly being nosey so she keeps her answers short and sweet.

KELLY

Yeah, yeah. Everythings good. But nah, Rah is still in.

Rhonda continues her probe, unfazed by the short and sweet answers.

RHONDA

I heard they caught y'all red handed with all kinds of fake credit cards 'n shit.

KELLY

Really? That's what you heard?

RHONDA

Yeah. You know how the streets be talkin'. I heard y'all had a nice little operation going too. So that's how you stayed in 'dem Red Bottoms and kept all the latest Gucci bags huh? I gotta say girl, I'm kinda mad that you was making moves like that and didn't put me down. I thought we was cool.

Kelly isn't sure if she is joking or not. So she doesn't respond.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

Anyway, I got something lined up and I need some help. If you need to make a quick thousand dollars to help bail your man out...

Rhonda lets the question hang. It worked, Kelly's interest is piqued. For the first time she gives Rhonda her full attention.

KETITY

Yeah, I could use the money. What you got lined up?

RHONDA

Well last night these ballas was in here. I was kickin it with one of them and he told me that they're throwin a party for his brother tomorrow, cause he goin' ova seas to play ball in Italy or Spain or some shit, all I know is that it ain't the NBA and it ain't in the USA. Plus he gettin' married so it's like a going away slash bachelor party. Anyway, he said he'll pay three G's if I get some girls to come dance for the party. (MORE)

RHONDA (CONT'D)

So I figured we can get one or two of these basic bitches in here, make them do all the heavy liftin', pay them a couple hundred dollars each and me and you can split the rest.

Kelly starts working all the angles in her mind.

KELLY

How long we have to be there?

RHONDA

I told him like two hours max. But me and you can leave early and let the other girls stay. That way they get most of the tips, so the money'll balance out. Well, not really but so what.

KELLY

You gonna have security for us?

RHONDA

(agitated)

Security? For what? That's just more money out of my pocket... our pocket. These dudes ain't even like that anyway. They 'bout to go ova seas and play ball. It ain't like they some crazy thugs from Liberty City or somethin'.

KELLY

Rhonda how the heck you know if they crazy or not? Didn't you just say you met them last night? You know what... Nah, I'm cool 'cause you trippin'. I'm not about to let you get me caught up in some bullshit, I'll pass.

RHONDA

You gonna pass cause I won't bring an army of security? Alright, how about I get Big Mike to come with us, would that make you feel safe?

Rhonda gestures to BIG MIKE one of the club security guards on duty. He is big and burly. Kelly thinks about it briefly, her better judgment says pass but she decides to do it anyway.

KELLY

I'ma need my money up front as soon as I get there Rhonda.

CUT TO:

19 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

19

Zoe's cell phone rings. She walks over to the kitchen counter to answer it. We see Brittany re enter from the bedroom after finishing her skype session with Dillon.

ZOE

Hello.

INTERCUT

20 INT. APARTMENT OF TASHA MURRELL - DAY

20

Tasha is still at her window, as if the detectives will return.

TASHA MURRELL

Hey Zoe. This is Tasha.

ZOE

What's up Tasha. You must've ran through that money already.

TASHA MURRELL

Huh? No. Well, yeah I did but that's not why I'm callin'. Dem boyz just left my house.

ZOE

What boys? What're you talkin' about?

TASHA MURRELL

You know, DEM BOYZ.

Zoe catches on that she means the police.

ZOE

For real? What did they want? Did they have on uniforms or plain clothes?

TASHA MURRELL

Plain clothes.

ZOE

And they was from Miami?

TASHA MURRELL

They said they was from Miami PD Fraud Unit.

ZOE

Oh shit, so what did they say?

TASHA MURRELL

They just showed me a picture of that white girl you be with. And asked me if I knew who she was and how she got my stuff. Of course I said I didn't know but... I don't think they believed me.

ZOE

Why don't you think they believed you? They don't know who you know.

TASHA MURRELL

Yeah... but I was nervous as hell. My poker face was wack.

ZOE

You trippin' Tasha. All you have to do is stick to your story that you lost your purse when you went to South Beach a coupla months ago and show them the police report you filed when you was here...

TASHA MURRELL

Well umm, that's the thing... I umm never did the police report thing like you told me to.

ZOE

What?! Why the hell not Tasha?

TASHA MURRELL

I know, I know I messed up. But after you gave me the money I took the kids shoppin', then we chilled on the beach all day, then it was late, and I had to drive all the way back to Georgia and I was tired...

ZOE

What do you mean, 'you was tired'. That's what I paid you for Tasha, shit! So did you at least get a new drivers license and EBT card when you got back to Georgia like I told you?

TASHA MURRELL

Umm... no. Sorry Zoe. I messed up bad huh?

Zoe sighs, she can't believe what she is hearing. She feels a headache coming on.

ZOE

Yes Tasha you messed up, you messed up big. Think about it Tasha, how can you say you lost some shit that you walkin' around with? Now we might have to burn the ID and walk away from everything we spent the last month settin up.

Tasha is angry with herself.

TASHA MURRELL

Damn, damn. My bad Z. I know I messed up but... umm... does this mean I don't get the other two thousand dollars you promised me?

Zoe looks at the phone in disbelief. Then burst out in laughter in spite of herself.

ZOE

You jokin' right? Tell me you just jokin'. Not only did I give you two thousand up front, but we spent another couple thousand dollars setting everything up. Now you askin me to give you another two G's, all for some shit that we can't use cause you made it hot. You can't be serious.

TASHA MURRELL

But I don't understand, why you can't still use it? They don't have a clue who your girl is. That's why they came all the way up here to Georgia asking me questions.

(MORE)

TASHA MURRELL (CONT'D)

It ain't like they got warrants out for her or something, how could they when they don't even know her name?

ZOE

Tasha, please you givin' me a headache right now. You don't know nothin' about what we do. We can't use that ID no more and that's that. So I hope you didn't spend all that money cause ain't no more comin'. Not from me anyway.

INTERCUT

21 INT. APARTMENT OF TASHA MURRELL - DAY

21

Tasha looks around her apartment at all the shopping bags and new toys from her most recent shopping spree. She thinks for a moment, trying to figure out a way to stay in the game.

TASHA MURRELL

What if I help you get another ID?

This piques Zoe's interest.

ZOE

What you mean?

TASHA MURRELL

My homegirl Stacey, I'll get her to let you use her info. You just pay her and she'll take care of me. That way y'all got fresh paper to work wit'.

This doesn't sound like a bad fix, it actually calms Zoe down a bit.

INTERCUT

22 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

22

ZOE

Maybe, maybe... Let me talk to my girls and you check with your friend Stacey to see if she's with it.

(MORE)

ZOE (CONT'D)

But make sure you explain to her everything she needs to do so there are no misunderstandings.

TASHA MURRELL

Don't worry, this time I'ma stay on top of it. I'ma take her to the police station to file the police report myself.

Zoe and Tasha hang up. Zoe turns to Kareema and Brittany.

ZOE

Y'all ain't gonna believe this shit...

CUT TO:

23 INT. UNMARKED POLICE CAR - DAY (NIGHT)?

23

Detectives Garrett and Wright are driving in their police car after leaving Tasha's apartment.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

Ole Miss Tasha Murrell was sweatin' bullets and you go and let her off the hook. If we would have rode her for a few more minutes she would have cracked like a raw egg. At least that would have made the ten hour drive worth it.

DETECTIVE GARRETT
I don't know about you but I drove
ten hours for the overtime!
(beat) Yeah your girl
Tasha is the worst liar.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT
She definitely knows more than
she's puttin on. Did you see all
the shoppin bags layin around? She
doesn't work, she's on public
assistance and it ain't the first
of the month.

DETECTIVE GARRETT (sarcastically)
Good detective work. Whatever the deal is she's just a pawn.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

If you wanna get the detective of the year award, you need to get your hands on the sexy chick who's face is on that Florida ID.

Detective Wright lustfully looks at the photo one more time.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

I'd like to get more than my hands on her.

CUT TO:

24 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

24

Zoe brings them up to speed on the conversation she just had with Tasha.

BRITTANY

So basically, she took our money and didn't do shit you told her to. Now you wanna trust her again and drive all the way to Atlanta to get another profile from her?

KAREEMA

Gettin another profile don't really help the situation. If they goin door to door with Brit's picture, her face is gonna be too hot to just jump on another profile right now anyway. You know our rule, once shit gets hot, we chill.

ZOE

I know, I know. But we didn't even really eat yet... and we spent like how many thousand setting everything up? We can't just walk away without making any money.

BRITTANY

I don't think we need to burn it though. We should just get another profile and let that Kelly chick rock it. That way, we can still use mine when we hit. I mean, the way I see it we have like two choices. We can either chill for a while until shit cools down and just take the lost; or we can bring in the new chick and get our money.

KAREEMA

Chillin 'til shit cools down is not really an option for me right now... Zoe?

Zoe shrugs her shoulders.

ZOE

I'm ridin' wit' y'all...

CUT TO:

25

25 INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

-- 77

We see Kelly getting off of the hotel elevator. Her cell phone rings, it's Kareema.

KELLY

Hello.

KAREEMA

What's up Kelly? Where you at?

KELLY

At the Collins Hotel on South Beach, 'bout to do this bachelor party with Rhonda.

KAREEMA

With Rhonda?

KELLY

Yeah you know Rhonda that works at the club, she from Overtown...

Kareema does not try to hide her dislike.

KAREEMA

Yeah I know that scandalous ass hoe. Anyway listen, I have something real nice for you so I need to see you ASAP. What time will you be done there?

KELLY

In like an hour.

KAREEMA

Cool. I'ma text you my girl Zoe's address come thru as soon as you finish there, okay?

KELLY

Alright.

KAREEMA

Yo Kelly.

KELLY

Huh?

KAREEMA

Rhonda is a grimy chick, watch that bitch you hear?

CUT TO:

26 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

26

We see Rhonda in the room with Angie (mid 20's scantily clad stripper), the camera pans up from her stilettos to reveal all her sexiness. Angie is smoking a blunt, putting on make up and getting ready to perform for the group of men in the adjoining hotel room. We can hear the music blasting and the men laughing loudly. They are drunk already. Rhonda is in Angie's ear, we cannot hear what she is saying to her.

ANGIE

... As long as it's money involved, I'm down for whateva.

There's a knock on the door. Rhonda hands a stack of bills to Angie and moves toward the door.

RHONDA

This is \$300 for now, I'll give you the rest later tonight. Put it away and don't mention nothing to Kelly.

She lets Kelly in.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

Damn girl what took you so long? You're late.

Kelly does not respond. She notices Angie and the girls greet. Kelly sees that it's just the three of them in the room.

KELLY

So it's just the three of us? Where is Big Mike?

RHONDA

Huh?

KELLY

Big Mike. You said you was gonna have Big Mike here for security.

RHONDA

Oh, oh. Um, yeah he's here... he just um, he went to the vending machine to get us something to drink that's all... Come on girl get ready so we can get this ova and done wit'...

One of the men from the adjoining room comes into the girls room.

PEE MAN

Ladies! What's up? How much longer y'all gone be? We ready to get this party started!

He is loud, he is drunk. Worst of all he is licking his lips and grabbing his crotch. Kelly is disturbed. Rhonda quickly grabs him and ushers him back into the other room.

RHONDA

We almost ready honey, we'll be there in a coupla more minutes.

When he is gone Kelly addresses Rhonda.

KELLY

Yo Rhonda, these niggas sound drunk and rowdy. They don't think they're gettin' no pussy do they? I mean they know we just dancin' right?

That's Rhonda's cue to leave. She grabs Angie and start to head into the other room, trying to calm Kelly on her way out.

RHONDA

Chill out Kelly everything is cool. Me and Angie gonna get them started just hurry up and get dressed.

Kelly yells after her as she crosses over to the other room.

KELLY

When Big Mike gets back, I'll come over... And what's up with the money?

Rhonda and Angie hurry to the other room. Rhonda acts as if she did not hear Kelly's last question. We hear the men welcome their arrival.

Kelly changes into her performance costume. Just as she is putting the finishing touches on her make up Pee Man comes into the room with a bottle of champagne in one hand.

PEE MAN

Damn honey, what's taking your sexy ass so long? Why you gettin' all pretty? That shit is coming off anyway.

He reaches out to grab her. She resists and tries to guide him back into the other room, not wanting to be stuck with him alone.

KELLY

I'm just making sure shit is right but I'm coming now honey. You got two girls over there now...

PEE MAN

No, we PAID for two but its just one Bitch ova there and 'dem niggas got her covered.

Kelly doesn't like the sound of that. She goes over to the adjoining door calling out for the 'security' Big Mike. To her horror there is no Big Mike, no Rhonda and she sees Angie tangled in a threesome with Man 2 and Man 3.

KELLY

Mike! Mike!

PEE MAN

Mike? Who da fuck is Mike?

Pee Man puts his bottle on the hotel room table and starts to grab her more violently, his frustration building as his friends are having a good time and he is being left unattended.

Kelly tries to reason with the horny drunkard as he gropes her body.

KELLY

Wait! Wait! I was just suppose to dance at this bachelor party...

PEE MAN

Bachelor party? Bitch this ain't no fuckin' bachelor party.

(MORE)

PEE MAN (CONT'D)

Ain't nobody gettin' married in this mo' fucka'. I paid that bitch Rhonda for two Miami freaks that we can fuck all night. And I want my money's worth...

He starts pulling at her clothes. Kelly manages to get free but he is between her and the door. Realizing that she cannot over power him, she changes strategy.

KELLY

Listen, I don't know nothin about this. I thought I was dancin' at a bachelor party. I'm not with none of this freaky shit, I don't get down like that. It's just a little misunderstanding but I will make sure you get your money back. Every cent, I swear. But if you touch me again as soon as I get outta here I'm going straight to the police on some rape shit. Now, all you have to do to avoid any drama is go back in the room with your friends. Angie will take care of you she don't have no problem with this type shit, okay? So, please...

She inches her way towards the door. Pee Man's temper boils over.

PEE MAN

You fuckin' dirty bitch! You gon' cry rape on me!

He hits her and pushes her back in the corner, jumps on the bed, pulls out his penis and starts to urinate on Kelly.

PEE MAN (CONT'D)

Tell the police this, bitch! Go tell the police I R. Kellyed your stinky ass!

Kelly is mortified. For a second she is frozen and stunned. It seems as if the shower of urine is endless.

PEE MAN (CONT'D)

Slut, whore! I want my fuckin' money!

Kelly's only mission is to get out of the corner and leave the room without gettin urine sprayed in her face, a feat she is unable to accomplish. We see an extreme close up of a single drop of urine and follow it as it splashes into her mouth. She gets up in a trance and glides to the door.

PEE MAN (CONT'D)

I want my fuckin' money back you nasty bitch! Or I'ma pee on your ass every time I see you in the streets, you fuckin' cunt!

Pee Man follows her to the door with insults and urine, until she finally exits.

He zips up his pants, grabs his bottle of champagne off the table. We follow him to the other room where Man 2 and Man 3 have Angie in a new position. Pee Man walks over to the bed and joins in by pouring the remaining of his champagne onto Angie's breast.

CUT TO:

27 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

27

Kareema is in Zoe's kitchen pouring herself a glass of champagne. Zoe is in the back dressing. There is a knock on the door.

KAREEMA

That might be Kelly, want me to get it?

ZOE

(OS)

Yeah, answer it.

Kareema opens the door and sees Kelly with a weird look on her face. And she smells!

KAREEMA

Damn girl what happened to you?

Kelly walks into the apartment without answering. As soon as she crosses the threshold she breaks down in violent tears. Zoe comes running in to see what the commotion is about.

ZOE

What's wrong... what the hell is that smell?

CUT TO:

We see Angie leaving the hotel room, she looks worn out. As she's walking down the hall to the elevator she takes her cell phone out of her purse and calls Rhonda.

ANGIE

Yo, Rhonda. What's up, this Angie. Yo, your fuckin girl Kelly left me stranded. (Pause) Hell yeah. I had to serve all dem niggas myself, so whateva money you was 'pose to give her is mine.

CUT TO:

29 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

29

We see Kelly exiting the bathroom wrapped in a towel, fresh from a shower. She walks into the living-room and flops down on the couch with Zoe.

KETITY

That was the best shower I ever had in my life.

Zoe hands her a drink. Zoe is still trying to process the story that Kelly just told them.

ZOE

Damn Kelly, I couldn't imagine something like that happenin to me. That was some crazy shit right there, I'll give it to you though you handling it. I would be out of my mind right now.

KELLY

I have to stay focused right now, I don't have time for a mental breakdown.

ZOE

I feel you. But on some real shit, that Bitch Rhonda needs her ass beat for that shit. Them nigga's could have killed y'all up in there.

KELLY

Oh trust me, when I see her...

Kelly can't find the words to describe what she plans to do to Rhonda. She takes a sip of the alcohol to calm her nerves.

KELLY (CONT'D)

She is definitely gonna get hers. You know what tho'? I don't even want to think about that right now. Let's change the subject. Kareema said y'all got a move for me, I really need to get some money right now but I hope it ain't nothin too crazy. The last thing I need is to catch another case.

ZOE

Nah. We're extra careful with our shit. It's not that much different from what you and Raheem was doing we just have our shit a little more organized. First, me and you have to take a quick ride up to Atlanta in the morning. That will give me time to explain how everything works. So go home and get some rest, we'll roll out bright and early like 7 o'clock okay?

KELLY

Can we leave a little later, like around 11 or 12? Me and Raheem gotta go to court in the mornin'.

ZOE

Oh Okay. Then we'll leave at 11, just be ready to roll straight from the courthouse.

KELLY

Don't worry, I'll be ready.
I'm on a serious grind right now.
(Beat) On another note, do you have some sweats or something I can borrow to wear home?

ZOE

Yeah, I already put some stuff out for you on my bed. I hope that outfit you had on wasn't your favorite 'cause Kareema threw it away. KELLY

Please, even if it was my favorite I was gonna burn that shit. Where is Kareema anyway?

ZOE

She left when you were in the shower, said she had to take care of something.

CUT TO:

30 INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

30

Angie is still on the phone with Rhonda, she is now standing at the elevator bank waiting for the elevator.

ANGIE

...Well where are you now Rhonda? 'Cause I need to come pick up my money, I have shit to do...

Elevator One doors open and Angie enters it. As elevator one doors close on Angie, elevator Two doors open. We see Kareema exit.

Kareema starts to walk down the hall looking on the hotel room doors. She reaches the door that we saw Angie exit minutes ago.

Kareema reaches in her purse and pulls out an automatic handgun. She cocks it back releasing a round in the chamber. She knocks on the door.

A man opens the door. We cannot see him, only hear him.

MAN 2

Y'all bitches back for more?

Kareema unloads two shells in his chest. He falls to the floor.

KAREEMA

Yeah I want you to pee on me nigga...

She lets off another round as he lay on the floor.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

You like peein' on bitches right?

She lets off another round.

KAREEMA (CONT'D) Come on nigga pee on me...

She lets off two more rounds and heads back towards the elevator bank.

The hallway is filled with Kareema's gun smoke. The camera dollies down the hall towards the front door of the mayhem. Kareema is gone. All is quiet, as we approach we see a pair of Air Jordans with the toes pointing to the ceiling...

Out of nowhere a figure rushes out of the room, jumping over the lifeless body with the Air Jordans, out the emergency exit. He was moving fast but not fast enough for us to notice his face, it was Man 3. Suddenly a second figure comes rushing out of the room following Man 3 out the exit, its... Pee Man! Kareema shot the wrong man...

CUT TO:

31 EXT. MAIMI BEACH - DAY

31

It is the next day. We see Kelly in all her sexiness. She is jogging on the beach.

Montage of her taking a credit card from her back pocket and placing it on the top of the cards she got from Nikki on their last run, her secretly watching as Raheem slides Nikki the card, and finally the expression of anger and revenge on her face as Nikki hugs her good bye.

Kelly snaps out of her memories when her cell phone starts to ring. She retrieves it from her fanny pack, it's Raheem calling from jail.

KELLY

Damn, I was just thinkin' about you.

Raheem can hear the stress in her voice. Unbeknownst to him it's anger in her tone.

RAHEEM

What's wrong Kels? You alright?

KELLY

Yeah, I'm good. I was just joggin' on the beach. Gettin' a quick work out in. Tryin' to relieve some of this stress.

RAHEEM

Kels, babe, I don't want you
stressin'. Everything is goin' be
cool.

KELLY

Well then what was that bullshit in court this morning? They didn't even do nothin'.

RAHEEM

I know, I know. But that's how these things go sometimes babe. We just have to be patient and ride it out. I'm sure we gonna have a few more court dates where nothin' happens. It's all part of the game honey. Did you get a copy of the paperwork from the lawyer?

KELLY

Yeah! That bitch Nikki snitched! But how did she get one of your cards? I made sure I took them from her when we got home.

Kelly knows the answer. Just thought she'd turn the knife in his back a little.

RAHEEM

I think she boosted one before she left out the house that mornin'.

Kelly rolls her eyes although she didn't expect him to come clean. She just agrees and changes the subject.

KELLY

Yeah she probably did. But listen, I'm about to go to Atlanta today with your sister's girl Zoe.

RAHEEM

Oh yeah? For how long?

KELLY

Ouick turn around.

RAHEEM

OK. Come visit me when you get back so we can talk about what you're doin'. Be careful Kelly, alright? KELLY

I'm always careful. It's people like you and Nikki who need to heed that warning.

Raheem gets it. He knows Kelly knows something.

RAHEEM

I'm sorry Kelly. I'm goin' make this right.

CUT TO:

32 EXT. TASHA'S FRONT YARD - DAY

32

We see Tasha and her friend STACEY (late 20's - early 30's) standing on the streets. Tasha is giving her the rundown about the transaction they are about to get into.

TASHA MURRELL

I just got off the phone with my girl Zoe, she's on her way. So she's gonna give you \$1,000 when she get here and another \$1,000 later, in like a week. Just hit me with two fifty from your money today and five hundred when she pays you the rest.

Stacey is not happy with the arrangement.

STACEY

Damn Tasha, I gotta give you \$750 out of \$2,000? I mean, can I eat? Didn't you already make a move wit' her?

Tasha doesn't budge. She is offended that Stacey isn't more thankful for the hook up.

TASHA MURRELL

That ain't got shit to do wit' you. Really tho' you should be giving me half, since I'm the one puttin' this together for you. It ain't like I don't know thirty other people who I coulda called that would be happy to break me off with half. But since you my girl, I call myself tryin' to look out for you and you bitchin' ...

Tasha pulls out her cell phone.

TASHA MURRELL (CONT'D)

Ya know what, just forget it I'ma call my cousin in Decatur. I know she could use the money.

Stacey stops her before she can place the call. Tasha's bluff worked.

CUT TO:

33 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

33

Zoe arrives to pick up Kelly, she pulls in front of Kelly's apartment building. Kelly is waiting out front. She immediately gets into the passenger seat, the women greet.

ZOE

So how did court go?

KELLY

I couldn't tell you. We were in and out of there in like two seconds flat. All they did was schedule another date.

ZOE

Damn, well did they at least lower Raheem's bail some?

KELLY

Nope.

ZOE

Shit. Sorry to hear that Kelly. Is he alright?

KELLY

Yeah he's cool. I'm going through it more than he is.

ZOE

I know you must be, but you gotta stay focused Kelly. If you out in these streets doing shit you need to be on top of your game or you'll just make your situation worst. You feel me?

KELLY

I know, I know. I'm focused. That's one thing you don't have to worry about.

CUT TO:

34 INT. COUNTY JAIL - DAY

34

After waiting for what seemed like an eternity, Raheem is finally escorted into the visiting room of the county jail where his sister is waiting. The two embrace.

KAREEMA

What's up big bro? You alright?

RAHEEM

Yeah I'm cool. Sorry I took so long I was on the phone with Kelly when they called me for a visit.

KAREEMA

It's cool. Sorry I wasn't in court for y'all this morning. I had to clean up a mess from yesterday. What did I miss? What happened at court?

RAHEEM

You didn't miss nothin'. We were in and out of that courtroom in like 3 minutes flat. Anyway, all they did was schedule another court date for next month.

KAREEMA

So they didn't even lower your bail?

Raheem just shakes his head 'no'. He sees Kareema is crushed. He cannot console her because he is disappointed as well. All he can do is try to change the subject.

RAHEEM

So Kelly is on her way to Atlanta with Zoe? I didn't ask Kelly for no details 'cause I didn't want to talk on these jail phones. Are they making a move up there?

KAREEMA

Nah. They just pickin' up paperwork from some chick Zoe knows.

Raheem nods his approval, glad that Kelly is not 'making moves' so far away from home.

RAHEEM

Look out for her Kareema, she's stressin' about me bein' here more than I am. I don't want her to get caught up tryna' bail me out. And the same goes for you.

KAREEMA

Don't worry big bro, I ain't gonna let nothing happen to your bitch. Or your lil' sis'.

RAHEEM

She's not a...

Kareema, anticipating his response, helps finish his sentence.

KAREEMA

Not a bitch...

Kareema shakes her head and looks her brother in his eyes.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

I hope you're right about her.
'Cause you put a whole lot of faith
in this one.

Raheem returns the stare.

RAHEEM

She proved herself. It's my other bitch who couldn't be trusted.

KAREEMA

Nikki?

A light bulb goes off.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

So that's why you was so pressed for me to bail Kelly out. You feel guilty that the bitch you was cheatin' on her with is the reason she got booked...

Raheem doesn't confirm nor deny. He doesn't have to. His sister knows him well enough. He decides to just tell her the story.

RAHEEM

Today at court my lawyer gave me the paperwork for our case. And you were right. It had the police report and everything, just like you said.

Raheem continues to tell her the story. We cannot hear his words but we see Kareema listening intensely growing angrier at every word...

CUT TO:

35 EXT. TASHA'S FRONT YARD - DAY

35

Tasha and her friend Stacey are outside waiting for Zoe. We see Zoe pull up. Kelly is in passenger seat. Tasha gets up and turns to Stacey.

TASHA MURRELL

Stay here I'ma go talk to her first.

Tasha walks up to the drivers side of the car.

INTERCUT

36 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

36

Tasha sticks her head into the driver's side window to greet Zoe. She reaches in and hugs Zoe.

ZOE

This is my girl Kelly.

She gestures to Kelly. Tasha reaches across Zoe to extend her hand, AND to get a better look.

TASHA MURRELL

Kelly? Like R. Kelly?

Zoe laughs and Kelly smiles in spite of herself. Tasha misses the inside joke. While Kelly reaches to shake hands.

TASHA MURRELL (CONT'D)

Well... please to meet you.

Zoe stops laughing and gets to business.

ZOE

Let me see what you got Tasha?

Tasha reaches into her bags and retrieves the documents. She hands them to Zoe. After inspecting them under her cars visor light. She folds them neatly in her lap.

ZOE (CONT'D)

They look good. Call her over, let me talk to her.

Before doing as Zoe asked, Tasha wants to broach the subject of compensation.

TASHA MURRELL

Did you bring the money Zoe?

ZOE

(agitated)

Yeah of course. Don't worry Tasha, you gonna get \$2,000 tonight just like I said. Now call the girl over here so I can ask her some questions. I need to get my butt back to Miami.

TASHA MURRELL

It's not that Zoe, I don't want her to see you give me \$2,000... she don't know the price...

Zoe catches on that Tasha told Stacey a lower number.

ZOE

Oh my god Tasha, you want to rob the girl? I don't have time for this...

She reaches in her bag. She separates the money into two piles. She hands two stacks of bills to Tasha, who makes sure Stacey's view is shielded.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Here, that's two stacks of \$1000. Work wit' it. Now call the chick ova, please.

Tasha slips one stack in her purse discretely. Satisfied, she calls Stacey to the car, introduces her to Zoe and steps aside. The two ladies greet each other.

ZOE (CONT'D)

So, Stacey, you ever had a ID from any State other than Georgia?

STACEY

No.

No drivers license or nothin'?

STACEY

Nope.

ZOE

Okay, good. What about a bank account?

STACEY

In Georgia?

ZOE

Anywhere. Do you have one now?

STACEY

Yeah, I have a account at First State Bank. But that's it. I never had an account anywhere else.

ZOE

Do you use the bank account you have now?

STACEY

Yeah, I get direct deposit for my child support. It goes in there.

Zoe is satisfied with her answers.

ZOE

Okay, okay. Did Tasha explain everything to you? Did she tell you that you have to file a complaint, then go to the DMV?

STACEY

Yeah, she said I have to go to the police precinct tomorrow and report my purse stolen and get a police report. Then I go to the DMV and get a new Drivers License.

ZOE

Are you on any kind of public assistance, like do you get food stamps or anything?

STACEY

Yeah. I get food stamps? You need the EBT card?

No, but you need to throw the card away. Take some scissors and cut it up. The EBT card and your drivers license, put them in a plastic bag and throw it away, okay?

Stacey is a bit hesitant.

STACEY

Cut 'em up?

ZOE

Stacey listen, I know sittin in that welfare office and DMV all day is a pain, but that's what I'm paying you for so if you ain't wit' it...

STACEY

Na na, I'm wit' it. It's just that I got money left on my EBT card so if I have to cut it up now, it will take forever to get a new one...

ZOE

How much is on it?

STACEY

Like... \$55 or somethin'.

Zoe goes in her bag and pulls out a \$100 bill and hands it to her.

ZOE

Do you have your EBT card and your drivers license on you now?

STACEY

Yeah.

ZOE

Just give them to me, I'll get rid of them myself. That way I know for sure that it gets done.

STACEY

I just don't see why you gotta throw them away...

Zoe is losing patience with her but she decides it's best to give her a little explanation.

Because... later on if the police find out that you still have the same ol' card that you said was stolen, well then they know you were lying, right?

STACEY

Yeah, I guess.

Stacey reluctantly hands both ID cards to Zoe.

ZOE

Alright cool. I gave Tasha half of the money, I will drop the rest off early next week.

The women conclude their deal and say their good-byes. Zoe drives off.

CUT TO:

37 EXT. NIKKI'S FRONT DOOR - DAY

37

We see Nikki, she has her hands full with bags, returning from another shopping spree. She fumbles with her purse looking for the keys to her front door. As she inserts the key in the lock...

A shot to the head. Nikki never saw it coming. As her body falls lifeless to the ground, we see Kareema.

KAREEMA

Snitch ass bitch. Now run go tell 'em this...

She unloads another round into Nikki's already dead body.

CUT TO:

38 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

38

Kelly has the papers that Zoe just got from Stacey, she is examining them.

KELLY

This don't seem like identity theft to me. This is more like identity purchasin'.

Kelly's observation gets a chuckle out of Zoe.

KELLY (CONT'D)

I thought identity theft was taking someone's profile without them knowing. And using it to get credit cards n' shit like that?

ZOE

Yeah, that's the FICO.

KELLY

What's the FICO?

ZOE

Last year Brittany was workin' at the department store. When people would come in and apply for store credit, she would make a copy of their application. If we found out that the person had a good FICO score then we would get all kinds of credit cards in their name. We call that the FICO game.

KELLY

I get it. Your FICO score is your credit score.

ZOE

Exactly. The problem with playin' the FICO game is that you have to go through a dozen profiles before you find someone with a FICO score of 750 or higher. Then, you have to get fake ID's made in that name.

KELLY

So why did you ask Stacey if she had a license in another state and where she had a bank account? Why does all that matter to you?

ZOE

Well, I needed to know if she had an ID or license in another state because you are going to take her birth certificate and social security card to the DMV in Florida and get a state ID. If she already had one in Florida, all her info would still be on file, including her picture.

KETITY

But don't the Florida DMV need more than just your birth certificate and social security card?

ZOE

Yeah, they ask for some proof of address. But that's the easy part, all we do is go to any office supply store and get a blank lease agreement...

INTERCUT

39 INT. OFFICE SUPPLY STORE - DAY

39

We see Kelly in the office supply store. She finds the lease agreements and purchases one.

ZOE

(VO)

All you have to do is fill it out like a real lease agreement and present it to the DMV clerk.

INTERCUT

40 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

40

KELLY

What about the address? Do I just put any address on it?

ZOE

No, the address has to be legit because you're gonna wanna be able to get mail sent to that address. Plus when the address on your ID is your current mailing address it just makes everything more organized.

INTERCUT

41 INT. MAILBOX GIRL HOUSE - DAY

41

We see Zoe and Mailbox girl at the bank of mailboxes. Mailbox Girl opens her mailbox and gives the mail to Zoe who in turn, hands some cash to Mailbox Girl.

(VO)

At first, we would pay people to let us use their address. They would just call whenever any mail came.

INTERCUT

42 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

42

ZOE

The problem with that, when we finished doin' what we do and 'dem boys start comin' around askin' questions...

INTERCUT

43 INT. MAILBOX GIRL HOUSE

43

We see Detective Garrett and his partner talking to Mailbox Girl.

ZOE

(VO)

You have to hope and pray that the person who's mailbox it is don't snitch and tell them who you are.

INTERCUT

44 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

44

KELLY

What do they tell the police?
Because they can't deny that the
mail wasn't coming there, right?

ZOE

Right. I would tell them to just say that they met some woman who said she was homeless and she offered to pay to use her mailbox.

INTERCUT

45 INT. MAILBOX GIRL HOUSE - DAY

45

We see Detective Garrett with an unconvincing look on his face.

ZOE

(VO)

But that whole set up is too risky, so now we just rent an apartment and use that.

INTERCUT

46 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

46

KELLY

Yeah I can see how that would be better. It just costs more huh?

ZOE

Yeah, after all that first month and security deposit shit, we end up droppin' a couple G's just on that. But it's worth it. We don't have to trust no one with our freedom.

Kelly's expression says that she relates to that concern.

CUT TO:

47 EXT. TASHA'S FRONT YARD - DAY

47

We see Tasha and Stacey in the front yard.

TASHA MURRELL

So just go on down to the police station and file the report like she told you to. I'm gonna make a run to the mall right quick.

STACEY

I thought you said you was comin' wit' me?

TASHA MURRELL

Damn girl do I need to hold your hand? If I gotta baby sit you then you need to give me half the money.

Stacey decides that she can do it alone.

TASHA MURRELL (CONT'D)
Just give me a call when you leave
the police station so I can call
Zoe and let her know everything is
good.

Just like that Tasha is off. Leaving Stacey standing alone.

CUT TO:

48 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

48

Zoe and Kelly are still driving home from their trip to Atlanta. Zoe is still schooling Kelly.

KELLY

What about the Bank accounts? Why did you ask her if she had bank accounts?

ZOE

For two reasons. First, you're gonna use the ID you get in her name to open up bank accounts. So we don't want to go to a place where she banks already. And secondly, if she had said that she had accounts at different banks that were closed then her profile would not have been usable.

KELLY

Why not?

ZOE

Because the banks use something called Chexsystems.

KELLY

What's that?

ZOE

Well, let's say the bank closes your account because you bounced too many checks. After they close it they report it to Chexsystems. When you go to a different bank and try to open a new account, the new bank will run your name and social security number through Chexsystems...

49 INT. BANK - DAY

49

We see a BANK OFFICER at her desk with a customer.

BANK OFFICER

I'm sorry Ma'am. But our bank policy is that we will not open a new account for anyone with one or more incidents reported to Chexsystems...

ZOE

(VO)

The messed up part is Chexsystems will keep a file on you for like five years, even if you clear up whatever situation you had.

INTERCUT

50 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

50

KELLY

Yeah that is messed up. But even if everything comes back clean when they run it through Chexsystems, don't I need more than just the State ID to open a new account?

ZOE

Yeah you'll need more than just a State ID and social security card. Most banks ask for two forms of ID, the second one needs to be something like a credit card.

KELLY

Where will I get a credit card from?

INTERCUT

51 INT. CHECK CASHING STORE - DAY

51

We see the stores selection of pre-paid debit cards.

ZOE

(VO)

That's easier than you think. (MORE)

ZOE (CONT'D)

All you have to do is go to any check cashing place and get a prepaid debit card...

INTERCUT

52 INT. MAILBOX - DAY

52

We see Kelly opening the mailbox and sorting through the mail.

ZOE

(VO)

... They will give you a temporary card on the spot and send the permanent card with your name on it in the mail in like a week or two.

INTERCUT

53 INT. ZOE'S CAR - DAY

53

ZOE

Then just like that, BAM. You have two legitimate forms of ID. Notice the key word 'legitimate'. A lot of people in this game like to use fake ID's or they go to the DMV with fake paperwork. We don't rock like that.

KELLY

Why not? I mean, Raheem got a connect who can make ID's from any state you want. And they're good enough to get by just about anybody.

ZOE

I'm sure they were good for the department store clerk who asked for ID when you were using those fake credit cards. No offense, but what you are about to do is a little more sophisticated than that. After you get your ID and prepaid debit card, you're gonna start a business.

KELLY

Oh yeah? What kind of business?

That's up to you. What kind of business you want to have?

Kelly thinks about it for a second.

KELLY

Well, I always wanted to open my own shoe store. But I know you don't mean that I'm going to be actually selling shoes?

ZOE

Nah, we ain't here to make your entrepreneurial dreams come true bitch, we just here to get money.

The women share a laugh.

ZOE (CONT'D)

You're gonna start a business, not actually open one. But I'm gettin' ahead of myself, that's Brittany's department. She'll go over all that with you when we get back.

Kelly soaks in all the information she just received from Zoe.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Shoe store huh? You need to quit, your shoe game ain't even like that.

Zoe jokes.

KELLY

What?! Please, I got more red soles in my closet than the devil got in hell, bitch.

CUT TO:

54 INT. BRITTANY'S BEDROOM - DAY

54

Brittany is in her bedroom on skype with Dillon.

DILLON

This may be our last communication for a little while.

BRITTANY

What? Why? What's wrong?

DILLON

Nothin' is wrong baby, relax.

BRITTANY

Then why can't we talk anymore?

DILLON

I didn't say we can't talk anymore. All I said was that this will be our last communication for a little while. I have to leave the base to go on a mission. You know I can't say anymore than that.

Brittany is not happy.

BRITTANY

So now I have to spend all day and night wonderin' if you got blown up by a bomb somebody buried in the streets?

DILLON

That's exactly what I don't want you to do Brit. Come on baby, I need you to be strong. You know my number one goal is to come home to you in one piece. Don't be upset about my job. I don't let your job upset me even though I hate what you do.

That was a low blow.

BRITTANY

You didn't hate my job when I bought you that new truck though did you?

DILLON

Brit...

BRITTANY

You didn't hate my job when we went to Europe for your birthday did you?

DILLON

Honey...

BRITTANY

You didn't hate my job when your senile mother almost burned her house down and I bought her all new furniture did you?

DILLON

Brit...

BRITTANY

You know what Dillon I have to go meet Kelly, I'll talk to you later.

Just like that she disconnects the call. She flops on her bed in frustration.

CUT TO:

55 INT. COMPUTER CENTER - DAY

55

Brittany is sitting in the computer center when Kelly arrives moments later. The women greet. Kelly notices that Brittany looks a little disturbed.

KELLY

You okay? You look a little agitated.

BRTTTANY

Yeah I'm okay. Dillon just pissed me off that's all. To make matters worst, I can't speak to him again for a few days.

KELLY

Trust me, I understand.

The women share a moment. Brittany gets to business.

BRITTANY

So I hear everything went good with Zoe. Now you have a ID and a debit card right?

KELLY

Yup. Wanna see?

Kelly starts to dig in her purse.

BRITTANY

You have them with you?

KELLY

Yeah.

BRITTANY

Do you also have your ID?

KELLY

You mean with my real name? Yeah I have that too. What you need that for?

BRITTANY

Actually I don't need it. I just want to give you an important rule to follow. Never carry two ID's on you Kelly. Your 'Stacey' ID and all the paperwork including the debit card should all be kept in a separate wallet. You don't want to make a mistake and pull out the wrong ID at the wrong time. There is no way you could talk your way out of having two state ID's with different names on them. That's some go directly to jail do not pass go shit right there. Understand.

Kelly nods in the affirmative. Brittany hands her two prepaid cell phones.

KELLY

What're these for?

BRITTANY

These are pre-paid cell phones, I wrote the numbers on the back of each phone. One cell phone is Stacey's 'home' number. Anytime you have to give your home number that's the number you will use. The other is her 'business' number. Whenever you need to give your work or business number that's the one you'll use. The important thing to remember is to never, ever use these phones for anything else. Not to make a call or receive a call that's not related to what we do. Okay?

KELLY

Got it.

Kelly takes the cell phones and puts them in her purse.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Why are we at a computer center? You know I have a computer at my house right?

BRITTANY

(sarcastically)

Yeah I did know that, but I figured you didn't like jail. I could be wrong though, maybe you met somebody in there that your trying to get back to see.

KELLY

Funny. Okay, so what are we doing here?

BRITTANY

Well, when you go to the banks to open up your accounts you are not just going to open up personal accounts, you're gonna also open up business accounts. To do that you'll need to establish your business. The first thing you'll need is a Employer ID Number or EIN. It's basically a social security number for your business. You can get one in minutes online. Zoe said you wanted to do a shoe store, did you come up with a name?

KELLY

Yeah, lets call it "High Steps".

BRITTANY

Okay...

We watch as Brittany demonstrates by navigating to the IRS.gov website and walks Kelly through the application. After a few minutes the number is generated and Kelly prints out the form.

BRITTANY (CONT'D)

Since we rockin' in Florida, the next thing you'll need to do is file a DBA. In most cities you have to go to the county clerks office but in Florida we can do it all online.

We watch as Brittany demonstrates by navigating to the sunbiz.org website and walks Kelly through the application.

BRITTANY (CONT'D)

That's it. Just like that 'High Steps' is a business. Now just take all that paperwork to the bank and tell them that you want to open an account for your new business.

INTERCUT

56 INT. BANK BRANCH - DAY

56

We see Kelly sitting at a desk with a Bank officer. The bank officer is explaining the bank's products to Kelly.

BRITTANY

(VO)

The goal is to open as many accounts as you can at each bank. But don't worry about askin' for multiple accounts or even a personal account. They'll try to up sell you. Just give in and take everything they offer.

CUT TO:

57 EXT. BANK BRANCH - DAY

57

Kelly exits one bank with a 'new customer' packet. She puts it away and goes into another bank to do it all over again.

CUT TO:

58 INT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - DAY

58

Kelly just returned home from opening up the bank accounts, just as she kicks off her shoes there is a knock at the front door. She looks through the peep hole and to her horror, it is the same two Detectives who raided her house!

Kelly scrambles to put the new customer packets away. When she is sure the place is clean she opens the door, the detectives walk right in.

DETECTIVE ROSS
I see you got that door fixed.

KETITY

It was never broke. What is this about? Do I need to call my lawyer?

DETECTIVE JACOBS

She's right partner. We didn't have to kick it in. One of her customers was just leaving as we arrived.

DETECTIVE ROSS

That's right, that's right. I stand corrected.

KELLY

Okay, if I'm not under some kind of arrest or something then y'all need to leave my house.

DETECTIVE ROSS

Under arrest for what? Have you done something since the last time we met?

KELLY

What? ...No, look what do y'all want?

DETECTIVE ROSS

Answers.

KELLY

Answers require questions and questions require an interrogation room. Now, if you're gonna arrest me, arrest me. But if not, I need you two to go.

DETECTIVE ROSS

Alright, alright. We're leavin'...for now. But don't think for one minute this is over. And don't think for a second that Nikki's head getting blown off means you and your boyfriend are gonna beat the fraud case...

The Detectives head to Kelly's front door. Kelly is surprised by the revelation of Nikki's death.

KELLY

Wait, somebody killed Nikki?...And y'all think I did it? That's crazy. You are definitely wasting your time here.

DETECTIVE JACOBS

You know what partner. I think she's tellin' the truth. I mean, it's no way she would murder someone in these shoes.

Detective Jacobs picks up the Louboutin heels Kelly just recently kicked off and shows them to Detective Ross.

DETECTIVE JACOBS (CONT'D) Now my wife on the other hand would murder someone for these shoes.

Detective Jacobs chuckles. Meanwhile Detective Ross addresses Kelly.

DETECTIVE ROSS

So that leaves me with only one question and we'll be out of your hair...Who did you get to do it? Did you have to pay someone or did you just call in a favor from one of your homeboys?

KELLY

That was three questions Detective, none of which I have to answer. But I'm tellin' you I had nothin' to do with Nikki being killed. She was my friend and even after what she did I wouldn't want to see her dead. So y'all barkin' up the wrong tree. And y'all need to leave my house right now.

Detective Ross turns the knob on the door.

DETECTIVE ROSS

I'll be back and next time it won't be to talk about any shoes.

Detective Jacobs puts Kelly's shoe back down and follows his partner out of Kelly's condo.

With that the detectives are gone. Kelly locks the front door and breathes a sigh of relief. She then gets a blunt and lights it. The marijuana smoke fills her lungs, she exhales to the memory of her dead friend.

KELLY

Damn Nikki...

Big Mike is sitting at his usual post, when he is approached by Rhonda.

RHONDA

Big Mike what's up homie? How is everything with you?

BIG MIKE

Same 'ol same 'ol Rhonda. What's up?

RHONDA

Have you seen Kelly lately?

BIG MIKE

No I haven't. Matter of fact I haven't seen her for a while now. Maybe she hung up her stilettos again.

RHONDA

Maybe. Listen, I need you to do something for me.

Rhonda reaches into her cleavage, making sure Big Mike has a good view, and pulls out some cash. She slips the money into his palm.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

If you see her come in here or even if you see her around here. Give me a heads up, okay?

Big Mike takes the money and puts it in his pocket.

BIG MIKE

What, y'all got some kind of stripper beef goin' on or somethin'? You know Jay don't want no drama up in here Rhonda.

Rhonda starts to move on not wanting to get the third degree from Big Mike. He took the money from her, that's all the confirmation she needs that he'll do as told.

RHONDA

Ain't nothin' like that honey, ain't no drama...

Rhonda sashays away, sure Big Mike is looking at her butt. He is.

BIG MIKE

(to himself)

Bitch stay in some shit... wit her fat ass.

Big Mike lustfully licks his lips as Rhonda disappears into the club.

CUT TO:

60 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

60

Zoe, Brittany, Kareema and Kelly are sitting in the living room. Kelly is telling them about her visit from the detectives.

KELLY

I swear, when I saw it was the police at the door I damn near passed out.

BRITTANY

I bet you did. And you just got back from openin' all the bank accounts right?

KELLY

Hell yeah. I just grabbed those folders and check books and threw all that shit in the oven.

The girls share a laugh.

ZOE

Nikki was a grimy ho, but that's messed up. They said she got shot in the head, tho'?

Kelly nods in the affirmative, Zoe just sighs. Brittany gives Kareema a curious look, their eyes lock. That's all the confirmation Brittany needed, she knows Kareema did it. Kareema changes the subject.

KAREEMA

So Kelly, you ready to start your minimum wage job?

KELLY

My minimum wage job?

BRITTANY

Yeah girl we all have minimum wage jobs, you didn't know that?

KELLY

Come on y'all jokin' right? What do y'all need with minimum wage jobs?

KAREEMA

Now that you have all the bank accounts opened up, in about a month they'll be ready to go.

KELLY

A month? Why?

BRITTANY

Because most banks classify the account as 'new' for the first month that it's open. When an account is new there are more restrictions on it. Checks take longer to clear, for example. But after a month if the account is in good standing and there hasn't been any bounced checks or overdrafts the account is classified as 'established'. If you deposit a check it'll clear much faster. So for the first month all we do is churn the accounts.

INTERCUT

61 INT. BANK BRANCH - DAY

61

We see Kelly going from bank to bank making deposits.

BRITTANY

(VO)

All that means is you will make deposits of money orders and cash into one account. When that clears you will withdraw most of it and do the same to the other accounts. This gives the accounts some transaction history and makes them look active. So the system doesn't red flag you when you start droppin' Kareema's paper.

CUT TO:

KELLY

What's Kareema's paper?

KAREEMA

The checks, I make the checks. Wanna see?

7.0F

Yeah Kareema, show her your skills.

Kareema walks over to the computer, the girls gather around.

KAREEMA

Gather around ladies, let me give y'all a quick lesson in check counterfeiting.

We watch as Kareema makes a check and then prints it out. Kelly is amazed at how good the check looks.

KELLY

Yo! This looks just like the paycheck from my old job.

KAREEMA

I thought your old job paid you in singles.

The girls get a laugh at Kelly's expense. Kelly is a little offended.

KELLY

Funny, funny. Strippin' ain't the only job I ever had you know. I used to work for a mortgage company a couple years ago and our paychecks was just like this. Is that some special software you usin' to make them?

KAREEMA

Nah. It's a program called Versa Check, but there are a dozen different programs like it that you can buy at any office supply store.

INTERCUT

63 INT. OFFICE SUPPLY STORE - DAY

63

We see Kareema at the office supply store looking over the selection of check writing software.

KAREEMA

(VO)

They even have a variety of blank checks to chose from.

INTERCUT

64 INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

64

Kelly holds the check up to the light and gives it a thorough examination.

KELLY

The printer is just a regular printer too?

KAREEMA

Not really. I mean the printer is a regular printer but the ink I'm using is a special ink called micro toner. See these numbers here on the bottom of the check?

Kareema points to Micro fonts on the check.

KAREEMA (CONT'D)

They are the banks routing number, the account number that the check is drawn on and the check number. Electronic banking equipment reads them during processing...

INTERCUT

65 INT. BANK PROCESSING CENTER - DAY

65

We see that bank's machine processing hundreds of checks per minute.

KAREEMA

(VO)

... So they have to be printed using a special magnetic ink so the bank's machines can read them automatically.

INTERCUT

66

KELLY

So you had to get a hook up at the bank to get the ink?

KAREEMA

Nah. You can buy anything online these days. You just have to know what you're lookin for.

KELLY

And exactly how is it that y'all know all this stuff? What y'all went to some kind of fraud school or somethin?

The girls laugh.

KELLY (CONT'D)

And what's up with the minimum wage job thing? What's that about, or was y'all just messin' wit' me?

ZOE

I got you a part time job at a CVS in Fort Lauderdale. You gonna work there under your Stacey ID. We all have jobs like that. I'm at the Wal-Mart, Brit is at Target and Kareema got a job at Best Buy.

INTERCUT

67 INT. STORE - DAY

67

We see Kelly at her CVS job.

ZOE

(VO)

Once you're settled in. We all come in and buy a bunch of gift cards and anything else they might have we want.

We see Brittany, Kareema and Zoe standing on line waiting for Kelly who is behind the register.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Of course we ain't gonna really pay you for it.

We see Brittany hand her three one dollar bills, while the register reads one thousand nine hundred dollars and fifty five cents.

INTERCUT

INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

ZOE

When you take your lunch break, you never come back since your draw will be a little light.

KELLY

Shit, a little?

ZOE

We spend the day going to each others jobs and doing the same thing.

INTERCUT

68 MONTAGE 68

We see the girls going to each other's jobs collecting merchandise, gift cards and anything else they can get their hands on.

CUT TO:

69 INT. WET WILLIES - NIGHT

69

The girls are at Wet Willies drinkin', celebrating their successful day of work.

KELLY

We hit them hard today. We must have like twenty thousand in gift cards alone.

BRITTANY

Yeah but tomorrow we get the cash. We have like thirty different check cashing places set up.

KELLY

Since everybody already cashed checks from my High Steps account it should be a piece of cake right?

Well the first checks we cashed were only for a couple hundred dollars. That was so we can get our names and your company put in the system.

INTERCUT

70 INT. CHECK CASHING STORE - DAY

70

We see Brittany at the check cashing store attempting to cash her 'paycheck'.

ZOE

(VO)

But this time the checks will be for over a thousand so they will be a little more cautious.

CHECK CASHING CLERK So you work for High Steps, Miss?

BRITTANY

Yes and that's my paycheck. I've been here before what's the problem?

CHECK CASHING CLERK
Oh there's no problem, I just have
to verify the check that's all.

We see the Check Cashing clerk pick up the phone.

ZOE

(VO)

So you have to make sure you stay on point Kelly. They will be calling you every time we go in to cash a check. Make sure you keep track of the check numbers as we go.

INTERCUT

71 INT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - DAY

71

Kelly answers the pre-paid cell phone using her best business voice.

KELLY

High Steps Shoes may I help you.

CHECK CASHING CLERK

Hello. This is Miami Check Cashing. I would like to verify a payroll check one of your employees is attempting to cash.

KELLY

Sure I can help you with that, what is the check number?

CHECK CASHING CLERK

The check number is 21309.

KELLY

21309, let's see... Yes that check was issued to Tasha Murrell in the amount of \$1,345.96. Is there anything else I can help you with?

INTERCUT

72. INT. CHECK CASHING STORE - DAY 72.

CHECK CASHING CLERK No ma'am, thank you very much.

The clerk returns to Brittany.

CHECK CASHING CLERK (CONT'D)

Would you like that in large bills

Ms. Murrell?

CUT TO:

73 INT. WET WILLIES - DAY 73

KAREEMA

If everything goes right and we stay on point we could end up with like \$150k or better.

KELLY

That's what I'm talkin' about...

BRITTANY

Oh shit!

Brittany's outburst startles everyone.

KAREEMA

What! What's wrong?

BRITTANY

Rhonda!

CONTINUOUS

74 EXT. SOUTH BEACH - NIGHT

74

Brittany points across the street, sure enough there is Rhonda sashaying down the block. The girls immediately spring into action. The pace of their clicking heels betrays them. Rhonda sees all four girls heading in her direction at a furious pace with Kelly and Brittany leading the way. Rhonda is off! Her days on the High school track team serving her well.

The girls don't stand a chance of catching her, Rhonda is in the wind. All four girls are out of breath.

ZOE

(panting)

That bitch can run.

BRITTANY

(panting)

I heard she was on the track team at Northwestern High...

KAREEMA

(panting)

That's bullshit. I was on the track team at Northwestern High.

KELLY

(panting)

Maybe we just had too many 'Call a Cabs'.

KELLY (CONT'D)

But it's cool. She's gonna get hers eventually. Let's get back to our party.

The girls agree and head back to their party.

CUT TO:

75 INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

75

The next morning Rhonda is at the police station attempting to press charges on the girls. An OFFICER is taking her statement trying to keep up with her.

RHONDA

They jumped me last night and I want a restraining order 'cause they know where I work and I don't want them within' 100 yards of my job. And I want to press charges for assault and battery. Plus, dem bitches be doin' all kinds of scams 'n shit.

Her last statement caught his attention.

OFFICER

Oh yeah, what kind of scams?

RHONDA

You know, credit card scams, check scams, shit like that.

CUT TO:

76 INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

76

Detective Garrett and Detective Wright are at their desks working when Officer comes over.

OFFICER

Hey detectives, I have a lady over here filing a complaint. She says she was assaulted on South Beach last night by a group of females.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT

And you're tellin' us because...?

OFFICER

Because... she said the women who attacked her are part of some kind of credit card and check scam ring. Since you are the Fraud Unit I thought you might want to talk to her.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

Don't mind my partner, Officer. Good thinkin' on your part. Where is she?

The Officer leads him to where Rhonda is.

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

Hello ma'am. My name is Detective Garrett I'm with the Fraud Unit.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE GARRETT (CONT'D)

I understand you might have some information about some credit card or check scams?

RHONDA

Yeah, the bitches that jumped me last night. That's what they do. I'm a dancer, I work hard every night but I ain't no thief like 'dem bitches.

Detective Garrett shows her pictures in his file.

DETECTIVE GARRETT Do you recognize any of these women?

Rhonda looks at the photos.

RHONDA

Yeah! That's Brittany right there!

CUT TO:

77 MONTAGE 77

We see the girls going from check cashing place to check cashing place successfully cashing checks. Kelly is in the car answering the phone as the calls to verify the checks come in. The money is piling up. The girls are happily exchanging high fives with each other.

CUT TO:

78 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

78

We see Detective Garrett and Wright racing into their unmarked police car. They pull off in a hurry.

CUT TO:

79 INT. ZOE'S CAR - NIGHT

79

The girls are ready to call it a day. They have hit all the check cashing places on their list, it's time to call it a night.

KAREEMA

We did our thing today! We killed them!

Her choice of words causes Brittany to give a knowing look.

ZOE

Those checks you deposited should be clear tomorrow Kelly so check your balance first thing in the morning. Once we get that we're done.

BRITTANY

We need to burn all the paperwork too and just chill for a while.

KAREEMA

Yeah, we need to chill. Me and Kelly gonna bail my brother out in the morning. So I'm good for a minute.

It's automatic that the girls look at Kelly for her response.

KELLY

Yall know I'm straight. All I wanted was to get my baby out and I can't thank yall enough for helpin' me do that.

CUT TO:

80 EXT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

80

We see Kelly getting dropped off by Zoe.

CUT TO:

81 EXT. KAREEMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

81

We see Kareema gettin' dropped off by Zoe.

CUT TO:

82 EXT. KELLY AND RAHEEM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

82

As Kelly approaches her building, she is hit over the head. She never saw it coming. Rhonda proceeds to beat her mercilessly. Meanwhile Angie takes Kelly's purse, removes the money, dumps her keys, license, and other items onto the ground, puts the money back inside and hands it to Rhonda as she decides to give Kelly's unconscious body one last stomp.

CUT TO:

83

83 EXT. KAREEMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Kareema inserts her key into the lock. She hears the gun shot but it takes a moment for it to register. Her legs give out and she falls to the floor. Pee Man comes into our view. He releases another shot into her torso. Kareema is dead. He puts the hand gun away, unzips his pants and urinates on her lifeless body.

CUT TO:

84 EXT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

84

Zoe pulls up to Brittany's house. As the women are saying their good-byes they are surrounded by Miami PD. The police recover the counterfeit checks from the vehicle. Detectives Garrett and Wright take the women into custody.

CUT TO:

INT. COUNTY JAIL - DAY

Prisoners are in the Day Room watching TV. Among them is Raheem. He seems impatient, watching the clock on the wall rather than the TV until he hears...

NEWS REPORTER
Police discovered the body of one
of four females believed to be
involved in a credit card and check
scam ring early this morning.

Raheem's attention is immediately drawn to the TV screen. He watches in horror as his sister's picture shows up.

INTERCUT

INT. BANK - DAY

While Kelly is waiting for the teller to hand her her money Kareema's picture on a news broadcast catches her attention.

NEWS REPORTER

Two other suspects are in custody while the fourth is missing. Police suspect foul play.

INTERCUT

INT. COUNTY JAIL - DAY

Raheem is devastated. He is sick. His world has closed in on him.

CUT TO:

EXT. BANK - DAY

Kelly exits the bank, a bit shook up.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

We follow Detective Wright as he eagerly walks to Detective Garrett's desk carrying a file. Detective Garrett picks up his coffee to take a sip just as the file hits his desk. Detective Garrett looks up at his partner.

DETECTIVE WRIGHT We got a lead on another ring. Tampa PD wants us to take a look at it.

Detective Garrett opens the file.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONVERTIBLE RENTAL CAR - DAY

Kelly has the trunk open, revealing several pocketbooks including the one Rhonda and Angie took from her the night before. She takes the pocketbook from her shoulder and puts it inside. She closes the trunk.

She gets in the passenger seat, carefully, as it's obvious she's in a little pain.

KELLY

That kick at the end was so unnecessary.

As she pulls off, we see who the driver is.

RHONDA

That was Angie. Guess she felt like she owed you that for leaving her with them animals. KELLY

Well it worked. The police believe it was foul play.

RHONDA

How you know?

KELLY

It was on the news in the bank.

RHONDA

It hit the news already?

KELLY

Because of Kareema.

(beat)

She was found killed, Rhonda.

Rhonda is touched by the news but quickly reminds Kelly that Kareema's murder is not their fault.

RHONDA

Kareema was moving recklessly though. That's not on us. It was never the plan for her *or* Nikki to be killed.

A cell phone rings interrupting Kelly and Rhonda. Following the sound, Kelly opens the glove compartment and answers the phone.

INTERCUT

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Detective Garrett is alone on his cell phone. The file he was given by his partner is tucked under his arm.

DETECTIVE GARRETT

You girls ready to spend six months in Tampa?

INTERCUT

INT. CONVERTIBLE RENTAL CAR - DAY

Kelly places the phone back in the glove compartment.

KELLY

You up for Tampa?

Rhonda nods.

RHONDA
(gently pats Kelly's
thigh)
But this time I'll play the victim.

Kelly gives her a look of appreciation, relieved that she won't have to get close to their new targets in such a way that she has gotten close to Nikki, Kareema and Raheem. She pulls her shades down over her eyes as she and Rhonda drive off into the open road leaving Miami headed for Tampa.

FADE TO BLACK.