

**BOULEVARD OF BROKEN DREAMS 1 - 1**

HE

You did a great job tonight. I really enjoyed watching you. ... So tell me, what are you looking for and where are you headed?

SHE

The only dream I've ever had is to be the best actress in the world. That's all I want and I won't rest until I get it.

HE

And then what?

SHE

That'll do. I went to Los Angeles when I was eighteen. I was determined to be a star in six weeks on a budget of \$20 a day. It wasn't at all how the Beach Boys described it. I stayed for three years working as a waitress, a receptionist, a model, just about everything except what I really wanted to do. In the end I was willing to give anything to get a break. That's when I decided to come home, while I still knew who I was.

HE

And who's that?

SHE

Someone who doesn't give up. I'll go back to L.A. But the next time I go there it will be as a star. You'll see.

HE

Is it really that important?

SHE

You bet your ass it is.

HE

Why?

**BOULEVARD OF BROKEN DREAMS 1 - 2**

SHE

I want to be somebody.

HE

You're not happy with who you already are?

SHE

What do you mean?

HE

I've been down that road too.

SHE

I can look after myself.

HE

Oh yes, so could I. That was my problem. I never listened to anyone in my life, except... maybe the sound of my own voice.

SHE

And what did it say?

HE

Achieve. Succeed. You're nothing until you're number one. At the top, untouchable. So don't rest, don't hesitate, and for Christ's sake, whatever you do, don't fail. Finally, there you are, at the peak of the mountain. You look around and there's nobody else there, just the sound of your own bullshit ringing in your ears.

SHE

Is that why you came home?

HE

I had to prove to a couple of people that I still qualified to be called a human being.

SHE

Your wife and child.

## BOULEVARD OF BROKEN DREAMS 1 - 3

HE

Helen and Jessie were living with a maniac. I couldn't turn down a job, not a movie nor a play, not even television. In the process I was losing myself and my family. I was offered a job fixing up a movie that was in trouble and I thought "Great, Hollywood. The two months, the distance, the separation, is going to do us good. We needed it." But I was wrong. When I got back Helen told me she'd been having an affair with someone. You know, it's funny how you think you're gonna handle something like that really well. You're gonna be mature, intelligent, understanding... and I hit her. I just snapped, and I hit her. I couldn't believe I'd done it. I tried to hold her, I put my arms around her and cried, but it was too late. We'd behaved badly in the Garden of Eden. The magic was gone.

SHE

That's really rough, I'm sorry. Maybe enough time has passed and you can both start to heal the wounds. I really hope so, John, you deserve a second chance. **[Pause]** This is where I live. Do you want to come in for a while?

HE

No, I'd better not.

SHE

Thanks for coming to the play tonight.

HE

It was nothing. Just supporting a struggling author. ... Hey, you were perfect.

SHE

Listen, if you need someone to talk to again, you know where to find me.

HE

Okay. Thanks.