ANCHORS AWAY

Written by

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ANCHORS AWAY Episode #101 - "Pilot" TEASER

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - DRIVEWAY - DAY

MAXINE ("MAX") GRINBERG, 40s, well-toned, dressed in designer yoga clothing, tapes a "For Sale" sign on the windshield of a new, white Mercedes convertible.

MAX (V.O.)

Life is fleeting. Before you know it, you're mid-life and you begin to wonder, what have I really accomplished?

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - FRONT YARD - DAY

Max plants an "Estate Sale" sign next to a realtor's "House For Sale" sign with a "Sold" sign on top.

MAX (V.O.)

A big house, an overpriced car, a bunch of friends who aren't really friends, but sharks in designer clothing. There's got to be more, right?

END TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. WHITE MERCEDES - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Max examines her face in the visor's mirror. She stretches the wrinkles around her eyes and forehead while she talks on the car phone.

KURT (V.O.)

Listen, Max, we both know your client's last movie won't recoup --

MAX

Chad's still an A-list star and can open a movie. I'm not lowering his rate.

KURT (V.O.)

Which is why Brad is willing to take a risk on him, but I'm not.

MAX

What if we put five-million of the twenty-million in the backend based on the distributor's gross at breakeven?

KURT (V.O.)

That could work...

MAX

Do we have a deal?

KURT (V.O.)

Deal. Gotta go. Clooney's on the other line.

As Max does the happy dance, car horns BLARE behind her.

EXT. UPSCALE OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

The Mercedes pulls into a prominent parking space and Max gets out. She is dressed in designer business clothing, carries a Birkin bag, and talks on her cell phone.

MAX

Brad?

INT. BRAD BARNETT'S BLACK PORSCHE - DAY

BRAD BARNETT, 50s, a silver fox, talks on his car phone.

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

BRAD

Max! How ya doin', beautiful?

MAX

I just closed Chad's deal with Paramount. You have your lead.

BRAD

I knew you could do it. This calls for a celebration. How about dinner at The Ivy?

MAX

Dinner? OK.

BRAD

Friday at eight. Do you mind meeting me there? I'll be coming from casting in Hollywood.

MAX

Not at all.

BRAD

Perfect. It's a date.

Max disconnects the call. She's thrilled.

MAX

A date? A date!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. GRINBERG TALENT - RECEPTIONIST'S DESK - DAY

TAYLOR TOWNSON, 18, a gorgeous Brit, pounces on Max the moment she enters.

MAX

Taylor, what are you doing here?

TAYLOR

I need a job...fast, or I'll be evicted. Do you have anything?

MAX

I think I do. I'll let you know.

The receptionist hands Max her mail.

INT. MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max throws the mail on her desk and leafs through a Caribbean Real Estate magazine. Her phone BUZZES. She presses the speaker button.

MAX

Brad? Would you mind reading one of my new clients? She's young and gorgeous.

BRAD (V.O.)

For you? Anything. Casting will set it up with you.

MAX

Thanks, Brad.

BRAD (V.O.)

No problem.

MAX

I'm really looking forward...
 (line goes dead)

To our date.

MONTAGE - MAX PREPARES FOR HER DATE

-- INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY -- Max has injectable fillers and Botox put into her face.

- -- INT. BEAUTY SALON DAY -- Max has a mani/pedi, facial, and a new haircut and color.
- -- INT. BOUTIQUE DAY -- Max tries on different outfits. One makes her look too fat, another makes her look too young, and another makes her look too slutty.

INT. WHITE MERCEDES - DAY

Max's examines her plump lips in the mirror and smiles at her now line-free face. Her phone RINGS and she answers.

TAYLOR (V.O.)

I got the job! It's only two lines, but my scene is with Chad Cheswick!

MAX

Good for you.

TAYLOR (V.O.)

Thank you so much, Max. I'm so excited.

MAX

Me, too.

INT. THE IVY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Max looks beautifully elegant. She sits at a table sipping a glass of wine. She checks her watch, then checks her phone. She places a \$20 bill on the table and leaves.

EXT. THE IVY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

A Valet brings Max's Mercedes to her. She tips him and climbs inside.

INT. THE MERCEDES - NIGHT

Max fastens her seatbelt. She looks in her rearview mirror to see a black Porsche pull up behind her.

She watches as Brad gets out of the driver's side. Max smiles and is about to open her door when she sees the Valet open the door on the passenger's side.

EXT. THE BLACK PORSCHE - NIGHT

Brad hurries around the car. He puts his arm around Taylor's waist and leads her into the restaurant.

INT. THE MERCEDES - NIGHT

Max watches, deflated.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max pushes everything off her desk, including the Real Estate magazine.

Taylor suddenly appears at the office door.

TAYLOR

Are you okay?

Max notices that Taylor has a black eye.

MAX

I should be asking you the same question. What happened to your eye?

TAYLOR

That perverted producer tried to rape me.

MAX

Brad Barnett?

TAYLOR

Yes. I just wanted you to know he'll probably fire me because I punched him in the nose and I think I broke it.

MAX

Really?

Taylor nods her head in affirmative and bursts out crying. Max puts her arms around her to comfort her.

MAX

Don't you worry. Believe me, you're not the one who's going to get fired off the movie.

EXT. BRAD'S BACHELOR PAD - NIGHT

Two cops lead a handcuffed Brad out of the house. His nose is bandaged.

A camera crew captures his arrest with bright lights.

INT. MAX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Max is in bed, eating ice cream out of the container. She watches the news on TV.

ON THE TV

One cop protects Brad's head as he steps into the backseat of the cop car.

ON MAX

MAX

Even if my name is now mud, another pervert bites the dust. Totally worth it.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

EXT. THIRD TURTLE INN - BACK TO PRESENT DAY

Max stands next to several pieces of luggage as a taxi drives away. She walks around the dilapidated building, past a "Sold" sign, to the back.

MAX (V.O.)

I suppose some people would call what happened to me a mid-life crisis, but I think I just wanted to rewrite the rest of my life.

EXT. THIRD TURTLE MARINA - DAY

Behind the inn is a ramshackle dock with a sailboat docked at one end.

Max walks down the dock, surveys the lush scenery and view of the ocean.

MAX (V.O.)

Today is the beginning of chapter one.

Max takes a deep breath and smiles.

END OF EPISODE