

SIMON

4 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 4

--because it's ON A TV before a big table, where sit: Angel, **SIMON** (50s, hot-headed label President), **SAMANTHA** (29, scheming Head of Publicity), **SHORTY** (30s, goofy Business Manager). **Mia** sits close beside Angel.

CHYRON: 3 MONTHS EARLIER

Angel blindly signs CONTRACTS Shorty slides across the table.

SIMON (O.S.)

It just isn't working!

Simon, pissed, tosses the REMOTE, having paused the clip.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Are you listening to me, Angel??

ANGEL

Yes, Simon. You were telling me how bad the early numbers look for my song that I poured my soul into.

SIMON

(ignoring his sarcasm)

This song has to be a hit. Your career and my entire label are on the line.

ANGEL

(SLAPS the table)

Everything's on the line Simon! Not
just for you and me, but for
Shorty. For Mia.

INSERT: under the table, Angel and Mia entwine their fingers.

SHORTY

A brother is deep in student debt!

Samantha slides in A HEADSHOT of NOVAH (20s, Angel's suave,
flashy rival). She taps the photo with her TURQUOISE NAILS. *

SAMANTHA

Angel: You need to keep up with
young artists like Novah. He's
plugged in; relevant--

SIMON

Samantha, honey. Daddy's talking.

SAMANTHA

(ignoring him; moving
toward Angel)

This is your last chance for
success. Unless you want people to
scroll past you, you need to go
viral. Attention is currency. You
need to give them a scandal.

MIA

What kind of scandal...?

She locks eyes with him s*x*ly. She SITS IN ANGEL'S LAP!

WRAPS HIS HANDS AROUND HER WAIST.

SAMANTHA

How about a **s*x tape?**

Angel and Mia are STUNNED... WTF? With her?

EPISODE 2

ANGEL

Just so I'm clear: you want me to
make a s*x tape -- with you?!

SHORTY

(stands up, grinning)

I'll do it! I volunteer--!

Samantha looks serious but then CACKLES, covering.

SAMANTHA

(faking)

No! Don't be silly.

She climbs off Angel's lap. Tucks Mia's hair behind her ear.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

Unless you want to do it. I know
how you love being the **backup?**

Mia BLUSHES. Guilty? Angel PUSHES back his chair to STAND--

ANGEL

I'm not f*ck*ng anyone to save my
career! Call me when you have a real plan.

He storms out with Shorty and Mia. Samantha looks out the
open door, sees Mia in the hallway. SNEERS, as an idea hits.

SAMANTHA (V.O.)

If Angel won't make a scandal, I'll make one...

SMASH CUT TO:

14 INT. SIMON'S OFFICE

Angel stomps into Simon's office. Simon sees him and smirks.

SIMON

You need an appointment to see me.

I'm late for my tee time--

Simon makes a point of checking his **SILVER LUXURY WATCH**. *
Angel SLAMS the door shut. Simon reclines in his chair, puffs
a cigar. Angel paces. OFF OF: PLATINUM RECORDS, POSTERS on
the wall, with the face of Novah (Angel's rival from Ep. 1).

ANGEL

I was in jail three months, and you
already replaced me with Novah.

SIMON

Expecting loyalty was your first
mistake. The industry moved on
while you were busy committing m*rd*r.

(air quotes)

"Allegedly."

ANGEL

I'm innocent and you know it--

SIMON

You're IRRELEVANT! You're just the
last one to realize it. Your career is over.

ANGEL

You STOLE my career! You and your
scheming daughter Samantha.

SIMON

(laughing)

"Stole?" Angel, buddy, you gave
your career to me. You signed the
contract giving me your Masters.

ANGEL FLASHES BACK TO EPISODE 1: Shorty slides a CONTRACT to
Angel, who blindly signs. Simon sees this and SMILES evilly.

ANGEL

I didn't know what I was signing!

SIMON

Because you were too focused on
F*ck*ng your back-up singer.

ANGEL

SHE WAS MY WIFE!

Simon finally stands. Comes around from behind his deck.

SIMON

You need your Masters to survive.
Question is: how badly do you need them?

(off Angel's look)

Get on your knees. Beg me.

Angel clenches his teeth. Offended but cornered.

ANGEL (V.O.)

*I want to find out who k*ll*d Mia,
so I need Simon to think he's in control.*

He begins to make himself do it. Can he bring himself to
kneel in front of another man?

SIMON

(casually)

By the way: your song hit #1. You
should thank whoever k*ll*d Mia.

Angel, livid, stands and FURIOUSLY PUNCHES SIMON. *