

NAMESAKE

Written by

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DRAFT 4  
6/23/23

1

INT. TERRY'S CAR - DAY

1

Terry is driving, listening to a podcast, getting angrier and angrier.

FELIX

Look at this country. Depression  
and suicide rates are sky high. The  
economy stinks worse than a pair of  
used Huggies. These are the facts  
fellas. Where did this start? The  
American family is under attack.  
50% of marriages end in divorce.  
FACT. 90% of divorces end with the  
woman receiving the child. FACT.  
Women are raising our children.  
FACT. We have boys who don't turn  
into men. Why are we letting women  
take our responsibility? Our  
lineage? Our BLOODLINE?

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\*

Terry's knuckles go WHITE on the steering wheel.

Cut to BLACK

The noise of the podcast increases till it's BLARING and  
transforms into a BABY CRYING... WAILING

Title Card: NAMESAKE

\*

2

EXT. FELIX'S HOUSE - DAY

2

Terry knocks on the door. Nothing. She knocks again. Felix  
opens the door.

\*

TERRY

(so sweet)  
Hey Felix!

FELIX

Terry? I canceled.

Terry shows the items as she lists them.

\*

TERRY

Because your son is sick. So I  
brought some pedialyte, a  
thermometer, a stuffy.  
And...

(displaying wine)

I thought I'd bring the date to  
you. Wouldn't it be fun to do that?

\*

FELIX  
I'm recording my podcast. \*

TERRY  
Oh! I didn't know you had a \*  
podcast. \*

The baby starts crying. Terry shrugs, cute. He smiles, nods \*  
for her to come in.

3 INT. BABY'S ROOM - DAY 3

They both approach the crib. Terry holds a stuffy. \*

Overhead shot of baby being adorable. \*

FELIX  
(cute moment) \*  
You faker. \*

Terry reaches to pick up the baby. Felix stops her. \*

FELIX (CONT'D)  
Ah-ah.

TERRY  
Oh. I'm so sorry, I shouldn't have \*  
assumed--

FELIX  
No, you're fine. But you need to \*  
toughen them up from a young age. \*  
(mocking)  
That includes the stuffy. \*

Felix takes the stuffy from her. \*

Terry sets the stuffy back into the basket, off to the side. \*

TERRY  
I always thought if I had a boy, I  
would name him after my dad. Jesse.

FELIX  
That's too soft.

Awkward silence.

TERRY  
What's his name?

FELIX

He got my name, his mom's face.  
(under his breath)  
Hopefully not her personality.

\*

TERRY

I'm not imposing, am I?

Felix gives her the once over.

FELIX

No... you're not. Why don't you set  
the wine up outside? I'm going to  
go freshen up. I'm sure you can  
find your way around the kitchen.

TERRY

And one of these right?

She points to one of two baby monitors sitting to the side,  
unused.

FELIX

Huh?

TERRY

For... your baby right? Because  
he's sick?

FELIX

Oh, yeah, sure.

Felix leaves, setting the stuffy by the door. Terry looks  
longingly back at the baby. She turns on the baby monitors,  
sets one close, takes the other. Leaves.

\*

\*

4 EXT. BACK DECK - DAY

4

On the table is the baby monitor, a bottle of wine, and a  
cork screw. Terry sets two glasses down. The overly sweet  
demeanor is gone.

She looks around, picks up the bottle of wine, uncorks it,  
and pours the wine in the glass.

Terry looks long at the back door. She takes a small packet  
out of her pocket. Opens it. Goes to pour it into the wine.

The baby starts crying, coming through the baby monitor.

Terry freezes, poison in hand.

Slow push in on the baby monitor.

She's conflicted. She's really going to do this? Over the baby monitor she hears.

\*  
\*

FELIX (O.C.)  
Settle down.

\*  
\*

She opens the packet, dumps it in. The poison dissolves into the wine, leaving no trace.

\*

6 INT. BABY'S ROOM - DAY

6

\*

Terry goes to the crib. The baby is crying. She picks him up.  
This is all softness.

The baby starts to calm. Terry smells his head, drinking in the newborn smell. She WANTS him.

CREAK. A floor board outside.

Terry looks up, worried. She leans to put the baby back down.

7 INT. BABY'S ROOM - DAY

7

Looking out onto the hallway. Felix walks past, now in jeans. Stay on the door.

Felix backs up. Looks in side.

ON the baby's room, the gift basket. The stuffy is missing.

Felix enters, looks down at the crib.

The baby is sleeping peacefully... with a stuffy next to him.

Felix shakes his head. Leaves.

8 EXT. BACK DECK - DAY

8

Terry is seated, drinking her wine. Felix comes. Sits.

She looks at the wine.

He gently swirls it, smiling at her, knowing what she did.

TERRY  
So you podcast? What on?

FELIX  
Fatherhood.

TERRY  
Oh? That's sweat. Especially as a  
single dad. \*

FELIX  
A son needs a strong father. \*

He lifts the wine to his lips. \*

TERRY  
What do you think about a mother? \*

Felix shakes his head. He sets the wine back down, un-drunk. \*

FELIX  
Not much. \*

TERRY  
The wine's a good year. \*

FELIX  
I'm more of a beer man. \*

TERRY  
(challenging)  
That's interesting, too much  
alcohol in the wine for you? \*

Felix cocks a brow, less than amused. Terry pours more into  
her own glass, lifts it to her lips, maintaining eye contact. \*

FELIX  
Terry. That's short for Theresa? \*

She sips and sets the wine down. Smiling. \*

TERRY  
It's funny, growing up, people  
called me 'Mother Teresa.' I'm good  
with kids. \*

Felix lifts his glass. \*

FELIX  
To children. \*

Terry raises her glass, clinks it. \*

TERRY  
May they be better than their  
parents. \*

Felix laughs, brings the glass to his mouth, stops. \*

FELIX  
You know, if we're going to do  
this... you and me? It means you  
listen.

TERRY  
Excuse me?

FELIX  
I know you moved the stuffy.

He drinks. Terry smiles and nods.

TERRY  
I did. Cause you're a bad father.

He starts to get up, enraged.

FELIX  
How dare-

He begins to suffocate. Terry watches him fall to the ground.

FELIX (CONT'D)  
(choking)  
I'm- his- father-

She gets up and steps over him, places the monitor next to  
him as he gurgles. She walks to the stairs. He is passed out,  
unconscious.

9 INT. BABY'S ROOM - DAY

9

Terry steps into the door frame, silhouetted.

TERRY  
Hello, Jesse.