

"FOOTPRINTS"
EPISODE #56
TIME FRAME: FOUR DAYS
AFTER [#55](#)

TEASER

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (BEDROOM)
AFTERNOON

A rolling suitcase is standing up by the door, next to a stack of packed duffel bags. Two suitcases remain open on the bed, filling up by the minute as BRENT and SARAH empty out their dressers and closets.

SARAH: I can't believe we're leaving already!

BRENT: I know. I expected we'd have more notice before they sent us to work on this case, but I guess it was getting kinda urgent.

SARAH: Goes with the territory, I guess.

BRENT: You got that right.

He pulls a sweater out of the suitcase, folded sloppily. He attempts to refold it, but to no avail.

BRENT (CONT'D): I can't for the life of me figure out how the hell to fold this thing.

Sarah bustles over and snatches the sweater out of his hands.

SARAH: Give me that.

She makes quick work of the sweater, folding it neatly in a flash and placing it into the suitcase.

SARAH (CONT'D): And that, my friend, is how it's done.

BRENT: Oh, yeah?

SARAH: Yeah. Lemme see ya top that.

BRENT: Well, I don't know if I can outdo you in the clothing-maintenance category, but I can definitely give you a run for your money with regards to something else ...

SARAH: And just what would that be?

BRENT: Something that goes--

He pulls her in closer.

BRENT (CONT'D): --a little like this.

He plants his lips on hers and dives into a passionate kiss, which Sarah quickly throws her whole self into as well.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (KITCHEN)
AFTERNOON

CLAIRE is busy heating up a bottle for the baby when the sound of keys jingling outside is heard. The front door opens up and then is closed.

TIM (OS): I'm back!

CLAIRE: I'll be out in a second!

She exits the kitchen.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON -- CONTINUOUS

TIM is taking off his shoes when CLAIRE enters.

CLAIRE: Hey.

TIM: Sorry that took so long. Diane needed to pick up some groceries and things for the apartment before I took her home.

Claire suddenly turns a little bit colder.

CLAIRE: Oh.

TIM: How's Travis?

CLAIRE: He's in his crib. I put him down for a nap, but I don't think he really wanted to sleep.

TIM: As usual. That's my boy. (beat) I hope Diane can function by herself, alone with the baby.

The microwave is heard beeping offscreen.

CLAIRE: I've gotta go get that.

She exits, leaving Tim bewildered by her sudden frigidness.

ACT ONE

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (BEDROOM)
AFTERNOON

SARAH and BRENT are still kissing when the doorbell rings. Sarah reluctantly pulls away.

SARAH: I'll get it.

She puts a finger on her husband's lips before he can speak.

SARAH (CONT'D): Don't you go anywhere.

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON - CONTINUOUS

SARAH enters. She makes her way to the door and pauses for a moment to take a deep breath and straighten her clothing. She then opens the door, revealing MOLLY waiting outside.

SARAH: Hey!

MOLLY: Hey!

SARAH: Come on in.

Molly steps inside the apartment and closes the door.

MOLLY: Are you guys busy packing?

SARAH: We're just finishing up. I can't believe how quickly this is happening.

MOLLY: I know. Mom and Dad wanted to throw a dinner for you at the restaurant, but there wasn't enough time. When do you leave, anyway?

SARAH: Our flight is at 6:05 tonight.

MOLLY: Wow. I can't believe you guys are leaving.

Sarah seems to hesitate before answering.

SARAH: It is pretty sudden, but we won't be gone forever, remember. We'll be back when this case is over.

MOLLY: I know. It's just-

BRENT comes into the room, folding a shirt with his head down.

BRENT: Who is it?

He looks up and sees Molly. Their eyes meet briefly and they smile uncomfortably at each other in greeting.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (TRAVIS'S ROOM)
AFTERNOON

CLAIRE is leaned over the crib, looking down at TRAVIS as he drinks his bottle.

CLAIRE: Oh, Travis ... look at you. You're oblivious to everything that's going on right now.

She sighs.

CLAIRE (CONT'D): I know your dad means well - he really does. It's not his fault that Diane wound up pregnant, and he's doing the right thing by helping her out until this custody thing is settled. It's just-

She pulls her hair back absentmindedly and then lets it fall again, unable to come up with the correct words to express what she is feeling.

CLAIRE (CONT'D): It's just that I can see that Diane is going to try to use the baby against me - against us ... I know she will. And I have this terrible feeling that your dad's love for Samantha is gonna help Diane move her plan along. (beat) I just hope that he and I are both strong enough to come out of this

whole thing on top yet again.

Claire stares forlornly at her son.

ACT TWO

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON

BRENT stands holding a half-folded shirt, his attention on MOLLY. SARAH looks on.

BRENT: What brings you by, Molly?

MOLLY: I wanted to drop by and say goodbye while I still have the chance.

BRENT: Yeah, this is pretty abrupt, but it's part of the job, right?

They stand in silence for a moment.

BRENT (CONT'D): I'll go get some sodas, okay?

SARAH: Thanks, honey.

Brent exits. Sarah and Molly sit down on the couch.

SARAH (CONT'D): I'm really glad you came by.

MOLLY: Like I said, I couldn't let you guys leave without saying goodbye. You're going to New York, right?

SARAH: Yeah -- not the city, though. Upstate.

MOLLY: That should be nice.

SARAH: That's what I'm hoping. Not like we'll have much time to relax, though. This case should be pretty time-consuming.

MOLLY: What are the specifics of the case -- can you talk about it at all?

SARAH: I can give you an outline.

MOLLY: That'll work.

SARAH: There's this heiress who was robbed of \$100,000 worth of heirloom jewelry. Apparently her fiancé is suspicious of this girl's ex-boyfriend ... so we've gotta figure out what's going on here.

MOLLY: Hmm. Sounds pretty safe.

SARAH: That's what I'm thinking. If it were some kind of huge spy adventure, I'd be really worried.

MOLLY: It sounds safe, but I'm still worried. Just promise me you'll be careful. Who knows what you could be getting involved with?

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (TRAVIS'S ROOM)
AFTERNOON

CLAIRE is leaned over the crib, staring at TRAVIS, when TIM enters. With her back to the door, Claire does not see him.

CLAIRE: Travis, what are we gonna do?

TIM: What are you gonna do about what?

Claire turns, surprised.

CLAIRE: How long have you been standing there?

TIM: Not very long.

CLAIRE: What'd you hear?

TIM: All I heard was you asking Travis what you were gonna do. The part I'm curious about is what exactly you're talking about.

CLAIRE: Tim-- I don't know ...

TIM: What do you mean, you don't know? What's going on here, Claire?

Out on Tim as he stares down his wife, confusion evident in his face.

ACT THREE

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON

MOLLY and SARAH are seated on the couch.

SARAH: Don't worry, Molly -- we'll be fine.

BRENT: Of course we will.

They both turn to see BRENT, carrying two glasses of soda. He hands one to each of them.

BRENT (CONT'D): There's nothing to worry about, Molly. It's no more dangerous than regular police work.

MOLLY: I hope you're right ...

BRENT: Look how healthy we are after all this time on the police force. We're practically the only members of this family who haven't been in dire situations in the past year.

MOLLY: That's a good point.

SARAH: Speaking of which, did Mom tell you about everything that happened in Phoenix, Molly?

MOLLY: I heard it, from both her and Jason.

BRENT: I still can't believe that Shannon managed to keep everything she had done a secret for that long.

SARAH: We're just lucky we found it out before she did something to harm Jason or Courtney.

MOLLY: It sounds like she has some serious problems.

BRENT: "Some" doesn't even begin to describe it.

SARAH: She just got so obsessed with Jason. I guess she wasn't going to let anything get in the way of her getting him, even if it meant hurting Courtney -- or Jason himself.

Molly's demeanor becomes very melancholy.

MOLLY: Kind of like Craig.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (TRAVIS'S ROOM)
AFTERNOON

TIM awaits an answer from CLAIRE.

CLAIRE: What are you getting at, Tim?

TIM: I'm not "getting" at anything.

He makes air quotes as he says this.

CLAIRE: Then why are you being so confrontational?

TIM: Because --

He looks past her shoulder into the crib where TRAVIS is beginning to drift off.

TIM (CONT'D): Let's go out there so we don't keep Travis from napping.

He leaves the room and Claire follows, pulling the door closed gently as she exits.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON

TIM and CLAIRE enter and immediately resume their conversation.

TIM: I wanna know is this: Are you hiding something from me? Because last time you hid something, it was about your father, and we all know where that led.

CLAIRE: I can see why you'd be worried, but no, I'm not.

TIM: Fine. Is something wrong, then?

CLAIRE: Of course something's wrong, Tim! Everything is wrong!

TIM: What are you talking about -- Diane?

CLAIRE: Exactly!

TIM: Look, Claire, I know it's not an ideal situation, but I'm really trying to make the best of it. Samantha is my daughter--

CLAIRE: I know. (beat) I know. I just hate what this is doing to us.

Tim fixes his eyes on hers.

TIM: What are we gonna do, then?

Claire looks down at the floor uncomfortably.

ACT FOUR

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON

MOLLY and SARAH are seated on the couch. BRENT stands behind his wife.

SARAH: Molly, we can't dwell on Craig anymore. It's over -- he's dead. He never got a chance to hurt you and now he never will. The best thing would be to put him out of your mind.

Brent walks behind the couch and leans down in-between the two women.

BRENT: She's right, Mol.

MOLLY: I know -- both of you are. It's just really hard to put that behind me. I have this terrible feeling, even after all these months, that he's just gonna leap out from somewhere and come after me.

SARAH: It's natural to feel that way. But you've got to try to focus on other things. Like Brian, for instance.

BRENT: Yeah, what's the deal with you guys, anyway? Claire said you were both at the hospital with her when Diane had the baby.

MOLLY: To be honest, I'm not sure. We get along really well, and I love spending time with him, but he's being really good about not forcing a relationship on me after everything that's happened.

SARAH: He sounds like a really nice guy.

MOLLY: He is. (beat) I just hope I don't blow a chance at a great relationship because of something that can never happen.

Although she gives the impression that she is referring to Craig returning, the look that she casts at Brent makes it apparent that she is talking about something more than that.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
AFTERNOON

TIM and CLAIRE are in the midst of a heated discussion.

CLAIRE: I don't know anymore, Tim. It just seems like every time we find a little happiness, we find a hell of a lot more misery.

TIM: Are you worried about me bonding with the baby?

CLAIRE: Of course not! If we win custody, she'll be part of this family. No, it's not the baby I'm worried about at all.

TIM: Diane?

CLAIRE: You got it.

TIM: I can understand that, but believe me: There's nothing she can do to keep us apart anymore.

CLAIRE: How do we know that, Tim?

TIM: Because our love is way too strong for something like that to come between us.

CLAIRE: At almost any point before this, I would've agreed with you, but now I'm not so sure. You'd be surprised what another woman having a man's baby does to his marriage.

TIM: I know this hasn't been easy, Claire, but please-- Just try to understand what I'm dealing with right now. I know you're going through something terrible too.

CLAIRE: I'm trying, Tim. I just don't know if that's good enough anymore.

TIM: Claire, can't we just--

CLAIRE: I'm gonna go for a walk, okay? There's no point in having an argument about nothing, right?

TIM: Right.

CLAIRE: I'll see you later, okay?

TIM: Okay. I love you.

Claire pulls her coat down from the coat rack next to the door and pulls it on.

CLAIRE: I love you too.

She leaves without another word. Tim stares at the closed door with concern.

ACT FIVE

EXT: PARK
EVENING

CLAIRE is strolling slowly through the park. The sky is downcast, but it is not raining.

CLAIRE: (sotto voce) This is crazy. And it's exactly what Diane wants. I can't let something that hasn't even happened yet cause a fight between Tim and me.

She walks several more steps before pausing.

CLAIRE (CONT'D): (sotto voce) No, I've got to show her once and for all that Tim is mine. The custody hearing is in just a few days -- soon enough, she won't even have Samantha to use as leverage to pull Tim closer to her.

Determination is apparent in the manner she walks off, stronger and more assertive than before.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
EVENING

TIM is sitting on the couch, his head in his hands. Suddenly the sound of the baby crying cuts through the silence.

TIM: I'm coming, Travis!

He rises and heads to the baby's room.

INT: TIM & CLAIRE'S APT. (TRAVIS'S ROOM)
EVENING -- CONTINUOUS

The door opens and TIM enters. He makes his way over to the crib and picks up a crying TRAVIS, who settles down once he is in his father's arms.

TIM: Don't worry, Trav, I'm here.

He rocks his son back and forth lightly.

TIM (CONT'D): I know how you feel, believe me. This is one crazy day. (beat) I don't understand what's going on with your mom -- she's suddenly so insecure about everything. I wish she would just trust in our love ... I love her more than anything in the world. It just seems that no matter what I do, no matter how many times I try to do the "right thing," something winds up getting screwed up.

Tim's frustration is obvious. He feels an obligation to Diane and Samantha, but his heart is strictly with Claire and their son.

INT: SARAH & BRENT'S APT. (LIVING ROOM)
EVENING

SARAH and MOLLY are standing by the door, both in their coats and carrying their purses, when BRENT enters.

BRENT: Is that the last of the bags?

SARAH: Yeah. Did you put them down by the curb?

BRENT: Yeah. You want me to go get the car?

SARAH: No, I'll do it.

She turns to Molly.

SARAH (CONT'D): I'll call you when we get there, okay?

MOLLY: Okay. I love you.

SARAH: I love you too.

MOLLY: Good luck.

SARAH: Thanks. Bye.

Sarah exits. Molly looks very emotional.

BRENT: Molly, don't worry. We'll stay in touch.

MOLLY: I know.

BRENT: Then don't get so worked up. Come on. It's gonna be fine.

Molly begins to cry lightly.

BRENT (CONT'D): Molly ...

He tenderly wipes a tear from her eye. She looks up at him.

MOLLY: I'm gonna miss you, Brent.

BRENT: I'm gonna miss you, too. You -- you've changed my life, Molly.

MOLLY: I have?

BRENT: You're one of my best friends. Your friendship has meant so much to me.

Molly is slightly surprised, having half-expected Brent to confess that he loves her. Her expectant look disappears.

MOLLY: I feel the same way.

She begins to cry again. Brent wraps his arms around her and holds her for a moment. They are interrupted by the honk of a car horn.

BRENT: There's my call.

MOLLY: Go ahead.

They step outside onto the landing. Brent locks the door and then begins to descend the stairs.

BRENT: I'm gonna miss you, Molly.

MOLLY: I'll miss you too, Brent.

They exchange final waves and he is gone. Molly is left on the landing, staring out at the car as Brent and Sarah drive away.

MOLLY (CONT'D): -- More than you can imagine.

Out on Molly, letting her defenses down as the tears begin to flow freely down her cheeks.

END OF EPISODE #56

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