

INT. CAR - NIGHT

BARRY, 45, drives.

CASSANDRA, 15, sits in the passenger seat.

CASSANDRA
Go Dad. It's green.

Barry shifts his hands on the wheel.

The scenery outside slowly starts to move.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
Why do you have to drive so slow?

BARRY
You're in a hurry now?

CASSANDRA
I want to get home.

BARRY
A minute ago you wanted to stay.

CASSANDRA
Ya, well, things change.

BARRY
You want to talk about it?

CASSANDRA
With you?

BARRY
Who else are you going to talk to?

Cassandra thinks.

CASSANDRA
Mittens.

BARRY
And what is Mitten's take on this?

CASSANDRA
He listens.

BARRY
He's a cat.

CASSANDRA
Why can't you be more like mom?

Silence.

Barry hands a tissue to Cassandra

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
No one thinks I'm pretty.

BARRY
Is it the freckles again?

CASSANDRA
No.

BARRY
I'll have enough for braces soon.

CASSANDRA
It's not that.

She wipes her eyes.

BARRY
Boys?

She overlaps her sweater over her chest and folds her arms.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Growing up takes time.

The car comes to a stop. Barry flips the turn signal on.

CASSANDRA
Tiffany calls me Little Miss Itty
Bitty, Dad!

BARRY
Is that why you did it?

She hides her face with her hair.

CASSANDRA
I can't believe her mom called you.

BARRY
You invited yourself to their
party... flashed them... And yelled
"suck it."

CASSANDRA
Bitches. Suck it, Bitches.

BARRY
Language. Please.

CASSANDRA
What else was I supposed to do?

BARRY
Ignore them.

CASSANDRA
That won't do anything.

BARRY
If you want to be respected, you
have to earn it.

CASSANDRA
They'll never respect me.

BARRY
Then find new friends.

The light turns green. Barry drives.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Did it feel good?

CASSANDRA
Not now.

Barry slows the car.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
I don't want to go home yet.

Barry looks. A car is in the driveway.

BARRY
Does she know?

CASSANDRA
Mom doesn't even know what I eat
for breakfast.

BARRY
What's his name.

CASSANDRA
I don't know. It's a new car.

Barry keeps driving.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
I fucking hate her.

BARRY
Hate's a strong word.

CASSANDRA
Everything is about her.

BARRY
Focus on improving yourself. Not
getting mad.

CASSANDRA
How did you do it all those years?

BARRY
I didn't.

CASSANDRA
Can we do this every week?