Crossing Paths

Written by

Challis Lee

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FADE IN:

1. INT. KITCHEN - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MORNING

KIRA, (27), wearing pajamas, sips on coffee while reading a newspaper. This apartment is very spacious, filled with basic grey furniture and no decorations. It doesn't look lived in. Kira sets the coffee down and gets up.

2. INT. BATHROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - MORNING

Kira starts her morning routine of using 5 different skincare products to wash her face, brushing her teeth aggressively, and putting lotion on her entire upper body.

3. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira sits on her bed while setting a timer on her phone for ten minutes. She turns on sounds of the ocean, and sits, meditating.

4. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - 10 MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira sets her phone down and goes into her massive walk-in closet. There are only black, blue, or grey suits inside.

KIRA (TO HERSELF) Hmm... wore grey yesterday.

She pulls out one of the blue suits and changes into it, taking off her pajamas.

5. INT. PARKING GARAGE - KIRA'S APARTMENT - TWENTY MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira gets in her car and turns on instrumental jazz music. She tries to find the beat by nodding her head, but she never quite catches it. She pulls off.

6. EXT. DRIVE - THROUGH - DUNKIN DONUTS - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira orders a large black coffee. When she pulls up to the window, the EMPLOYEE, (20), is obviously flirting with her.

**EMPLOYEE** 

Good morning, ma'am.

Good morning.

**EMPLOYEE** 

Why black coffee?

Kira looks at her watch.

KIRA

It keeps me going. Is it ready yet? I don't want to be late.

**EMPLOYEE** 

Almost but, ...

Kira is not paying attention to him, scrolling on her phone.

EMPLOYEE (CONT'D)

I just wanted to tell you that you have really pretty eyes.

He hands her the coffee, and Kira pulls off without making eye contact.

7. INT. PARKING GARAGE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - 30 MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira pulls into her designated, "Executive Director" parking spot.

KIRA (TO HERSELF)

Did he say I had pretty eyes?

She ponders on this for a moment, then gets out of the car.

8. INT. MAIN LOBBY - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira walks in and sees EMPLOYEES talking and laughing with one another. Kira walks towards them, smiling. They all spot her at the same time and with that, they stop talking.

KIRA

Good morning team!

They all wave awkwardly at her, and then scram. DAVE, (30s), stays behind.

DAVE

Good morning, boss lady!

He salutes at her. Kira raises her eyebrows at this sight.

Umm... yeah, Good morning, Dave.

Kira turns around and walks away.

9. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira turns on the computer.

#### **BEGIN MONTAGE:**

- Kira aimlessly looks over spreadsheets.
- She goes through what seems like 100 business calls.
- She drafts super long emails.

END MONTAGE.

10. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MOMENTS LATER - DAY

Kira grabs a stapler and starts playing with it. She accidentally stabs herself with a staple and starts bleeding from her finger. She grabs a band-aid out of her drawer and puts it on. Then, she notices her door is slightly cracked open so she looks out, closes it, and goes to sit back down. She grabs her phone and searches "How to have a more interesting life". The only things she comes across are pictures of people bungee jumping. Kira grimaces at this sight. She closes out of that search and puts her phone down.

11. INT. BREAK-ROOM - IRONCREST PARTNERS - HOURS LATER - DAY

Kira sits alone in the break-room, eating a salad. She turns on that same jazz music from earlier in her headphones, but still can't find the beat before she decides to turn it off. Kira scrolls through her apps and pauses on a dating app. She opens it, and starts slowly swiping through guys. She pauses on one and stares at his profile, before being interrupted by Dave.

DAVE

Hey! That salad looks good.

KIRA

Yeah, it is.

Dave goes to put his food in the microwave as Kira finishes her food.

12. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MINUTES LATER - DAY

Kira sits next to DAMON, (27),. Three MEN sit across from them, talking amongst themselves. Damon starts clapping, and everyone turns toward him.

DAMON

Fantastic! Now that I have your attention, I would like you guys to pay attention to the presentation my partner and I have put together. Kira, the floor is yours.

Kira awkwardly stands up and clears her throat.

KIRA

Thank you, Damon.

Kira walks over to the front and opens the presentation titled "Invest in IronCrest, or else". The men frown at the sight of the title.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Good afternoon. My name is Kira Dawson, and I am the executive financial director here at IronCrest... The title here, is just an inside joke between my partner Damon and I-

Kira gestures toward Damon.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Who you've already met. It just means that we are the best of the best, we can back it up, and we hold ourselves to a higher standard.

Kira clicks onto the next slide and it's filled with graphs and charts.

13. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - IRONCREST PARTNERS - 10 MINUTES LATER - DAY

KIRA

And that is why, you should invest in IronCrest, thank you.

The men in the room clap, and Damon gives her a reaffirming thumbs up. Kira feels her phone ringing and looks at it.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Excuse me gentlemen, I have to hop on a call. Thank you for listening and I hope to be in touch soon.

Kira darts out of the room as Damon longingly watches her leave.

14. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MINUTES LATER - DAY

Kira sits on the phone.

KIRA

Yeah, yeah, alright I'll get you that paperwork, soon... Yup you got it, ok take care.

Kira hangs up the phone. She pulls a bottle of water and a flavored water packet out of a drawer. She pours the packet into the water and shakes it, then she drinks it. Kira turns on her computer and it's back to the spreadsheets.

15. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - HOURS LATER - EVENING

Kira shuts down her computer and starts putting items in her purse. Then, she walks out of the office.

16. INT. PARKING GARAGE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Kira is almost to her car when Damon approaches. He motions towards Kira's car and the one next to it.

DAMON

Best parking seats in the house, huh?

KIRA

For sure. Absolutely.

Kira turns around to open the car door. Damon inches closer toward her.

DAMON

DAMON (CONT'D)

Thanks to my precise research and your killer presentation skills, we for sure landed that investor account in the bag.

KIRA

Thank you, Damon.

Damon inches even closer to Kira.

DAMON

You're welcome, Kira.

Kira cracks a polite smile and gets in the car. She closes the door and Damon taps on the window. Kira slowly lets it down.

DAMON (CONT'D)

Sorry, I know you're trying to get home. This will only take a second.

Kira waits for him to start talking. Damon takes a deep breath.

DAMON (CONT'D)

So, you know how we've been at this thing for awhile... been partners together for three years. In that time, I've always felt like we were meant to be... partners. We just work so well together and, I guess what I'm trying to say is... would you want to have dinner with me, ever?

KIRA

Dinner as in a work dinner?

DAMON

No...

KIRA

Oh. Damon I'm sorry, I'm just, not looking for anything serious right now.

DAMON

Okay. I understand... Get home safe.

He backs away from Kira's car. She starts to back up slowly, and waves at him awkwardly as she pulls off. He waves back and gets in his car.

### 17. INT. WEIGHT ROOM - GYM - 30 MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Kira sits on a bench, trying her luck with some weights. She lifts the left arm confidently, but not so much the right arm. She continues trying to balance out her arms until she can lift both weights at the same time. Eventually, she does. Then she does 2 sets of 10 reps each. She puts the weights down and walks to the back of the room where the boxing equipment is. There is a small boxing ring in the corner. Kira notices a GIRL in the ring, jabbing at the air. Kira walks over to her.

KIRA

Hey! You wanna go a round?

The Girl smiles at Kira and motions for her to come inside the ring. Kira puts on the equipment and they start sparring. The Girl is very quick, as Kira keeps missing her. When Kira does find an opportunity to land a hit, she underestimates the power of her punch and steps back after connecting. The Girls' mouth starts to bleed a little.

KIRA (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. I have tissues in my bag, I'll go get them.

GIRL

No! No let's just keep going.

KIRA

But you're-

GIRL

I don't care.

KIRA

Let me help you.

The Girl throws a quick punch at Kira and connects. Kira gets back into fighting stance and they continue. The Girl gains momentum and lands a series of quick punches on Kira. Kira eventually stops the fight.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Okay, okay, you win. I'm tired. Thanks for running a round with me.

GIRL

Yeah, no problem.

The Girl exits the ring and Kira stands there, breathing heavily.

18. INT. KITCHEN - KIRA'S APARTMENT - AN HOUR LATER - EVENING

Kira watches TV while devouring pasta. She takes very small, calculated bites. In what seems like forever, she manages to finish eating. She goes to the sink and washes out her bowl.

19. INT. BATHROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

There are beauty products spread all over the counter as Kira looks to read the back of each one. She settles on a face mask, and starts to apply it.

20. INT. BATHROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - 15 MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Kira pulls off the face mask slowly. Her face is radiant. She smiles with satisfaction. She then brushes her teeth and lotions her arms and legs.

21. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira goes into her closet and takes out a grey suit. She grabs an ironing board from under her bed and starts ironing it. Once she's finished, she hangs it back up in the closet.

KIRA

Perfection!

Kira checks the time as she gets into bed. It is 9PM on the dot. She sets her phone down and drifts off to sleep.

22. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Kira checks the date and time: Saturday, June 12th, 8 AM. She scrolls through her notifications and sees one from the dating app. She was matched with Kevin at 3 AM. She opens a message from him, it reads: "Hey! I noticed your profile and you're incredibly beautiful", I was wondering if you'd like to go out sometime". Kira blushes and starts typing.

23. EXT. PATIO - RESTAURANT - HOURS LATER - AFTERNOON

Kira sits dressed in a pink top and black skirt, looking around. KEVIN, (26), approaches.

**KEVIN** 

Hi, Kira?

Yes! Hi, I'm Kira. It is so nice to meet you Kevin.

Kevin smiles.

KEVIN

It's so nice to meet you.

They shake hands and he sits down.

KIRA

So, have you been here before?

Kevin looks around.

KEVIN

Oh, here? No I just looked up where to take someone on a first date. Apparently, this is one of the best spots in the city.

Kira nods.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

So, tell me about yourself, miss Kira.

KIRA

Yeah okay, I serve as the executive financial director at IronCrest Partners, I've had that title for a couple of years now and-

Kevin starts laughing. Kira pauses.

KEVIN

Oh, I'm sorry. It's just, I asked you to tell me about yourself and you decided to only tell me about your work. Don't you have any interests? Hobbies?

KIRA

Well if you let me finish... I would have told you how I like to decompress after work by going to the gym, reading, and eating my favorite food, pasta.

KEVIN

Ohh. Okay. Nice. My bad. All that sounds really nice, Kira.
(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Also, did you say, "executive financial director"?

KIRA

Yes.

**KEVIN** 

Whoa, biggg money. You should be the one taking me out!

Kevin laughs. Kira politely laughs.

KIRA

What about you?

KEVIN

Well, I'm currently in-between jobs as I used to work as a marketing analyst but the company went underwater, and my job along with it. Anyway, I like to be outdoors, I like to travel, hike, go camping you name it. As I dove deeper into those activities and actually started exploring more of what I want, I gotta say,

Kevin raises his empty glass.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Stick it to those corporate fucks!

Kira stares at him wide-eyed.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Oh, my bad, uhh, only <a href="those">those</a> corporate fucks. Not you, of course.

KIRA

Unhuh... So, what are you going to order?

**KEVIN** 

No comments on my hobbies? I'm not interesting enough for you, princess?

KIRA

Princess?- Oh you're pretty interesting Kevin.

KEVIN

Thank you, I appreciate that... I'm gonna go with the honey BBQ glazed salmon- sounds amazing.

KIRA

I'll go with the fettuccine alfredo dinner.

KEVIN

Kira...

KIRA

Kevin?...

KEVIN

Didn't you just say your favorite food was pasta? Why not expand your palette for once?

KIRA

I think my palettes doing fine. That's what I like.

Kevin surrenders by throwing his hands up in the air.

KEVIN

Okay, if that's what you like. Let's order.

# 24. EXT. PATIO - RESTAURANT - 45 MINUTES LATER - AFTERNOON

Kira and Kevin eat in silence. They've almost finished. The WAITER brings the check over and sets it in the middle of the table.

KIRA

Thank you.

She looks over at Kevin, waiting for him to say something. The waiter walks off.

**KEVIN** 

Well, how did you like the food?

KIRA

It was good. My palette was fulfilled.

Kevin awkwardly laughs.

KEVIN

It was good for me too.

So you said you're in-between jobs right? How do you make money right now?

KEVIN

Well, currently I just do trades on the stock market.

KIRA

That can't be reliable or sustainable.

KEVIN

Well my dad was into all this type of stuff when I was kid so I've been trained. It's fairly simple I can teach you. You just invest a little sprinkle here, and then there, and then boom! Money right to you.

Kira takes a deep breath. Kevin checks his phone.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Oh.

KIRA

What?

KEVIN

Well you see, one of my stocks, arguably my most valuable, just plummeted.

KIRA

What does that mean?

KEVIN

It means that lunch may have to be on you this time... But you got it, right? Big money? Executive director?

Kira scoffs. She puts her card on the table and calls over the Waiter. He takes her card. Kevin is shaking his leg and shifting, looking around. The Waiter comes back with the receipt.

WAITER

Enjoy the rest of you day.

KIRA

Oh I will. Thank you.

Kira and Kevin stand up to leave.

KEVIN

Hey so, when can we do this again sometime?

Kira puts her card back in her purse.

KIRA

We can't. Have a good day.

Kira walks off leaving Kevin standing there, dumbfounded.

25. INT. KITCHEN - KIRA'S APARTMENT - TWO DAYS LATER - MORNING

Kira sits as we once saw her before. Drinking coffee and reading the paper.

26. INT. BATHROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira goes through 5 different skincare products, each one needing to be applied more than the last. She brushes her teeth and puts lotion on her entire upper body.

27. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER - MORNING

Kira grabs her phone to set a timer for 10 minutes. Then, she lays on her back in bed, listening to the peaceful sounds of the ocean.

28. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - 10 MINUTES LATER - MORNING

The timer goes off and Kira opens her eyes. She walks into her closet and picks the grey suit. She starts changing into it.

29. INT. MAIN LOBBY - IRONCREST PARTNERS - AN HOUR LATER - MORNING

Kira sees the employees talking and laughing once again as she steps off the elevator. She does not go in their direction and heads the other way, straight toward her office. 30. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MOMENTS LATER - MORNING

Kira starts to get ready for the work day. She turns on the computer and sees an email with the subject line "Formal complaint". She clicks on it. Then, she presses the button for the company intercom.

KIRA (ON INTERCOM)

Can I have Crystal to my office, please? Thank you.

In what seems like a half a second later, CRYSTAL, (22), shows up at Kira's door. Kira politely smiles at her.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Hi, Crystal. Why don't you close the door and take a seat.

Crystal does. Kira takes a deep breath.

KIRA (CONT'D)

So, I noticed that, with some of your reports, the numbers were a bit off. Is that correct?

CRYSTAL

I don't- I don't believe so, no.

KIRA

Well I've just looked over one of your campaigns and I beg to differ.

Crystal nods.

KIRA (CONT'D)

So, do you understand that, here at IronCrest, we pride ourselves on being 100% accurate and checking our work?

CRYSTAL

Yes.

KIRA

Ok, good. So, how did this happen?

Crystal's eyes dart to the floor.

CRYSTAL

I'm not sure.

Crystal... you beat out what seemed like a <u>million</u> applications for our internship, and now you're telling me, that you don't know anything?

Kira sighs.

KIRA (CONT'D)

I'm going to give you one more chance. But, you make sure you check your work with Dave, everytime.

CRYSTAL

Every single number?

KIRA

Every single line. Every single number. Okay?

CRYSTAL

Yes, okay. Thank you.

Kira nods and Crystal exits the office, nervously trying not to slam the door behind her.

31. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - MANY HOURS LATER - EVENING

Kira stares deeply into her computer screen. The company phone rings, Kira answers.

KIRA

Hello... Yes, hello Davidson how are you doing?

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

I'm doing well, miss Dawson. I don't mean to call at the end of the work day but something has been brought to my attention.

KIRA

I've seen the email, no worries I am well aware.

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

So, you see, we would very much like to do business with you guys and so I excitedly looked over the audit reports after your presentation...

(MORE)

DAVIDSON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

And well, the numbers were not matching. Any idea why?

KIRA

Yes, yes that was the work of our <a href="lovely">lovely</a> intern. Sometimes we have her check the audits last. I apologize though, for any confusion. I will put someone else on it, and have it sent to you first thing tomorrow.

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

That sounds great and just for peace of mind, you will be firing this intern, correct?

KIRA

Excuse me?

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

Yes, we cannot invest in a company that allows such incompetence.

KIRA

That's a non issue. I've actually already discussed the problem with her and it's clear to her that she's on her last chance here.

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

There shouldn't be any chances.

KIRA

No disrespect, Davidson but I've just told the young lady that she has one more chance, so I'm not going to go back on my word.

DAVIDSON (O.S.)

Okay... Okay, we'll figure something out.

Kira mocks Davidson's use of "We".

DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

Thank you, Miss Dawson. I look forward to the <u>real</u> report in my inbox.

KIRA

Thank you, sir. Ok... bye.

#### 32. INT. CAR - AN HOUR LATER - EVENING

Kira drives while nodding her head to rap music.

#### 33. INT. WEIGHT ROOM - GYM - 10 MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Kira starts off with the weights again and she's hitting strides. She finishes her set and takes a look at her phone. She goes on social media and sees a video of Damon partying with other employees. She scoffs. Kira puts her phone down and walks over to the punching bag. She puts her headphones in and turns the music all the way up. She warms up by stretching, and then she starts hitting it. She does slow punches at first but after a few moments, she's able to hit it fast. From across the room, JAIME, (26), watches Kira. Jaime walks over to Kira as she's hitting the punching bag. Kira stops to bend down and grab her water bottle. As she turns back around, she bumps into Jaime.

**JAIME** 

Oh... Shit, I'm so sorry.

KIRA

No, sorry I didn't see you there.

**JAIME** 

No worries... I just couldn't help but notice-

Jaime motions to the punching bag.

JAIME (CONT'D)

How good you are.

Kira chuckles.

KIRA

Oh, no I'm average at best. Just trying to get back into it.

**JAIME** 

No such thing... So, where did you learn how to box like that?

KIRA

Oh, my mom was um, super into it and got me lessons as a kid. Turns out I had a natural talent, I guess.

**JAIME** 

So your mom was tryna turn you into the next Ann Wolf or Claressa Shields. I fuck with that.

Kira nods in approval.

KIRA

Those are deep cuts, I'm impressed.

**JAIME** 

Does your mom still train you?

Kira's eyes drop to the floor.

KIRA

No, she's no longer living.

**JAIME** 

Oh, I'm sorry.

KIRA

No worries.

**JAIME** 

What about your pops?

KIRA

I never knew the guy.

**JAIME** 

Hmm.

There is awkward eye contact between them.

JAIME (CONT'D)

Hey, I get it. My pops only passed a couple months ago.

KIRA

I'm sorry.

**JAIME** 

It's all good.

Jaime surveys the gym and how it's practically empty. She turns back towards Kira.

JAIME (CONT'D)

Hey, you know, most of the people in this gym are kinda scrubs when it comes to boxing. But in you, I see a worthy opponent. So, what do you say?

Jaime motions over to the ring.

KIRA

Oh um, are you sure? I mean I'm not as advanced as you think I am... I did make a girl bleed last time I fought in there though...

**JAIME** 

Perfect! Let's go.

Jaime runs over there and Kira takes small steps. They start putting on the gear.

KIRA

So, what type of sparring are we doing?

**JAIME** 

Technical, I wanna see your skills play out in real time.

KIRA

Okay.

Kira and Jaime get inside the ring.

**JAIME** 

Show me what you got.

Kira gets into position. They go at it. Jaime is pretty quick so Kira misses a lot. Jaime's punches are weak so when she connects, it barely affects Kira. Kira starts to mimic the speed of Jaime's timed defense, so she becomes quicker and lands a few good hits on Jaime.

JAIME (UNDER HER BREATH) (CONT'D)

Left foot... left... NO! Ugh.

Kira stops fighting.

KIRA

What?

Jaime chuckles.

**JAIME** 

You weren't supposed to hear that. Uh, it's just, you should pivot off your left you know, for more balance.

Kira tries this, and it shocks her at how much of a difference it made in her stance.

How do you know so much about boxing?

**JAIME** 

Oh you know it's just, probably the only thing my father and I ever agreed on. We could have every argument going on at the time but as soon as the fight was on, we were one.

KIRA

Did he teach you how to box too?

**JAIME** 

No. You know the "this is a mans" sport mumbo-jumbo bullshit. I could watch and study the thing all day but, no, no little Jaime was never allowed to participate... It's fine because I'm not that great anyway.

KIRA

Jaime?

**JAIME** 

Oh, shoot, yeah sorry I never introduced myself. I'm Jaime, Jaime Montgomery.

KIRA

Kira... Dawson.

They shake hands and talk while taking their boxing gear off.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Are you from around here?

**JAIME** 

No, no I grew up in Connecticut... You?

KIRA

Connecticut, never been. My mom always told me we had family there. I'm from here, Woodstock.

They finish taking the equipment off and start walking back towards the weights.

**JAIME** 

Woodstock. Is that far?

It's like a 2 hour drive from here.

They get to the door and Kira is about to open it.

**JAIME** 

Wait!

Kira stops.

JAIME (CONT'D)

So... I'm new to New York, and it's been kinda hard making friends, especially ones who have a passion for boxing like I do. I was wondering if you'd wanna go see this fight tonight? I got an in at an underground boxing club. I know how it sounds, but I promise you, it's completely safe.

KIRA

That sounds kinda cool, but you know it's a work night and I have to be up in the morning and stuff.

Jaime nods.

KIRA (CONT'D)

How about you give me your phone, and I'll put my number in.

Jaime hands her the phone.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Cool, so this way you can contact me, and if there's a fight this weekend you can count me in, friend.

Jaime nods and Kira walks out the door.

34. INT. KIRA'S OFFICE - IRONCREST PARTNERS - 2 DAYS LATER - AFTERNOON

Kira clicks away on her computer as she hears a knock.

KIRA

Come in.

Damon walks in and Kira sits up straight.

DAMON

Hey... So, when are we looking to have this meeting with Davidson because I'm really booked for the next couple of days.

Kira opens a calendar book.

KIRA

What about next Thursday morning, 9 AM.

Damon checks his phone.

DAMON

Yeah, yeah I guess that could work. I'll email the prep team.

Damon turns around to walk out.

KIRA

Hold on.

Damon stops.

KIRA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry about how-

DAMON

How you rejected me? It's fine. Water under the bridge.

KIRA

It's not you... I'm just, tryna figure myself out.

DAMON

You don't have to spare my feelings, Kira. I'm a big boy.

KIRA

I never meant to hurt you.

Damon nods. He walks over to Kira's desk and they have intense prolonged eye contact.

DAMON

It's... okay.

KIRA

Okay... Hey do you wanna know something else?

DAMON (SARCASTICALLY)

Sure, it's not like we are in the middle of the workday and I don't have other things to do.

KIRA

This will only take a minute.

Damon sits down.

KIRA (CONT'D)

So... I met someone.

DAMON

You sat me down to tell me how you went on a date? Are you serious?

KIRA

No, no. I met a girl.

Damon sits up and smirks.

DAMON

You're into girls?

KIRA

Damn it, Damon. A friend!

DAMON

Hmm. Disappointing.

Kira rolls her eyes.

KIRA

Anyway, we hit it off. And you know how I told you about getting back into boxing to stay connected to my mom?

Damon nods.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Well, I was at the gym and this girl approached me, we talked and we sparred. Then out of nowhere she starts coaching me. I felt like Rocky or something... Anyway, she invited me to this cool, hip, underground boxing ring. Doesn't that sound cool?

DAMON

Underground boxing, and you?

Yeah? Why not?

DAMON

That's certainly something. But you seem happy and that's all that matters you know. I hope you have fun.

KIRA

Thank you. One more thing. I saw that you took what seems like the entire office out for drinks?

DAMON

Just tryna build a little company culture here. Why? Did you want an invite?

KIRA

Absolutely not.

DAMON

Well, then don't get cute.

Kira blushes. Damon takes notice of this. Then, he stands up.

DAMON (CONT'D)

Okay well, I gotta get back to this paperwork. See you later.

KIRA

Bye.

Damon leaves.

35. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - IRONCREST PARTNERS - HOURS LATER - EVENING

Kira stands in front of about 20 JUNIOR PARTNERS. They anxiously wait for her to say something.

KIRA

Hello! I know some of your faces. But, if you haven't gotten the chance to work with me directly, my name is Kira Dawson. I am the financial executive here at IronCrest. Which means you report and all of your reports, go to me.

Damon walks in. Kira motions towards him.

KIRA (CONT'D)

My partner, Damon, is the one you guys have been working closely with. So, he's going to give you guys some much needed updates.

Kira sits down and Damon goes to the front.

36. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - IRONCREST PARTNERS - 30 MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Damon finishes his presentation. Everyone claps.

#### DAMON

So, I hope that wasn't too fast. Now, we're going to show you guys again, how we do the numbers here. I know it's very specific and meticulous, but that's the way we roll. Okay now, everyone, open up your laptops.

The Junior Associates open up their laptops. Damon looks over at Kira and nods. Kira claps at him.

37. INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - 2 HOURS LATER - EVENING

Kira walks in the door and sets her belongings down.

38. INT. BEDROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira turns on music and starts dancing along. She changes into sweatpants and a t-shirt. Once she's dressed, she starts cleaning up around her bed/closet. She takes a huge dive into her bed and lays there for a moment. Then, she gets up.

39. INT. KITCHEN - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira pulls leftover pizza out of the fridge and microwaves it. Then she sits at the table and eats. She finishes all the slices and drinks two glasses of water behind it. Then, she gets up. 40. INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira sits on the couch, scrolling through TV channels. She comes across a channel of a boxing match, smiles to herself, and lets the fight play. She watches. Kira picks up her phone and calls Jaime.

KIRA

Hello?

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - AT THE SAME TIME - EVENING

**JAIME** 

Hey! What's up.

INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KIRA

How have you been, friend?

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

**JAIME** 

I've been good, just flowing through the week. You?

INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KIRA

Yeah, I've been good too.

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

**JAIME** 

Do you still wanna hit up the fight this Saturday?

Jaime grins.

INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KIRA

Yes! I was just calling to ask you where it's at, and what should I wear.

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Jaime chuckles.

**JAIME** 

What you should wear? Uhh, jeans and t-shirt works...
(MORE)

JAIME (CONT'D)

Or anything, really. It's at this place on Madison. You know what, why don't you just send me your address. That way I'll meet you and then we can go together.

INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KIRA

Okay, I'll send that to you. And, what time does it start?

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

**JAIME** 

Well, officially, the fight starts around 10. But I'm VIP so we can go and get in whenever you would like.

INT. LIVING ROOM - KIRA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KIRA

Okay! I'm excited! See you Saturday.

INT. JAIME'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

JAIME

You bet, K.

They hang up.

41. INT. KITCHEN - KIRA'S APARTMENT - THREE DAYS LATER - EVENING

Kira and Jaime sit at the table, eating chicken wings and laughing.

**JAIME** 

Yo, and it was like, the craziest shit ever. People jumping on walls, hanging from the ceiling... ok I might have imagined that last one. But seriously, it was truly incredible.

Jaime's laughing dies down.

JAIME (CONT'D)

You ever done any shrooms?

KIRA

No, never.

**JAIME** 

We're so different, how are we even friends?

KIRA

Didn't you know? You're just my friend for optics.

**JAIME** 

No, actually that's why you're my friend.

Jaime surveys the room.

JAIME (CONT'D)

I mean, look at this place, it's incredible.

KIRA

Thank you. Hard work pays off. Speaking of... where did you go to college?

Jaime shakes her head no.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to assume.

JAIME

No no, it's ok. Never thought college was my thing. It's definitely what my pops wanted me to do though. Speaking of.

Jaime pulls her phone out and shows Kira a picture of her and her father.

JAIME (CONT'D)

This picture showed up in my phone memories today... Just made me think about him.

Jaime watches Kira look at the picture.

KIRA

Aww! That's very cute!

Jaime puts the phone down.

**JAIME** 

Yeah... thanks. You ready to go?

Yeah!

They get up and head out.

# 42. EXT. BOXING RING - AN HOUR LATER - EVENING

Kira and Jaime stand outside the boxing ring. Kira stares at the small, dingy, building.

**JAIME** 

After you.

Kira walks in and Jaime follows behind her.

# 43. INT. BOXING RING - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira and Jaime walk in. There are a bunch of SPECTATORS yelling and aggressive rock music is blasting in the background. Kira shifts around nervously. Jaime spots a group of people and runs over, going to give everyone a high five. Kira backs into a corner as she looks around. She loses sight of Jaime. Then, the ANNOUNCER walks into the ring.

#### ANNOUNCER

Welcome to the battle of the bloods! Y'all know the drill. 5 rounds of 3 minutes, no rules and I get to decide who's the winner, unless there's a knockout of course. Are y'all ready?

The crowds erupts. Kira spots Jaime and runs over to her.

JAIME (YELLING)

Glad to see you made it in!

She gives Kira a smirk. FIGHTER ONE and FIGHTER TWO enter the ring and the match starts. Fighter One instantly pounces on Fighter Two, hitting him with quick jabs. Jaime (along with the rest of the crowd) start hurling insults at Fighter Two. As the fight goes on, it gets bloodier.

#### 44. INT. BOXING RING - AN HOUR LATER - EVENING

Fighter Two is on his last legs. His face is black and blue, beaten to a pulp.

KIRA (TO JAIME) Is he gonna be okay?

**JAIME** 

Probably not, no.

Kira looks back at him. The clocks running out on the last round as the crowd counts down from 10. Fighter One has Fighter Two on the ropes. Then, all of a sudden, Fighter Two breaks out of the hold and goes for one final punch, it's a knockout! The crowd goes crazy. Kira joins in, cheering. Jaime turns to Kira.

JAIME (CONT'D)

Meet me outside, I'll just be a minute.

Kira nods.

# 45. EXT. BOXING RING - MOMENTS LATER - EVENING

Kira stands outside the door. When the door swings open as someone comes out, Kira peeps inside and she sees Jaime kissing a MAN, passionately. Kira quickly moves away from the door. Jaime comes outside.

**JAIME** 

So, what did you think?

Kira beams.

KIRA

It was... incredible! Thank you, for inviting me.

**JAIME** 

Absolutely, friend. I'm glad you had fun... Fucking insane ending though, right?

KIRA

In... sane.

They both chuckle. Kira looks around.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Well, it's pretty late so I'm gonna call a car. You should call one too.

**JAIME** 

Nah, I'm good. Train's cheap, ya know.

Kira scoffs.

Don't be ridiculous, Jaime it's the middle of the night.

Jaime shrugs. Kira takes a beat. She pulls out her phone and hands it to Jaime.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Here, enter your place, and I'll call you one.

**JAIME** 

Are you sure?

KIRA

Of course.

Jaime takes Kira's phone.

**JAIME** 

Thank you.

Kira smiles and nods.

# 46. EXT. BOXING RING - 10 MINUTES LATER - EVENING

Two cars pull up to the boxing ring. Kira and Jaime wave goodbye while getting in the cars. Then, both cars pull off.

END OF ACT ONE