

Story and Screenplay
COME WHAT MAY

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"COME WHAT MAY"

FADE FROM BLACK:

1 EXT. SNOW FALLING ON TREES AND PASTURES - DAY

A steady flurry of snow graces the gray skies and winter countryside.

CALEB (V.O.)

When I was young, my father told me
not to walk barefoot in the clover;
I'd get stung by a bee. Thing is,
I'd done it lot's of times, never
got stung, so I didn't believe him.
He said, "people believe what they
choose to...

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

2 EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

College students go on about their daily lives, walking to
and from class.

CALEB (V.O.)

...but you need to believe the
truth.

CALEB sits in an open field with his Bible, in deep
thought.

CALEB (V.O.)

What you believe determines what
you will do." I was nineteen before
I understood that.

Caleb's opens his eyes.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

3 EXT. VARIOUS CAMPUS LOCATIONS - NIGHT/DAY

-Students study on cement campus steps.

-Trees tower above a lovely lawn.

-College buildings are illuminated at night.

-A dusty red sky peers behind tree branch silhouettes ect...

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

4 EXT. ESTABLISHING - UNIVERSITY - DAY

Nice University building, students on campus.

DISSOLVE TO:

5 INT. DON'S BIOLOGY CLASS ROOM - DAY

DON sits at the head of an empty classroom, going through papers. Anatomy posters are on the walls and a microscope rests on the desk.

A pair of hands gently place a 700-page manuscript, wrapped with big rubber bands, on the desk. Don continues writing, looking down.

DON

What did you think?

It's his son, Caleb. He tosses a baseball side to side as he speaks.

CALEB

Well, for a biology textbook, it's pretty good.

DON

(Still looking down)Hm!

CALEB

Come on Dad, you know me. Might 'of skipped some of the scientific... chapters.

(beat)

But hey, I can't wait til it comes out in hardback.

Don flips a page in his book.

(CONTINUED)

DON
(Sarcastically)
Yeah.

CALEB
It's a no-brainer publishing that.

DON
(Doubtful)
Doesn't fit the liberal university
template.

CALEB
(Dismissing Don's doubt)
Right. It'll sell like crazy.
You'll find a publisher.

DON
(See that's what worries me. I
publish that,
(beat)
I probably won't make tenure.)

CALEB
Nah!

Father and son stare at each other in uncertainty and
silence.

CALEB
(Changing the subject)
Hey come on, I want to show you
something.

Don rises to leave.

DISSOLVE TO:

6 EXT. PHC - DAY

A grand, red brick sign for Patrick Henry College.
FOUNDER'S HALL lies in the distance.

DISSOLVE TO:

Caleb gets out of the car.

CALEB (V.O.)
Kinda nice, huh?

(CONTINUED)

DON (V.O)
Yeah...

Father and son and stand together, leaning on the front of the car, looking at Founder's Hall.

DON
It's awfully small.

CALEB
Well I don't care how big it is,
just how good it is.

Don turns to Caleb. Stares.

DON
You really want to transfer.

CALEB
It's got the best Moot Court team
IN THE country.

DON
It's good training.

CALEB
Oh it's the best training. It's
almost like debating the Supreme
Court.

DON
Well, it's fine with me.

A brooding pause. Caleb turns to his father, somewhat worried.

CALEB
What about Mom?

DON
Yup.

Father and son stare onward.

Their car drives away.

DISSOLVE TO:

7 EXT. ESTABLISHING JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

A high-powered Washington law firm. Cars circle through the driveway in front.

8 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

JUDITH HOGAN, 40s, smartly dressed and heels clicking on the hard floor, walks briskly through the lobby of an imposing Washington law firm. Running up behind her is MITCH GARVIS, 50s, the firm's managing partner. Judith passes a receptionist.

MITCH

Judith!

Judith halts her march and turns to see Mitch catching up to her.

MITCH

Nice job on those arguments today.

JUDITH

Thanks! We'll see how it goes.

MITCH

You know, this could go to the Supreme Court.

JUDITH

Hah, you'd like that wouldn't you?

MITCH

And you wouldn't?

JUDITH

(Smiling)

See you later Mitch.

Judith leaves. Mitch smiles at her retreating back -- things at the firm are going very well indeed.

9 EXT. HOGAN HOUSE - MORNING

A nice Brick Rambler in the country, twittering birds.

10 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - MORNING

Don grates cheese.

Caleb, baseball in one hand, chalk in the other, writes "Malum Prohibitum" on kitchen blackboard. Caleb finishes and walks to kitchen island, between his mother Judith, eating a bagel, and his father Don, preparing a meal.

CALEB

Malum prohibitum means wrong just because we say it is. It's not inherently or morally wrong, like... stealing, which would be "malum in se."

Judith, wearing tailored business attire looks up from her breakfast.

JUDITH

Good. Give me an example.

CALEB

A speed limit. Driving faster than forty is only wrong because we say it is. It's not *morally* wrong to drive fifty, it's just a rule.

JUDITH

What about a hundred?

(beat)

If you drive through a residential neighborhood at a hundred, is that morally wrong?

CALEB

Yeah. You bet.

JUDITH

What about fifty-four? Is that morally wrong?

CALEB

Nah I guess not.

JUDITH

How about Seventy-eight?

Caleb ponders this.

JUDITH

See Caleb when somebody tells you that something is "morally wrong",

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH (cont'd)
watch out. There's always a sliding
scale.

Don catches this phrase, and stares up from his cooking.

JUDITH (O.S.)
Even stealing.

Caleb's eyes wander to his father.

JUDITH
Well, what if you're starving?

Don tilts his head, ever so slightly, and gives Judith A
LOOK.

JUDITH
Some people are so sure that
everything's black and white.
There's always a gray area Caleb.
They just won't admit it.

An awkward silence permeates the room as Don keeps eyes
fixed on Judith and then turns to see Caleb's reaction.
Caleb is looking down, rolling his baseball on the counter
top.

Don has had enough -- he goes to the blackboard and takes up
the chalk and begins to write:
"Fiat justicia et pereat mundus."

Judith knows her comments have disturbed him, and she looks
to the floor -- this has happened before.

Don finishes his statement with the swipe of an underline
and silently walks past Judith down the hall. Judith stares
at the empty space he just occupied.

Caleb looks at his mother, awaiting her inevitable retort.

There's only the sound of Don's retreating footsteps.

JUDITH
(calling to Don)
I thought biologists only knew
enough Latin to name body parts!

She waits, no reply.

JUDITH
Don?

A door slams down the hall.

(CONTINUED)

Judith collects her papers and briefcase and whisks herself out of the opposite side of the kitchen, leaving Caleb, still fiddling with his baseball.

Front door slams.

Caleb turns to the chalkboard and starts writing in English, though we don't see what it all says.

DISSOLVE TO:

11 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

The noon sun spotlights an eraser and chalk resting on the counter.

Judith comes home from a long day at work and glances at Caleb's writing on the chalkboard -- the words:

"Do the right thing come what may"

It's Caleb's translation of Don's previous writing on the board.

Judith puts her bags on the counter, picks up the chalk and begins quickly erasing the blackboard. Don enters from the opposite side of the kitchen with bundle of papers and stands by the island.

Judith finishes and turns to look at him, sighs. She moves to the island - on the opposite Don. Confrontation.

DON

You wanna start this again?

(beat)

JUDITH

(Still a bit riled up)

Just admit: not everything is
absolute-

DON

(Interrupting)

I never said everything is
absolute! YOU'RE the one who said
nothing is!

JUDITH

Why are we still fighting about
this after all these years?

(beat)

(CONTINUED)

DON
I know you're worried Caleb might
get the wrong set of values.

JUDITH
(Scoffs)

DON
So am I.

She stares.

DON
So what do we do now?

JUDITH
Get rid of that blackboard!

DON
I'm SERIOUS.
(beat)

JUDITH
Well, what about our Friday night
dates? I suppose we could start
that again.

DON
OK. Who's gonna cook?

JUDITH
I *would*, but I have a lot of cases
right now. I'm very busy Don!

DON
Never mind. I'll do it.

Don quickly grabs his keys from the counter, walks past his
wife as he exits the kitchen.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

12 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

A red-brick building with colonnades, a spectacular
fountain, and immaculate landscaping give this campus an
old-world flair as students meander about.

SUPER: "NATIONAL MOOT COURT CHAMPIONSHIP"

A stream of people are entering the building. Don, Judith and Caleb are among them.

13 INT. FOUNDER'S HALL LOBBY - DAY

Bright flags hang over the lobby buzzing with activity.

SUPER: "FINAL ROUND"

DISSOLVE TO:

14 INT. FOUNDER'S HALL - AUDITORIUM - DAY

[Note: the scenario for this Moot Court competition is based on Scott v. Harris, 550 US (2007)(Slip. Op. 05-1631). The case is at www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/06pdf/05-1631.pdf, and the video is at www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/06slipopinion.html, entry number 37]

Don, Judith and Caleb sit in a packed audience, listening intently to RACHEL, 18. Rachel stands stiffly at a podium before JUDGE STERNS, who sits at the bench flanked by two other judges.

RACHEL

...examined the evidence, and granted the defendant's motion for summary judgment under rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure-

JUDGE STERNS

(Interjecting)

Counsel, we know the facts. Here's the problem with your case. The rule is: we must consider the evidence in the light most favorable to Mr. Smith.

RACHEL

Your Honor, if we -

JUDGE STERNS (O.S.)

He says he was driving safely.

JUDGE STERNS

By the rules, don't we have to assume that is true?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

No your Honor. Under Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, you only assume it's true if there is a genuine dispute about the facts-

JUDGE STERNS

(Interrupting again)

There's a dispute about the facts. Mr. Smith says he was driving safely. The police say he was endangering the public.

RACHEL

It's not a genuine dispute, your Honor. In this case,

Students take notes.

RACHEL (O.S.)

there was a video taken from the police car's dash camera.

RACHEL

It contradicts Mr. Smith in every respect. The pursuit speed exceeded one hundred miles per hour in a residential neighborhood. There were children playing on the sidewalk. Here we have opposing parties telling different stories,

Judges take in the argument attentively.

RACHEL

but Mr. Smith's story is blatantly contradicted by the record.

JUDGE STERNS

Go on.

RACHEL

The jury was going to see the video, and once they did, they wouldn't believe Mr. Smith's story. The law doesn't require the trial judge to believe something that no jury would ever believe. There is no genuine dispute about the facts.

Students taking notes whisper to each other as Rachel talks.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
And this case was correctly
dismissed.

Rachel delivered her final line with optimism and surety.

JUDGE STERNS
All right. Your time's up. Counsel,
thank you.

Rachel sits.

DISSOLVE TO:

15 INT. FOUNDER'S HALL - AUDITORIUM - DAY

CLOSE ON PROFESSOR KAMEN at podium, mid speech in front of
an expectant audience. B

KAMEN
All the participants presented
their arguments with skill and
conviction, and are a credit to
their schools. And, with four teams
placing in the top six positions,
our repeating National Championship
team is once again Patrick Henry
College!

Applause ripples and climaxes as the winning PCH students
stand smiling, trophies in hand. Camera lights flash on
their faces.

Even Judith joins in the applause.

At the front row, Judith sees MIKE FARRIS, 50's, PCH
chancellor, restraining a huge grin as he claps for his
team. She's impressed by the team, but inwardly wishes they
had failed.

Winning students continue to stand in a row, smiling.

CUT TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

16 EXT. HOGAN HOUSE - DAY

It's an other nice day at the Hogan house.

JUDITH (V.O.)
Are you serious Caleb?

17 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Don is in the back, leaning on a counter. Judith arranges roses in a vase on the island as Caleb tunes an electric guitar next to her.

JUDITH
You would actually transfer to
Patrick Henry College?

CALEB
Yeah, you saw how good they are.

JUDITH
(Scoffing)
For crying out loud, they still
teach that God made the world in
six days Caleb.

CALEB
Yeah w-well, do you care about
their philosophy, or about their
tactics?

JUDITH
Well, philosophy informs tactics.

CALEB
And so, you don't want their
philosophy informing -- or,
corrupting -- my tactics.

JUDITH
Bingo.

CALEB
And I suppose that would explain
why they have THE best debate team
in the country?

Zing. She's caught and she knows it. She looks at Caleb and then turns back to the roses, lips twisted. Don is slightly amused.

(CONTINUED)

DON

Look. You said if they won he could visit. So we're going.

Judith gives in.

18 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

It's a lovely day at PHC.

19 INT. PHC CHAPLAIN OFFICE

Judith and Don sit in the chaplain's office.

Don has an understanding look on his face -- he likes what he hears. Judith is spacing out -- she can't believe she was dragged into this situation.

The CHAPLAIN, 30s, is a cheerful, friendly man in glasses, suit and bow tie.

CHAPLAIN

Here, we have confidence in reason, because we have confidence in God, so that, you know, what I say we do here is "fearless learning"...

20 INT. PHC CAFETERIA - DAY

Rachel and Caleb carry their trays to the end of a table. They sit.

CALEB

My mom doesn't want me coming here.

21 INT. PHC CHAPLAIN OFFICE - DAY

CHAPLAIN

...and our whole goal is to hone the mind to know the facts, and to understand the world.

22 INT. PHC CAFETERIA - DAY

RACHEL

Why do you want to come here?

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

I'm working at my mom's law firm.
Five years 'til I make partner. I
want the best training I can get.

23 INT. PHC CHAPLAIN OFFICE - DAY

DON

Didn't PHC take first, second and
third place at Nationals?

Judith glances down at her watch.

CHAPLAIN

(Almost gleeful)

Yes.

DON

Two years in a row?

CHAPLAIN

Yes.

24 INT. PHC CAFETERIA - DAY

RACHEL

You came here for Moot Court?
That's it?

CALEB

This school turns out the best
debaters.

25 INT. PHC CHAPLAIN OFFICE - DAY

CHAPLAIN

We don't close off the... the
boundaries of knowledge, and we
want to know all the natural facts
and all the supernatural facts.

26 INT. PHC CAFETERIA - DAY

CALEB

What about you? Why'd you come
here?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Just, the way things worked out in my life, I believe God wanted me here.

(beat)

Do you know what he wants for you?

CALEB

I'll know soon enough.

RACHEL

How's that?

27 INT. PHC CHAPLAIN OFFICE - DAY

CHAPLAIN

I really think that your son's going to find something powerful here.

Don contemplates the Chaplain's words. Judith could care less.

CALEB (V.O.)

If my mom lets me transfer...

28 INT. PHC CAFETERIA - DAY

CALEB

...it'll be a miracle.

29 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Judith's hands scribble out a check on counter.

Judith, Caleb and Don stand around the island. Caleb is fiddling with his baseball again.

JUDITH

Here's the deal.

She holds up the check.

JUDITH

We'll pay for your first year at Patrick Henry College.

A hopeful look from Caleb.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

This-

She brandishes the another check.

JUDITH

-is for next year.

CALEB

Uhhh... I, don't follow this.

JUDITH

Well, you luuvv the debate program
at PHC right?

Caleb questions his father with a look. Don is firm, arms
crossed.

JUDITH (O.S.)

So I'm making you a deal.

JUDITH

I'll pay for the following year.

She offers Caleb the check, but as he starts to reach for
it, she pulls it back.

JUDITH

IF, you win the Moot Court
Championship.

Judith slips the check into her purse.

JUDITH

Consider it a challenge from your
mom...

(beat)

...and your dad.

Judith, self-satisfied, looks at Don who still has his arms
crossed. Caleb can't believe his father agreed to this.

JUDITH (O.S.)

Don't wait for dinner. I'm working
late.

Judith exits out the front door as Caleb and Don stand
awkwardly at the island.

The front door slams.

Silence.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

So dad...
(beat)
...what's for dinner?

DON

You know how she feels about that
school.
(beat)
It's a miracle I got that much.

Don walks out of the room and leaves Caleb tossing his
baseball side to side.

CALEB

(Calling to Don)
You want deep dish pepperoni?

30 EXT. PHC CAMPUS - DAY

PHC students play volley ball, walk to class ect.

CALEB (V.O.)

So, I got my miracle. You'd think
it was a sign from God that things
were going according to plan. And
they were. His plans, not mine.

31 INT. MOOT COURT CLASS - DAY

Eight teams -- sixteen students -- wait for the professor.
Among them is Rachel, laptop flipped open, in lively
conversation with her peers.

Caleb and roommate, DAVE, are the last to arrive.

DAVE

So, what have we got?

RACHEL

(Obviously excited)
It's the parental notification
case.

DAVE (O.S.)

Sweet.

RACHEL

Yeah. Overturn Roe versus Wade.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
(Disbelief)
Overturn Roe?

The students quiet down, they stare at Caleb.

CALEB (O.S.)
You can't argue that.

CALEB
You say "overturn Roe" in
America's liberal wasteland and
BAM! You lose.

The students stare and murmur -- "What's he talking about?"

DAVE
We're scored on preparation and
presentation. Make your argument
well, and you win.

CALEB (O.S.)
Nooo...

CALEB
...you say that at all and they'll
think you're crazy, and you lose.

DAVE
What else is there?

CALEB
Well-I-don't-know-yet,

DAVE
Listen, you do what you want, but
I'm going for the Big One.

CALEB
Fine. Just don't pick me for a
partner.

Caleb turns to Rachel.

CALEB
(To Rachel)
What do you think?

RACHEL
It needs to be overturned.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

You're not overturning anything,
It's not a real case.

RACHEL

It doesn't matter. It's the
principle.

CALEB

What principle? It's Moot Court --
it's not real.

DR. FARRIS (O.S)

So team, what do you think?

They all turn to the sound of this voice. It's DR. FARRIS at
the door.

DR. FARRIS

Shall we get to work dismantling
Roe versus Wade?

CALEB

Sir, overturn Roe...

Dr. Farris walks to the front of the room.

CALEB

...in these circumstances, I-I just
don't think it's a winner right
there.

FARRIS

Well, what do you the rest of you
think?

STUDENTS

(General consent & optimism)
"Let's do it.. yeah... sure... why
not" ect.

RACHEL

I'm all for taking that risk.

FARRIS

It is a risk, but it's one I would
encourage you to take.

CALEB

Dr. Farris, are you... forbidding
me from making a different
argument?

(CONTINUED)

FARRIS (O.S.)
Not necessarily. It's not something
I would do. But that's something
you're going to have to decide...

Farris nods toward Rachel

FARRIS
... along with your partner.

Caleb slowly turns and sees Rachel staring pleasantly at him. She delivers a sly smile.

32 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

Caleb stalks out of Founder's Hall - not happy. Rachel trails him.

RACHEL
Caleb!

Caleb turns around just as Rachel drops her papers onto the sidewalk. They both kneel down, gathering Rachel's things.

RACHEL
Hey, cheer up.

CALEB
(Agitated)
Yeah?

RACHEL
You're not... giving up, are you?

CALEB
I'm no quitter but I just hate it
when I'm hamstrung right off the
bat. I have to win this thing, and
I cannot-

RACHEL
You can't what?

Caleb shifts his words to conceal why he almost said.

CALEB
Uh... I can't stand to lose.

RACHEL
Well, now that's what I like to
hear.

They both rise to their feet.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
That's why I picked you.

CALEB
You picked me? I thought Dr.
Farris chose teams.

RACHEL
Well, I had a little input. My
partner from last year graduated,
and you transferred just to compete
in Moot Court. So, I figured you'd
work hard.

CALEB
Oh, well yeah. I-I did come here to
win.

RACHEL
Well, then keep your eyes on the
ball and your head in the game.

33 EXT. ESTABLISHING JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

An afternoon at Judith's firm.

34 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Judith is in her busy office at Garvis, Lane & Hoskins, desk
is stacked with papers. Phones ring.

Garvis enters. He carries a folder which he plops onto her
desk. A MOUSY ASSISTANT follows him in with a file box and
puts it down on her desk as well.

JUDITH
What is this?

GARVIS
I'm kicking this up from
downstairs.

JUDITH
Mitch, you know I don't have time!

GARVIS
They have stalled it for two years,
and it needs some attention.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH
Well, fine, give it to Beecham!

GARVIS
Your attention.

He's gone. Judith glances over at the Mouse who scoots the box towards Judith and scurries out of the room.

DISSOLVE TO:

35 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Later that day, Judith writes on a legal pad as the clock ticks. Caleb moseys into Judith's office.

JUDITH
I thought you'd never get here!

Caleb double-checks his watch.

CALEB
I'm almost ten minutes early.

JUDITH
I need those Rousch Diesel
interrogatories.

Judith rushes across the room to the box of files and her laptop. She sits on a couch, clicks around on her computer.

CALEB
Uh, I e-mailed those like an hour ago.

JUDITH
Oh, I got'em. Here, take a look at this.

She hands over the folder, without looking up.

JUDITH
Um, it's a civil rights case. Some farmer suing the county for false arrest.

Caleb looks at a sheet stapled inside the folder.

CALEB
Oh no Mom, not another fish file...

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH
Builds character son.

CALEB
We've had this thing for two years
now, it stinks.
(suspiciously)
What's wrong with this case?

JUDITH
I don't know, I haven't looked at
it.

Caleb hoists up his backpack and starts to shuffle out of
the office.

CALEB
(Jokingly)
Well fine. I'll take it downstairs
and put it in my big smelly stack
of toxic fish files and get to it
later.

JUDITH
That's fine. I need that file 702
analysis first anyway.

CALEB
Ok, I'll be in my dungeon. And I
want hazardous duty pay.

JUDITH
What, so you can pay your own
tuition next year?

Ouch.

Hurt, Caleb retreats into the hall.

36 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Caleb and Rachel sit in a library, books flopped over the
table in front of them, Caleb's laptop flipped open.

RACHEL
This case is on appeal to the US
Supreme Court from the State of
Arcadia Supreme Court. State law
says...

37

INT./EXT. RACHEL AND CALEB STUDYING MONTAGE - DAY/NIGHT

- Rachel unshelves books.
- Rachel and Caleb sit in an empty classroom in discussion.
- Rachel and Caleb research on their laptops.
- Rachel and Caleb sit in a gazebo, talking.

RACHEL (V.O.)

...if a woman eighteen or younger seeks an abortion, the doctor has to tell her parents three days before the procedure. Well, fourteen-year-old Miss Doe went to get an abortion, and Doctor Crabshaw did not notify the parents. They found out and sued Doctor Crabshaw. The judge threw the case out; he said it was so early in the pregnancy, the baby wasn't viable.

CALEB (V.O.)

And so Miss Doe's Constitutional right to have an abortion was absolute. Her parents didn't even have a right to know about it.

RACHEL (V.O.)

But the law said you don't look at viability.

CALEB (V.O.)

But the judge said you have to, because if the baby isn't viable, he has no rights under the Constitution.

RACHEL (V.O.)

So how do you define "viable?"

CALEB (V.O.)

Eh... it depends on your technology. If your machines can keep him alive outside the womb, he's viable.

38 INT. PHC LIBRARY "OAK TABLE" - DAY

Rachel looks at Caleb incredulously.

RACHEL

So if the mother goes to
Vanderbilt, the baby has rights
under the constitution. If she goes
to the Speedy Health Mart, they can
kill him?

CALEB

Pretty much.

Rachel leans back in her chair. A sad disgust is written on
her face.

39 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

More boxes of files are delivered to Judith's office.

Caleb and Judith enter her office and see Garvis standing
there, thumbing through some of the files.

GARVIS

Judith!

JUDITH

What is this?

GARVIS

It's just the perfect way to start
your weekend!

Judith stares at Garvis, hands open at her sides -- what's
going on?

GARVIS

Quincy v. Patterson Medical.

JUDITH

We got it?

GARVIS

We got it!

JUDITH

(Gasp)

Ohhh!

She rushes to Garvis who unloads a big box files onto the
floor.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Well this sounds great. What is it?

JUDITH

(To Caleb)

It's the parental notification appeal from Nebraska. It's kinda like your Moot Court case, except its real... And I'm representing Patterson Medical in the US Supreme Court.

Caleb is alarmed.

CALEB

Woah...um,

This is bad.

GARVIS

All right. So, see you at the party tonight?

JUDITH

You really need me?

GARVIS

I do. Caleb, you be there too.

CALEB

Yeah, yeah.

Garvis leaves. Caleb kneels down close to his mother.

CALEB

Mom. NOT GOOD.

JUDITH

(beat)

Caleb, this is between me and your father.

CALEB

Yeah? And I'm right in the middle of it. For the last couple months now I've been trying to kill this case in Moot Court, and now you have the real thing, there is NO WAY dad is going to like it.

JUDITH

Well that's why it needs to come from me. If it comes from you it will be a lot worse.

(CONTINUED)

Caleb gets up.

CALEB
Just tell Mitch to reassign it.
Just do that.

Judith recoils.

JUDITH
I don't think so! The lawyers from
Patterson Medical have asked FOR
ME!

Caleb looks unimpressed and shrugs. Judith ups the ante,
pulling out all the stops to win Caleb to her side.

JUDITH
Caleb, this is my chance at the
Supreme Court!

CALEB
Yeah? Or divorce court!

Caleb leaves, fuming.

JUDITH
Ugh!:

40 EXT. MITCH GARVIS HOUSE - NIGHT

It's a deck party. Tiki torches and a table of food add to
the atmosphere.

As is the fashion, the DC elite show how in touch they are
with the common man by dressing casually.

41 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

The water is boiling as Don tends to pots on the stove.

42 EXT. MITCH GARVIS HOUSE - NIGHT

Garvis spots his star player.

GARVIS
Judith.

JUDITH
Hey Mitch!

(CONTINUED)

GARVIS
Caleb, good to see you.

JUDITH
Hey, I do have to leave early.

GARVIS
No!
(To the crowd)
Everybody! Our rising star!

Cheers all around. They surround Judith, shaking her hand, congratulating her. Caleb is left behind.

43 EXT. MITCH GARVIS HOUSE - NIGHT

The party continues. Judith's admirers haven't left her side.

JUDITH
I mean, requiring a doctor to
notify, well that, that just puts
an impermissible burden on the
young woman's Constitutional
rights. Wouldn't you agree?

They do.

JUDITH
Yes. so...

Her cell phone rings.

JUDITH
Oh!

Judith fishes the phone out of her purse, sees who's calling on the caller ID, and ignores the call.

44 INT. HOGAN HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The dinner table is set with china and candles.

Don sits at the head, and his phone is open in his hand. He snaps it shut and continues to wait.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

45 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

A coffee cup on the counter.

Don sips on his breakfast coffee as Judith enters. She puts her hands on his shoulders.

JUDITH

Don, I am so sorry I missed dinner last night.

Caleb, also having breakfast, turns to his parents.

JUDITH

I just was focused on work, and then Mitch reminded me about his party...

DON

OK, how about tonight?

It's a friendly challenge.

JUDITH

(Nervously)

Well, I'm gonna be working on a case.

DON

That's pretty much what I figured.

JUDITH

In fact, for the next several weeks I'm going to be very busy.

DON

Oh, so you're canceling all our dates.

JUDITH

No. Of course not. I didn't... say that.

DON

Well it sounds like you are.

JUDITH

I'll just get some help. Caleb?

CALEB

Oh uh, you know, I'd love to but I've got things like WORK to do, and um classes, Moot Court...

(CONTINUED)

DON
How's that going?

CALEB
Oh Moot Court? It's going really well. I have uh, I have a very good partner.

DON (O.S.)
What's his name?

CALEB
Rachel.

DON
Ahaaa!
(beat)
and you like her?

Bemused, Caleb bobbles his head.

CALEB
Yeah.

DON
Invite her over for dinner.

CALEB
Maybe I will.

DON
How 'bout tonight?

Shoots an accusatory look at Judith.

DON
I'm available.

JUDITH
Is this
Rachel-who-won-nationals Rachel?

CALEB
Yeah.

JUDITH
Well I think I can be here after all.

DON
Oh you can after all?
(beat)
Let me guess -- you want me to cook.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH
That would be very kind of you.
I'll be home by six.

A quick kiss, and Judith is gone.

DON
(to Caleb)
Must be an important case.

CALEB
Yeah.

46 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

A peeled apple rests on the counter. Caleb's hand slowly snatches it away.

CALEB (O.S.)
Yeah, like many people, I consider
stealing morally wrong.

RACHEL
I saw that!

Rachel is decked out in an apron and oven mitts. She removes a pie from the oven, as Caleb watches. They both turn to the sound of footsteps.

JUDITH (O.S.)
Wow, something smells good!

It's Judith. Don also appears in the background. Judith points to the pie, cooling on the counter.

JUDITH
What's that?

RACHEL
Apple pie!

JUDITH
How nice, uh...

She looks at the island, covered with flour, butter, and apple peels.

JUDITH
You made that from scratch?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
Yes, ma'am.

JUDITH
Oh.

CALEB
Mom, this is Rachel. Rachel, Mom.

RACHEL
Very nice to meet you.

Rachel offers to shake hands with the mitt still on. She takes it off and shakes hands.

JUDITH
Pleasure.

47 INT. HOGAN HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Dinner table with Don, Judith, Caleb, and Rachel. Rachel serves the pie.

JUDITH
Thank you.

Judith takes a bite.

JUDITH
Oh my, this is very good.

RACHEL
Thank you, ma'am. I'll be glad to bake you some more.

JUDITH
Oh, I'm sure this shall be plenty.

RACHEL
Well, I mean, not now but some other time.

DON
Really?

RACHEL
Yes, sir!

JUDITH
So, do you bake often?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
It's kind of a hobby. My mother
used to bake for us. But, when she
died, I took over.

JUDITH
I'm sorry.

RACHEL
It's OK.

The Hogans look on awkwardly.

RACHEL
My dad loved her cooking, and now
he says it really brings back the
memories.

Silence.

JUDITH
Well what time do you get out of
class on Monday?

RACHEL
Beg your pardon ma'am?

JUDITH
You can call me, Judith.

RACHEL
I'm sorry. Is "Mrs. Hogan" OK?

Judith barely disguises her agitation with Rachel's
over-polite manners.

DON
I like, sir. You can call me sir.

RACHEL
Yes sir!

JUDITH
Do they allow sophomores in the
internship program at Patrick
Henry?

RACHEL
Sometimes. I'm still interviewing
for a couple.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

Oh. Great. I would like to invite you to work at my law firm.

(beat)

It pays well, and it would be great experience...

RACHEL

Yes! I'm honored,

JUDITH

Oh! Well that's good because I could use the help. I'm very busy lately.

DON

Speaking of work, what exactly are you working on 'cuz you-

JUDITH

-Oh Honey, enough about work. would you like more coffee?

DON

No thanks.

JUDITH

Ok, I'll get it for you. Rachel, more pie for Don please?

Judith vanishes. Caleb gets up and chases after her.

CALEB

Uh she... probably needs some help.

48 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Judith messes with the coffee maker. Caleb comes up from behind.

CALEB

You haven't told him yet.

JUDITH

I will when the time is right.

CALEB

Mom, why are you hiring her?

JUDITH

Did she not win Nationals? You know her, and I need the help, so...

(CONTINUED)

(beat)
Do you vouch for her?

CALEB
Yeah.

JUDITH
Then that's good enough for me.

She takes the coffee pot back to the dining room. Caleb's arms are crossed in frustration.

49 EXT. GAZEBO - DAY

Lake Bob reflects the trees on the Circle. Caleb and Rachel sit on opposite sides of the gazebo.

CALEB
She'll work you to death. You know that?

RACHEL
I didn't come here to avoid work.

CALEB
It's... not a nice place to work.
Look what it's done to my mother.

RACHEL
I like your mom. And she's a good lawyer.

CALEB
There's no way you're going to have enough time.

RACHEL
If I can't do work and Moot Court-

CALEB
-and classes, and studying...
baking-

RACHEL
If I don't have time I'll quit work.

CALEB
There's no way you're gonna get enough rest.

Now Rachel frowns, very interested in his concern.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
I'll get just as much as you do.

CALEB
Yeah, that's exactly what I'm
saying.

50 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE MONTAGE - DAY

- Rachel meets people at the law firm.
- She grabs a stack of printed papers.
- She carries a big box full of papers into Grumpy's office, who holds out his empty cup for a refill.
- A lady with tailored business suit look at her modest attire; she looks them right in the eye.
- A lady puzzles over a complicated copy machine; Rachel punches six buttons and it works; lady thanks her.
- She delivers some baked goodies, continues to fill coffee cups.

Rachel has become the most popular person in the firm.

51 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - CALEB'S DUNGEON - DAY

Caleb slaves away. Rachel pops in.

RACHEL
Hey, you need anything?

CALEB
A window. I hate this place.

RACHEL
I love this place.

CALEB
Well, I hope it lasts.

RACHEL
Hey what's this?

She flips through files in a box.

CALEB
This, this is Felendorf v. Madison
County. Some sort of false arrest
case thing.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

You want me to organize it for you?

CALEB

Actually yes. That would be great

RACHEL

All right. And we do need to work on our Moot Court case.

CALEB

Ok I've got... two hours and I'll finish that up, um, after that then we can do it.

RACHEL

Ok.

52 EXT. PCH - SUNSET

A gorgeous sunset at Patrick Henry. Lake Bob reflects the beautiful campus.

CALEB (V.O.)

Man there is so much to read and there is not enough time.

53 INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

Rachel and Caleb sit at a table, books and papers strewn about. The soft light in the room is almost romantic as the day draws to a close.

RACHEL

It's not just about knowing how to argue. It's about knowing what you have to read, and what you don't.

CALEB

(Under his breath)

Triage.

RACHEL

Exactly. You have to know the difference between what's urgent and what's critical. Look I can help you -

(off his look)

What?

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
You wanna go out?

Rachel is taken aback. Eager Caleb smiles.

RACHEL
A date?

CALEB
Yeah.

She says nothing.

CALEB
Hey, uh, n-nothing serious, just
know a little date -

RACHEL
No. See, that's the thing.

CALEB
(Gently but matter-of-factly)
Sorry?

RACHEL
I'm not going on a date with anyone
unless it *is* serious.

Now Caleb can't talk. Rachel pauses, carefully gauging
Caleb's response.

RACHEL
I know it might sound weird, But
I'm not into just dating. I'm...
trying not to think anything
romantic about anyone unless I have
a commitment.

CALEB
Yeah well um, I think that sounds
like romance. You know we're
talking about popcorn, you know a
movie -- food. And uh, you
know they're not the same thing
really.
(beat)

RACHEL
To me it is.

Caleb shifts nervously in his seat. She's almost too much
for him to handle at this moment.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Look, uh... I think you're great.
And you're beautiful, and you're
really smart. I mean you look
awesome in purple-

RACHEL

Hey look, I'm flattered, I really
am. But I'm not going on a date
with anyone unless I have a
commitment. Because, the man I give
my heart to is the man I marry.

Caleb tries to keep his cool, but he's absolutely shocked.

CALEB

Yeah I mean, t-that's cool. Yeah.

RACHEL

Just imagine how precious that'll
be, when I give my heart to a man
for the first and only time.

CALEB

Ok, I will.

RACHEL

(Quite confused)
You'll what?

CALEB

I'll go imagine it for awhile.

There's a pause. Caleb gets up and starts walking away...
HOLD on Rachel.

CALEB (O.S.)

Oh, uh, hey do you need a ride
home?

RACHEL

I drove.

Caleb just can't leave her side.

CALEB

Yeah but you know, it's, it's kinda
late. I don't want you to be too
sleepy driving back or anything.

RACHEL

(unsure)
I don't want to leave my car here.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
I'll take you back.

RACHEL
I'd like to, I really would but...
my Dad said I can't ride alone with
you in the car.
(beat)

CALEB
Then follow me.

RACHEL
(quickly)
That'll work.

She gathers her stuff. Caleb helps her. He REALIZES... and waits...

RACHEL
You get that one don't forget-

CALEB
Yeah sure

Finally, he says nonchalantly:

CALEB
So um, when did you ask your Dad
whether or not you could ride in
the car with me?

Rachel is gives him an embarrassed smile and quickly walks away. Caleb grins at her retreat, and turns his head to watch her go.

CUT TO:

54 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Don eats lunch and watches baseball on TV.

55 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Judith listens to a Roe v. Wade recording, making notes.

56 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

Nice shot of FOUNDER'S HALL.

57 INT. PHC LIBRARY "OAK TABLE" - DAY

Rachel and Caleb study. Caleb is frustrated. His baseball is on the table. Rachel has a pad and paper - that's all.

Their conversation starts pleasantly, but it quickly goes downhill.

CALEB

All right, we really gotta win this. So we just need to focus on the winning argument.

RACHEL

And what do you think that is? Oh, leave Roe, and just make one tiny little exception?

CALEB

Yeah. You bet. You tell em to overturn Roe v. Wade and we're sure to lose.

RACHEL

No. I think it's the other way around. Overturn Roe, and you've really won. If you win your argument, what good is it? Roe is still in place. Even if you win... you lose!

CALEB

(beat)

There's more to this than just the case.

RACHEL

Yeah, I know.

CALEB

You don't understand.

RACHEL

Sure I do!

CALEB

There's people involved. Their futures, everything.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
What ww-hat what are you talking
about? YOU said it's not even real.

At this point he just has to shut up. He shakes his head and
gets out his laptop.

Rachel begins to write.

CALEB
Where's your laptop?

RACHEL
I use it for research. When I write
my argument, I use a legal pad.

CALEB
(beat)
It is... the *Twenty-First* Century,
you know.

RACHEL
(Very sarcastically)
Oh is it? Well, there's more to
this than technology.

58 EXT. PHC CAMPUS - DAY

Student talk while on the campus sidewalk. Stately light
posts line the walkway.

59 INT. PHC CHAPEL - DAY

Caleb and Rachel walk to their seats in the corner at Town
Hall. They sit next to each other.

The Chaplain is at the podium, preaching over loud speakers.

CHAPLAIN
Walk in honesty, walk in the light.
Make sure you're confessing your
sins. And if you take James 5
seriously, I would go a little
further... (keeps talking)

Caleb hands Rachel some printed papers.

CALEB
(Whispering)
Hey, take a look at this.

She reads, and develops a scowl on her face.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
(Confusion, a hissing whisper)
What is this?

CALEB
It's the outline to my argument.

RACHEL
This isn't what we talked about!

CALEB
Well it certainly is what I talked about.

RACHEL
What, make that dinky exception to Roe v. Wade?

CALEB
It is THE only argument that can win this tournament.

RACHEL
It's not an argument. It's a pathetic little cop-out!

By now she's shouting, and everyone turns to stare.

A professor shushes them and Caleb looks back and points to Rachel -- "it's her."

She stomps his foot, and he flinches in pain.

60 INT. MOOT COURT CLASS - DAY

Dr. Farris stands at the front of the class, leaning on a podium.

FARRIS
So how do we structure an argument to overturn Roe versus Wade?

Peter raises his hand.

PETER
Um well, you could hit 'em on the science. I mean, you present all the evidence to prove that life begins at conception.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

I don't think that'll work. The courts will say "there's no consensus" and they'll just go with the evidence they like.

FARRIS

Well maybe, but what if you didn't have to prove he was alive?

RACHEL

But that's the point, that he's alive.

FARRIS

I agree. But they were talking about it scientifically. What if you didn't have to prove it from that perspective?

They're all silent.

DAVE

How do we convince the court that he was alive without proving it sir?

FARRIS

Well that's what I'm asking YOU. Think about it for a while.

Caleb already has his hand up.

FARRIS

Caleb?

CALEB

I have an idea about an argument that actually wouldn't require actually overturning Roe.

FARRIS

Okay.

CALEB

The Supreme Court has already said that parental rights are a fundamental right under the constitution. So it's important for the State to protect those rights. If a daughter goes and gets an abortion, then her parents *should* know about it. So all we're asking

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CALEB (cont'd)
here is for the court to make a
small adjustment to Roe.

Farris has heard it all before.

FARRIS
But that leaves Roe in place,
doesn't it?

CALEB
Well yes, exactly. Just a small
adjustment, and it's not that much
right? I think they'd go for that.

Caleb just knows it's brilliant, and he looks around for
approval. The students study their nails and say nothing.
Rachel is totally unimpressed.

CALEB
What?

FARRIS
Caleb, your argument leaves Roe
versus Wade in place.

CALEB
Well, fix it later, add an
exception some other time.

FARRIS
I would encourage you to go for the
jugular.

Caleb deflates.

FARRIS
Listen. Humor me for now. Instead
of avoiding the fight, go out and
fight! Find a way to win it. Don't
tell yourself it's too hard. It's
just a problem.
(beat)
Solve it.

61 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Judith goes through the halls. She's looks everywhere for a
sign of life; it's empty. She's alone in the building.

She turns to the side and sees people in the break room.

(CONTINUED)

She goes down that hall and opens the door... the whole office is in there! They're drinking coffee and eating Rachel's baked goodies.

Judith spots Rachel, refilling coffee cups.

JUDITH
Rachel, hey, I've been looking for you!

RACHEL
Here I am!

JUDITH
Well, I would like to see you please.

RACHEL
Ok.

GARVIS
Judith,

JUDITH
Yes?

GARVIS
Have you tried these?

JUDITH
Uh, no, they... look fattening.

RACHEL
They are.

GARVIS
Come on, take a bite.

JUDITH
Ok.

She takes a bite, everyone watches. Mitch gets a dab of frosting on her chin.

JUDITH
...Mitch.

GARVIS
Good, aren't they?

JUDITH
Mmm... Wow. Yes, they're good.

(CONTINUED)

GARVIS
(to Rachel)
Thank you.

RACHEL
You're welcome

JUDITH
You ready?

RACHEL
Mm-hm!

JUDITH
Come on.

Judith and Rachel leave the room.

62 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Judith and Rachel sit comfortably in her office, Judith on an armchair and Rachel on a sofa. Tension looms.

JUDITH
Well, you know that I'm working on Quincy v. Patterson Medical.

RACHEL
The abortion case.

JUDITH
Yes. And with a high profile case like that Rachel, you could really make a name for yourself. Would you like to do that?

Rachel quickly sorts out what she will say in response.

RACHEL
No thanks. I prefer to work on other *kinds* of cases.

JUDITH
Well, you wouldn't have to argue the abortion side. You could just help me understand your side.

RACHEL
I'd rather not.

Judith can't believe her ears. She is very disappointed but more annoyed than anything. Rachel braces for criticism.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

I see. Well, I can respect that decision. That's why I'm pro-choice.

Rachel folds her arms. Judith proceeds to charm Rachel into agreeing with her.

JUDITH

My position doesn't impose on you. In fact, you can actually choose either way you want.
(beat)
However, your position does deny me a choice, and does impose on my freedoms. Isn't that right?

RACHEL

I'm sorry, I'm just wondering if it's worthwhile to discuss this.

Judith's face hardens.

JUDITH

Hmm.

RACHEL

I mean that respectfully. You see, I'm afraid my answer will not persuade you, but that it'll just make you mad.

JUDITH

Try me.

RACHEL

The baby in the womb is an innocent, living creature of God, and I don't like it when people tear him up into little tiny pieces and throw him in the garbage. You shouldn't *have* that choice.

Judith's eyes narrow at Rachel's boldness. Conviction turns to defense.

JUDITH

This is about a girl not having to tell her parents. It has nothing to do with killing babies.
(beat)

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
You're wrong. The baby died.

JUDITH
Well, not every girl wants to abort
her baby. How do you know her
parents won't make her kill him?

Just in time, Mitch Garvis pokes his head in.

GARVIS
Ladies! I wanted to remind you
about the party at my house
tonight.

Silence.

GARVIS
Hello?

JUDITH
Mitch, I'm so busy with Patterson
Medical.

GARVIS
I need you there at eight o'clock
sharp. Rachel, can you join us?

RACHEL
Sorry, Mr. Garvis, but I can't.

Awkward pause.

GARVIS
Oh.

Evidently, he's never heard that before. He leaves.

RACHEL
If there are other cases I can help
you with, I'd *would* like the
experience.

63 EXT. MITCH GARVIS HOUSE - NIGHT

It's another party the Garvis house. Judith and Caleb are
off in a corner, talking.

JUDITH
...I did have quite an interesting
conversation with Rachel today.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Oh really?

JUDITH

Yes. She seems to be very bold.

CALEB

Well, there's nothing with being...

Garvis, who has been making his way toward Judith, interrupts.

GARVIS

Judith! I need your help. I need you to come talk to the ambassador while I get this lobbyist out of his hair.

64 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Don leans against the island, stirring a small pot. He glances up at the wall clock.

65 EXT. MITCH GARVIS HOUSE - NIGHT

THOMPSON

You think the Supreme Court will take the appeal on the gun ban case?

JUDITH

Well, I certainly hope so.

THOMPSON

Would you argue either side to go there?

JUDITH

This is my philosophy about that: while you and I do have different views and opinions, should that really matter as long as we respect each other?

Her phone rings. She doesn't notice it.

THOMPSON

Hm. Is that your phone ringing?

Judith is really spaced out.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH
Hm, I'm sorry?

THOMPSON
Is that your phone ringing?

JUDITH
Oh! I think so. Excuse me. Hello
Don?

Dial tone.

JUDITH
D-d...
(Sigh)

66 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Don puts down his phone. He sighs. As soon as he puts it down, it rings. He flips it open.

DON
Judith.

INTER CUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION - DON AND CALEB

CALEB
No, Dad. It's me.

DON
Where are you?

CALEB
With mom. Another work party.

DON
She enjoying herself?

Caleb looks off screen to his mother, the center of attention.

CALEB
Hard to tell. Why are you at home?
You use to enjoy this scene.

DON
We think differently now, that's
all.
(beat)
You there?

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Yeah. I'll get mom home soon as I can.

DON

Does she have an audience?

Judith, at the party, is talking and laughing amidst her admirers.

CALEB (O.S.)

More like an entourage.

DON

Sorry Bud... I think you're stuck there a while.

CALEB

Bye Dad.

Don and Caleb hang up.

67 INT. HOGAN HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Later that night, Don sits alone, a closed box of pizza on the table. Judith finally arrives home from the party, comes in and sits down. Her shameful face can't bear to look at her husband. Finally, she glances at him, sitting like stone.

Judith opens the box, but it's empty. Don rests his fist under his chin. His wedding band seems to glow in the dim light.

They sit in silence.

68 INT. BASEBALL BATTING CAGE - DAY

PING!

Don's metal bat hits a baseball across the batting cage. He's working out his frustration from the previous night.

Caleb is sitting on a bucket, soft-tossing for his father.

PING! CALEB

The issue is, how do you know when a baby's life begins?

Don nods for another toss.

PING!

(CONTINUED)

DON

That's not a biology question, you know?

CALEB

No, actually I didn't know that.

DON

No, biology has nothing to do with it. In fact it's so simple a ten-year-old can understand it. He doesn't know the first thing about biology.

Caleb is lost.

DON

Pick a time when you know he's alive.

Caleb... is still lost.

DON

Just pick any time when you know the baby is alive.

CALEB

The day he's born.

DON

All right. What about the day before that? Is the baby alive the day before that?

CALEB

Of course.

DON (O.S.)

And how bout the day before that?

CALEB

Sure.

DON

(beat)

OK then. There you have it.

Caleb's mouth pops open as if to say something, but nothing comes out. Silence.

CALEB

What do you mean?

... but his eyes betray the fact that he understands.

(CONTINUED)

DON

Life doesn't begin incrementally. It's, it's not like the baby was any more alive today than he was the day before. It's uh... it's radical -- it's an event -- and it only happens once in a human's existence.

CALEB

At conception.

DON

No other explanation makes sense, and it's so simple, anyone can understand it.

CALEB

But why don't they get it?

DON

It's not that people don't get it. They don't want to hear it! It's all in my book.

Another soft toss.

PING!

CALEB

Wish your class could hear this.

Don checks his swing.

DON

What was that?

Caleb just shrugs.

DON (O.S.)

I can't teach that stuff!

DON

In fact I'm not even sure I should publish it. I'll probably get fired.

Don digs in for another swing.

DON

But, I probably don't have to worry about that. All I keep getting is rejection slips.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
(snickers... beat)
Oh come on dad. I'm not laughing at
you. I'm just... laughing... at
you.

Don gives a fake laugh.

DON
Come on. Let's go.

They leave.

69 EXT. GAZEBO, PHC STEPS - SUNSET

MONTAGE: Rachel plays a mandolin and Caleb plays a guitar on the steps of Founder's Hall. Music continues during montage.

Caleb and his friends are playing football. Rachel tries to study in the gazebo nearby, but she's distracted. She spies Caleb, talking with the guys. It's so obvious that Rachel likes Caleb -- she's beaming. Caleb looks her way and she's caught! She keeps sneaking looks, and Caleb knows it. Finally, Rachel leaves.

70 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Caleb is studying at the island, and Don walks in with a big container of chips.

CALEB
Hey, have you seen Mom?

DON
Yeah, she's busy upstairs.

CALEB
I'm sorry, Dad.

DON
Hey, we're going through a spell.
Don't worry, I still love her.

Don pours the chips into a bowl.

CALEB
You know my Moot Court partner,

DON
Rachel.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Yeah. Wow she's fantastic. But um,
she will not go on a date unless
we're somehow engaged or something.

DON

Well, don't complain. I can't get a
date with my own wife.
(beat)
Look, She came over here and made
us pie. What do you call that?

CALEB

In our house, that would be a job
interview.

DON

Well... ok. Why don't you invite
her over again? I want some more of
that pie.

The mention of pie prompts Caleb to look in the fridge.

CALEB

Speaking of pie, I've been
saving... Wait, woah, where'd it
go!?

DON

Your mother ate it.

Caleb shuts the fridge door.

CALEB

What! ? She doesn't even like apple
pie.

DON

Yeah well with the right evidence,
she can change her mind.

CALEB

Yeah that was MY evidence!

DON

(beat)
Look. Say you lend a guy ten
thousand bucks, what are you going
to want from him?

CALEB

Well I'd want him to pay it back.

(CONTINUED)

DON

Would you lend it to him if he
wouldn't commit to that?

(beat)

If Rachel gives you her trust, if
she puts herself in your hands,
she's wants a commitment that
you're not going to break her
heart.

Caleb looks down, soaking it in.

DON (O.S.)

You know what?

DON

I don't blame her a bit.

Caleb finally GETS it.

71 EXT. RACHEL'S DORM - NIGHT

PLINK... PLINK.

Caleb tosses pebbles at a window. Crickets chirp.

A light. Sleepy Rachel opens the window, looks outside.

RACHEL

What are you doing?

CALEB

If I ever ask you out again, you'll
know it's serious. OK?

RACHEL

Ok.

CALEB

OK!

He grins huge and goes away.

RACHEL

Ok...

Rachel steps away from the window and turns off the light.
Suddenly, she runs back to the window and leans out again.

72 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Judith sits on the sofa with a legal pad. A light knock.

JUDITH

Mm-hm.

Garvis saunters in, looking down at an open folder.

GARVIS

Um... have you done anything on
that Madison County file?

She throws up her hand and makes an "I don't know" gesture.

73 EXT. MIKE FARRIS HOUSE - DAY

Caleb walks through a yard towards the front door of Dr. Farris' house. His cell phone rings. He checks the number, answers.

INTER CUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION - CALEB AND JUDITH

CALEB

Hey Mom.

Judith and Garvis sit on the couch going through files. Rachel sits close by peering through a folder.

JUDITH

Hey son, I need you here for that
false arrest case.

CALEB

Why?

JUDITH

Well, they've rescheduled our
witness and he's here now.

CALEB

Oh ok, I'll be there as soon as I
can. Hey, is Rachel there?

JUDITH

Yes.

Judith passes Rachel the phone.

INTER CUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION - CALEB AND RACHEL

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
Hello?

CALEB (O.S.)
Hey, our meeting is right now.

RACHEL
(to Judith)
Mrs. Hogan? Mrs. Hogan, please I-I
have to go.

JUDITH
What? No!

RACHEL
(to Caleb)
Sorry, I can't make it.

CALEB
Ok, I understand.

RACHEL (O.S.)
All right. Bye.

74 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Rachel tightens her lips and hangs up. Garvis hovers
impatiently while Judith rifles through files.

GARVIS
Haven't you read this?

JUDITH
I gave it to Caleb.

GARVIS
I gave it to you!

JUDITH
I-don't-have-time!

Garvis burns, but he knows it's true.

JUDITH
Where's the rest of this?

RACHEL
It's in Caleb's office.

JUDITH
Well, get it!

Rachel rushes out.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

Mitch, what is going on with this case?

75 INT. DR. FARRIS HOUSE - DAY

The morning sun streams in low in Dr. Farris' living room. Caleb sits with Dr. Farris who is on the couch in front of his desk. Farris is in sweats, his eyes bleary and bloodshot from illness. There's a box of tissues on the coffee table, and a tray with hot tea, honey, and some pill bottles.

DR. FARRIS

So Caleb, what's on your mind?

CALEB

Well, you know I, I really like Patrick Henry College. Um-

DR. FARRIS

You're not leaving us, are you?

CALEB

No, well, you know, I hope not. Um, (beat)
You see, in order for me to come back next year, I have to win the Moot Court Championship this year.

DR. FARRIS

I don't understand.

CALEB

(beat)
It was hard to convince my mom to let me transfer to Patrick Henry. And they're paying for this year, and they *will* pay next year, but only on the condition that I WIN the Moot Court Championship this year. And so uh, this is, this is more than just an academic exercise for me. And uh, and that is really why I am here. To persuade you to let me make the *winning* argument.

76 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Rachel organizes the files and Garvis paces. Judith studies a folder carefully.

JUDITH

Hmm. I see what you mean. The deputy's story did change after we had this case awhile.

GARVIS

I think our young associates have done something I'm not gonna like.

Judith watches him, hard. Garvis plops down beside her.

GARVIS

I think they told him to lie.

Judith tosses the folder behind her shoulder. GREAT.

77 INT. MIKE FARRIS HOUSE - DAY

Caleb and Farris again.

FARRIS

Before you give me your argument Caleb, let me ask you a question: have you figured out how to reverse Roe versus Wade?

CALEB

Yes, sir. The baby is a person under the Fourteenth Amendment, and as such you can't deprive it of life without due process.

FARRIS

Good.

CALEB

It has an inalienable right to life granted by the Creator.

FARRIS

Excellent, straight out of the Declaration of Independence. So, when does the right to life attach?

CALEB

As soon as there is life.

(CONTINUED)

FARRIS
That's it.

Farris ran out of tissues. A full box is behind Caleb

FARRIS
Can you..

CALEB
Oh, yeah.

Caleb gets up, hands them to Farris.

CALEB
Though, it seems to depend on how
you look at it. It's based on our
Supreme Court cases, our
Constitution and our history, but
it really is a losing argument.

Caleb sits back down.

FARRIS (O.S.)
But, do you believe in this
argument?

CALEB
Uh well you know, it's sound, but
the judges won't buy it. I'm gonna
lose.

FARRIS
So? You do what's right. Let them
do the wrong thing.

78 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Garvis, Judith and Rachel stand in front of the couch.
Rachel is offering coffee, which Judith is gulping down.
Garvis flips through a file. Time is running out. The Mouse
sticks her head in.

MOUSE
Mrs. Hogan, Deputy Pelham is here.

JUDITH
Well stall him. I need Caleb. He
knows this file.

Mouse pushes up her glasses and leaves.

(CONTINUED)

GARVIS
We need to get started NOW.

JUDITH
I CAN'T.

79 INT. DR FARRIS HOUSE - DAY

Caleb is sitting forward, hands on his knees, pleading.

CALEB
I just think I have a better chance
of winning if I ask for one small
exception, instead of asking them
to overturn Roe v. Wade.

FARRIS
There's no guarantee you're going
to win anyway.

CALEB
I just don't want to bat
one-handed.

Dr. Farris desperately wants Caleb to understand.

FARRIS
Caleb, sit down.

FARRIS (O.S.)
Moot Court becomes real court
before you know it.

FARRIS
I'm training you to argue this case
in the real Supreme Court. If you
were there, would you concede that
Roe versus Wade is good law?

CALEB
No, no of course not.

FARRIS
Well that's exactly what you're
doing when you ask the court for a
little exception.

Caleb says nothing.

FARRIS
Winning Moot Court is great, for
the moment. But living by Christian
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FARRIS (cont'd)
principle... living by God's
righteousness... Caleb, that'll
guide your whole life.

Caleb has heard this before. He accomplished nothing.

CALEB
Well, uh, it's only a couple days
til the tournament. So I uh, should
be going.

80 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICES CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Deputy Pelham sits by Judith at the head of a large
conference table. The two junior attorneys, FOUR-EYES and
RAZOR LIPS, sit across from them. Garvis stands behind the
two attorneys.

JUDITH
Deputy Pelham, this is just
practice for a real deposition. OK?
Do you know what a deposition is?

PELHAM
The lawyers on the other side ask
questions about the case and I
answer, under oath.

Garvis grabs one of the attorney's papers and studies it.

JUDITH (O.S.)
Good. So you've done this before.

PELHAM (O.S.)
Lots of times.

Nervous silence.

81 INT. JUDITH LAW OFFICE HALLWAY - DAY

Caleb rushes up stairs and down the hall. He finds Rachel
carrying a box of files.

CALEB
Hey Rachel, where's the deputy?

RACHEL
In Conference B.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Come on. I want to show you something.

He takes her box, sets it on a nearby counter, and takes her hand. They rush away.

82 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Four-eyes and Razor Lips have tons of notes. Garvis has seated himself so that Pelham is in between him and Judith. Caleb and Rachel enter.

FOUR-EYES

Deputy Pelham, Mr. Fellendorf says you didn't have a warrant on the night you took him into custody.

PELHAM

That's a lie...

FOUR-EYES

The jury is going to sympathize with the old farmer.

RAZOR LIPS

If you call him a liar, they'll punish you.

PELHAM

I'm sure it was an unpleasant experience for Mr. Fellendorf, and he just didn't remember everything-

FOUR-EYES

Good. Better.

PELHAM

-and the warrant's on the county records.

The lawyers all look around the table at each other.

FOUR-EYES

I think it's good.

Judith wants to squish him like a bug.

FOUR-EYES

He's ready.

Judith looks at Caleb. He shakes his head.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

Try him!

CALEB

Deputy Pelham,

Caleb grabs some papers from Four Eyes.

CALEB

-you say that you received an anonymous phone call, relating to you that Mr. Fellendorf had some stolen some cattle. Is this true?

PELHAM

Yes.

CALEB

And when you got this call, you dropped everything that you were doing and got a warrant to search his shed and arrest him.

PELHAM

That's right.

CALEB

When did you get this anonymous call?

PELHAM

(to Judith)

I've already said all this.

JUDITH

We're practicing. Say it again.

PELHAM

June ninth.

CALEB

June ninth. Here is the Madison County Jail's call log. Show me the date.

Caleb slides several stapled sheets to Pelham. Pelham looks at the records and points.

PELHAM

Right there. June ninth.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Ok, Here is your booking, showing
when he was arrested. Show me the
date to that as well.

Caleb slides another sheet on the table. Pelham stares at
the paper, says nothing.

CALEB

The date?

PELHAM

June seventh.

CALEB

You arrested him two days before
you ever heard of him? How can that
be?

Pelham panics!

PELHAM

I told them I couldn't remember if
I had a warrant! THEY gave me the
papers I had to use!

Four-eyes and Razor Lips AD LIB their protests.

JUDITH

Stop, stop! Enough.

They all shut up. Garvis slaps his papers onto the table.

GARVIS

You two have been lying for two
years! Caleb, thank you. Let's get
out of here.

Garvis stands up. Judith, Rachel, and Caleb all move to the
double doors. Four-eyes and Razor Lips start to gather their
things and sneak out the back door. Garvis points at them
with his whole arm as if it were a cannon.

GARVIS

You two stay right there.

They sit slowly back down. Pelham contemplates.

83

INT. JUDITH'S OFFICE - CUBICLES - DAY

Caleb walks past some cubicles. Rachel runs up after him.

RACHEL

Caleb!

Caleb stops and turns. She catches up.

RACHEL

What happens now?

CALEB

Well, the case goes to settlement,
and uh, those two go to Siberia.

She looks him sharply in the eyes.

RACHEL

No. I mean with us.
(beat)
Moot Court.

Caleb says nothing.

RACHEL

You did great in there. Stood up
for something. Why won't you do
that in Moot Court?

CALEB

Why didn't you come to the meeting
with Dr. Farris?

RACHEL

(Hesitates)
I couldn't. I was busy.

CALEB

You're gonna wind up just like my
mom.

RACHEL

Hey, I'm not the one arguing
whatever it takes to win!

CALEB

And I'm not the one standing people
up so I can be the law firm's pet
slave!

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
You keep changing the subject!

CALEB
No, that is the subject!

RACHEL
You can't tell me what to do with
my career!

CALEB
Oh but you can tell me what to do
in Moot Court? Is that the way it
is?

Suddenly, they notice that everyone in the office is looking
at them.

84 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - RANDOM OFFICE - CONTINUOUS -- DAY

Caleb and Rachel retreat into a nearby office. Caleb shuts
the door behind them.

CALEB
Is that what you want? A career in
a law firm like this?

RACHEL
Yeah! Who wouldn't?

Silence.

RACHEL
What did Farris say?

CALEB
Same as always. Do the right thing.
Who cares if you lose.

RACHEL
I think we're gonna win.

CALEB
HOW?

RACHEL
I keep telling you! Your argument
doesn't have to be popular. It has
to be legally sound, you have to be
prepared, and you have to deliver
well, and then-we-win!

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
You *think*?

RACHEL
YES!

He wishes he could believe her. He looks away.

RACHEL
Caleb.

No response. She grabs his chin and swings his head around.

RACHEL
They always choose tough issues
like this for the competition.
They're expecting us to push the
envelope.

Caleb is rigid.

CALEB
I'll think about it.

RACHEL
(Exasperated)
What are you waiting for!?

CALEB
It's risky!

RACHEL
Yes! Take the risk!

CALEB
I said I'll think about it. Look,
if you don't like it, get another
partner!

RACHEL
I'd love to, but I can't find one
in four days!

Silence. He makes a decision.

CALEB
If I don't win this, I can't come
back.

She shoots him a puzzled look.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

It's my mom. She's not gunna pay
for next year unless I win.

Rachel isn't surprised. She stays on course.

RACHEL

(softer now)

Make the case to overturn Roe. You
can win.

(beat)

And it's your chance to tell
thousands of people how.

(beat)

You have to decide, Caleb.

Rachel starts toward the door.

CALEB

Don't leave like this.

She stops, but doesn't turn.

RACHEL

I'll see you this evening. Your dad
asked me to bake another apple pie.

CALEB

(incredulously)

He didn't even tell me.

RACHEL

(sarcastically)

Great timing, huh?

CALEB

(sincerely)

Perfect.

She's struck by the sincerity in his voice. She looks at
him, then leaves. Caleb remains.

85 INT. HOGAN HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Rachel is baking pies, and Caleb sits by, watching.

CALEB

How can you be baking pies right
now? I can't even tie my shoes.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
What are you so worried about?

CALEB
Losing. Not winning. I don't
know...

He looks at her.

CALEB
Going blind.

Rachel blushes .

CALEB
(beat)
Marry me!

She smiles just slightly -- it's a joke, but she knows he's
partly serious.

CALEB
Marry me.

RACHEL
Caleb... (She says this tenderly.)
My whole life I've been preparing
to be a good wife. I want a good
husband. Do you know what it takes
to make a good marriage?

His eyes betray uncertainty.

RACHEL
You remember I asked my dad about
riding in the car with you?

CALEB
Yeah.

RACHEL
He's always told me that I should
keep myself for my husband. I
shouldn't even hold hands until I
know the man I'm going to marry.

CALEB
I have never understood why you
picked me for a Moot Court partner.

RACHEL
By my own way of thinking, I
wouldn't have. I see now that it
was God's doing.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
So what now?

RACHEL
Don't compromise. Stand firm.
Caleb,

He looks up at her.

RACHEL
...do what's right.

86 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A pot of coffee and cups.

Don sits in the living room, deep in thought. On the coffee table is his manuscript.

Caleb walks in with Rachel, who is carrying a tray with pie servings. They both sit. Don is on the couch in the middle, Rachel and Caleb face each other across the coffee table.

Caleb notices Don, still staring into nothing.

CALEB
What is it?

Don snaps out of it. He hands Caleb a letter. Caleb reads it. As he reads, he begins to light up. Rachel and Don share a quick look implying that they know something Caleb doesn't.

CALEB
Dad, this is fantastic!
(To Rachel)
He finally got a publisher for his book.

RACHEL
Nice!

Don doesn't look too happy about it.

CALEB
What's the problem?

Don sighs heavily.

DON
I'm not sure if it's worth it. As soon as this book comes out, I'll probably get fired.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

No-way!

DON

For sure I won't get tenure.

CALEB

No way! Of course you'll get tenure! They can't fire you! This is terrific stuff!

DON

I might lose my job.

CALEB

If you're fired, there's five schools within fifty miles of here that would hire you overnight. And they won't fire you anyway. If they even talk about it, you'll go in there and get a raise instead.

DON

How?

CALEB

With a withering barrage of common sense, that's how! There's no losing this, Dad! Look, this is something they'll never hear in those schools. And this is your chance to tell thousands of people...

Caleb stops dead cold and looks at Rachel, who has a sly look of triumph.

CALEB

You dogs.

Don is grinning.

RACHEL (O.S.)

Mmm-hmmm!

CALEB

(To Don)

Ok, I think you overplayed the "perturbed" look a little bit, but otherwise it was pretty good.

(CONTINUED)

DON
I thought it was actually really good.

CALEB
Well, I mean, 7.5 is up there.

DON (O.S.)
I've been working on that one a long time now.

CALEB
Well, uh,

DON
-yeah, I got it. We're good. Yeah.
Mm-hm!

CALEB
Ok.

DON
Ok.

Everyone looks at each other.

CALEB
Ok.
(Beat)
We'll do it.

BIG smile from Rachel.

RACHEL
Yay.
(to Don) Good work.

Rachel and Don bump fists. Don stands, slaps Caleb solidly on the shoulder, and walks out, mission accomplished. Caleb leans back in his chair, thinking things over.

Rachel gazes at him... this moment has become intimate. She offers him coffee.

RACHEL
You want some of this?

CALEB
Yeah.

She stands and serves him.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
(very tenderly)
Thank you.

RACHEL
(quietly)
You're welcome.

Rachel sits.

87 INT. MOOT COURT CLASS - DAY

The whole class is there for Dr. Farris' pep talk.

FARRIS
When you practice your arguments,
don't read them. The judges will
fall asleep if you read to them. In
fact, your reason for being in the
round is to answer the judges'
questions. When they pepper you
with questions, look 'em in the
eye, give 'em a straight answer.

88 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

SERIES OF SHOTS in different parts of the living room as
voice-overs roll.

[NOTE: CAMERA IS LOCKED DOWN.]
A. Caleb and Rachel study a
whiteboard.
B. Don walks across the screen with
a pizza, Caleb is still studying
whiteboard, Rachel is leaning back
in a chair.
C. Caleb and Rachel study at the
couch. She says something, he
shakes his head and opens a book.
She gets a book, and it's a
page-flipping contest.
D. The two walk into the music
room.

CALEB (V.O.)
Memorizing that many case citations
is a waste of time.

RACHEL (V.O.)
When you give them exactly the
right citation without hesitation
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL (V.O.) (cont'd)
you save time. Every second counts.
Every pause, every hesitation, your
time is ticking away. We need every
advantage we can get. So we do need
to know those case citations.

89 INT. HOGAN HOUSE MUSIC ROOM - DAY

Rachel gives Caleb a coy look. Caleb uses piano as a
lectern.

RACHEL
I know them.

CALEB
Ohhhh! Well in that case, go ahead.

RACHEL
Bowers v. Hardwick.

CALEB
478 U.S. 186, 1986.

RACHEL
Wyman v. James.

CALEB
400 U.S. 309, 1971.

RACHEL
Pierce v. Society of Sisters.

CALEB
268 U.S. 510, 1925.

RACHEL
Baker v. Carr.

CALEB
369 U.S. 196, 1962.

RACHEL
369 U.S. one *eighty*-six. That's
not good enough, the judge will
look at the wrong page and you'll
be wasting seconds out of the
argument, and every second counts.

CALEB
I know. Keep going, we'll come back
to it.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
(Sigh) Griswold v. Connecticut.

Caleb hesitates, checks papers.

CALEB
Um, ok. I'm sorry, I actually don't seem to have that one.

RACHEL
Oh come on! It's the landmark case on the constitutional right of privacy!

CALEB
Just kidding! 381 U.S. 479, nineteen sixty-fiiiiiiiive. Mmmm!

He pumps his arm - "ka-CHING!" - muscleman pose. Rachel balls up a paper, throws it at him, misses. He turns and looks at her.

CALEB
You wanna try that again?

She keeps throwing papers at him. Finally:

CALEB
We're gonna win, aren't we?

RACHEL
Yes... we just have to figure out how.

90 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

They're back at the white board, on an easel by the couch. There's a lot of stuff written on the board, but most prominent is two words circled together:
"14th Amendment => LIFE"

CALEB
There's no argument that the fourteenth amendment protects life. The whole issue is: is that baby alive?

RACHEL
Proving it is the problem. The courts are all over the place on this. I can't make any sense of it.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Dr.Farris was right about this.

(beat)

Proving it is not just a problem --
it's impossible.

RACHEL

We're gonna have to prove it.

CALEB

We can't.

RACHEL

Why not?

CALEB

You can't define life
scientifically. It's a moral
question. It's philosophy. It's not
science.

RACHEL

If the judges are going to protect
the baby, they're gonna have to
believe he's alive.

Gears turn.....

CALEB

Remember what Farris said?

(beat)

You said, "the point is, the baby's
alive," and he said, "I agree, but
what if you didn't have to prove
it?"

(beat)

How does a court believe something
you don't have to prove?

RACHEL

If it's already in the record.

CALEB

(overlapping)

- already in the record.

RACHEL

Right.

CALEB

Somewhere in all those cases is a
legal finding that the baby in the
womb is alive.

(CONTINUED)

Rachel checks her watch.

RACHEL
OK. Let's get to it.

They get to it.

91 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - LATER

Rachel is asleep, curled up on the couch under a blanket. Caleb is next to her, legs stretched out on the ottoman. Don walks in behind them, sees them, stops. He comes up behind Caleb, leans over, whispers something in his ear. Caleb stirs.

CALEB
Yes sir.

Don pats his shoulder and walks out. Caleb gets up slowly, obviously tired, and collapses on the chair beside the sofa.

92 INT. PHC LIBRARY "OAK TABLE" - DAY

Caleb and Rachel at the same oak table. Rachel pours over several yellow pages of hand-written notes and Caleb messes with his laptop.

CALEB
Oh NO!

RACHEL
What is it?

CALEB
My hard drive just died. All my notes, every case, my whole argument.

RACHEL
I warned you about technology.

CALEB
Well,

He slaps 300 pages on the table.

CALEB
Good thing my printer works.

She smirks.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Yeah.

CALEB

I'm gonna need a truckload of labels.

She hands him a couple of stacks of sticky notes. She plays with a pencil.

CALEB

Can I have a pencil?

Rachel smiles and finally hands him one.

RACHEL

What would you do without me?

Caleb is suddenly serious.

CALEB

Hopefully nothing

Rachel is completely caught off guard. She smiles a slightly nervous smile and looks down at her papers.

93

INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Caleb and Rachel come back after some intense studies. Rachel carries books and Caleb a pizza, his baseball balancing on top.

CALEB

Deep dish pepperoni mom!

JUDITH

Hey there! Rachel, do you have that book?

RACHEL

Yes ma'am.

CALEB

Woah!... Aaron Blair? You know this guy? The retired Supreme Court Justice?

RACHEL

He wrote a concurrence on Roe. Ew.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH
Thank you Rachel.

Judith feels embarrassed but she's not sure why. She grabs the book quickly and retreats.

CALEB
(Calling to Judith)
You want some of this?

94 EXT. PARKING LOT

Don, in his car, waits to get out of a packed parking lot. His window is open as he listens to the radio.

RADIO NEWS ANCHOR
The parents of a young woman who had an abortion are asking the court to uphold a Nebraska law requiring doctors to notify the parents of minors who seek an abortion. The abortion clinic's attorney is a prominent lawyer in the Washington area.

WOAH, what? Don knows exactly who that lawyer is! He's instantly upset, mouth twisted. He shuts his eyes and tosses his head back against the headrest.

RADIO NEWS ANCHOR
- and in an interesting twist, her son is competing in the final rounds of the national Moot Court championship.

95 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Don waits for Judith. He's looking down. Judith walks in all smiley.

JUDITH
Hey! What are you doing here?

DON
You're working on that abortion case aren't you.

Judith turns on her defense.

(CONTINUED)

JUDITH

Yes, I am.

DON

You stop immediately.

JUDITH

I will not.

DON

I want you off that case! Reassign
it!

JUDITH

No!

They exchange defiant looks. Don clenches his jaw. Finally,
Don storms out.

96

INT. HOGAN HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Don comes down the stairs with a duffel bag. Don stops at
the breakfast table, gets his Bible. Judith appears.

JUDITH

Where are you going?

DON

My brother's house.

JUDITH

Don, please just let me do this one
case in-

DON

(gravely)

You KNOW how I feel about this.

JUDITH

There is a pregnant girl out there
who needs help, and you want to
make her tell her parents!?

DON

She can't get her teeth pulled
without her parents' permission,
but she can kill a baby without
even telling them!?

Caleb hears them as he comes down the stairs.

(CONTINUED)

DON

Don't you see what's wrong with that?

JUDITH

Her parents can't force her to rip her teeth out!

DON

That makes no sense at all!

JUDITH

They don't all want to kill their babies!

DON

What?

Don focuses. Judith sniffs, tears are streaming down her face.

DON (O.S.)

I don't understand.

DON

Judith, I don't understand.

JUDITH

(beat)

I... I got pregnant.

(beat)

And I told my parents. And they forced me to get an abortion.

It's too much for Don to process.

DON

You never told me that.

Judith cups her face in her hands. Sniffles. Looks back at Don with ferocity.

JUDITH

There are girls whose parents have no business giving any advice to anybody!

DON

Then teach them to be better parents. But don't protect Patterson Medical so they can keep on killing babies!

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DON (cont'd)
Why didn't you ever tell me this?
(beat)
We could have been working on this
a long time ago.

Judith sobs.

DON
Your parents did the wrong thing
when you told them.
(beat)
You're not going to fix that by
defending abortion clinics.

They stare at each other. Judith exhales. The look in her eyes says that she's not going to change her stance on this issue.

DON
I gotta go think about this. Then
I'll be back.

Don leaves her with Caleb.

JUDITH
So now what am I supposed to do?
Just quit?

CALEB
Yes.

Caleb leaves her. She shakes her head like that's the stupidest thing he could have said.

97 EXT. PHC CAMPUS - DAY

A crisp morning at PHC

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Welcome to the national Moot Court
Championship.

98 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM MONTAGE - DAY

A stuffed courtroom watches various competitors.

SUPER: FIRST ROUND

(CONTINUED)

STUDENT 1

You've been presented with
compelling evidence showing you
that the fetus isn't viable.

STUDENT 2

...this court has affirmed that the
2nd Amendment grants the right of
self defense...

DAVE

...You Honor, the 14th Amendment
guarantees life and liberty...

STUDENT 3

...out of proportion, and has
become a huge political fiasco

SUPER: SECOND ROUND

STUDENT 4

...we believe our position is well
supported by precedent

STUDENT 5

...this leads into their
application of Wyoming

SUPER: SEMI-FINALS

STUDENT 6

...The accusation that our
arguments have been rooted in
religious fundamentalism...

RACHEL

...over 43 million abortions have
been performed...

CALEB

...We must weigh the burden placed
on the individual with the
legitimate interest of the
government in mind.

99

INT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

The hall is absolutely packed! Everyone is turned the same
direction, listening to the announcer over loud speakers.

(CONTINUED)

ANNOUNCER V.O.
...and Caleb Hogan and Rachel
Morton representing Patrick Henry
College.

Caleb and Rachel sit in the hall on nice armchairs. Rachel
flips through a binder, Caleb has his elbows on his knees.

CALEB
It's all down to this.

RACHEL
Hey, remember, be reasonable. No
one is better prepared than we are.

CALEB
Definitely.

Caleb rises as he sees his father coming down a flight of
stairs.

CALEB
Hey dad!

Don joins them

CALEB
I feel great about this.

DON
I uh, just found out something very
interesting.

Caleb looks at him.

DON
It seems like one of the judges is
a retired Supreme Court
justice.(beat)
He's one of the judges who voted
for Roe v. Wade.

Caleb takes that in.

CALEB
(Disgusted)
Aaron Blair?

Don nods.

CALEB
(Whispering)
Oh man!

(CONTINUED)

DON

Would have been nice to have won
this one, huh?

CALEB

Ok... should I use my fallback? You
know he won't like to hear me
asking him to overturn Roe.

Don's face instantly turns grave. He takes a step in,
towards his son. He straightens up, head held high. His eyes
never leave Caleb's as he offers his son a humble, soft
reply.

DON

Fiat justicia, et pereat mundus.

A pause. Don fixes Caleb's tie for a moment. His eyes return
to Caleb's.

DON

Don't you agree?

Don puts a father's hand to Caleb's cheek, waits a moment,
and then leaves. Caleb is sober.

RACHEL

What was that?

CALEB

"Do the right thing, come what
may."

100 EXT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

Resplendent. Powerful. Controversial. A classical building
hosting postmodernist occupants. Judith steps into view,
stern, ready. She exhales, and then runs up the steps.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

101 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

Caleb and Rachel sit together on one side of the courtroom.
It's the final round.

Judges Blair, Whitney, and Grissom sit at the bench. The
courtroom is full, and everyone is on their feet. The
president of the competition, Professor Kamen, is at a
microphone in front of the bench, and faces the audience.

(CONTINUED)

KAMEN

Judging the final round are some of
our nation's most distinguished
jurists.

KAMEN (O.S.)

Justice Grissom, Chief Justice of
the Supreme Court of Texas; Judge
Whitney of the Fifth Circuit Court
of Appeals.

KAMEN

Ladies and gentlemen, we are
honored to have a retired Associate
Justice of the United States
Supreme Court Justice Aaron Blair.

Rachel and Caleb want to grimace. Instead, they look down,
their countenance has fallen.

JUSTICE BLAIR

It is an opportunity, and indeed a
privilege, to shape the next
generation of lawyers,

Rachel turns to Caleb, whispers:

RACHEL

(above Blair)

Caleb, just do it

Caleb = hopeless.

JUSTICE BLAIR

to influence our culture, and to
lay the groundwork for a more
enlightened and well-ordered
society.

102 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

The justices enter from the robing room and take their
seats. It's a quiet, solemn moment.

ANNOUNCER

...the Honorable Chief Justice and
the Associate Justices of the
Supreme Court of the United States.
Oyay Oyay Oyay.

103 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

Caleb slowly approaches the podium.

104 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

Judith walks to podium.

105 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

May it please the court -- my name
is Caleb Hogan.

106 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

-please the court, I am Judith
Hogan and I represent the
Respondent, Patterson Medical
Services. The State Supreme Court
held that the pregnant girl did not
have to notify her parents, and,
rightly so because this court held
in Roe v. Wade that she has a
fundamental right which the state
cannot burden with such a
requirement...

107 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

- the burden on the pregnant girl
is so light, and the parental
interest is so compelling, all
we're asking the court to do is
simply allow the state to require
her to notify her parents.

JUSTICE BLAIR

You're asking us to weigh the young
lady's right to an abortion against
her parents' right to know about
it?

Caleb shoots a look at Rachel.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB

Yeah, well, in a sense.

She looks worried.

JUSTICE BLAIR

So you're conceding that Roe v.
Wade is good law. The young lady's
right to an abortion was absolute
because the fetus wasn't viable.

Caleb can see his "sure to win" argument falling apart. He's stumped. He turns to look behind him, and there's Dr. Farris, watching. Dr. Farris nods. Caleb sees Rachel as well. He turns back to the judges, makes a choice.

CALEB

Your Honor, not only was he viable,
but was in fact alive. And you
can't-just-kill a BABY.

JUSTICE BLAIR

A senior biologist with thirty
years of experience testified that
the fetus wasn't viable.

CALEB

(beat)

He said nothing about the viability
of the fetus in the womb. THAT is
the issue. They tear the baby out
of his only means of life support
and say, "Wow, look at that, our
machines can't sustain its life."
And somehow, that proves its not
viable? You know, your Honor, that
their own reasoning assumes that
the child is alive in the mother.

QUICK CUT TO Judith at the podium.

CALEB (V.O.)

The very question of viability-

Back to Caleb.

CALEB

-assumes that he's alive. Now can
we keep him alive?

108 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

The fetus is not alive, according
to biology and ethics-

SUPREME COURT JUDGE

The question of when life begins in
not a legal question. It's not even
a scientific question.

JUDITH

Surely biology *can* answer that.
Otherwise, what's it good for?

109 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

Biology tells us what things do. It
doesn't tell us what things are.

110 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

A biologist certainly can testify
whether the fetus is a human life.

111 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

It's not a biological question.
He's no more of an expert on the
question of when life begins than I
am.

JUSTICE BLAIR

OK, that's the science issue, but
what about the legal; why isn't
that a matter for the courts?

CALEB

Federal judges can never resolve
this. All they can do is decide
based on their own moral
preferences. And that is no legal
standard. That's fiat. It's raw
power.

112 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

It is determined by legal standards that balance the rights of the pregnant girl against the right of her parents to know if she wants an abortion. That is a legal question.

113 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

It avoids the real issue: Is that thing inside the woman's body alive? And if it is, we cannot simply go in there and kill it.

114 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

In this case, the State passed a law defining viability, and the rights of the parents, and the rights of the child seeking an abortion.

115 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

So which laws will govern? The ones made by the people or the ones made by the judges?

116 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH

When the people of a state pass a law by the political process defining life and its value, then judges must interpret that law.

117 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

Interpret the law, sure. But replace the people's definition of life with his own, that's quite different. The courts never should
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CALEB (cont'd)
have gone this route, and now that
they have, they need to recognize
it as a terrible mistake.

Justice Blair is incredulous.

JUSTICE BLAIR
Overturn Roe v. Wade and just let
the states deal with it themselves?

CALEB
The grounds for overruling Roe v.
Wade are found in Roe itself, in
the majority opinion you joined,
your Honor.

Blair looks like he'll burst a vein.

118 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

SUPREME COURT JUDGE
Roe quoted extensively from an
American Medical Association
report. "The third reason of the
frightful extent of this crime" -
they're speaking of abortion
council, "is found-

119 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB
"- is found in the grave defects of
our laws, both common and statute,
as regards the independent and
actual existence of the child
before birth, as a living being."

120 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH
It's not a baby your honor, it is a
fetus.

121 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB
Look at the date.

122 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH
Your honor, I'm not sure how this
relates to the scientific proof of
the young lady in this case.

SUPREME COURT JUDGE
That report was issued in 1859.

SUPREME COURT JUDGE 2
The Fourteenth Amendment was
ratified in 1868. The scientific
consensus at that time was that-

123 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB
-that an unborn child was a person,
and killing him was a crime.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO Judith, a short, panicked breath. Back to
Caleb.

CALEB
His protection is already enshrined
in the Fourteenth Amendment. If you
change that, you need to add
another amendment. Judges were
never meant to have this kind of
policy making authority.

124 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

JUDITH
The federal courts were
deliberately insulated from
political influence so they
wouldn't fear political
repercussions. The opposition
forgets this.

125 INT. MOOT COURT COURTROOM - DAY

CALEB

Respectfully, your Honor; but it is the courts that have forgotten their function, which is to decide law, and not to make policy. And I must to say, it is a threat to our democracy, it is a threat to our freedoms and it is a threat to the stability of our nation, when judges make decisions without any fear of the people. The Declaration of Independence, recognized at least forty times as a legally binding document by this court, tells us that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, and among these-

He turns to Rachel. He says this next line for her.

CALEB

-is Life.

He turns to look at the judges... and sits back down. Rachel looks at him adoringly. The audience claps. She hugs his arm as much as she can without being too "warm and fuzzy". Rachel leans in close to Caleb.

RACHEL

(Sotto)

You were wonderful.

126 INT. SUPREME COURT - DAY

All is quiet as Judith gathers her papers.

127 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - DAY

Caleb, Rachel, and Don stand in Founder's Hall. Don clasps a hand on Caleb's shoulder.

DON

You did well.

CALEB

What about you and Mom?

(CONTINUED)

DON

Don't worry. She's mine for life.

Rachel smiles, Dr. Farris walks up and shakes hands.

DR. FARRIS

That was outstanding, I am so proud
of you guys!

RACHEL

So what do you think?

DR. FARRIS

Well we'll know soon enough.

128 INT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - NIGHT

Judith is leaning over her knees behind her desk, you can hardly see her. Then she sits up and sweeps her hair behind her ears. She dabs her eyes. Then she sighs, and her eyes fall on

CALEB ON COMPUTER

Not only was he viable, but he was
in fact alive. And you
can't-just-kill a BABY. He said
nothing about the viability of the
fetus in the womb. That is the
issue. They tear the baby out of
his only means of life support, and
say, "Wow look at that, out
machines can't sustain its life.
And somehow, that proves it's not
viable?

Judith skips to the end of the video.

CALEB ON COMPUTER

You know, your Honor that their own
reasoning assumes that the child is
alive in the mother.

ON HER LAPTOP: Applause. Rachel takes his arm with both of hers. Rachel looks at him and speaks, "you were wonderful."

JUDITH

(mouthing out the words)

"You were wonderful."

Judith tapes something, wipes her face again, pauses. She snatches her cell phone and flips it open.

129 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - NIGHT

Don's cell phone rings. He steps away from Caleb and Rachel.

INTER-CUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION - DON AND JUDITH

DON
Hello?

JUDITH
(whimpering, in tears)
Hello, Don?

DON
(beat)
So, how'd it go?

JUDITH
I don't know.

Her eyes well up, but she controls it. Don says nothing.

JUDITH
What about Caleb?

DON
He lost.

She wipes her chin with a tissue, her eyes fill.

JUDITH
Don, can we have dinner together?

DON
I'd love to. Where?

JUDITH
Home.

DON
Would you like me to cook?

JUDITH
No. That's ok. I'll cook. What
would you like?

DON
I don't know. Surprise me.

JUDITH
Ok. You got it. Anything else?

(CONTINUED)

DON

Anyone else going to be there?

JUDITH

No. Just you and me.

DON

Then I think we're good.

JUDITH

I'll see you at home... please hurry.

130 EXT. JUDITH'S LAW OFFICE - NIGHT

Judith is drained as she walks out of the office, past the receptionist... and here comes MITCH GARVIS.

GARVIS

Judith!

She stops, turns. He closes in.

GARVIS

There's a party at my house tonight.

JUDITH

Not this time Mitch.

GARVIS

But it's for you.

JUDITH

No.

GARVIS

I have guests expecting you!

JUDITH

No!

She walks out.

GARVIS

Later?

JUDITH (O.S.)

Noooooooooo!

She's gone, and Garvis checks to see if anyone's looking.

131 EXT. FOUNDER'S HALL - NIGHT

Rachel, Caleb and Rachel are in a group outside.

DON
You have a ride, don't you?

CALEB
Yeah. You.

DON
Can you get another one? I have a
date with your Mom.

RACHEL
Ooh..

DON
We'll see ya.

CALEB
Ok.

An eager Don is gone in a flash.

RACHEL
My brother's coming to get me...
(off his look)
Dad wants to meet you.

CALEB
Hey, that'll work.

132 EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

An SUV pulls up. A big guy in a red t-shirt and jeans comes out. Caleb and Rachel have been waiting and she rushes to him.

RACHEL
Wesley!

WESLEY
Rachel Rachel!

She jumps into his arms and hugs him, then pulls him over to the curb.

RACHEL
Hey, come on. Hey Caleb, this is my
brother Wesley.

Wesley sticks out a beefy, calloused hand.

(CONTINUED)

CALEB
Nice to meet you.

WESLEY
Yeah, Rachel told me everything
about you.

CALEB
Really?

WESLEY
Mmmm hmmm.

An accusing look at Rachel.

WESLEY
And I gotta tell you...

RACHEL
Stop it. Go put the bags in the
car.
(To Caleb) You are so busted, you
know that?

CALEB
Yeah, yeah I guess I do.

RACHEL
Are you tired? You want Caleb to
drive?

WESLEY
Yeah actually that'd be great.

He puts the keys in Caleb's hands.

WESLEY
As soon as I get back I gotta get
to work.

CALEB
Yeah... no problem.

WESLEY
I was just kidding with you man.

They laugh a little and head to the car. Wesley starts to
open the door for Rachel... Caleb butts in.

CALEB
Hey, uh, yeah I'll... I'll get that
actually.

(CONTINUED)

WESLEY
I always do it.

CALEB
No.

Caleb gets the door for her.

133 INT. HOGAN HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Judith has set the table with the fine china, crystal, and silverware. She lights the sleek white taper candles and checks her work. She's wearing a dress, Don's favorite.

The door opens and closes. She turns around, catches her reflection in the china hutch, checks her hair... and Don walks in. She's nervous. As she turns to him, he takes off his jacket and puts it on a chair. Don walks closer.

DON
Smells awesome.

JUDITH
Are you hungry?

DON
Not really.

JUDITH
I'll go turn it off.

DON
I already did.

They look at each other for a long beat. Don holds out his hand, and Judith approaches, taking his hand. He holds her tenderly. Don kisses his wife.

134 INT. WESLEY'S CAR - NIGHT

Wesley sleeps in the back seat. Caleb drives. Rachel sits in the passenger seat. Caleb sees her hand on the armrest between them. He looks at it, shifts in his seat. Her hand is very close. Rachel sees him looking. Caleb clenches his jaw and drives. Rachel looks out the passenger window... and she smiles.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

135 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Don's cell phone rings on the counter. Dan snatches it and flips it open.

DON
This is Don

RICHARD ON PHONE
Hi Don

DON
Richard, hi. How are you?

RICHARD ON PHONE
I'm fine. Is Rachel there?

DON
Yes.

RICHARD ON PHONE
Good I'm on my way.

DON
I see.

DING DONG! Doorbell rings. Caleb walks to the door to get it.

DON
Hold on just a moment.

RICHARD ON PHONE
I've... been praying about this.

DON
I understand.

RICHARD ON PHONE
I've made a decision.

DON
Have to told her yet?

RICHARD ON PHONE
No. But I will.

DON
All right.

RICHARD ON PHONE
Call me later?

(CONTINUED)

DON
Yes. Thank you for your call.

RICHARD ON PHONE
Bye

DON
Bye bye.

Caleb returns from the door carrying a medium-sized cardboard box. He sets it on a low bookshelf on which his father is leaning on.

Judith hears the commotion and opens the glass door of the music room to join them. They crowd around the box expectantly and Don pulls out a hardback textbook. They all look at it proudly. Caleb grabs it.

CALEB
Wow dad, this is amazing! Gosh!
Your name's awfully small...

JUDITH
Hey.

They all chuckle.

CALEB
So was it worth it?

Don looks at it, thoughtfully. Pause.

DON
You bet! I didn't want to teach at
that school anyway.

He puts his textbook down, leans on the box and looks at his son.

DON
And how about you? Was it worth it?

CALEB
Losing? Not going back to PHC?
(beat)
Yeah. It's always worth doing the
right thing.

Don looks at Judith. She reaches for her purse, pulls out an envelope and hands it to her husband. He hands it to Caleb. Caleb opens it, and his face beams.

Caleb joyfully gasps

(CONTINUED)

Caleb holds a check -- it was ripped, but it's been taped back together -- and he REVEALS two more checks! Caleb hugs his mother.

CALEB

Thanks Mom.

JUDITH

You're welcome.

DON

That's three years tuition. Now all you gotta do is worry about your studies.

136 INT. HOME OFFICE - DAY

Rachel works at the computer -- a cup of coffee next to her. She types something on her "Rachel's Recipes" blog.

Her cell phone rings. She picks it up, looks at the caller ID. She hesitates, flips it open.

RACHEL

Hello?

She gets out of her chair pivots around so her back faces us.

RACHEL

I'll call you later ok? I love you.
Bye.

137 INT. HOME OFFICE THROUGH THE DOUBLE DOORS - CONTINUOUS

Through the 15-Light French doors, Rachel is frozen. Suddenly she turns and bursts through the doors, into the Hogan's living room

138 INT. HOGAN HOUSE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Hogans turn to Rachel.

RACHEL

That was my dad.

Caleb gets that "uh oh" look. Rachel and Caleb look at each other.

Rachel has a look of disbelief that resolves into a smile.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL
He said Yes!

Caleb breathes a big sigh of relief. They stare at each other.

Caleb's parents are delighted.

Caleb and Rachel walk toward each other, and they stop. He takes her hand delicately into his, as if to never let go.

139 CLIP MONTAGE

CALEB (V.O.)
My father was right.

FADE IN FROM BLACK:

Judith and Don embrace.

CALEB (V.O.)
If you don't believe your wife is
precious, you won't cherish her.

Rachel's face, beaming.

CALEB (V.O.)
If you don't believe love is best
when it's pure and new, you won't
wait patiently for it.

Child plays by a stream, but suddenly vanishes.

CALEB (V.O.)
If you don't believe the baby in
the womb is the living handiwork of
God, you'll do nothing to protect
him.

FADE TO BLACK:

CALEB (V.O.)
What do you believe?

THE END