

INT. LUCY'S HOUSE - LUCY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alex is sitting on the bed when Lucy enters.

LUCY

Jesus Alex, the kitchen's a hellhole. What? Did you let the kids make dinner for themselves?

Silence. Lucy notices a duffel bag by Alex's feet.

LUCY (CONT'D)

What's going on? What are you doing?

ALEX

Thinking.

LUCY

About what?

Alex holds out a small jewelry box.

ALEX

About this.

LUCY

What's that?

ALEX

It's a pair of earrings. I saw them in the mall one day, and I thought 'Damn, those would look good on those beautiful ears'. So I bought them. And I said to myself, next time Lucy says something nice, does something nice, I'll surprise her with them.

(Beat)

You know how long ago that was? Six months.

LUCY

I'm sorry. I'm just working so hard  
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ALEX

So what I'm thinking is... Lucy what I'm thinking is that you oughta either find a different job, or a different gal.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

I mean there may be someone out there who doesn't mind being the maid and getting nothing in return, but I sure as shit ain't one of them.

LUCY

I can't leave my job Alex.

ALEX

Yes you can. You could just quit. People do it all the time.

LUCY

How can you ask me to do that? This job, for the first time in my life, I got people respecting me. I walk into a room and everyone shuts up to hear if I've got something to say. I never had that before. Ever. Please don't ask me to give it up.

ALEX

And what about what your kids are giving up?

LUCY

Look, I'm doing more for my kids now than I did living with my parents. One day they'll understand that.

ALEX

But what about me?

LUCY

What about you? You think either one of them men who gave me those children asked what I wanted before he walked away? All I've ever done is bend my life around what others decide they need, well not now. I'm sorry. I wont do it.

ALEX

Well, Lucy I'm not them. So, what more do I have to do to prove that to you?

LUCY

Stay.

Alex remains silent. She picks up the duffel bag and places the earrings on the bed.

ALEX

What for? I mean you got a raise.  
You can afford day care, you don't  
need me.

Alex leaves.

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