

INT. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COURTROOM - DAY

Erin is on the stand, wearing the most conservative thing she

owns: a red, form-fitting mini dress, telling her story to

Ed, who's questioning her.

ERIN

I was pulling out real slow, and out of nowhere, his Jaguar comes racing around the corner like a bat outta hell ...

She glances at the defendant's table, where a DOCTOR sits

nobly in surgical scrubs. His WIFE and two beautiful KIDS

are behind him. A frigging Norman Rockwell painting.

LATER IN HER TESTIMONY:

ERIN

They took some bone from my hip and put it in my neck. I didn't have insurance, so I'm about seventeen thousand in debt right now.

STILL LATER:

ERIN

... couldn't take painkillers cause they made me too groggy to take care of my kids.

STILL LATER:

ERIN

... Matthew's six, Katie's four, and Beth's just nine months.

STILL LATER:

ERIN

... just wanna be a good mom, a nice person, a decent citizen. Just wanna take good care of my kids. You know?

ED

(oh so moved)

Yeah. I know.

INT. COURTROOM - LATER

Erin is still on the stand. But now the doctor's lawyer is questioning her.

DEFENDING LAWYER

Seventeen thousand in debt. Whew. Is your ex-husband helping out?

ERIN

Which one?

DEFENDING LAWYER

(feigning shock)

There's more than one?

ERIN

Yeah. There's two. Why?

Erin looks over at the jury. The personification of conservative family values. Oh, shit.

LATER IN HER TESTIMONY:

ERIN

(getting defensive)

... not like a career, cause I had my babies. But I woulda worked, for sure, if I didn't have this neck thing.

Erin sees a juror staring judgmentally at her short hem.

Erin gives it a tug, pulling it down a stitch.

DEFENDING LAWYER

(sarcastic)

Right. No doubt.

Erin sees a few jurors share dubious glances. Great.

STILL LATER:

The defendant's lawyers is on the offensive. Erin's starting to feel the case slipping away.

DEFENDING LAWYER

So. You must've been feeling pretty desperate that afternoon.

ERIN

(pointed)
What's your point?

Ed shakes his head slightly to her -- don't get mad.

DEFENDING LAWYER

Broke, three kids, no job. A doctor in a Jaguar must've looked like a pretty good meal ticket.

Erin sees jurors nodding almost imperceptibly in agreement.

She's on a sinking ship.

ERIN

What? Hey -- he hit me.

DEFENDING LAWYER

So you say.

ERIN

He came tearing around the corner, out of control --

DEFENDING LAWYER

An ER doctor who spends his days saving lives was the one out of control --