CONTINUED:

SERGEANT (V.O.)
Coughlin, Kristina. Had a kid with her. Little girl's fine, but the mother is banged up --

INT. HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL - ROOM 224 - SAME TIME

Doug, Jem, Dez and Gloansy all prepare for the job. They are DRESSED AS COPS and loading WEAPONS into DUFFEL bags.

Doug checks the door and cracks the blinds slightly to look out.

JEM
Will you quit fuckin' doin' that. You're makin' me nervous. There's no one at HoJo's. Shit.

Doug ignores him and goes back to loading bags.

KRISTA Scene #2

START

INT. ER BAY

Krista sits in the padded visitor's chair, gauze wrapped around her forehead, a bright-red bloom over her eye. Blood spatters her shirt and jeans.

KRISTA
Here he is. Six inches.

Frawley enters.

FRAWLEY
What happened?

KRISTA
You're in the FBI. Figure it the fuck out.

Frawley glances at the EMPTY CAR SEAT in the corner, crumb-dusted and milk-stained. Krista sees him looking.

KRISTA
No, she wasn't hurt. Not a scratch.

FRAWLEY
You could be looking at Mother of the Year.

KRISTA
What do you know what I go through? Fuckin' ~~Barney~~. FAGOT
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KRISTA SCENE #2

KRISTA (CONT'D)
I'm doin' my *best.* Do you know my life?

FRAWLEY
Your daughter's in the back seat of a state van, being driven by a stranger to the Department of Social Services. How long you want to talk here?

Krista stares, eyes dampening. Frawley holds his glare.

FRAWLEY
Maybe you want a lawyer, not FBI.

She looks crestfallen as he makes to leave.

KRISTA
Why is it I'm always the one who gets used?

FRAWLEY
You're going to need a plea agreement -- if you want any chance to retain custody.

She looks up fast, her eyes blinking wet.

KRISTA
I want your guarantee.

FRAWLEY
I never said *guarantee.* I said I could try. If that's not enough, maybe 'Doug' can do something? *
(smartass)
Fergie have social services juice?

Her eyes spark to the last name.

FRAWLEY
I'm kidding.

Nothing in her low-eyed look is telling -- except its duration.

FRAWLEY
Oh, Jesus. You and the Florist?

The list of suspects just narrowed to one.

FRAWLEY
(to self)
Mercy.

KRISTA scene #2

3

CONTINUED:

Krista's chin trembles.

QUICK CUT TO: *

FLASHBACK - THE FLORIST *

MOUNTING KRISTA, grunting. *

BACK TO SCENE (PRESENT) *

KRISTA
Duggy's going away after. With her.

Frawley is stunned. Then starts piecing it together.

FRAWLEY
Wait, what *after? After* what?

Krista stares at the ground. Frawley zeroes in.

FRAWLEY
You need to be smart, Krista. This is a big moment for Shyne. This can make the difference for her.

She looks away, her jaw quivering.

KRISTA
(breaking down)
She's retarded. She's gonna need special things. I'm not doin' this for me. It's for her... * * *

END

EXT. HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL - ROOM 224 - BALCONY - SAME TIME

The four cops emerge with their gear. Doug looks around, all directions. She didn't come -- but she didn't dime.

INT. THUNDERBIRD (LANDSDOWNE ST.) - NOON

Two cops sitting in a parked Thunderbird. Doug and Jem: wearing COP UNIFORMS. * *

DOUG
Let's go.