BODY FLUX (WORKING TITLE)

02 BRIDGET VESSEL OF DISHONOR

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Script Days 6 - 8 Day 6 - Thursday Day 7 - Sunday Day 8 - Monday

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23 INT. TRAIN - NIGHT 6

BRIDGET is asleep on the near empty train. She is wearing yoga gear and carries a yoga mat with her. She rests her head against the window and her reflection makes two of her.

It's dark outside but through the window we can see the city lights getting closer.

24 EXT. YOGA STUDIO FITZROY - STREET - MORNING 6

24

23

BRIDGET farewell's a overly enthusiastic friend, BETSY. As they part ways other more earnest yogies spill onto the street from the yoga studio.

25 INT. TRAIN - DAY 6

25

BRIDGET travels on the train again. She's still in her yoga gear except, this time she looks alert and surveys people in the carriage.

Out the window she passes endless ticky-tacky little houses. Square upon square, far into the distance.

As she passes something in the landscape she takes out a long button up skirt from her bag, wraps it around her and buttons it up.

26 EXT. BERWICK STREET - DAY 6

26

BRIDGET struggles with her two large packing boxes, her yoga mat and some groceries.

A Blue Hyundai car drives past and slows. JAMES THOMAS (Bridget's older brother) is driving. Beside him sits BRETHREN MAN 02. Both wear button up shirts and neat hair cuts. They drive past slowly and watch her obviously. She appears to be used to their presence as she attempts to ignore them.

26A EXT. BRIDGET'S UNIT - DAY 6

26A

Bridget fumbles with her keys, boxes, yoga mat and groceries at the front door. She acknowledges the Blue Hyandai car stopped on the street outside. They watch her enter her unit.

BRIDGET looks a little anxious as she enters her small, scarcely decorated unit. There is very little furniture and several packing boxes in various states of pack.

She carefully places her yoga matt by the door and checks the window onto the street. The car is still idling.

BRIDGET'S phone rings. Bridget's eye light up as she see's Marlena's name on her screen. She answers a little excitedly.

BRIDGET

Hello? Marlena.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Yeah hi. Just checking you're still good for Sunday?

Bridget pauses?

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

To move in?

BRIDGET

Yes Sunday is good.

The car slowly pulls away.

MARLENA (O.S.)

What time?

BRIDGET

Um oh I guess it would be, say two ish by the time I pack and get there.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Yeah two's OK. I've got a friend coming over later.

BRIDGET

Oh yes. That's fine.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Sweet OK, well see you then.

BRIDGET

Oh OK. See you then. --

Marlena has hung up.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

-- Thank you. Bye.

Bridget smiles at the phone as she carefully puts it on the bookshelf next to a collection of Silvanian families.

BRIDGET sits on the last remaining chair and looks at her packed boxes. She takes one of the last remaining books off the bookshelf, examines it (bad romance novel) smiles and places it carefully in a packing box.

She rummages cautiously through the boxes contents. She removes a shoe box. She opens the lid and rests the contents of the box on her lap. A small piles of scarves. She takes one off the top and unfolds it. It has been neatly folded and ironed. She places the others on her lap. She puts the head scarf on her head and ties it at the back of her head effortlessly. She attempts to ease her long hair through the scarf but she has short hair (ghost hair) and it is as if she's forgotten.

She looks at the pile of scarves on her lap. She places them back in the shoe box. She takes the one off her head, folds it and places it in the box also and closes the lid. She leans forward to another packing box labelled 'donate' and places the box carefully inside. She sits back into her chair and takes another book off the bookshelf.

28 EXT. BRIDGET'S UNIT - DAY 7

28

TRISH helps BRIDGET load the last of the boxes into her blue Dodge wagon.

BRIDGET

Thanks for letting me borrow your car Trish.

Trish hands Bridget the keys to the car.

TRISH

It's no trouble love. Dan'll pick me up from the pharmacy this evening. We might even go for a counter tea.

Bridget smiles.

BRIDGET

And thanks for organising to donate the rest of my belongings.

TRISH

Stop thanking me. It's really fine. I just hope you'll be OK.

Bridget smiles and giggles a little. She opens the door to the car and they talk over the top of the bonnet.

BRIDGET

Me? I'll be OK.

TRISH

You'll be by yourself (in the city). Where you're moving to is very unsafe.

BRIDGET

I'm not by myself. I have yoga, Rob who's a kind and gentle friend and now a house mate.

They both get into the car and close the doors.

29 EXT. PHARMACY HIGH ST BERWICK SHOPPING CENTRE - DAY 7

29

Bridget pulls Trish's blue Dodge wagon into a car spot opposite the pharmacy. Bridget drives and Trish sits in the passenger seat, they both turn their attention to the pharmacy across the road.

JAMES and BRETHREN MAN 02 are sitting on a bench outside the pharmacy.

Bridget looks at the men from the car.

BRIDGET

I can not wait to get out of here.

TRISH

Do you think they want to talk to you because they know you're moving?

BRIDGET

It's too late for that now.

TRISH

He is your brother.

BRIDGET

Yes but he's still brethren. If he wanted to talk to me he could have done it at our mother's funeral. Besides I don't want go back now anyway. My father made a new life and I can too.

Trish smiles and pats Bridget's hand still firmly gripping the steering wheel.

TRISH

Well you're always welcome at my home. You have to promise to call me should you need anything.

BRIDGET

I don't need to promise.

Trish get's out of the car and smiles at her. She leans through the window.

TRISH

Have fun and see you soon.

BRIDGET

Bye and thanks again Trish.

Trish walks across the road. The men speak to her. She shrugs, smiles and they leave as she disappears into the pharmacy.

TWO BRETHREN WOMEN with head scarfs, long hair and skirts walk past the car.

Bridget pretends she hasn't seen them and drives off.

30 INT/EXT. MARLENA'S FRONT PORCH - DAY 7

30

BRIDGET arrives in Trish's blue Dodge. MARLENA opens the front door and waves for her to park in the drive way. Bridget backs the car in cautiously and slowly and is very aware of Marlena watching her. Driving is clearly not her thing.

Bridget struggles a little to get out of the car as Marlena walks down the stairs to greet her.

MARLENA

Didn't we say two PM?

BRIDGET

Oh yes, thank you. For helping um backing --

Bridget looks a little startled. Marlena looks in the car.

MARTIENA

Wow is that all you have?

BRIDGET

Yes. I don't need much.

Marlena turns her attention to the open door.

MARLENA

(calling)

Hey DUTCH. Come and meet Bridget.

Bridget looks a little uncomfortable.

DUTCH sashays down the stairs and shakes Bridget's hand.

DUTCH

Lovely to meet the game gal willing to live with this one.

Bridget looks both taken aback and confused. Marlena shots him a look (behave).

Bridget opens the boot and DUTCH takes a heavy box out of the boot.

DUTCH (CONT'D)

(high pitched mocking)

Wooh heavy.

Bridget looks concerned.

BRIDGET

Oh its ok I can take that one.

He walks past with the box in control.

DUTCH

(deeper)

Just tell me where you want it honey.

Bridget looks to Marlena seeking guidance as to where to put her things.

BRIDGET

Oh um in the bedroom is great, I quess.

DUTCH takes the box inside.

MARLENA

(calling after Dutch)

Yep everything in the bedroom.

Bridget turns to Marlena.

BRIDGET

Um is it Dutch?

Marlena nods.

MARLENA

Yeah.

BRIDGET

-- Is Dutch a girl --

Marlena watches her struggle with the concept.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

-- or a boy?

Marlena grabs a box from the car boot.

MARLENA

Does it matter?

Bridget looks confused but smiles as Marlena passes her. Marlena leans in close to Bridget which obviously makes her uncomfortable.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

Boy most of the time but she's pretty stunning as a girl.

Bridget watches Marlena carry her box inside.

31 INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 7

31

BRIDGET is unpacking her stuff. From off she listens to Marlena and DUTCH laughing, hushing and possibly drinking too much. She looks to the door and turns the handle cautiously and quietly. She creeps out of her room and into the hallway.

31A INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 7

31A

In the Hallway BRIDGET creeps quietly toward the bathroom. She pauses near the dinning room door and listens.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Last shot is tomorrow. I'm meeting the bank manager to see if they'll lend me any more.

DUTCH (O.S.)

Surely. It's not that much.

MARLENA (O.S.)

I'm already up to my eyeballs in debt hon'.

DUTCH (O.S.)

How bad?

MARLENA (O.S.)

Well the plan was a lot better before Rosie died. Even split on the house and the bar was my inheritance money. I paid the deposit for obvious reasons.

DUTCH (O.S.)

Oh shit.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Yeah oh shit. She died before she told Paul so it's not like I can just ask for my share. We bought the house in my name so that when the divorce went through he couldn't touch it.

DUTCH (O.S.)

Ouch! Oh honey why didn't you tell me?

Bridget strains to listen.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Just shit. Hey I'm hungry should I cook something?

DUTCH (O.S.)

Let's just get something from up the road.

MARLENA (O.S.)

Yeah OK.

DUTCH (O.S.)

Should we ask her?

Bridget freezes.

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

(calling)

Hey Bridge, we're grabbing some food if you want some.

Bridget stops and thinks. She looks panicked. She races quietly to the bathroom and flushes the toilet. She then opens the door.

BRIDGET

(calling)

Sorry?

DUTCH

(calling)

We're getting food. Nothing fancy. Turkish from up the road.

Bridget remains in the hallway.

BRIDGET

(loudly)

Um, OK?

32 INT. MARLENA'S DINNING - NIGHT 7

32

BRIDGET, MARLENA & DUTCH all have dinner. Bridget looks at the food with suspicion.

MARLENA

So Bridget, we didn't really chat much before. I'm sorry I was so sick when you came round to see the house. BRIDGET

Oh that's fine. It's lovely.

MARLENA

So, what do you like to do socially?

BRIDGET

Well I like um, reading and um well yoga.

MARLENA

(interrupting)

Yeah but socially.

DUTCH

You know for fun honey?

Bridget smiles uncomfortably.

BRIDGET

Well I like movies and I um, visit a friend once a week and have dinner with her family. It's Trish's car.

MARLENA

Cool OK and ah what are you into?

Bridget looks confused.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

You know men, women--

Bridget smiles awkwardly.

BRIDGET

Oh Men.

Marlena and Dutch exchange looks.

DUTCH

Well good for you honey.

MARLENA

Hey just letting you know Queenie's coming here after school tomorrow for a bit OK.

BRIDGET

Oh who lost her mum.

MARLENA

Yep. Rosie.

Marlena and Dutch exchange looks. Dutch changes topic.

DUTCH

So, one thing you need to know about Marlena is she's like an open book. Everything out in the open and on show.

BRIDGET

Oh really?

DUTCH

No. Not really honey. I've known Marlena for just about ten years and still she never fails to surprise.

He looks lovingly at Marlena. She does not share the love back. Marlena begins to clear the plates.

DUTCH (CONT'D)

Oh and warning! Don't ever go into Marlena's bedroom, once a woman's gone in there they're changed forever.

Bridget looks terrified. Marlena looks disapprovingly at Dutch.

MARLENA

Wow honey, look at the time. Don't you have an early start tomorrow.

He look at her quizzically as if to say no.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

Should I call you a cab?

DUTCH

I've been called worse. No darling it's fine. I'm staying at Phil's.

Dutch get's up from the table.

DUTCH (CONT'D)

Lovely to meet you Bridget. You'll have fun here. Marlena's a hoot.

The sarcasm is dripping. Marlena walks him to the door. Bridget starts clearing the table. Marlena opens the door for Dutch. They converse quietly to one another but Bridget strains to hear.

MARLENA

Good night sweets. Speak tomorrow.

DUTCH

Good night darlin' don't do anyone I wouldn't do.

MARLENA

Oh please. Get out now.

Bridget stares at the dishwasher. They turn to face her.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

It's fine honey, I can do that.

BRIDGET

Is that OK?

MARLENA

Yeah sure.

BRIDGET

Oh OK. I have yoga in the morning.

So good night.

Bridget smiles at them at the door. Dutch leaves.

DUTCH (O.C.)

(from off)

Sweet dreams Bridget.

BRIDGET

Oh thank you.

Marlena shuts the door and walks back to the table. She pours herself another drink. Bridget smiles and leaves.

33 INT. MARLENA'S BATHROOM - DAY 8

33

BRIDGET rushes down the corridor and into the bathroom. MARLENA is making breakfast in the kitchen - the smell is making Bridget feel sick. She vomits into the toilet. She looks up at the painting hanging above the toilet. It's an monkey shaving its legs.

Bridget looks at herself in the mirror and straightens up her hair.

34 INT. MARLENA'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS 8

34

Bridget walks into the kitchen. Marlena is standing at the kitchen bench sculling the last remnants of her coffee.

MARLENA

You OK?

BRIDGET

Must be something I ate.

Marlena is distracted. She puts her cup in the dishwasher.

MARLENA

Yeah weird huh. You didn't eat much.

BRIDGET

(processing her as she talks)

Hmm I haven't been feeling too well. I didn't go to yoga this morning. I might try get to one later today. Oh and I need to get the car back to Trish.

Bridget looks at Marlena. It's the first time she's noticed that Marlena is very dressed up.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Wow you look so nice.

Marlena answers on her way out.

MARLENA

Sweet. I gotta fly. Meeting the with the bank. Make yourself at home.

Marlena walks out the back door and across the lawn to the back garage. Bridget watches her leave and then turns her attention to the kitchen.

She opens a few drawers and the pantry. She sniffs the occasional things at random, apple, contents of a jar, kitchen towel and finally coffee. The smells of the coffee makes her feel nauseous.

35 INT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY 8

35

BRIDGET approaches YOGI the smiling woman behind the counter.

YOGI

Hi Bridget.

Bridget smiles and scans the schedule behind her.

BRIDGET

Isn't Rob working today either?

YOGI

No Rob and his family have moved back to Sydney.

BRIDGET

Family?

YOGI

Yes his wife went into labour last night with number three.

BRIDGET

Oh, oh I didn't know he was pregnant.

YOGI

Yeah three's tough so they moved back to Sydney to be near her family.

BRIDGET

oh, Rob never said he was leaving.

Yogi acknowledges BETSY in the background.

YOGI

(to Betsy)

Hi. What's your name?

Bridget looks a little ill and visibly upset. She turns and heads quickly for the exit.

36 EXT. YOGA STUDIO - DAY 8

36

Bridget runs out onto the street. She does a little vomit into the gutter. BETSY comes up to her.

BETSY

Are you OK?

BRIDGET

Yep I'm OK.

Bridget uses her water bottle to wash the vomit away from the gutter.

37 INT. CHEMIST WAREHOUSE - DAY 8

37

BRIDGET buys an assortment of odd ball items, quick eaze, stomach stuff, hair ties, sniffs some hair shampoos. She stands in front of the pregnancy tests. She picks one up and tries to remove the bar code on the box. It wont come off so she opens the box and empties the contents of the box surreptitiously into her bag. She grabs a box of tissues and places them in her basket and walks to the checkout.

38 INT. MARLENA'S HOUSE - DAY 8

38

BRIDGET comes home.

BRIDGET

(calls tentatively)

Hello?

No one answers.

39

*

39 INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 8

Bridget walks into her room and flops onto her bed. She begins to empty her grocery bag onto the bed. She stops to listen. She hears crying, sobbing coming from Marlena's bedroom. She gets up to investigate.

40 INT. MARLENA'S BEDROOM - DAY 8 - PROVOCATION YANA ALANA 40

BRIDGET knocks on Marlena's door. There is no answer but she can still hear sobbing.

BRIDGET

Marlena? Are you ok?

Muffled sobs.

Bridget opens the door a little. There is a occupant under the bed clothes.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Marlena?

Bridget walks tentatively into the room. The figure under the bed covers, YANA ALANA springs into action.

YANA ALANA

Oh goodie, I'm so glad you're here. Come in, come in.

Yana Alana pats the bed and motions for Bridget to sit next to her.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

Sit here.

Bridget does.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

I was only crying for a little bit wasn't I?

Yana Alana begins to sing to Bridget as if she is one of many audience members.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

Cue Music.

She sings 'One Woman Show' words and music by Sarah Ward.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

I wrote the words, I wrote the poetry. I wrote the whole script and isn't it grand? I sang the songs, I blew my own horn, I made the music and without a band.

(MORE)

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

I had to do it on my own, don't you know, cause life is a one woman show. I brought the props, I made my costumes, I brought the flowers on opening night. I got on line, updated my status, I gave myself over one thousand likes. I had to do it on my own, don't you know? Cause life is a one woman show. I'm truly in control. I wrote every single words to every song I sing. And as choreographer I'm counting out the steps, in groups of eight I can really swing. Every single word I say I know, because I wrote the fuckin show.

I am the main protagonist, the chorus girl, the extra and the supporting role. I'm the leading lady, star the diva and I've got the mind body and soul. Every critic raves that I'm breakthrough Because I wrote the dam reviews.

Yana Alana stops singing. Bridget has frozen watchfullness.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

OK that's enough. You can clap now.

Yana Alana promptly dismisses Bridget.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

OK. You can go now.

Bridget does.

YANA ALANA (CONT'D)

Please shut the door behind you.

Bridget shuts the door gently behind her.

Bridget now outside the room pauses at the closed door. She turns and opens the door again. Marlena's bed is empty, completely re-made and tidy.

What does this scene provoke in Bridget? NEEDS to realise that she'll be ok on her own, without men. families come in all sorts of shapes and sizes.

41 EXT. BACK DECK - DAY 8

41

BRIDGET sits on the back deck and listens to the trains go past.

She cautiously heads back inside to retrieve her phone. She begins to make a call as she heads back outside again.

BRIDGET

Hello Trish.

TRISH (O.S.)

Yes.

BRIDGET

Hi it's me Bridget.

TRISH (O.S.)

Yes hello Bridget.

BRIDGET

I'm so sorry but I can't bring you your car today. I'm really under the weather.

TRISH (O.S.)

Oh dear. Are you OK?

BRIDGET

No not really. I've been vomiting, I've had a weird hallucination, I've got a headache.

TRISH (O.S.)

Honey are you using pharmaceuticals?

BRIDGET

(giving the question some consideration)

Um no. I don't think so.

TRISH (O.S.)

Well would you like me to come by? I can. I'll get the train.

BRIDGET

Oh yes thank you. It would be nice to see you and talk to you. If you have time?

TRISH (O.S.)

Sure. I'll tell Mary I'll meet her at the theatre and you can show me your place. Make me a cup of tea.

BRIDGET

Thank you. I think I'd like that very much.

42 INT. MARLENA'S HOUSE - DAY 8

42

BRIDGET

Trish. Thanks so much for coming.

Trish walks in and takes in the surrounds.

TRISH

Wow. This is different.

Bridget looks distracted. Trish looks out at the back yard.

TRISH (CONT'D)

Does someone live down there?

BRIDGET

No it's Marlena's office.

TRISH

Oh is she home?

BRIDGET

No. No one's home right now. I just checked.

Trish looks bemused at Bridget.

TRISH

Why don't you sit down at the table and I'll put the kettle on.

BRIDGET

Oh OK.

Trish walks into the kitchen and fills the kettle with water.

TRISH

Gosh is that coffee machine?

BRIDGET

Yes it's Marlena's.

TRISH

Where are the tea bags Bridget?

Bridget looks at the table.

BRIDGET

I haven't had my period.

Trish turns to face her.

TRISH

What?

BRIDGET

I've been vomiting and I haven't had my period for well over two months.

Trish walks to her and stands at the table.

TRISH

OK. Have we done a test?

BRIDGET

I got a test on the way home but I haven't done it yet? Would you mind if you did the test?

TRISH

Honey I can't do the test. You're the one who has to wee on the stick.

BRIDGET

Oh no I know. I just meant that if I left it there would you look at it for me.

TRISH

Oh course dear.

43 INT. MARLENA'S BATHROOM - DAY 8

43

Bridget carries the pregnancy kit into the bathroom. She locks the door and pulls the blinds.

INT. MARLENA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER 8

Bridget walks back into the dinning area where Trish is standing looking at some of the art work on the wall. Trish looks at her and walks past her out of the room.

Bridget paces the room, moving the furniture so it's all nicely aligned.

TRISH walks back into the kitchen carrying the stick with a tissue. Her face says it all. Bridget sits at the table with a cold cup of tea in front of her.

TRISH

It has two stripes. So it's a yes. But it's not conclusive.

Bridget's face remains frozen.

BRIDGET

Oh.

TRISH

You should call the father. Is it Rob?

BRIDGET

Do you think so?

TRISH

Yes. He'll want to know.

Trish puts the stick and tissue down on the table in front of Bridget.

TRISH (CONT'D)

You should do another one and go see a doctor to make sure. Have you got a doctor near here?

Bridget looks at the table.

TRISH (CONT'D)

Would you like me to come with you?

BRIDGET

No. I think I'll be OK.

MARLENA arrives home with QUEENIE. Queenie throws her bag onto the floor and runs into her room to play.

MARLENA

(calls after Queenie)

Not play. Piano practice.

Marlena turns to face Trish.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

Hi I'm Marlena.

Marlena offers her hand to Trish. Trish awkwardly accepts (she's not experienced with women shaking hands).

TRISH

Trish.

MARLENA

And that ball of energy is Princess Queenie.

TRISH

Oh is she your daughter?

Queenie walks into the room carrying her keyboard. Marlena bends down to tickle Queenie as she passes.

MARLENA

(to Queenie)

No she's my tickle tester. She's my chocolate loving tickle monster.

Queenie puts the keyboard on the table and notices the test in front of Bridget. Bridget hides her test.

QUEENIE

Hmm chocolate?

Marlena indicates that they can investigate in the pantry. Queenie heads into the kitchen.

TRISH

I'm so sorry I have to leave but I'm off to the theatre.

MARLENA

Oh yeah cool. What are you seeing?

TRISH

Strictly Ballroom.

MARLENA

Oh. I hear it's terrible.

Marlena focuses on Queenie again who is attempting to sneak a large piece of chocolate.

MARLENA (CONT'D)

Hey that's too much.

Bridget walks Trish to the door and hands her her car keys.

BRIDGET

Thank you so much for lending me your car and for coming to --

Trish puts her hand on Bridget's arm.

TRISH

It's absolutely fine Bridget. Call me, please.

Bridget smiles and watches Trish leave. She shuts the door and turns her focus back to Marlena and Queenie.

BRIDGET

So you're Queenie. I play piano.

Marlena leaves the room to run the bath.

Bridget looks at Queenie excitedly.

BRIDGET (CONT'D) What song are you learning?

Bridget helps Queenie with her piano practice.

FADE OUT.