

BILLY

9.

1/2

Frank makes his way to a back dining room. Around a large table sit a hodgepodge group of old timers about Frank's age, former police officers/firefighters/etc. Frank waves to the bunch.

OLD MAN 1

Hell I thought you were six feet under. It's been so long since we seen ya.

FRANK

Not till you pay me that \$40 you owe me.

OLD MAN 1

How bout you loan me another \$40, and I'll pay you back \$80 when I get my social security check.

Frank sits down next to BILLY, a black man in overalls, who is a little older than Frank.

START

BILLY

How's it going, Frank?

FRANK

Oh, same old same old. How bout you?

BILLY

Ah, pretty good. Gonna be moving closer to my son in Aiken soon. Don't know if I told you that.

FRANK

I don't believe you did. I thought you'd be in this neck of the woods longer than me.

BILLY

That's till the Tabors came knocking at my door.

Frank doesn't hide his dismay.

FRANK

C'mon Billy, you're shittin' me.

BILLY

Offered me a pretty good price for the home place, and I thought, hell, I'll go buy me a farm in Aiken closer to my grandkids.

BILLY 2/2

10.

Frank chews on this. Disappointed.

FRANK

You know anything about one of Earl's relatives moving in to the house next door to me? Girl in her 30s, I think, with maybe her husband. Said she's a cousin or something.

Billy shakes his head.

BILLY

No I haven't heard anything, but I'll ask around. Earl and Pauline just had that one daughter and a grandson, you probably remember.

Frank nods - recollecting.

BILLY (CONT'D)

I'd heard the grandson went to Atlanta and started dressing up like a girl.

(take a sip of coffee)

Probably what put Earl in the grave.

Frank swallows hard, gears spinning.

EXT. FRANK'S HOUSE - EVENING

Frank begins watering flowers at the front of his house when he hears UPBEAT 90s HOUSE MUSIC coming from next door. He looks around the corner --

NAIA'S BACKYARD

Naia PAINTS on a large canvas in her backyard. She dances performatively in a creative flow.

Frank resumes his watering, avoiding the area of his yard in Naia's view.

BACK ON

Naia as she continues painting and dancing. Relishing the creative freedom in her own backyard.
