

Big City Girl, Small Town Folks

1x01 - Star View, Rhode Island

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TEASER

FADE IN

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK - DAY

We see New York City. We pan from left to right to see more of the city. We keep on moving as we hear our main protagonist, LEA DRAKE, speaking in voiceover

LEA (V.O.)

What is life all about? Life starts with birth, then you start to get older, then you die. There are many causes, many things. And death can take your life way off course.

Off that, we

CUT TO

EXT. BAXTER BUILDING - DAY

We see the bottom of the Baxter building, which holds the the Drake-Willick Law Office. We hear Lea's voice again, this time not in voice over

LEA (PRE-LAP)

No, no, I need those folders by the end of today. We go to court tomorrow-.

CUT TO

INT. BAXTER BUILDING - DRAKE-WILLICK LAW OFFICE - DAY

We see Lea standing over her desk wearing a power suit. She is talking on the speakerphone.

LEA

Hold on, I've got another call.

She pushes a button on the phone and she's on another call.

LEA (CONT'D)

Lea Drake's office.

The voice on the phone is Lea's aunt, TERI DRAKE.

(CONTINUED)

TERI (OVER PHONE)  
Lea? It's your Aunt Teri.

LEA  
Oh, hey Aunt Ter, what's up... Did Grandma Mary get caught for possession?

TERI  
Lea, it's your mother, she... she's passed.

LEA  
What?

TERI  
Last night, the cancer caught up with her.

LEA  
D-d-did she suffer?

TERI  
No, no, she died in her sleep. Your grandmother's pissed as hell, but she'll get over it. Your mother's kind of lucky, she lasted for a really long time. Most people don't last that long.

LEA  
(Tearing up)  
Did you start planning out the funeral?

TERI  
Yes. Your grandmother and I are planning next week. She'd love it if you come down.

LEA  
Of course. Tell Grandma Mary I love her and that I'll be down in a couple of days.

TERI  
Okay, I love you.

LEA  
I love you too.

The line goes dead and Lea pushes a button, back to her other conversation, tears still running down her face

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

3.

LEA

Okay, about those files...

Off Lea's sad expression, we

BLACKOUT

END OF TEASER

(CONTINUED)

## ACT ONE

FADE IN

EXT. STAR VIEW, RHODE ISLAND - DAY

We see a sign that says "Welcome to Star View, Rhode Island, Population 2000". We pan up to an aerial view of the town. There aren't many things, scattered strips of buildings around. Some restaurants and some buildings. We pan quickly back down to the sign and see a yellow Volkswagen Beetle. We see Lea driving it. She is in a black dress wearing sunglasses.

LEA

Oh my God, finally!

She turns left as she enters the city. Off her driving out of view, we

CUT TO

EXT. DRAKE HOUSEHOLD - DAY

We see Lea's beetle parked as she steps out. She walks to the front porch where she is greeted by MARY DRAKE, 92, holding a shotgun and pointing it at Lea.

MARY

Who the hell are you? Are you one of those damn telemarketers? I told you sons 'a bitches I didn't want you hangin' 'round these parts!

LEA

Grandma! It's me

TERI (O.S.)

Mom, put the damn gun down!

Teri walks out as Mary drops the gun.

MARY

Come her, Angela, give me a hug.

LEA

Grandma, it's Lea.

MARY

Oh... Lea... still, come and give me a hug.

(CONTINUED)

Lea walks up the porch steps and gives her grandmother a hug.

MARY  
(During hug)  
I can't believe you're one of those telemarketers

LEA  
(Chuckles)  
Grandma, telemarketers are over the phone.

MARY  
Well, are you still one of them?

Lea breaks the hug.

LEA  
No, gram, I'm a lawyer.

MARY  
Oh thank god, there's this guy in town I sell pot to-

TERI  
(Cutting her off)  
That's enough, mom.  
(hugs Lea)  
Oh my goodness, you've gotten so tall since I saw you last.

LEA  
(Pauses; breaks hug)  
Aunt Ter, that was 3 months ago and I'm 30.

TERI  
Oh... well, you're still tall!  
(Hugs again then breaks it)  
How's things been going.

LEA  
Well, I just sent four thugs to prison

TERI  
Really?

LEA  
(Pauses)  
No... but some guy, turns out, isn't in a gang.

(CONTINUED)

TERI

Oh, honey, it's okay, everyone  
sucks at their job when they first  
get it.

LEA

Aunt Ter, I've been a lawyer at  
this firm for 5 years, now.

TERI

Still. Now come on, let's get your  
bags in the house before your  
grandmother starts selling them for  
product. We've got a funeral to get  
to

Off Lea and Teri hauling Lea's three bags up the steps, we

BLACKOUT

END OF ACT ONE

(CONTINUED)

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. MORGANSHIRE FUNERAL HOMES - DAY

We see the exterior of a rather small funeral home.

PRIEST (PRE-LAP)  
Carey Madeline Drake was a great  
woman.

CUT TO

INT. MORGANSHIRE FUNERAL HOMES - DAY

We see a closed casket and a picture on an easel with a  
picture of CAREY DRAKE on it.

PRIEST (CONT'D)  
Raising two beautiful daughters on  
her own.

MARY  
(Silently to Teri)  
Yeah right.

PRIEST (CONT'D)  
We know that she always had high  
hopes for Lea Mary Drake and Angela  
Amanda Drake and that those two  
have accomplished things that their  
mother had wanted.

The priest keeps talking and we pan over to Mary, Teri, and  
Lea.

MARY  
(Silently to Teri)  
Yeah right. One's a telemarketer  
and the other one's a law office  
secretary.

TERI  
(Silently to Mary)  
Mom, shut up. For one thing,  
Angela's not a telemarketer, she's,  
sadly, a hitchhiker, and Lea's a  
lawyer herself.

(CONTINUED)

MARY  
Still, terrible at her job.

LEA  
(Silently to Mary)  
Grandma, I'm right here.

MARY  
I'll get to you in a second, you  
telemarketer.

LEA  
(Silently to Teri)  
I think she's lost it-

PRIEST (O.S.)  
Okay, can the three of you just  
shut the hell up?!

We pan to see the priest, angry.

LEA Sorry. TERI Sorry.

MARY  
Well I'm not! Teri, hold my  
earings.

Teri and Lea hold Mary back as she tries to punch the  
priest.

TERI  
Mom, sit down.

MARY  
(Eyeballs priest)  
You're so lucky.

Mary calms and sits.

PRIEST  
And now, Carey had prepared a short  
video for her will.

Everybody becomes silent and the video begins. We see CAREY  
DRAKE, 60, lying in a hospital bed.

CAREY  
Good morning.

(CONTINUED)

MARY

Hey, look, it's Carey.

CAREY

To those of you jackasses who think that you are gonna get something good from me, you'd better just leave now.

We see people getting up and walking out, groaning and muttering things under their breath.

CAREY (CONT'D)

To those who stayed, I thank you. I know your love was unconditional and I look at you from heaven and I smile. Now, on to the good part. I have left my 1970 Thunderbird to Derek Arnold. Derek, you're the sweetest man I have ever met and it was wrong of Lea to dump you.

LEA

(Loudly)

Derek's here?!

Everybody turns.

LEA

(Mouths)

Sorry

CAREY

I have left my estate to my sister Teri Drake. Sis, even though you were a real bitch to me when we grew up, I still love you and thank you for everything you did when I got cancer.

Teri smiles.

CAREY

And finally, I leave everything else to my two wonderful daughters; Lea, who I know is sitting in the front row, you obviously get the most, and Angela, who's probably off whorin' around with some guy who probably only gave her clamidia, not two thirds of his money- anyways, I'd like to thank all of you for coming and I hope

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CAREY (cont'd)  
that I get to see you up in heaven  
someday. Thank you

The video ends and the priest shuts off the TV.

PRIEST  
Thank you, everyone for attending,  
the burial service will be tomorrow  
at 10:00 A.M., I hope to see  
(Eyeballs Mary)  
*almost* everyone there. Also, a side  
note, the first annual casino  
royale night tomorrow, bring your  
singles, I hope to see  
(Eyeballs Mary again)  
*almost* everyone there.

The priest leaves and a man, DEREK ARNOLD, approaches the front row. Lea tries to hide her head by putting her hand over her head.

DEREK  
Hey, Teri, hey, Mary. How are you

TERI  
Well, if you didn't see my mother's  
earlier outburst, then you don't  
know that I had to hold her back  
and keep her from going toe-to-toe  
with the priest again.

DEREK  
(Focused on Lea)  
That's great. Lea?

Lea takes her hand away from her face.

LEA  
Derek! Hey!

DEREK  
I didn't know you were back in  
town.

LEA  
Oh yeah, didn't you hear the video?

DEREK  
So, how have you been?

LEA

Great, I've got my own law firm now, what have you been up to?

DEREK

Oh, I'm a pediatrician now.

LEA

So, you're not really that biker bad boy anymore, are you?

DEREK

Nope, I sold the bike.

LEA

Did you sell the cheap slut you hooked up with a senior prom?

TERI

Lea, don't.

DEREK

No, it's alright. Lea, I know that I might have left you for Molly Hunter, but that was like 12 years ago. Can't we just live and let die

LEA

Yeah. I'll live, you die. And guess who was stuck at the Kum & Go when you and your precious Molly were...

MARY

Cumming and going?

LEA

Exactly.

DEREK

(To Teri and Mary)

Can I have a moment alone with Lea?

MARY

Of course. Teri, get out of here.

Teri stands as Mary stays sitting. The three stare at Mary.

MARY (CONT'D)

(Gestures)

Continue.

(CONTINUED)

TERI  
Come on, mom.

MARY  
(Grunts)  
Fine.

The two ladies walk off and we are left with just Lea and Derek. Derek sits down next to Lea

DEREK  
Lea, I was a stupid kid who didn't know any better. You were the most beautiful girl at that prom and I was wrong to dump you.

LEA  
Yeah, right. You dumped me the minute you know the BJ Bitch wanted you.

DEREK  
I was a stupid kid. I thought I was in love.

LEA  
Yeah, well if you were in love, then why didn't you just marry her?

Derek pauses and Lea realizes.

LEA (CONT'D)  
You married her. Great. I thought that the most awesome guy at school really wanted to go to prom with me, and then he ends up getting blown by some girl who let the guys pass their panties around the boys locker room.

DEREK  
Come on, Lea. It's not fair for you to hold a grudge for that long.

LEA  
(Glaring)  
I can hold a grudge for as long as I want, you can't tell me what's fair and what's not.

DEREK  
Lea...

(CONTINUED)

LEA

You have no right to tell me what-

Derek kisses her, cutting her off. He breaks the kiss

DEREK

Lea, I love you. Always have and  
always will. You're the most  
beautiful girl in the world and I  
don't know how I could live knowing  
that you hate me.

Lea starts to blush, trying to hide a smile.

LEA

Okay.

DEREK

Do you hate me?

LEA

Derek, I am a forgiving person. I  
believe that you are a sweet man  
and that I should forgive you, and  
I also believe that one day, I will  
forgive you and that we will be  
friends and maybe something more.  
But that day is not today.

Lea gets up and walks out of the room, leaving Derek alone.

DEREK

(Sighs)

One day.

Off that, we

BLACK OUT

END OF ACT TWO

(CONTINUED)

ACT THREE

FADE IN

EXT. DRAKE HOUSEHOLD - NIGHT

We see Teri's house from an aerial view. We hear a conversation

TERI (PRE-LAP)

Are you sure you have to leave so early?

We zoom in very quickly from the aerial view, through the front door, and see Teri and Lea.

INT. DRAKE HOUSEHOLD - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

We see Lea carrying a duffel bag.

LEA

Yeah, I don't want to be a bother.

TERI

No, no, you won't be a bother. Besides, it's pretty late. You don't need to fall asleep and die while driving.

Lea ponders it for a moment.

LEA

And with that mental image, I think I might just stay.

Teri has a big grin on her face.

TERI

Great! You can stay in your old room.

LEA

Okay, great.

The two start to walk and Teri stops.

TERI

And if you start to smell pot, don't worry, your grandma's grow house is in your sister's old room.

(CONTINUED)

LEA

I thought I smelt a skunk.

The two continue walking.

FLASH TO

INT. DRAKE HOUSEHOLD - LEA'S ROOM - DAY

We see Lea sleeping in her full size bed. The walls in her room are painted pink. The comforter on her bed is pink. Her bed frame is white. There are various posters with bands from the late '90's lining some walls. There is a white desk in the corner next to the bed and there is a window next to it. We swivel to the door and it opens, revealing Teri and Mary

TERI

(Smiling)

Gosh, every time I come in this room, I feel like it's brightening my soul.

MARY

I feel like it's killing and suffocating me to death.

TERI

Mom, you need to go into a home.

MARY

I've got a home. You're living in it.

TERI

You're living in it. I own it now.

MARY

I bought it.

TERI

I own it.

LEA

I jump off of it.

We see Lea still laying. She sits up.

LEA (CONT'D)

What time is it?

(CONTINUED)

TERI  
7:00 A.M.

LEA  
(Bitchy)  
Holy crap, you people need lives.

MARY  
(To Teri)  
Jesus, she's a bitch

LEA  
So is the change.

MARY  
Wouldn't know

TERI  
Wouldn't know

LEA  
Grandma, you're like 100.

MARY  
Hey! I'm seventy!

TERI  
Plus twenty

MARY  
In twenty years

TERI  
Oh really?

Teri runs out of the room, leaving Mary and Lea to stare each other down. Teri comes back with a piece of paper, Mary's birth certificate.

TERI  
Mary Mildred Willowski, born June  
30, 1922.

MARY  
Okay, maybe I'm a bit older than I  
realized...

Mary walks out, in shame.

LEA  
What did you want?

TERI  
I made breakfast.

LEA  
(Smiling)  
With your special pancakes?

TERI  
Of course!

LEA  
(Overjoyed)  
Yes!

She hops out of bed and runs out.

LEA (O.S.)  
Angela! Aunt Teri made- what the  
hell am I doing?

CUT TO

INT. DRAKE HOUSEHOLD - KITCHEN - DAY

We see Lea burst into the large kitchen. There is a round table with four chairs. Mary is sitting at one, leaving three open. Teri sits next to Mary and Lea sits across from her. Lea and Teri start putting food on their plates.

LEA  
So, Aunt Ter, how's work?

TERI  
Work's... fine

LEA  
(Raises eyebrow)  
Fine?

TERI  
Yeah, fine. Just fine.

LEA  
Now it's just fine? Aunt Ter,  
what's going on?

TERI  
Okay, fine, I got fired.

MARY  
Well great! First you get the  
house, now you're gonna lose it,  
too?

(CONTINUED)

TERI  
Don't worry, it'll be fine.

LEA  
Aunt Ter, how's it gonna be fine?  
Neither of you have an income.

TERI  
That's not true, your grandmother  
still has the pot, right mom?

Mary gets a guilty look on his face.

TERI (CONT'D)  
(Stern)  
Mom?

MARY  
(To Lea)  
I tried to tell you, but you  
wouldn't listen.

LEA  
Tell me what?

Mary looks back and forth between Teri and Lea, then gives up.

MARY  
(Sighs)  
Alright. Last month, Tino... I  
don't know, some mobster, came to  
me and told me that he'd kill Teri  
if I didn't give him all the pot.

TERI  
So, that's it? We're plum broke?

LEA  
Well, you've still got your  
severance.

MARY  
Actually, I found that money and...  
kinda spent it.

	TERI		LEA
What?		How?	

MARY

I thought I could triple our money at the casino, but I ended up tripling our losses.

TERI

So that's it. We're plum broke.

MARY

(Innocently)

I guess so... I mean, it's not like I have a somewhat successful lawyer granddaughter who I love...

Mary gets up, letting that sit with them for a while.

LEA

How much money do you have saved, Aunt Ter?

TERI

Not very much. Your grandma found my password and... went wild.

LEA

How many months do you think it could last you?

TERI

About two.

LEA

Holy crap!

Lea pauses and starts to think.

LEA (CONT'D)

Listen, I do have a lot of money saved. I did have a somewhat successful career before I decided to start my own firm... I've got an idea, I will stay with you guys for a bit while you search for a job and I will work from here and take care of Grandma Mary.

TERI

That's a great plan, but-

LEA

(Interrupting)

No buts! I'll drive up to New York sometime this week and grab some more of my things. Deal?

(CONTINUED)

TERI  
(Smiles)  
Deal.

LEA  
Great

The two share a hug as Mary walks back in with a bottle of vodka.

MARY  
What's great?

The two break the hug to look at Mary.

TERI  
The great this is-  
  
Takes bottle from Mary.

TERI (CONT'D)  
Is that Lea is going to stay with  
us for a bit while I look for a  
job.

MARY  
That's great news? That's terrible!  
  
Lea's taken back in surprise.

LEA  
Excuse me?

MARY  
No offense, sweetheart, but you're  
too much of a big city girl to deal  
with our small town folky ways.

Lea looks to Teri for advice.

TERI  
(to Mary)  
Mom, it is great news, Lea's  
staying with us, you're gonna go to  
AA meetings, and I'm gonna drink  
this vodka until I forget who you  
are.

Teri takes the bottle and walks out.

MARY  
Don't worry, Lea, we're gonna have  
lots of fun.

She starts to walk away.

MARY (CONT'D)  
(Evily)  
Lots and lots of fun.

LEA  
Great, my grandmother's gonna kill  
me.

Lea starts walking up the stairs and we stay in the kitchen,  
watching her disappear.

LEA (CONT'D)  
Aunt Ter, can I get a couple shots  
of that stuff?

We stay on the kitchen as Lea's voiceover returns

LEA (V.O.)  
So I guess that I'm staying here  
for a while. I really hope that  
Teri finds a job before Mary kills  
me. Time will tell

Off that, we

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

END OF EPISODE