

INT. CAR

ED, short for Edwina, sits anxiously waiting in the driver's seat, peering intently through the windshield. As she catches sight of something she breaks into a broad smile, unlocks the door, and slides over to the passenger seat.

HI, dumb as a rock, opens the door with one hand, cradling a baby in the other.

ED
Which one ya get?

He gets into the driver's seat.

HI
I dunno. Nathan Jr., I think.

He hands her the infant, then hands her the copy of Dr.Spock's Baby and Child Care.

HI (CONT'D)
Here's the instructions.

ED
Oh, he's beautiful!

Hi nods as he pulls away from the curb.

HI
He's awful damn good. I think I got
the best one.

Ed is gushing and kissing the baby through the rest of the conversation.

ED
I bet they were all beautiful. All
babies are beautiful!

HI
Yeah. This one's awful damn good
though.

ED
Don't you cuss around him.

HI
He's fine, he is. I think it's
Nathan Jr.

ED

We are doin' the right thing,
aren't we Hi? I mean, they had
more'n they could handle.

HI

Well now honey we been over this
and over this. There's what's right
and there's what's right, and never
the twain shall meet.

ED

But you don't think his momma'll be
upset? I mean overly?

HI

Well a course she'll be upset,
sugar, but she'll get over it.
She's got four little babies almost
as good as this one. It's like when
I was robbin' convenience stores--

Ed interrupts as she bursts out crying.

ED

I love him so much!

HI

I know you do, honey.

ED

(still sobbing)
I love him so much!

Hi matches her volume.

HI

I know you do!

ED

Don't be so loud around him, Hi.

HI

Damn, I'm sorry honey.

ED

And don't you cuss around him.

HI

Aw, he don't know a cuss word from
shinola.

ED

Well see that he don't.

HI
 (jovially)
 He's all right he is.

He looks over at Ed and Jr for a bit with a huge smile.

HI (CONT'D)
 What are you kiddin'?! We got a
 family here!

They ride in the car for a moment. Then--

ED
 I gotta tell ya, I'm a little
 scared.

HI
 How come is that honey?

ED
 Well we got a baby, Hi. It's an
 awful big responsibility.

HI
 Well sure... but you're smart and
 women are good at baby stuff.

ED
 I mean we never done this before
 and I'm kinda nervous.

HI
 Oh. Well... we got the
 instructions. We just follow what
 that fella from Star Trek said and
 we'll be fine.

Ed smiles at Hi. Then--

ED
 You're gonna help aren't ya?

HI
 How's that?

ED
 Give Nathan Jr. a normal family
 background, just quiet evenings at
 home together.

HI
 You can count on it, honey.

ED
Everything decent'n normal from
here on out.

HI
Uh-huh.

They drive for a bit.

ED
I love you, Hi.

HI
I love you, too, honey.

END SCENE