

Happy New Year

Martinez #2  
59.

Jerome enters.

LISA (CONT'D)

Well, I'd better get going. I have to finish up, then hit the books.

LEWIS

Yeah.

LISA

Bye Jerome.

She exits. Jerome sits on his bed, smiling at Lewis.

LEWIS

What?

JEROME

(laughs)

Nothing.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Lisa stands against the wall outside Lewis's room. Several emotions flow across her face - confusion, joy, worry. She takes a deep breath and laughs quietly to herself.

INT. MARTINEZ'S OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

Lewis sits across from Martinez.

MARTINEZ

So, Sgt. Lewis, you've been making quite an impression around here these last few weeks.

LEWIS

Have I?

MARTINEZ

(looking at Lewis' file)

You've racked up quite an impressive record for someone at your age. What are you, 28? 1 tour in Afghanistan, 3 tours in Iraq. Dozens of awards and medals. Bronze Star, Purple Heart, the list goes on.

LEWIS

Your point?

Start

Adrienne Stern Coating

1/3

Happy New Year

Martinez #2  
60.

MARTINEZ

(still reading file)

You were quite a star even before  
you entered the military. Straight-  
A student, State Championship High-  
School quarterback. Prom King.

LEWIS

What's this all about, man?

MARTINEZ

This is about the battlefield.  
You're not on it anymore. This is  
not Iraq or Afghanistan. This is  
Meadowbrook Hospital. I call the  
shots here. And I don't appreciate  
you making waves. If you want to  
make the rest of your stay a  
pleasant one, I suggest you do a  
serious 180.

LEWIS

Or what?

MARTINEZ

Or you suffer the consequences.

LEWIS

Are you threatening me? You should  
be on your fuckin' knees thanking  
me, me and every other guy here in  
this fuckin' shithole.

MARTINEZ

For what?

LEWIS

For what? What do you think? For  
going over there and sacrificing  
our lives so you can sit here a be  
fuckin' douchebag. If it wasn't for  
us, none of you would be here. This  
whole fuckin' country would be up  
in smoke.

MARTINEZ

Do you really believe that? Do you?

LEWIS

Yes, I do.

MARTINEZ

Well, I guess you have to justify  
your mistakes somehow.

Adrienne Stern Casting

2/3

Happy New Year

Martinez #1  
61.

LEWIS

What are you talking about?

MARTINEZ

Your medical file isn't the only thing that was transported from Walter Reed.

Lewis is speechless.

MARTINEZ (CONT'D)

Seems like a lot of these awards you won were for naught. The military has a beautiful way of covering up its mistakes. Wouldn't you agree Sgt. Lewis?

Lewis, still speechless, looks down at the ground.

MARTINEZ (CONT'D)

Now, I'm sorry about your predicament. And we'll do everything in our power to help you get well, but we'll do it on my terms. I suggest you think about what I said. You're dismissed.

Martinez opens the door for Lewis to exit.

End

**INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT**

Lewis wheels himself through the hall, passing Gunny D's room. He sees a nearby emergency door. He goes for it.

Gunny D walks out of his room and shouts out to him.

GUNNY D

Lewis? Lewis?

Lewis doesn't answer. Gunny D walks over to him.

GUNNY D (CONT'D)

Lewis, what the hell are you doing?

LEWIS

(about to break)

I'm getting the fuck out of here!

GUNNY D

Stop it. You want them to lock you up for real? Get in here.

Gunny D pushes Lewis' into his room.

3/3

Adrienne Stern Casting