

**MARGARET CASSAR**

Mid 30's. Pretty, petite. She has a fiery temper. She loves Chopper and believes with all her heart that he is trying to go straight, to leave his life of crime behind. She and Chopper met in a fish shop 20 years ago. Then she started writing him in gaol in his early 20's. She visits him every fortnight in prison, she stands true under police interrogation. She has no connection to crime - but she is also not oblivious to what Chopper has done with his life. She contends Mark and Chopper are two different beings. She loves Mark - and wishes he could keep Chopper at bay more.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Prior to the following scene, Margaret witnessed Chopper cleaning the backseat of his car. Soon after, he was arrested for shooting Sydney Collins in his car. Chopper denied the shooting. Margaret isn't sure if she believes him.)

**INT./EXT. CHOPPER'S CAR/ROAD - DAY**

MARGARET drives Chopper. MARGARET is furious.

Finally, VERY SOFT, not looking at him:

MARGARET

I saw you. Cleaning the car, the back seat.

CHOPPER

I... got some oil on it.  
(she says nothing)  
Don't you believe me?

MARGARET drives a bit more, then SLAMS ON THE BRAKES. Stops the car in the MIDDLE OF THE ROAD.

CHOPPER (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

MARGARET

I don't know if I believe you.  
That's the problem, Mark. The books, the movie, the stories - the endless bullshit!

CHOPPER

You can't stop here!

MARGARET

Don't shout at me!

CHOPPER

We're in the middle of the fucking road!

MARGARET  
I SAID DON'T SHOUT AT ME!

Chopper shuts up, then:

MARGARET (CONT'D)  
There's two of you, you know.  
There's Mark - gentle, kind,  
honest. Then there's Chopper - one  
big show. A performance built on a  
myth based on a lie. And I don't  
know who's fucking who anymore.

And with that, MARGARET rips open the door and pulls the keys  
from the ignition, storming off, leaving Chopper sitting  
helplessly in traffic.

(Prior to the following scene, Chopper has been found guilty of shooting Sydney Collins and given an indefinite sentence. Before the trial, Margaret made it clear she would not wait for him if he was found guilty.)

**INT. RISDON PRISON VISITATION ROOM - DAY**

MARGARET and Chopper sit in silence for a long time on opposite sides of the glass. MARGARET is very upset. Not crying, but not able to look at Chopper.

Finally:

MARGARET  
You can't be angry with me.

CHOPPER  
I'm not.

MARGARET  
We've been through so much, Mark...  
Since we were kids... but I can't  
go through this again. I can't. I  
waited and waited...

CHOPPER  
I know.

Long beat, then:

MARGARET  
What are they going to do to you?

CHOPPER  
I'm in here until... I prove I've  
reformed.

MARGARET  
How do you prove that?

CHOPPER  
If I knew that I might have tried  
years ago.

MARGARET  
(smile, soft)  
Probably not.

CHOPPER  
Yeah. Probably not.

MARGARET  
(flaring)  
This is so wrong! An indefinite  
sentence?! It would be different  
if you'd...  
(MORE)

MARGARET (CONT'D)  
killed 7 people or something but...  
Oh God! I've got to go or I'll  
scream!

She stands, upset, turns away, starts to go, then stops -  
deep breath.

MARGARET (CONT'D)  
I can't stay.

CHOPPER  
I know.

MARGARET  
I love you, Mark. Always.

MARGARET goes to leave.

CHOPPER  
I'm sorry.

MARGARET is staying strong - just...

MARGARET  
I'm sorry, too.

And MARGARET heads out of the Visitation Room, eyes brimming.