FADE INTO FLASHBACK:

INT. A COUNSELING OFFICE - LATE AFTERNOON

ROBERT and LORI sit on opposite ends of a faded green couch. The office they are in is thickly carpeted, in somber colors. A pale beam of sunlight leaks through a narrow opening in the curtains over the window. A THERAPIST sits across from them, in a rich armchair. There is a box of tissues on the coffee table in front of LORI. She has been crying.

## LORI

(Cries softly and dabs her eyes with a tissue.)

I don't know if we'll ever be able to get passed this.

### THERAPIST

Lori, I know you're hurting, but it's important to stay positive. You two will never get passed your issues if you think you won't. (Pause) Robert, how are you feeling at the moment?

ROBERT

(Shrugs)

#### THERAPIST

(Sighs) We've talked about this. You need to engage with Lori for the session to be worthwhile.

ROBERT

(Staring at the floor)

I don't know.

# LORI

What do you mean you don't know? How can you not know how you feel about losing Ben and the affair?

# Robert

I know how I feel about that...I don't know how I feel about us. At the moment.

# LORI

What are you saying?

#### THERAPIST

Lori, you need to stay calm. Let Robert express his feelings.

#### ROBERT

## (Turning to Lori)

I just…I don't know how to feel when I'm home with you. It feels empty. The house…and me. (Pause) I feel empty.

## THERAPIST

Thank you for shar-

# LORI

## (Cutting him off)

You feel empty? Well how do you think I feel when you go off sailing in the middle of an argument? Or when I found out about your little boat mistress?

#### ROBERT

# (Getting upset)

At least Rebecca liked to sail!

## THERAPIST

(Trying to regain control of the session)

Everyone, let's take a moment to-

I can't believe you! You pick that damn boat over me every time! (She starts to cry again) That boat is where we lost Ben!

#### ROBERT

That boat is the last place I saw my son alive!

LORI

(Pause) ... I can't. I'm done.

### THERAPIST

Lori, do you want to try and get to the bottom of what your feeling right now?

LORI

No. I know how I'm feeling. He's just impossible.

ROBERT

Lori I-

# LORI

- (Cutting him off)You go ahead and talk about whatever you want for the rest of the hour. I'll see you at home.
- LORI stands up and grabs her purse. She takes her coat from a hook near the door. Her clicking heels are the only noise in the silent room. ROBERT winces when the office door finally closes.

#### ROBERT

(Awkwardly)...So I guess-

## THERAPIST

# (Sighing)

I think that was enough for today.

ROBERT

(Nodding) Yeah, you're probably right.

ROBERT nods for a moment, and continues to stare at the floor. His face is unreadable. The scene abruptly cuts back to the present with Robert's cell phone ringing.