

# Chapter 7.

Frank arrives at Supercuts after hours, desperate to see Vicky, despite knowing it's closed. With his Jeep on fumes and feeling the pressure of the moment, he runs into a strip mall. Outside, kids skateboard while he frantically knocks on the locked door. Vicky initially ignores him, suggesting he return in the morning. Frank insists he needs to speak with her—there's something serious regarding Maggie that he must explain. Despite her corporate policy adherence, Frank reveals urgency, admitting he can't go home and needs help, which finally grabs her attention.

As skateboarders start to pay attention to the commotion, Frank reassures them he isn't in need of police involvement, having already spoken to his sister who is safe with Abigail at a hotel. He appeals to Vicky by showing her a hard drive, promising that once she hears what's on it, things will make sense. Intrigued, Vicky unwinds from her aloofness, using her keys to let him in while securing the salon behind him. Their vintage computer is slow, but he connects the hard drive and opens a file filled with cryptic names leading to an audio conversation.

The first recording that plays reveals a discussion between Aidan, Maggie, and others regarding a structured relationship plan. Confusion quickly sets in as Vicky realizes the implications of the content they are listening to, particularly regarding Aidan's connection to Maggie. As they sift through the recordings, Frank reveals a complex web of interpersonal relationships and emotional struggle intertwined with secrecy. Vicky pushes Frank for explanations, urging him to provide context, particularly about the tumultuous dynamics hinted within the tapes.

Their session is tense, leaving both characters on edge, with Frank promising to divulge everything soon. The chapter highlights intense emotions and the weight of the complicated relationships as they dig deeper into the hidden conversations that threaten to unravel multiple lives.