

# VAIRAM

LIFE EP. 205 "CRUSHED" - STUDIO DRAFT  
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TED EARLEY

Oh. Well...graded. Now then --

And laptops are shut and cased, students gather their belongings and flee the classroom... as they do...

FYI

TED EARLEY (CONT'D)

To the question, why business, instead of say, law or medicine, I always answer, that business is how we make the world a better, more...

FYI

Ted watches them file out. Three students remain: a blinky, unsmiling East Indian, VAIRAM; ED, wearing a suit two sizes too big; and MAYA, a gorgeous young woman of 25.

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~~INT. ROB DOW'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY~~

~~Water cleaned up. It is a nice room, non-threatening, Ikea world. Crews and Reese are there. They see nothing personal.~~

~~REESE~~

~~No family photos, no pictures.  
Nothing personal.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~Looks kind of like a picture in a catalogue though, doesn't it.~~

~~They look. It looks like a picture in a catalogue. Everything just as it should be. Crews wanders into...~~

18

~~INT. ROB DOW'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY~~

~~Clean, bright, nothing special. Until Crews notices marks on the refrigerator door. Nothing is attached by magnets or tape. No menus etc. Just those marks. Reese sees them too.~~

~~REESE~~

~~Tape marks? Rob had a bunch of things taped up here.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~Wonder why he took them off.~~

19

~~INT. ROB DOW'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY~~

~~Crews and Reese examine the walls. Looking for something.~~

~~REESE~~

~~Got a few nail holes over here.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~Here too. Took down some pictures.~~

\*\*\*These slides are for conditioning purposes only and may not reflect the final shooting script.\*\*\*

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# VAIRAM I

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## ACT THREE

39 INT. BUSINESS SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

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Ted and his remaining students.

START

TED EARLEY  
~~Why~~ Why are you taking this class?

MAYA  
I'm taking every class.

TED EARLEY  
You're taking every class in this business school?

MAYA  
By the time I graduate I will have done exactly that, yes sir.

TED EARLEY  
Okay. What about you.. Mr. Vairam?

VAIRAM  
Vairam is my first name. I have a top secret business plan.

TED EARLEY  
Do you want to work on it here?

VAIRAM  
Yes.

TED EARLEY  
Then let's discuss...

VAIRAM  
I will not discuss my business. It is a secret business. Move on.

TED EARLEY  
All-righty...that leaves Ed.

ED  
I'd like to learn how you do that thing where if somebody tells you it's in the Constitution that you don't have to pay taxes, you don't have to pay taxes.

MAYA  
Is that in the Constitution?

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TED EARLEY

No, it isn't.

ED

Wesley Snipes did it.

TED EARLEY

Okay, that's it. I think this class might not be such a great idea.

VAIRAM

It's a no-refund deposit. Move on.

END

Ted is stuck.

~~40 EXT GREY HOUSE TENNIS COURT DAY~~

~~Bethany slamming balls against the machine.~~

~~CREWS (O.S.)~~

~~You always play against a machine?~~

~~Bethany turns. Crews and Reese behind her.~~

~~CREWS (CONT'D)~~

~~I guess some people prefer that, you know, machines, instead of real human contact. Virtual life, right?~~

~~BETHANY~~

~~You should talk to my father.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~We did. Talked to him and another little guy who wants to be him.~~

~~REESE~~

~~We're not here about what happened last time, Bethany. We're here about what happened this time.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~This time someone was murdered. Mike Brody?~~

~~BETHANY~~

~~I don't know that name.~~

~~CREWS~~

~~Rob Dow? What about that name?~~

~~BETHANY~~

~~I don't know any of these people. Please, just talk to my father.~~

(CONTINUED)

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# VAIRAM II

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BETHANY (CONT'D)

Whoo hoo. You wanna play me.

ARTHUR GREY

Get dressed, Bethany.

BETHANY

Why? The whole United States of America has seen me in my underwear. Right, Detectives?

REESE

Can you and Harvey prove you were together Tuesday night?

BETHANY

His roommate will tell you. He can hear us through the walls. He complains about the thumping. We made the beast with two backs, with one back. Sometimes there was no back at all.

Crews looks at Reese...

CREWS

No back at all? How does... what?

BETHANY

Think about that, Dad.

SLAP. Sean slaps her hard, across the mouth. Bethany is shocked, then recovers her attitude. She looks at Crews.

BETHANY (CONT'D)

Take another picture, Detective. We can use it on our family album.

Crews and Reese look at each other as the Uniform Cops take the handcuffed Arthur Grey out of the room.

47

INT. BUSINESS SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Ted and his three students.

MAYA

I Googled you. You were in jail. You looted pension funds.

TED EARLEY

I wouldn't put it like that.

ED

How would you put it?

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SCENE  
STARTS

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# VAIRAM II

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VAIRAM  
Phrase it honestly.

Ted looks at his students. They look at him.

TED EARLEY  
Yeah, I did things I'm not proud  
of. I lost a lot of people a lot of  
money. But before that, I made a  
lot more people a lot more money.

ED  
So you're saying what you did was  
OK?

TED EARLEY  
(beat, then... )  
No... I'm saying business is a  
system and I know how it works.  
(strong)  
And if any of you want to learn how  
it works you can pick up your  
pencils right now or...  
(stronger)  
..get the hell out of my classroom.

The three sit there in stunned awed silence and then...

VAIRAM  
We have computers. We don't have  
pencils.

END

ED  
Will we be needing pencils?

Ted cannot believe it. He looks at Maya. She smiles.

48 INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Crews, Reese and an angry, hand cuffed Arthur Grey.

CREWS  
Arthur Gratowitz.

ARTHUR GREY  
Not for nearly thirty years.

REESE  
Out of Newark, New Jersey.

ARTHUR GREY  
I reside in the Palisades now.

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