

MILLION DOLLAR BABY

MAGGIE
Mr. Dunn.

MR. DUNN
I OWE YOU MONEY?

No, sir.

I KNOW YOUR MAMA?

Don't rightly know, sir.

THEN WHAT IS IT YOU WANT

I was on the under card last night I won my fight too. Maggie Fitzgerald.

WELL MAGGIE FITZGERALD, WHAT'S UP?

Did you happen to see it?

NOPE.

I did pretty good. Thought you might be interested in training me.

I DON'T TRAIN GIRLS.

Maybe you should. People see me fight say I'm pretty tough.

GIRLIE, TOUGH AIN'T ENOUGH.
LOOK YOU SEEM LIKE A NICE GIRL CAN I GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE?

I'd appreciate that.

YOU'LL FIND A TRAINER IN THIS GYM OR SOMEWHERE ELSE...
THAT'S GONNA WANNA TRAIN A GIRL.
IT'S THE LATEST FREAK SHOW OUT THERE.
BUT THE ONLY TROUBLE IS, THEY'RE GONNA BE WASTING YOUR TIME...BECAUSE
YOU'RE TOO OLD.

I don't feel that old.

WELL, NEITHER DO I, BUT YOU DON'T SEE ME FIGHTING 21-YEAR-OLDS, DO YOU?
TAKES ABOUT 4 YEARS TO TRAIN A FIGHTER.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?

Thirty-one until my next birthday.

OH, WELL, THERE YOU GO. THIRTY-ONE.
YOU WOULDN'T START TRAINING TO BE A BALLERINA AT 31, WOULD YOU?

I already been working it for three years.

AND YOU CAN'T THROW A PROPER PUNCH? WHAT KIND OF TRAINING IS THAT?

Never had any, boss.

WELL, I HATE TO SAY IT BUT IT SHOWS. SOMEBODY'S GOTTA BE HONEST WITH YOU.
I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH.

Yeah,,,,

YOU'RE NOT GONNA CRY NOW, ARE YOU?

No, sir.

YEAH (he starts to walk away and Maggie calls out to him frustrated)

You know what Mr. Dunn?

I just spent another year scraping dishes and waitressing...

Which is what I've been doing since 13. And according to you, I'll be 37 before I can even throw a decent punch...

Which after working the speed bag for a month and getting nowhere.... I now realize may be God's simple truth.

Other truth is, my brother's in prison...

My sister cheats on welfare by pretending one of her babies is still alive...

My daddy's dead, and my mama weighs 312 pounds.

If I was thinking straight, I'd go back home...find a used trailer, buy a deep fryer and some Oreos.

The problem is, this is the only thing I ever felt good doing.

If I'm too old for this, then I got nothing.

That enough truth to suit you?

OKAY, OKAY .

I'LL SHOW YOU A FEW THINGS, AND THEN WE'LL GET YOU A TRAINER.

No, Sorry.

YOU'RE IN A POSITION TO NEGOTIATE?

Yes, sir.

Because I know if you train me right, I'm gonna be a champ.
I seen you looking at me.

YEAH OUT OF PITY.

Don't you say that.
Don't you say that if it ain't true.
I want a trainer, I don't want charity, and I don't want favors.
If you're not interested, then I got work to do.
(she starts shadow boxing)

STOP, STOP, STOP.
GODDAMM IT, STOP.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
OKAY, I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU ON.

You won't never regret it.

LOOK, JUST LISTEN TO ME. IF I TAKE YOU ON..

I promise I'll work so hard.

GOD, THIS IS A MISTAKE ALREADY

No, no. I'm listening, boss.

IF I TAKE YOU ON, YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING, YOU DON'T QUESTION ME.
YOU DON'T ASK WHY, YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING EXCEPT MAYBE, "YES FRANKIE,"
AND I'M GOING TO TRY TO FORGET THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A GIRL.

That's all I ask.

AND DON'T COME CRYING TO ME IF YOU GET HURT.
ALRIGHTY.

We got a deal. (they shake hands)

