

going on around me.
 (beat)
 Did that stop me?
 (beat)
 No. Of course not. Did getting kicked
 out of multiple University courses
 from belligerent public intoxication
 make me stop?
 (Short)
 Nope.
 (beat)
 Or, how 'bout the time I crashed my
 parent's car?

Aliya says nothing after this but only shakes her head,
 clearly swallowing down the lump caught in her throat.

ALIYA - CONT.

What did make me stop, was when Benji
 and I brought our beautiful children
 into the world.

Aliya looks up from fidgeting with her hands to look at her
 son JAKE (28), who is absorbing her story.

ALIYA - CONT.

That was when I was at my happiest.
 (beat)
 (Smile fades)
 We were all at our happiest. Our
 perfect little family.
 (beat)
 Until I broke it...
 (beat)
 I remember I was cleaning the house
 and being in a particularly
 exceptional mood. I figured; *Hey, come
 on. Just one drink wouldn't hurt?
 Plus, I had been so good up until
 then. Surely one drink would be all
 that I could stomach anyways.*
 (beat)

ALIYA

I crashed the car that night... both
 of my kids in the back. Thank the
 fucking lords they were okay. But, I
 damaged something much greater. Ever
 since my daughter FLORA (32) moved
 out, I haven't been able to speak with
 her. She won't let me.
 (beat)