Sinful Play

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EXT. ALLEY WAY - NIGHT

JANET, 60, shabbily dressed, sits with a group of five other HOMELESS, three males and two females around a fire, in a back Alley.

All appear drunk, Janet the lesser.

A young lass, SUZANNE, mid 20's, dressed in rags, no make-up, long red hair, dirty but pretty, is coming down the Alley way. She approaches Janet.

Janet sees Suzanne approaching. She smiles.

JANET There's my girl.

Next to Janet sits ROGER, 50's, a drunkard.

ROGER How mush ya make, gal?

Suzanne looks to them both and shakes her head.

SUZANNE

Not enough to get out of this dump.

Roger gets up fuming, tumbling.

ROGER Teach ya manners, gal.

Janet grabs hold of him, Roger loses balance and falls.

Janet stands and walks over to Suzanne.

They embrace.

SUZANNE I'll make enough one day, to get us a nice little place to stay. I promise.

Janet looks to her teary eyed, but loving.

Roger calls Janet in the background.

ROGER (O.S.) Janet, I need more booze, get that gal of yars, to get me some.

Janet takes a quick look back to Roger and back to Suzanne.

JANET This is home, Suzanne. The streets are all we know. Suzanne looks at the four homeless, and Roger, and back to Janet.

SUZANNE It's not! It doesn't have to be this way!

Roger lifts the bottle towards Suzanne and shakes it.

ROGER Don't forget!

Suzanne, throws a handful of coins, to Roger.

SUZANNE Here, get your own bloody booze!

She runs out of the Alley, crying, watched sadly by Janet.

Roger and the homeless, laugh.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

VICTORIA, mid 20's, long bleached blonde hair, identical in looks to Suzanne, slouches on a white leather lounge, in the lounge room, drunk.

In front of her, a collection of alcoholic beverages and pills, placed in a bowl, are on the coffee table.

A man, MAXWELL, mid 40's, slams the front door(o.s). He enters the loungeroom, and sees Victoria.

He walks up to the lounge and takes an open handed swing to her face.

MAXWELL (infuriated) You fucking good for nothing, whore! Look at you!

Victoria, startled, grabs hold of her slapped cheek.

She hollers as she sits up enraged.

VICTORIA What the fuck? Leave me alone!

Maxwell violently swings his hands over the top of the coffee table, clearing it.

Victoria covers her face in fright.

Maxwell grabs hold of her arm, pulls her up and shakes her.

Victoria stumbles to her feet.

MAXWELL You useless piece of garbage. Look at you. You call yourself a porn queen?

Victoria tries to fight Maxwell's hold.

VICTORIA I never asked to be your, fucking porn queen!

Victoria shakes Maxwell's hold and takes a swing to his face.

Maxwell blocks it.

MAXWELL You ungrateful bitch! Want to play rough?

Maxwell rips her shirt and grabs Victoria's arms.

VICTORIA

Let me go!

Victoria struggles, screams and tries to break lose.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Get your fucking hands off me, Maxwell!

Maxwell slaps her and pushes her on the lounge.

Victoria screams.

Victoria falls on the lounge and quickly tries to stand.

Maxwell pushes her back.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) No more, Ass hole! I am not your fucking puppet!

Maxwell places one knee on her stomach and one hand around her throat, to hold her down.

MAXWELL I fucking own you, bitch! Remember that!

Victoria struggles as Maxwell's throat hold tightens.

Victoria tries to pull Maxwell's hand off her neck.

VICTORIA Let me go! You're hurting me! Let me go! Maxwell starts to unzip his pants; whilst, he holds a struggling Victoria by the throat.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Leave me alone!

Victoria starts to cry. She struggles, gasping for air.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Let me go, Maxwell!

Maxwell keeps his hold.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

let me go!

He ignores Victoria. He lifts her skirt and removes his knee from her stomach, as he lays his body on top of her.

Victoria, crying, still gasping for air, desperately tries to release his grip.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Maxwell! Please!

Maxwell forces himself on her.

MAXWELL Shut the fuck up and I'll let you breathe, bitch!

Victoria gasps for air as she tries to scream. She cries and relents.

Maxwell starts to satisfy his sexual urge on Victoria.

Tears run down Victoria's face, as she reluctantly gives up her struggle.

Maxwell relaxes his throat hold and kisses her violently.

His Thrusting continues.

Victoria takes it like a lifeless subject, as Maxwell moans in pleasure.

Victoria stares into nothingness She whispers through her tears, with a disgusted look.

VICTORIA I fuckin' hate you, Maxwell!

Maxwell answers back, still thrusting.

MAXWELL I know you do! Maxwell, satisfied, rests his whole body weight on Victoria. Victoria desperately tries to push him off. Maxwell snickers as he lifts himself up. Victoria, in tears, sits up and pulls down her dress. She stares to Maxwell, in disgust.

> MAXWELL (CONT'D) You loved it!

Maxwell, zips his trousers.

VICTORIA You're a fuckin' ass hole!

Maxwell bitterly snickers, as he walks away from the lounge. He straightens his shirt.

> MAXWELL Get yourself cleaned up, we're doing a shoot in two hours!

Their eyes meet, bitterly exchanging stares.

Victoria shakes her head in disgust as she walks over to the bedroom door.

Maxwell eyes her along.

Victoria enters the bedroom. She slams the door behind her.

MAXWELL (CONT'D)

Be there!

Maxwell heads out towards the front door.

EXT. DARK STREET CORNER - NIGHT

Suzanne stands below a lamp post. She waives down a passing car.

A black sedan, driven by a sleazy looking MAN, pulls up. He winds down his window.

MAN What are you offering?

SUZANNE

A good time.

MAN How much? SUZANNE

50 bucks.

MAN Kidding? Give you twenty!

Suzanne is a little put back.

SUZANNE Twenty? No chance!

Suzanne takes a step back.

MAN

Your loss!

He starts to manually wind the window up.

Suzanne quickly steps back to the car, saddened face.

SUZANNE (desolate) No! Wait! Twenty will do!

The man opens the door.

She steps in as she takes a quick look back.

The car drives off.

INT. PORN STUDIO - NIGHT

Maxwell is near the cameraman, JOHN. John, tall and average looking, late 20's, is filming two ACTORS.

The actors, STEVE and SHARON are acting out an office scenario.

Sharon, mid 30's, blonde, is dressed as a secretary, short skirt and high heels.

She walks over to a three door filing cabinet.

She bends over and indiscreetly opens the bottom draw, showing her white underwear.

Steve, good looking, 30's, sits on a swivelling office chair. He follows Sharon's every move.

Sexually aroused he unzips his trousers.

Sharon stands and turns to face Steve, smiling.

She walks over to Steve, her ample breasts bulging out of her low cut top.

She places her hands, on the arm rests of his chair. Her breasts in his face.

SHARON I am finished with the filing Sir, is there anything else that needs to be -- put away?

Steve smiles and looks to his pelvic area, then back to Sharon.

STEVE

Just one more thing.

Sharon slowly sits on Steve's lap, her back towards him.

Victoria steps on the set, dressed in a short and revealing after five black dress. Her facial bruising are visible through her make-up.

She acts out her part.

VICTORIA Am I interrupting?

Sharon gently moves up and down on Steve as she faces Victoria.

Sharon smiles and fakes orgasm.

SHARON Just filing a few things, before I go home. Your husband is, uh, almost, oh, ready.

STEVE

Darling, you're early! Didn't we plan dinner for eight?

Victoria looks to her watch.

VICTORIA It's 8:30, Darling.

STEVE

I'm so sorry, time got away. I have interviewed new secretaries all day, and I think this one is perfect.

Sharon stands and straightens her skirt, smiling.

VICTORIA I'm glad. Good help is hard to find these days. Sorry to keep you waiting, Ma'am.

She looks back to Steve.

SHARON (CONT'D) I'll see you in the morning, boss.

Steve zips his trousers and stands. He casually tucks his shirt in.

Victoria walks over to them. She accidently trips.

Sharon angrily shakes her head and places her hands on her hips.

SHARON (CONT'D) Oh, here we go again!

She looks to Maxwell.

SHARON (CONT'D) (sarcastically) That's our, "Porn" queen?

MAXWELL (annoyed) CUT!

Victoria looks to Maxwell.

John rushes over, and helps her up.

John notices the bruise on her face.

JOHN (whispering) What happened? Are you alright?

Victoria's look tells all.

John bitterly looks back to Maxwell.

Victoria stands with John's help.

STEVE How dare you, Maxwell!

Maxwell ignores him.

Sharon turns to Victoria.

SHARON (whispering) You're a has been, girl. I will be the next porn queen, watch me! Victoria slaps Sharon.

SHARON (CONT'D) (fuming) You slut!

Sharon raises her hand in retaliation, John grabs it. Maxwell loses it.

> MAXWELL What the fuck are you all doing?

Maxwell walks over.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) (furious) You're all costing me money. This skit needs to be finished "tonight". No more fuck ups! Let's do it again.

John looks to Maxwell.

JOHN How did she get that bruise on her face?

MAXWELL Just worry about the filming, John.

SHARON (Shouting) If she fucks up again, I'm going!

MAXWELL Oh, shut the fuck up, Sharon!

Maxwell points to the filing cabinet.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Just get over there!

Sharon steps back to the filing cabinet, irritated.

Maxwell and John's eyes meet, bitterly.

Victoria grabs hold of John's arm.

VICTORIA

Later, John.

John looks to Victoria.

JOHN

He's an ass hole Victoria. You can't let him do this to you.

MAXWELL (sarcastically) Listen to Victoria, John and get back to the camera.

John looks to Maxwell infuriated, ready to take a swing.

Victoria grabs his arm.

John looks back to her.

VICTORIA

John! No!

MAXWELL (impatiently loud) Let's start filming, John.

John looks vindictively to Maxwell, as Victoria walks back off the set.

John's anger mounts.

JOHN Don't you ever lay a fuckin' hand on Victoria, again. I'm warning you.

Maxwell snickers, but does not respond.

John, fuming, walks back to the camera, staring back to Maxwell.

Maxwell ignores John's stare.

MAXWELL

Take two!

Sharon bends down to open the bottom drawer.

EXT. DARK STREET CORNER - LATER

Suzanne steps out of the black sedan. She straightens her shabby dress, holding on to a ten dollar note.

She slams the door. The car screeches off.

Her eyes are swollen from crying. She looks at the money.

SUZANNE (whispering) Ass hole. A lousy ten bucks.

She slips the note down the front of her dress.

She heads towards the Alley.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING

Victoria slowly gets up from the king size bed, trying not to wake Maxwell.

She grabs her clothes off the floor and heads out to the lounge room, visible from the open bedroom door.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Victoria looks back and gently shuts the bedroom door.

She walks over to the lounge and dresses.

She grabs her bag and cell phone off the coffee table.

She walks over to the front door, quietly opening it. She exits and she shuts it.

EXT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Victoria walks down the stairs and dials out on her cell phone.

She sees a cab approaching and hails it down.

She begins her phone conversation, as the cab does a U-turn.

VICTORIA (into phone) Hi. It's me.

The cab nears.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) (into phone) Can I come around?

The cab stops, victoria opens the door.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) (into phone) I'll be there in 10.

Victoria steps in the cab and closes the door. The cab drives off.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - MORNING

Roger is asleep on a stack of cardboard, Janet by his side. Suzanne lights the fire. The five other homeless are huddled together, near the dumpster.

Roger wakes and sees Suzanne. He sits up, grabs his bottle and takes a swig.

ROGER Hoy? How mush ya make, last night?

Janet wakes to the sound of his voice and begins to cough.

JANET Let her be, Roger.

Suzanne walks over to Janet, looking to Roger.

SUZANNE Nothing! No one out there!

Janet sadly looks to Suzanne.

JANET You poor child. This is not the life I wanted for you.

Suzanne kneels beside a coughing Janet.

SUZANNE (whispering) It's alright, mom.

Holding on to her ten dollar note, she discreetly places it in Janet's hand.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Please, get something for that cough.

Janet lovingly looks to Suzanne.

JANET (whispering) No, you keep it.

Roger, curious, queries.

ROGER What are ya two up to?

Janet looks up.

JANET mom and daughter talk.

Janet Lovingly squeezes Suzanne's hand.

Suzanne stands.

ROGER You'd betta go make some money gal or we'll starve.

Suzanne gives him a look of total disappointment.

SUZANNE You could look after yourself.

ROGER Ya ungrateful wench. We've looked after ya all these years. It's pay back time, ya know.

Janet looks to Roger than to Suzanne.

JANET (Coughing) Pay no heed to him. He's just an old man.

Suzanne helps Janet up.

One of the homeless places pieces of paper and cardboard in the fire.

Suzanne and Janet walk over to the fire. They outstretch their hands to feel the warmth.

Roger sits back down, near the fire.

Janet looks to Suzanne.

JANET (CONT'D) I'll hit the street with you today, a couple of beggars may get some attention.

Suzanne grabs hold of Janet, as she has a coughing fit.

SUZANNE No mom. You'd better stay here. You're not well enough.

Janet lovingly looks straight into Suzanne's eyes.

JANET (reassuring) Nonsense! I'll be alright!

Suzanne hugs Janet.

SUZANNE I love you mom.

Roger looks on.

I love you too, Suzanne.

Suzanne looks back towards the homeless, shaking her head in disgust.

Janet looks to Suzanne.

JANET (CONT'D) Don't think bad of them, they are happy.

SUZANNE They can't be! There is so much out there to see! Why can't they see that?

JANET They've all been out there child and this is what they prefer.

SUZANNE I don't understand.

Janet looks to Suzanne smiling.

JANET There is nothing to understand.

Suzanne shakes her head once more.

JANET (CONT'D) Shall we hit the street?

Suzanne reluctantly grabs Janet's arm.

SUZANNE Are you sure you want to come?

Janet looks back to the homeless.

JANET Yeah, they need us.

Suzanne looks to Roger, who appears in a gaze, holding on to his bottle.

She grabs Janet by the arm.

Janet smiles.

SUZANNE

Let's go then.

They turn and head down the Alley.

Roger watches them, calling out.

ROGER

Bring back some booze!

They keep walking, without looking back.

INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - MORNING

John and Victoria are huddled on the lounge, a glass in hand.

JOHN I want you to move in with me, Vic.

VICTORIA I want to, but I don't know how!

JOHN I'll tell him.

Victoria looks horrified, moving a little away from John.

VICTORIA He'd kill you! I've been with him since I was 14! He thinks he owns me.

JOHN But, I love you Victoria. I want us to be together.

Victoria shakes her head and takes a swig of her scotch. She empties her glass her glass.

VICTORIA

I do too.

Victoria reaches for the bottle of scotch.

John grabs hold of her arm.

JOHN You've had enough, Victoria.

Victoria's eyes begins to well.

VICTORIA It eases the pain.

JOHN Let me take you away.

VICTORIA Then what would we do? We'd both be out of a job.

They lovingly look each other in the eyes.

We'd manage.

John moves closer.

Gently takes the glass out of her hand, placing it on the table.

John gently places his hand on her cheek, sliding it slowly behind her neck.

Drawing Victoria close to his mouth, he passionately kisses her.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Maxwell is on the lounge, reading a script.

Victoria, a little drunk, enters the room through the front door, stumbling.

Maxwell, furious, looks to Victoria, slamming the script on the coffee table.

MAXWELL Where the fuck have you been?

She walks past Maxwell, heading for the bedroom.

Maxwell stands, infuriated and walks to Victoria grabbing her arm, forcefully.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) I said, where have you been?

Victoria looks as if she couldn't give a damn.

VICTORIA None of your fuckin' business. You don't fuckin own me, Maxwell!

Victoria tries to shrug Maxwell's hold.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Let go of me!

Maxwell slaps her. Victoria straightens with pride.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Are you done?

Maxwell raises his hand once more.

Victoria eggs him on, turning the other cheek.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Go on! Go on! Tough guy!

Maxwell is outraged, but refrains from slapping.

MAXWELL

You inconsiderate whore. Who got you off the streets? Hey? Me! And this is the thanks I get.

VICTORIA Piss off, Maxwell! You've never cared about me! All you've ever wanted was a free lay, and someone to manipulate!

Maxwell pushes her on the shoulders in disgust. Maxwell spits to the ground.

MAXWELL You disgust me.

Victoria stumbles, regains her balance, turns and proceeds to enter the bedroom.

She slams the door behind her.

Maxwell, aggravated, grabs his car keys off the coffee table. He storms towards the front door. He opens it, exits and slams it shut.

EXT. MAIN STREET, CITY - AFTERNOON

Janet and Suzanne are begging, on the main shopping stretch, by the side of the road. They approach as many passerby as possible.

Janet is coughing.

A MAN walks by.

SUZANNE Please, sir spare a dollar. My mom is very ill.

The man stops. He is overwhelmed by Suzanne's beauty. He smiles and opens his wallet, handing Suzanne a ten dollar note.

Suzanne is shocked.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Thank you kindly, sir.

The man, nods, smiles and walks off.

JANET (coughing) You certainly are an attractive woman Suzanne.

Suzanne giggles.

SUZANNE

Cut it out.

An ELDERLY MAN approaches and Suzanne puts on her sad look.

The man gazes, but does not stop.

ELDERLY MAN

Get a job!

Janet has a coughing fit and loses her footing in the gutter. Suzanne, her back facing the street, grabs hold of her.

A small crowd gathers around, but offers no help.

A luxurious silver car pulls up at the same time, trying to park. The tinted passenger side window opens. Maxwell sits in the driver seat.

MAXWELL

(yelling) Get off the bloody road! You bunch of no hopers! Beg somewhere else!

Suzanne turns around, infuriated.

SUZANNE Back off! Can't you see an old woman is in trouble?

Maxwell does a double take, staring at Suzanne. He leaves the car badly parked and steps out. He walks over to Suzanne and Janet.

Maxwell looks to the crowd then to Suzanne.

MAXWELL (courteously) I apologize for my rudeness. Anything I can do? Is she alright?

Suzanne looks up, feeling a little embarrassed about her last remark.

SUZANNE My mother has just collapsed, she's ill.

Maxwell grabs hold of Janet's arm.

Let me help you up.

Suzanne smiles and helps Maxwell get Janet on her feet. The crowd dissipates.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Are you sure you're alright? Would you like me to call an ambulance?

JANET I am fine thank you, just tripped.

Maxwell pulls out a business card and a 20 dollar note. He hands it to Suzanne.

MAXWELL Please take this, it's not much.

Suzanne looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE (appreciatively) Thank you.

Suzanne looks a little confused, stares at the card, placed on top of the money, then back to Maxwell.

Maxwell, astounded, stares at Suzanne. Suzanne peruses the card once more and looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) You are a movie producer?

Maxwell smiles and nods.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Wow, I've never met a real, movie producer before.

MAXWELL And I have never seen such beauty before.

Suzanne blushes as Janet smiles and coughs.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Would you be interested in trying out for a small part? There is something about you, that fascinates me.

Suzanne looks to Janet, bewildered. Suzanne looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE Are you having me on? Not at all.

Maxwell looks to both, shaking his head apologetically.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Oh! Where are my manners?

He outstretches his hand, to Suzanne.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) My name is Maxwell Bentow, and yours?

Suzanne wipes her hand, on the side of her frock, and shakes Maxwell's hand.

SUZANNE

Suzanne.

Maxwell looks to Suzanne, expecting more.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Just Suzanne!

Suzanne looks to Janet.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) And, this is my mother.

Maxwell extends his hand to Janet. Janet smiles, outstretching her hand she shakes Maxwell's.

MAXWELL You have a very beautiful daughter.

Janet looks to Suzanne then to Maxwell, smiling. Maxwell looks to Suzanne.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Are you interested, Suzanne?

Suzanne looks to Janet. Janet is excitedly nodding in approval. Suzanne looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE

I suppose!

MAXWELL Could you spare me some time, tomorrow? We'll have a chat.

Janet's eyes widen. Janet looks to Suzanne, excited.

JANET Of course, she can! Both watch the car disappear, in the traffic. Suzanne looks to Janet.

SUZANNE What just happened?

Janet places her hand on Suzanne's cheek.

JANET With a pretty face like yours, it was only a matter of time before you got noticed, child.

Suzanne grabs hold of Janet's arm. Janet coughs. They walk 20 metres or so and stop. A MAN nears them. Suzanne begins to beg.

INT. PORN STUDIO - AFTERNOON

John prepares the studio lights, for a new shoot.

Maxwell walks in, smiling.

MAXWELL Looks great, John.

John is a little startled..

JOHN (sarcastically) What? Not like you, to be in a happy mood!

Maxwell looks to John.

MAXWELL I have found my next porn star! Her name is, Suzanne! She's coming in tomorrow, for a trial.

JOHN You're letting Victoria go?

Maxwell walks over to his office. He turns to John and smirks, before entering.

MAXWELL

No!

John is angry.

I want to talk to you about Victoria.

Maxwell enters and closes the door, ignoring him. John walks over to the door, to open it and hesitantly stops. John walks away from the door.

JOHN (CONT'D) Fuck him. Ignorant bastard!

EXT. ALLEY WAY - EVENING

Janet and Suzanne walk down the Alley. They approach the fire. Suzanne holds two shopping bags and Janet a bottle. They near the fire, where Roger sits, drinking.

ROGER My favorite gals are back.

He clumsily stands, as Janet gives him a bottle of whisky.

SUZANNE (mimicking in soft tone) My favorite gals are back. As If you care.

ROGER Done well, I see! Wot's in the other bags?

Suzanne pulls out a loaf of bread and a bag of sausages.

SUZANNE (sarcastically) Dinner! As always!

Suzanne still holds another bag. Roger points to it. Janet coughs.

ROGER Wot's in that bag?

JANET (coughing) It's hers. Let her be Roger!

Suzanne looks to Janet.

SUZANNE (concerned) Go and sit down mom.

Roger steps up and snatches the bag out of Suzanne's hand.

ROGER

Gimme a look!

He opens it and pulls out a plain blue frock. Roger, lays the frock on himself and parades around for all the homeless to see.

ROGER (CONT'D) Wot's this?

The homeless laugh.

JANET Enough Roger!

Janet snatches it and gives it back to Suzanne.

JANET (CONT'D) It's hers. Just go and drink and shut up.

Roger drops his eyes for a moment, reflecting, then laughs as he looks towards the homeless.

ROGER (sarcastically) Ooh! T'ink we 'ave a princess among' us!

The homeless laugh. Suzanne's eyes begin to well.

SUZANNE

Why do you...

Janet grabs hold of her arm.

JANET Ignore him, child.

Suzanne looks to Roger. Janet gives him an evil look.

SUZANNE Why can't you ever be happy for me?

JANET

Suzanne!

Suzanne looks to Janet, teary eyed.

SUZANNE (insisting) What? I don't want this life, mom!

Roger is a little put back.

ROGER We're not good enough for ya? Suzanne looks to Roger, Janet still holding on to her arm.

SUZANNE I love you all, but I have a chance. A chance to get a job! A real job!

Suzanne cries. Janet hugs her.

ROGER A job? No one gives the homeless a second look. Ya're dreamin' gal!

Janet sadly looks to Roger, shaking her head. Roger mellows, and drops his eyes. He turns and walks away.

ROGER (CONT'D) She'll break ya heart, Janet. I warned ya!

Suzanne looks to Roger then to Janet.

SUZANNE What's he on about?

JANET Nothing, child! Nothing!

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Maxwell is asleep, snoring. Victoria's night light is on. Victoria, stands by the bed, dressed in pyjamas looks to him in disgust.

Victoria slowly opens her side draw. She reaches for a small gun, keeping her eyes on Maxwell. She pulls out the gun and aims it towards Maxwell.

Victoria holds her breath as she aims, her hands shaking.

Maxwell stirs and turns, his face facing Victoria.

Victoria eyes begin to well. She lowers the gun, looking deflated.

She cowardly replaces the gun in her draw, keeping Maxwell in sight, and closes it.

Victoria, in tears, stares a moment longer. She carefully turns her sheet, as not to wake Maxwell.

She gently slips into bed, turning her back to Maxwell, staying as close to the edge as possible.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - EVENING

Suzanne, tries on her new blue frock. She parades in front of Janet, away from the others.

SUZANNE How do I look?

Janet smiles.

JANET

Beautiful.

Janet picks up a bucket, full of water, placed near her legs.

JANET (CONT'D) Time to wash your hair.

Roger, in the distance, looks on as Janet takes a look back. Janet then looks to Suzanne.

JANET (CONT'D) (avowing) Roger was right. You will, look like a princess!

Suzanne's eyes light up, as she smiles.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Maxwell, dressed, walks over to the bed. Victoria is asleep. Maxwell takes hold of Victoria's arm, and pulls her out of bed.

Victoria, startled, still half asleep, fights back.

VICTORIA What are you doing?

Maxwell grabs her long hair, pulling it as he drags her up. Victoria holds on to her hair in pain, as she tries to fight him off.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Let go of my hair! What is wrong with you?

Maxwell drags her towards the bathroom door. Victoria screams, holding on to her hair.

MAXWELL Get in there, you're staying home, today! VICTORIA What the fuck are you on about? Aaaah! Let me go! Maxwell pushes her in, locking the door behind her. He pulls out the key. Victoria bangs on the door. (0.S) VICTORIA (O.S.) (CONT'D) (Screaming) Let me out! You, Ass hole! Let me out! Maxwell throws the key on the bed, as he walks out of the Victoria bangs on the door.(0.S) bedroom. VICTORIA (CONT'D) (yelling) What the fuck is going on? Let me out! Maxwell! Open this door! MAXWELL (O.S.) (Sarcastically) When I get home! VICTORIA Maxwell! The front door slams. EXT. ALLEY WAY - MORNING Suzanne hugs Janet. They stand near the fire. Roger looks on. SUZANNE I'm nervous. JANET You'll do fine! Roger walks over to Janet, placing his arm around her. Janet looks to him, curiously. Suzanne anticipates a wicked comment and crosses her arms, but is shocked at his comment.

> ROGER She scrubs up alright, don't she?

Suzanne relaxes her arms, in disbelief, looking to Janet. Janet shrugs her shoulders, with a smile. Suzanne, startled, walks over to give him a kiss, smiling. Roger takes a step back, shaking his hand in front of his face.

> ROGER (CONT'D) Nuh! nuh! We'll have none of that.

Janet and Suzanne smile. Roger turns and walks back to the fire.

Janet fluffs Suzanne's hair. Suzanne kisses Janet on the cheek.

SUZANNE

Janet smiles.

JANET

Go on, go!

Thanks.

Suzanne smiles and heads down the Alley. Janet looks on. Suzanne, half way down, turns around and waves.

Janet, smiling, waves back. Suzanne walks on.

INT. PORN STUDIO - MAXWELL'S OFFICE

Maxwell sits in his chair, behind his desk. Awards of various movie titles are placed on the walls.

Maxwell looks to his watch; it's 11:58. He stands and walks to the open office door.

INT. PORN STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

Maxwell steps into the studio, calling out.

MAXWELL

John?

John enters the studio.

JOHN

What?

MAXWELL What time do you make it?

John looks to his watch.

JOHN

Almost 12.

As John looks up, Suzanne enters the room.

John's eyes widen in disbelief, as he takes a good second look, then looks back to Maxwell.

Maxwell lightly chuckles.

Suzanne appears a little nervous.

SUZANNE

Am I late?

John stands there, dumbfounded.

MAXWELL (sarcastically) Pretty, isn't she?

He proceeds to introduce Suzanne.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) John, this is Suzanne.

John outstretches his hand, dumbfounded.

Suzanne shakes it.

SUZANNE

Hi John.

JOHN Pleasure, -- Suzanne.

John takes a quick baffled look to Maxwell.

Maxwell gives John a cunning grin, raising an eyebrow, then looks to Suzanne.

MAXWELL John is my cameraman.

Suzanne smiles and nods. John looks on, concerned.

JOHN Where's Victoria? We were suppose to go over a few props?

Maxwell shows Suzanne to his office, ignoring John's question.

INT. PORN STUDIO - MAXWELLS OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Maxwell closes the door.

MAXWELL

Please sit.

Suzanne sits, and begins to nervously fiddle with her hair. He walks over to his chair and sits. He looks to Suzanne.

> MAXWELL (CONT'D) A little nervous, are we?

Suzanne drops her hand on her lap and sits up straight

SUZANNE (low tone) A little.

Maxwell picks up a script off the table and passes it to Suzanne.

Suzanne takes the script and looks at the title page:"Amy screws up, again".

Suzanne pulls a strange face as she looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) What's this for?

MAXWELL I would like you to read, the "Amy" character lines, for me.

Suzanne quickly flicks through the script.

SUZANNE There's over 30 pages.

Maxwell smiles and sits back in his chair. He places his hands behind his neck.

MAXWELL The lines are pretty simple. But there's a lot of action.

Suzanne opens to the first page. She silently peruses the script.

She looks up to Maxwell, a little shocked.

SUZANNE What sort of movie is this?

Maxwell sits up, then stands. He walks over to Suzanne, smiling. Suzanne silently watches his every move.

He swivels her chair towards himself and he kneels in front of her. He takes the script and places it on the table. He grabs hold of her hands. He cups them and gently places them on her laps.

Suzanne is a little uncomfortable.

MAXWELL All great actors start from the bottom. -- And sometimes, with the most 'demeaning' roles.

Maxwell holds Suzanne's hands firmly and begins to slowly slide them up her thighs. Her dress rides up at the same time.

He looks her in the eyes.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Do you have what it takes, Suzanne?

Suzanne silently gulps.

Maxwell lifts his hands and stands.

Suzanne, nervous, quickly pulls down her dress and looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE

I, I think so.

Maxwell responds in a loud happy voice.

MAXWELL

Good! I'll have John bring in some prop dresses for you to try on. Then, we'll act out the script, together, in the studio!

Maxwell walks over to the door and opens it. He walks out, closing it behind him.

Suzanne, nervous, rubs her sweaty hands on her dress, and begins to fidget with her hair, as she looks around the room.

John and Maxwell speak loudly, in the studio.

Suzanne listens attentively.

JOHN (O.S) She's not answering her phone.

MAXWELL (O.S.) I have no idea where she is, just get me those props.

The door opens, Maxwell walks in, smiling.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) John is picking out a couple of dresses. Would you like a scotch while we wait?

Suzanne jumps to the idea.

SUZANNE

Yes, please!

Maxwell fills two glasses, handing one to Suzanne. He lifts his glass and drinks. Suzanne nervously copies.

John opens the door, carrying a few frocks.

JOHN Here! Where do you want them?

Maxwell points to an empty chair and stands.

MAXWELL Get the set ready for "Amy's" bedroom scene. We'll be out shortly.

John places the dresses on the chair and glances towards Suzanne. He heads and walks out the office door, without a word, closing the door behind him.

Suzanne looks to Maxwell.

SUZANNE Something wrong?

Maxwell picks one of the frocks, ignoring Suzanne's question.

MAXWELL This will fit you, perfectly.

He walks to Suzanne, who stands, and hands her a french maids uniform. Suzanne takes it.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) There are shoes out in the studio that will suit this dress. Get dressed and meet me in the studio.

SUZANNE

Sure.

Maxwell turns around and walks to the door, opens it, steps out and closes it.

Suzanne looks at the nothingness of the frock. Her eyes widen in disbelief.

She places the frock on her chair and unzips her dress.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Two tablet containers are in the wash basin, with a few tablets remaining.

The vanity mirror above the sink, has been smashed. Only the corners remain in the frame.

Fragments of the broken mirror are in the basin.

Victoria's reflection is visible in the shattered bottom left hand corner of the mirror. Victoria is in the bath.

Victoria sits in a bath filled with water, naked and motionless.

Her left hand, resting on the side of the bath, holds onto a large shard of mirror. No blood is visible.

Rustling of keys in the lock.(O.S)

The door opens, Maxwell walks in, stepping on the mirror pieces.

He notices Victoria and rushes to the bath, with a look of horror.

MAXWELL

Victoria?

He kneels beside the bath.

Maxwell carefully, takes the shard from Victoria's hand, placing it on the floor. He examines her arms, satisfying himself that she has not slit her wrist.

He places his fingers on her neck to feel for a pulse, reassuringly feeling one.

He looks around noticing the empty pill containers on the basin. He looks to Victoria.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) You stupid bitch!

Maxwell lifts Victoria out of the bath and carries her to the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Maxwell places Victoria on the bed. He grabs the side of the bedspread and drags it over her.

Maxwell pulls out his cell phone, dialing emergency.

The phone answers. MAXWELL (into phone) I need an ambulance! (Beat) Don't worry about my name! There's been a suicide attempt! Maxwell bends over Victoria, feeling her pulse once more. MAXWELL (CONT'D) (into phone) A drug overdose! (Beat) Four Silver pine dr. (Beat) That's correct! EXT. ALLEY WAY - DAY Suzanne sits next to Janet, leaning against a graffiti wall, away from the others. JANET Tell me again Suzanne. This is so exciting. Janet coughs. Suzanne's saddened face looks to her, as she begins to rerecount the event. SUZANNE (exaggerated enthusiasm) Maxwell is such a nice man. He thinks I can go all the way to the top. (Beat) He likes my features, and I start tomorrow! (Beat) He is even picking me up. Suzanne day dreams. SUZANNE (CONT'D) Imagine mom, a weekly pay! JANET (coughing) I am so proud of you, Suzanne! Suzanne looks to Janet, grabbing her hand.

SUZANNE (concerned) You are seeing a doctor, as soon as I make my first pay cheque. Janet shakes her head. JANET

(adamantly) No, child! I told you the other day: I'll see no-one!

SUZANNE mom, please, you have to. You're all I have.

Janet looks to Suzanne.

JANET (hesitating) There is something, I need to tell you, Suzanne.

Roger walks over. Janet sees Roger approaching and changes the subject.

She looks to Roger.

JANET (CONT'D) Let Suzanne tell you, about today.

Roger, bottle in hand, clumsily sits down next to Janet.

ROGER How d'ya go gal?

Suzanne stands.

SUZANNE mom can tell you!

Roger looks to Janet.

Suzanne walks over to the fire.

Roger and Janet follow her with their eyes.

ROGER Wot's wrong with 'er?

JANET She's worried about me!

Roger looks to Janet.

ROGER I'm worried about ya too! Roger passes the bottle to Janet.

JANET

Nuh!

They look to each other.

JANET (CONT'D) We're going to have to tell her!

ROGER Why? No need!

Janet's eyes begin to well, looking back towards Suzanne then to Roger.

JANET She needs to know.

Roger places his hand on Janet.

ROGER

No need!

He kisses her on the cheek.

INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

John sits on the lounge. He dials his cell phone. The phone answers.

JOHN Hey sweetheart, where are you?

John frowns.

JOHN (CONT'D) Who's this?

John looks concerned.

JOHN (CONT'D) The hospital? What's happened? Is she alright?

John, concerned, stands and listens.

He grabs his keys off the table and heads for the front door.

JOHN (CONT'D) I'll be right there, thank you.

John places the phone in his pocket, as he exits the front door.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - AFTERNOON

Suzanne walks down the alley, holding a bag in her arms. Janet Walks over to her.

> SUZANNE I didn't get much, but it should do.

Janet takes the bag.

JANET You sit, I'll prepare the food.

SUZANNE No, I'll do it. You rest.

Suzanne takes the bag and takes out a peach and gives it to Janet.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Something special, for you.

Janet takes the peach and smiles.

JANET Oh, I'll share it.

SUZANNE No! -- You have it.

Janet kisses Suzanne on the cheek.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) I know you love them.

Suzanne pulls out the bread and sausages from the bag.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) I'll go cook these. You sit and enjoy your peach.

Janet looks on as Suzanne heads for the fire.

Suzanne places the sausages onto the wire grill, that is placed over the fire.

Roger, out of character, walks over and helps.

He takes the bag from Suzanne and takes out the loaf of sliced bread.

Suzanne looks to him a little baffled.

Can I Help?

SUZANNE

Sure!

Roger glances over to Janet, who is admiring her peach. He looks back to Suzanne.

> ROGER You have a heart of gold, child.

Suzanne looks to Roger, completely shocked by his comment.

ROGER (CONT'D) Janet is right, you are very special.

Suzanne holds back tears and gently smacks Roger on the arm.

SUZANNE It's that bloody booze talking again.

Roger smiles

ROGER Yeah, must be!

He lovingly looks to Suzanne.

Roger gently kisses her on the cheek.

ROGER (CONT'D) We love ya child and we are very proud of ya.

Suzanne wipes her cheek.

SUZANNE Cut it out. I love you guys too.

Suzanne turns the sausages over, as she calls out to the homeless.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Alright guys, dinner's ready!

The homeless all gather around the fire, except for Janet. With Roger's help, Suzanne deals out the sausages and bread.

> ROGER I'll take Janet's over to her.

SUZANNE

Sure!

Suzanne and Roger look to Janet. Janet is eating her peach. Suzanne looks on smiling.

Roger walks over. Suzanne eyes him along. Roger sits next to Janet. Suzanne looks on.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Maxwell lies pensive, on the bed.

Sharon sexually sits on top of him. The top bed sheet tucked around her waist.

Maxwell looks disinterested and pushes Sharon off.

She sits by his side and comments warily, as she pulls the sheets to her breasts.

SHARON What's the matter baby?

MAXWELL

Nothing!

SHARON (hesitantly) Where's Victoria?

MAXWELL Don't ask stupid questions!

Sharon is a little annoyed with the last remark.

SHARON I am not stupid!

Maxwell looks to Sharon and cunningly smiles.

MAXWELL Of course you're not!

Maxwell grabs hold of Sharon's hair and pulls her gently over, but with a little force.

Sharon smiles back.

He lifts the covers and guides her head, beneath the sheets.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) (reassuring) You're the best, Sharon! You're the best! Maxwell gently drops his head, back onto the pillow. Sharon's head bobs under the sheet. Maxwell's hand holds her head down.

> MAXWELL (CONT'D) (pleasurably moans) Oh yeah, baby! Ah! That's it!

INT. HOSPITAL - VICTORIA'S ROOM - LATER Victoria is asleep, John by her side. A NURSE JONES walks in the room.

NURSE JONES Are you related?

JOHN She's my fiancee. Will she be alright?

NURSE JONES She'll be fine.

The nurse turns to walk out.

Nurse?

JOHN

The nurse turns around.

JOHN (CONT'D) Who brought her in?

NURSE JONES The ambulance, no-one else accompanied her.

John looks to the nurse.

JOHN (inquisitively) Where was she found?

NURSE JONES I don't know.

JOHN

Thank you.

The nurse walks out.

John pulls out his cell phone and dials.

INT. MAXWELL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

Sharon lies next to Maxwell. Maxwell is awake, staring at the ceiling.

His cell phone, placed on the bedside table, rings. Maxwell reaches and takes the phone. He sees it's John's number.

MAXWELL (into phone) Yes John! What's up?

Maxwell sits up, to listen.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Yes, I know! I rang the ambulance!

Sharon sits up and tries to make out the conversation.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) No, I'm not. I'll call past the hospital, in the morning.

Maxwell is getting annoyed.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Look John, I haven't got the time. (Beat) Victoria is in safe hands. I'll drop in the hospital in the morning, and, I'll see you, in the studio tomorrow!

Maxwell tosses the phone on the bedside table.

SHARON Is something wrong with victoria?

Maxwell gets out of bed. He dons his gown.

MAXWELL Don't worry about Victoria.

SHARON Is she in hospital?

MAXWELL I said don't worry about Victoria.

Sharon is taken by surprise.

SHARON Am I taking her place? MAXWELL (sarcastically laughs) Are you kidding?

SHARON What are you laughing about? I'm better than her! I've always been better than her!

Maxwell ignores her comment and snickers.

MAXWELL Get dressed Sharon. Go home!

SHARON (furious) Go home? When are you going to tell her about us?

MAXWELL Us? There is no, us!

She steps out of bed and picks her clothes, off the floor.

SHARON You are an Ass hole, Maxwell.

Maxwell walks out of the bedroom and enters the lounge room, ignoring her.

Sharon dresses and follows Maxwell into the lounge room.

INT. LOUNGEROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sharon walks in, straightening her dress. She nears Maxwell.

SHARON I'm your girl! You've told me so!

Maxwell pours a glass of scotch.

Sharon gently places her hand on his arm.

SHARON (CONT'D) Look at me!

Maxwell ignores her.

SHARON (CONT'D) I'm the star! I've always been the star!

Maxwell turns around.

MAXWELL (amused) A star? You're just a two bit whore I picked up, off the streets.

Sharon swings her arm aiming for Maxwell's face, fuming. Maxwell blocks her and grabs her arm.

> SHARON (bitterly) And Victoria's better? Isn't that where you found her too?

Sharon shakes Maxwell's hold. She walks to the lounge, Infuriated and grabs her shoes and handbag.

SHARON (CONT'D) Fuck you!

Maxwell looks, as Sharon storms towards the front door.

MAXWELL Make sure you're on time, tomorrow!

Sharon opens the door.

SHARON (O.S.) Fuck you!

She steps out and slams it.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - NIGHT

Susanne lies on flattened cardboard boxes. Rags under her head for a pillow and covered by an old dirty blanket.

She turns her head towards the dying fire. Her eyes wonder to Janet, who lies next to Roger.

Suzanne watches the dying flames illuminate Janet's face. She looks lovingly and smiles.

SUZANNE (uttering silently) I'll look after you.

Her eyelids get heavier. She falls asleep.

Janet coughs and sits to get her breath. She glances over towards a peaceful Suzanne.

JANET (Whispering) You beautiful child! I wish I could have done better. INT. HOSPITAL - VICTORIA'S ROOM - NIGHT Victoria lies on her hospital bed, asleep. John takes hold of her hand.

Victoria slowly opens her eyes and smiles.

JOHN How are you feeling?

Victoria frowns, glancing around the room.

VICTORIA

Is he here?

JOHN

No.

Victoria looks to John.

JOHN (CONT'D) Why try to kill yourself? You know, I couldn't live without you!

VICTORIA I can't do it anymore, John.

John places his hand on her cheek, concerned.

JOHN There may be an easy way out!

Victoria looks to him confused.

VICTORIA What do you mean?

JOHN Maxwell brought this new girl in today, for a trial run. Maxwell has plans for her.

John grabs her hand, smiling.

JOHN (CONT'D) She has your looks, maybe Maxwell will let you go.

VICTORIA My looks? So what? Why would Maxwell treat me any different?

JOHN He might have intentions of replacing you. Victoria shakes her head, in denial.

VICTORIA HUH? Yeah right!

JOHN I am serious. Why not?

VICTORIA Him and his twisted mind? No chance. I never want to see him again.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - ENTRANCE - MORNING

Suzanne waits by the entrance of the Alley way, dressed in her blue frock.

She looks at her shabby watch.

SUZANNE I hope he hasn't forgotten me. He's late.

She attentively looks at the cars that drive passed.

She notices Maxwell's luxurious silver car drive towards her. It stops and Maxwell opens the passenger door.

> MAXWELL Sorry, I'm late. Had to visit someone at the hospital.

Suzanne steps in the car.

SUZANNE Are they alright?

MAXWELL Yeah, yeah, she's fine.

Suzanne closes the door. Maxwell drives off.

INT. PORN STUDIO

Sharon paces the studio.

Steve leans against Maxwell's office door, watching her and laughing.

Sharon stops and faces him.

SHARON

(fuming) Will you quit, that stupid hyena laugh of yours!

STEVE Quit pacing! You're making me laugh.

SHARON He is half an hour late. He would fire us, if we did the same.

Maxwell enters the room, as she finishes her sentence.

MAXWELL Talking about me? Sharon?

Sharon turns around and sees Suzanne, with Maxwell. She looks totally flabbergasted.

SHARON Victoria? What happened to you?

Suzanne quickly turns around, thinking there must be someone behind her. Suzanne looks to Maxwell, confused, then back to Sharon.

SUZANNE

Who? Me?

Maxwell introduces Suzanne

MAXWELL Sharon! -- I would like you to meet Suzanne, our new recruit.

Sharon stares stunned, gaping.

SHARON

Who?

Suzanne looks to Maxwell even more confused.

SHARON (CONT'D) Are you having me on?

MAXWELL Don't worry about Sharon, she's a little unstable.

SHARON

Me? Unstable?

Suzanne nods politely to Sharon.

Nice to meet you, Sharon.

Sharon crosses her arms, infuriated.

SHARON

Yeah, whatever!

Steve laughs silently as he watches Sharon.

Maxwell proceeds to introduce Suzanne to Steve.

MAXWELL Suzanne, this is Steve. He is your script partner.

Steve, cheekily smiles and outstretches his hand. Suzanne shakes it.

STEVE It will be a pleasure to 'have you', Suzanne!

Suzanne smiles, hesitantly.

Sharon looks evilly to Steve, shaking her head. Steve shrugs his shoulders and smiles.

Suzanne is a little curious.

SUZANNE Mr. Benton? Who is Victoria?

MAXWELL No-one special. Alright guys, let's get started!

SHARON (sarcastically) No-one special, hey?

Maxwell looks to Sharon, as to shut her up.

MAXWELL

Get ready!

Sharon looks to Suzanne, disgusted. Suzanne notices, feeling uncomfortable.

Maxwell looks around.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) John! We're ready!

JOHN (V.O.) Yeah! Yeah! I'm coming! John steps in the studio and walks over to the camera.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I'm ready!

EXT. MAIN STREET, CITY

Janet is on her own, begging the main street.

No-one pays attention.

JANET Spare a dollar, sir? Spare a dollar, ma'am?

She coughs a few times, holding onto her chest.

A WOMAN walks by.

JANET (CONT'D) Spare a dollar, ma'am?

The woman snobs her and keeps walking.

Janet has a coughing fit. She collapses to the ground, in front of a drug store.

A MAN bends down, by her side.

MAN Are you alright?

Janet has a hard time breathing.

MAN (CONT'D) Someone call an ambulance!

The drug store SHOP OWNER steps out.

SHOP OWNER I'll call for an ambulance.

He runs back in.

A small crowd gathers around Janet.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - LATE EVENING

Suzanne exits the taxi cab, closing the door.

The taxi drives off.

Suzanne, excited, walks down the Alley.

She nears the fire, looking around, she sees Roger.

SUZANNE

Where's mom?

Roger is drunk, too drunk to think.

ROGER I dunno! I aven't seen 'er since mornin'?

Suzanne looks to the others.

SUZANNE Have any of you seen Janet?

They all momble shaking their heads.

Suzanne is angry and frustrated.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Look at you all!

No-one pays attention. Suzanne shakes her head, in disgust.

She turns and runs down the Alley and heads for the main street.

EXT. MAIN STREET, CITY

Suzanne, running, nears the location where her and Janet, had last begged.

The majority of stores have closed, for the day.

Suzanne notices the drug store is still open.

She runs in.

A LADY is behind the counter.

Suzanne is out of breath.

SUZANNE Excuse me, did you see an elderly lady, begging, outside your store today?

LADY No, I'm sorry, I didn't.

The shop owner overhears and comes out of the store room.

SHOP OWNER I did! We had to call an ambulance for her, she collapsed outside our front door. Suzanne runs out and heads South.

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Nurse Jones is tending to Janet, administering morphine.

Janet has a drip in place and is hooked up to breathing equipment.

Janet's eyes are shut.

Suzanne walks in, taking in what she sees, in shock.

She stands near the door, the nurse turns to her, with a curious look, does a double take.

NURSE JONES Come in, you must be, Suzanne?

Suzanne nods, still staring towards Janet.

NURSE JONES (CONT'D) She's been calling your name.

Suzanne's eyes begin to well.

She makes her way cautiously to the bed, opposite side of the nurse.

Suzanne takes hold of Janet's hand.

SUZANNE What's wrong with her? Will she be alright?

Suzanne looks to the nurse, who is writing on Janet's chart.

NURSE JONES She has tuberculosis. -- How long has she been coughing?

Suzanne shakes her head, as she looks to Janet, her eyes welling.

SUZANNE Ever since, I can remember.

Suzanne looks to the nurse.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) What can you do for her? NURSE JONES I'll get the doctor for you. He will explain.

The nurse walks out, taking a look back towards Suzanne in amazement.

Janet slightly opens her eyes and notices Suzanne.

She smiles and whispers.

JANET

Suzanne!

Suzanne looks her in the eyes and kisses her on the cheek, trying to hold back her tears.

SUZANNE

Hi mom!

INT. HOSPITAL - VICTORIA'S ROOM

Victoria is on her bed, partially dazed.

Her left hand playing with the end of her hair.

The door is open.

Maxwell walks in, unnoticed by Victoria and quietly closes the door.

He stands at the end of the bed, and speaks in an uncaring tone.

MAXWELL All better I see!

Victoria is startled.

Victoria draws the covers to her neck, replying in disgust.

VICTORIA As if you care. What are you doing here?

Maxwell snickers and walks over to Victoria.

He places his hand under her chin, lifting it.

Victoria shakes his hold, gazing bitterly.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) Don't touch me.

MAXWELL Back to normal, I see. VICTORIA

So what?

MAXWELL Need you back at work.

VICTORIA Why? John told me, you've found fresh meat.

Maxwell shakes his head, showing fake disappointment, being sarcastic.

MAXWELL He has spoiled my surprise!

Victoria answers.

VICTORIA Why don't you just let me go, Maxwell?

Maxwell laughs it off.

MAXWELL 'Cause I own you, Victoria. Don't you forget that!

Maxwell walks back to the end of her bed. Victoria follows him with a death stare.

Victoria fights back her tears and takes in a big breath.

VICTORIA Get out! Get the fuck out, Maxwell!

Maxwell snickers. He casually turns, walking towards the door, opening it.

Looking back to Victoria, winking.

MAXWELL I own you! Remember that! I will always, own you!

He walks out, closing the door behind him.

Victoria covers her face and begins to cry.

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Nurse Jones walks in the room. Janet appears asleep.

NURSE JONES Has the doctor been?

Suzanne's eyes are red from crying.

SUZANNE

Yeah.

The nurse walks over to check the monitors.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Is she in pain?

NURSE JONES No, we are administering morphine.

The nurse stares curiously at Suzanne.

NURSE JONES (CONT'D) I know this is inappropriate, Suzanne but, I have another patient that was brought in yesterday, and... (Beat) She looks so much like you!

Janet opens her eyes, seeing Suzanne, smiles and utters.

JANET

Suzanne.

Suzanne looks back to Janet.

SUZANNE Hi mom, I'm here.

The nurse looks to Suzanne.

NURSE JONES I'll be back a little later.

JANET

No, wait.

The nurse walks to Janet's bed side.

Janet looks to the nurse.

NURSE JONES Do you need something, Janet?

JANET (Coughing) I heard you telling Suzanne, something about, someone who looks like her?

NURSE JONES I did!

Suzanne takes hold of Janet's hand.

SUZANNE It's not important.

Janet is still looking to the nurse.

JANET Where is she? Can I see her?

SUZANNE

mom, why?

Janet is still looking to the nurse.

NURSE JONES Sure, I could arrange that!

SUZANNE

mom?

Janet looks back to Suzanne.

JANET It might be her!

Suzanne looks to the nurse then to Janet.

SUZANNE

Who?

Janet looks straight into Suzanne's eyes.

JANET

Your sister.

SUZANNE

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My, what?
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Janet's eyes begin to well.

JANET (Coughing) Your, twin sister!

Janet has a coughing fit.

The nurse regulates her drip.

Suzanne speechless, looks on baffled.

NURSE JONES She'll sleep for a while.

Janet closes her eyes.

SUZANNE Was she hallucinating?

Nurse appears a little unsure.

NURSE JONES Maybe, but I'll honour her wish and bring the patient in later. Will you be staying for a while?

SUZANNE

Yes.

INT. PORN STUDIO - MAXWELLS OFFICE

Maxwell is sitting behind his desk, a little drunk.

John walks in.

JOHN I'm going to the hospital to see Victoria. Have you been to see her?

MAXWELL Yeah! She was sober!

John, disgusted in Maxwell's comment, comments in retaliation.

JOHN You're a prick. You've got her going through this guilt trip. She's a grown woman, with feelings. She doesn't want or need you.

Maxwell stands in rage.

MAXWELL Don't you fucking start! I got her off the streets. I've looked after her for the last 10 years. I own that bitch!

John takes a step back.

JOHN We'll fuckin' see about that!

Maxwell laughs. John storms out.

MAXWELL (yelling) Just make sure your ass is back in here by six! (MORE) MAXWELL (CONT'D) (Whispers) Ass hole.

Maxwell picks up the scotch bottle from the table, unscrews the lid and takes a swig.

He picks up the phone and dials out.

He sits back down, raising his feet onto the table.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Sharon, It's Maxwell.

He takes another swig from the bottle.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Meet me at home, in 15 minutes, naked.

He slams the phone down, taking another swig.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Fuck them! Fuck them all!

He stands and walks out.

INT. HOSPITAL - VICTORIA'S ROOM

Victoria is packing her bag, as John walks in.

He walks over.

JOHN I thought you were being discharged tomorrow?

VICTORIA I have discharged myself. I am not going back to Maxwell.

John is happy, but concerned. John places his hand on Victoria's arm.

JOHN What are you going to tell him?

VICTORIA Nothing! I'm going to disappear.

John is taken by surprise. Victoria zips up her bag.

JOHN

What do you mean? What about us?

Victoria looks to him, smiling lovingly.

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Roger walks into Janet's room, taking in the situation. Suzanne senses a presence and faces Roger, startled.

> ROGER (soft tone) How is she?

SUZANNE (whispering) How did you find out?

Roger nears Suzanne. Suzanne stands.

ROGER I assumed somet'ing must have been dreadfully wrong when ya didn't know where she was. (Beat) And, there's not many places where we folks end up.

They stare each other, sullen faced.

ROGER (CONT'D) I can't lose her, Suzanne.

Suzanne grabs hold of Roger's hand, looking in his eyes.

SUZANNE I don't want to lose her, either.

Janet slowly opens her eyes. Janet looks to them and smiles.

JANET

Roger!

Roger smiles and moves up to Janet.

ROGER (soft loving tone) Hi Janet. Ya gave us a scare.

Janet smiles and looks to Suzanne.

JANET Have they brought her in?

Suzanne looks to Roger, shaking her head, then back to Janet.

No, mom.

Janet looks to Roger, who looks confused.

JANET (coughing) Melissa's other baby is here, Roger.

SUZANNE

Roger's face freezes, shocked.

ROGER

She, is?

Janet nods, eyes welling. Looking back to Suzanne.

SUZANNE What are you two on about?

JANET Tell her Roger.

Roger remains quiet. He looks to Janet then to Suzanne.

ROGER

I can't.

Janet and Roger share a look of grief. Janet understands and nods.

Suzanne looks on, confused.

JANET Sit by my side, Suzanne.

Suzanne, speechless, walks over to the other side and sits on the bed. She tenderly grabs hold of Janet's hand.

Janet, looks to Roger. Roger downcast's his eyes.

JANET (CONT'D) (coughing) It was a sad night, Suzanne. (Beat) A very sad night. (Beat) There was nowhere to go, but a dingy old Alley...

EXT. BACK STREET - NIGHT

FLASHBACK...

In a dark, dingy street, near a dumpster, MELISSA, mid 20's, dressed in rags, lies on flattened cardboard boxes, giving birth.

Crying in labour pain, she pushes.

JANET, mid 30's, also dressed in rags, holds onto the crowning head, reassuring.

JANET It's almost over, Melissa. I see the head.

Melissa screams.

Janet gently guides the baby out and lifts it up to show Melissa.

JANET (CONT'D) It's a girl!

Melissa pays no attention and screams once more.

Janet appears confused and worried.

The baby begins to cry.

She unwraps her dingy shawl and wraps the baby girl, as she watches a crying Melissa squirm.

Janet places the baby next to Melissa and tries to calm her down.

JANET (CONT'D) (soft tone) It's over Melissa. Relax girl!

Melissa shakes her head still, in tears and pain, panting.

MELISSA (loud) Sometin's wrong, Janet!

Janet places her hand on Melissa's belly, feeling movement.

JANET Oh my god! There's another one!

Melissa screams even louder.

Janet quickly steps back and sees another head birthing.

JANET (CONT'D) Oh shit, push girl, push.

Blood gushes out onto the cardboard.

Janet looks worried, as tears well her eyes.

Melissa has weakened and is no longer screaming.

JANET (CONT'D) Melissa, hang in there. One more push sweetie.

MELISSA Janet, I, I can't.

Melissa tries once more.

Janet sees the shoulders and is not looking to Melissa.

JANET Doin' well. Keep pushin', love.

The baby emerges.

Large quantities of blood surrounds Melissa and Janet.

Janet looks up to Melissa, holds the baby up, excited.

JANET (CONT'D) It's another girl, Melissa.

Melissa is motionless.

Janet looks to Melissa, realizing she has died giving birth.

JANET (CONT'D)

Melissa?

Janet holds onto the crying baby tightly. She kneels next to Melissa and the other baby.

She gently shakes Melissa.

JANET (CONT'D)

Melissa?

Janet, baby in arm, leans over Melissa She places her hand on Melissa's neck, to feel for a pulse.

She shakes her head in dismay. She looks to Melissa and then the twins. Janet begins to cry.

JANET (CONT'D) No! Melissa! Don't go! (Whispering through her tears) Oh, sweetie... (Beat) You have beautiful twin girls.

The twins are crying.

Janet opens the shawl and places the twins together. She wraps them up, as she wipes her tears.

JANET (CONT'D) I'll do the best I can, Melissa. I promise. (Beat) Sleep tight.

She kisses Melissa on the cheek and tidies her.

Janet stands and searches the dumpster, pulling out a few rags and a box.

She places the babies in the box, covering them with the rags.

She looks to a peaceful Melissa for a while longer, then whispers.

JANET (CONT'D) Good-bye...

She picks up the box and walks away.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Dumfounded and eyes welling, Suzanne looks to Janet, then back to Roger.

SUZANNE

Is this true?

Roger, eyes welling, looks Suzanne straight in the eyes, and nods.

Suzanne, not convinced, looks to Janet, and shakes her head in denial.

Janet is crying. Suzanne gently wipes a tear off Janet's cheek.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) This can't be! You're my mother!

Janet shakes her head.

JANET I've loved you like my own... (Beat) But, you need to know the truth, Suzanne.

Janet looks to Roger as she begins to cough.

JANET (CONT'D) Tell her the rest, Roger. I don't have the strength.

Suzanne looks to Roger, as the door opens.

They face the door.

Nurse Jones walks in with Victoria and John.

Suzanne looks on, dumbfounded. Victoria does the same.

Victoria and Suzanne's eyes meet.

Janet and Roger look to each other, eyes welling. They nod in affirmation as a small smile appear on both of them.

JANET (CONT'D) (coughing) It's her!

Victoria, confused, looks to John.

John looks to Victoria then Suzanne, making a visual comparison.

JOHN

Suzanne?

Victoria is confused.

VICTORIA You know her?

JOHN (hesitantly) Sort of... (Beat) I'll explain later.

Suzanne stands, dumbfounded, she looks to Victoria then to Janet.

The nurse, still at the door, comments.

NURSE JONES Janet, this is, Victoria!

Suzanne looks to John, confused.

SUZANNE Victoria? Is this the same Victoria, Sharon was talking about?

JOHN Yes, the same. Victoria is completely dumbfounded. She looks to John.

VICTORIA Is that the new girl?

John nods.

JANET Come in child.

Victoria, followed by John, step closer to the bed.

JANET (CONT'D) Hello Victoria. (Beat) come sit by my side.

Victoria moves up closer, taking a glance back to John.

Roger looks to Janet.

ROGER They sure look the same, don't they?

Janet, nods, smiling.

Victoria looks to Janet, still glancing back to Suzanne in astonishment.

Victoria looks to Suzanne then back to Janet.

VICTORIA I am a little confused.

Suzanne hesitantly asks Roger.

SUZANNE So this, could be my twin?

Roger nods.

Suzanne looks to Victoria, as their eyes meet. They both nervously twiddle the end of their hair.

John notices, shaking his head in disbelief.

JOHN

Oh, my god.

Victoria is completely baffled and looks to John.

VICTORIA

Twins?

John shrugs his shoulders, not knowing what to say.

Janet pats the side of the bed.

JANET Victoria. Come and sit.

Janet looks to Suzanne and pats the other side of the bed. John gives Victoria a gentle push. Victoria looks to John.

> JOHN (Whispering) Go on.

Victoria moves to the bed and sits.

Janet looks to Suzanne, smiling and coughing. Suzanne squeezes Janet's hand a little tighter.

John walks up and stands behind Victoria.

Nurse Jones walks out, closing the door behind her.

Janet looks to Victoria, extending her hand. Victoria slowly takes it. Victoria takes a quick glance back to John. John gives her a reassuring look.

Janet, holds onto both their hands.

JANET Finally reunited.

Janet then looks to Roger.

JANET (CONT'D) Please tell them the rest, Roger.

Roger looks to Janet, then to both girls and begins.

ROGER After yar birth, Janet had no choice but to leave Melissa, yar mother, in that Alley. (Beat) Janet had lovingly bundled yas up and placed yas in a cardboard box. (Beat) She was in tears, comin' down that Alley, holding that box so close to 'er bosoms...

INT. ALLEY WAY - NIGHT

FLASHBACK.

Janet, crying, makes her way down an Alley, with a box cradled in her arms.

Roger, 25, sits near a fire, drinking. The babies are crying. She nears Roger, as he stands. ROGER Wot's in the box? Janet places the box on the ground. The twins covered with rags. Roger Looks to her in horror. ROGER (CONT'D) Where's Melissa? JANET (Crying) Melissa's dead. ROGER (Shocked) Where is she? JANET (Crying) A block away. In the dumpster Alley. Roger's eyes well and looks to the babies, then back to Janet. ROGER They're hers? Janet in tears, nods. Janet kneels down by the side of the box. She looks to Roger. ROGER (CONT'D) Wot you gonna do with t'em? JANET Keep them! Roger shakes his head. ROGER A' you mad? Can't keep a baby 'ere? Janet looks to Roger, teary eyed, re-inforcing.

Roger turns, as to not show his tears. Janet stands and grabs hold of his arm.

JANET (CONT'D) Roger, it's OK to cry!

Roger holds back his tears. He turns around and looks to the twins and kneels down.

Janet kneels, and looks to Roger in sympathy.

JANET (CONT'D) It makes you their uncle.

One of the girls begins to cry.

Roger kneels and hesitantly lifts her out of the box. He gently places her in his arms.

ROGER Shush! Don't cry!

Janet smiles and gently requests.

JANET

Can we?

Roger looks to Janet, his eyes welling he negatively shakes his head.

JANET (CONT'D) (Begging) Please, Roger. (Beat) We could keep one and find a good home for the other! (Beat) I've always wanted a child.

Roger looks at the baby in his arms. She has stopped crying.

He glances back to the other baby in the box, and back to Janet.

JANET (CONT'D)

Please!

ROGER We can't, Janet. This is not the life, for a child.

JANET

I know...

Janet drops her eyes and cries. She gently pats the cheek of the baby in the box.

Roger looks on in silence, taking another glance at the twins.

He closes his eyes for an instant, to avoid tears, then looks back to Janet.

Janet looks up. Their eyes meet, both feeling the same pain.

They remain silent for a moment, just staring.

John looks to the baby in his arms and gently hands it to Janet.

Janet takes the baby, looking to Roger a little surprised. Roger takes hold of the box and stands.

Janet appears a little confused, and stands.

JANET (CONT'D) What are you doing?

ROGER I'll try find a good home for her. I'll take her down the rich area.

Janet, elated, begins to cry as she nods in approval, looking to the baby in the box.

JANET

Thank you.

Roger, eyes welling looks to Janet.

ROGER Hope ya know what yar in for, Janet.

JANET I do. We'll do right by her.

She outstretches one of her arms, caressing the baby's face, in the box.

JANET (CONT'D) Find happiness, sweet child.

She bends over and gives her a kiss.

Janet then looks to Roger, sadden faced.

JANET (CONT'D) Find a good home for her!

Roger drops his welling eyes.

ROGER

I'd betta go.

Janet nods, as she watches Roger walk down the Alley.

Janet's walks over by the fire and sits, cuddling the baby in her arms.

The baby begins to cry.

JANET Shush! It will be alright!

She rocks the baby in her arms. The baby begins to calm down.

EXT. QUIET STREET.

Roger enters a quiet, clean street. There are rows of neat looking terraces. Most lights are off. It is late.

Roger notices a light shining out, from one of the terrace's window.

Roger assures himself that he is unnoticed and heads for the terrace.

He reaches the front of the terrace. The baby is asleep.

He looks to the baby and back to the terrace. The upstairs light is on.

He looks around the street once more. He hesitates, taking a few steps back.

He looks to the upstairs window and sees a woman's shadow walk pass.

He looks to the baby and walks up to the front door step of the terrace. He gently places the box down.

He takes another quick glance at the sleeping baby.

ROGER (whispering) Good luck, little one.

He caresses the sleeping baby's cheek.

ROGER (CONT'D) (whispering) I am so sorry. Roger wipes his eyes as he bangs on the door He quickly runs off.

Hiding behind a car, out of sight, he watches a MAN open the door.

Looking down, he notices the box, with the baby, yelling out in shock.

MAN

A baby?

He quickly looks around, and sees no-one.

He rushes down the stairs, still looking. There is not a soul to be seen.

He heads back for the door and steps in.

MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D) Susie! Come down here!

The man walks out of the door with MARY.

They kneel down.

MARY Oh my god! A baby!

The man picks up the box and both walk back inside, closing the door.

Roger looks a little longer. He heads back out of the street.

ROGER (Whispering) Hope I've done the right thing.

He takes a glance back.

Janet has a coughing fit. (V.O)

Janet's monitor alarm sounds. (V.O)

END FLASHBACK

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Janet's heart monitor alarm is sounding. (0.S)

Nurse Jones rushes in.

Suzanne panics, as she holds tight to Janet's hand. She caresses Janet's face with the other.

SUZANNE

Mom? Mom?

Suzanne looks to Roger, in tears.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Roger? Do something.

Roger in shock, is motionless.

Nurse Jones looks concerned and rushes over to Janet.

A NURSE and a DOCTOR rush in with a defibrillator.

Victoria and Suzanne look to Nurse Jones, then back to Janet.

NURSE JONES Please make room.

All stand and make room for the nurse and Doctor.

Suzanne panics and looks to Nurse Jones.

SUZANNE What's going on?

NURSE JONES I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to ask you all to step outside, for a while.

Suzanne is non compliant.

SUZANNE

Why?

The doctor prepares the paddles while the nurse pulls down Janet's gown.

DOCTOR. Please nurse, show them out.

NURSE JONES Please, Suzanne.

Nurse Jones shows them to the door.

Suzanne and Roger hesitantly makes her way towards the door.

John and Victoria walk out, looking back.

ROGER Wot are they doin' to 'er? NURSE JONES (compassionately) Her heart has stopped. Please step outside.

SUZANNE Will she be alright?

Nurse Jones moves them towards the door.

NURSE JONES Will just let the doctor do his best.

Suzanne, frantic, looks back towards Janet.

SUZANNE Please, can I stay?

NURSE JONES No, she's in good hands, Suzanne. (Beat) Hospital policy. I'm sorry.

Doctor applies the paddles.

They walk out the door. Nurse Jones closes it.

DOCTOR.

Clear.

One shot is applied.

The nurse looks to the monitor.

NURSE

Nothing.

DOCTOR.

Once more.

Nurse Jones walks back to Janet's side, holding on to Janet's chart. She looks back towards the glass window, near the room's door.

Suzanne and Roger, look horrified, as they peer through the partly ajar vertical blinds.

Nurse Jones looks back towards the doctor.

The doctor applies the paddles, to Janet's chest, once more.

Her body jolts.

The doctor looks to the nurse.

NURSE

Nothing, she's not responding.

Nurse Jones looks back towards the window.

Suzanne is covering her eyes.

The doctor looks to Nurse Jones.

DOCTOR. She's gone. There is nothing more we can do.

He glances over to the window, then drops his eyes and looks at his watch.

DOCTOR. (CONT'D) Time of death, 6.50.

The door swings opens and Suzanne rushes in followed by Roger and the rest.

SUZANNE No! No! Mom!

Nurse Jones gently grabs hold of Suzanne.

NURSE JONES I'm so sorry, Suzanne.

Suzanne cannot hold back her tears.

Roger stands at the door and drops his head. John and Victoria, stand behind him. They look on speechless.

INT. PORN STUDIO - EVENING

Steve is on the set, sitting on a bed.

Sharon stands near Maxwell's office door, watching Maxwell curse.

Maxwell paces the studio. He looks to his watch, frustrated.

MAXWELL Where the fuck is he? It's 7:00. This is all costing me money.

Sharon walks up to Maxwell, and gives him a bimbo look. She caresses his arm.

SHARON (Whining) Can we go home, now? John is probably at the hospital. (MORE) SHARON (CONT'D) (Beat) Let's do this tomorrow, Maxwell.

Maxwell looks to her, fuming and shrugs off her touch.

MAXWELL You make me sick!

Steve giggles in the background.

Sharon turns around and gives him a filthy look.

STEVE (whispering) Crawler.

Sharon gives him an evil look.

INT. HOSPITAL - JANET'S ROOM

Nurse Jones pulls the sheets off Janet's empty bed.

The room's door is open, a stretcher is being reeled out.

With the sheets bundled in her arms, she walks over to the door and follows the stretcher with her eyes.

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

A body, fully draped by a sheet, lies on the stretcher.

An orderly pushes the stretcher down the corridor, and heads towards the lift doors.

He stops and presses the lift button. " Morgue".

The lift door opens.

The orderly looks back to nurse Jones as he pushes the stretcher in the lift.

Nurse Jones watches on, until the stretcher is reeled out of sight, into the lift.

INT. PORN STUDIO

Sharon sits with Steve on the Bed.

Maxwell paces the studio with his mobile placed near his ear. He looks to his watch. It's 8:00.

> MAXWELL (Frustrated) Doesn't any one answer their fucking phone!

Sharon, fed up, stands.

SHARON I am going home!

Maxwell stops pacing and faces Sharon, furious.

MAXWELL You'll go, when I tell you to go!

Maxwell heads for his office.

John and Victoria walk in, hand in hand.

Maxwell enters his office.

JOHN (loud) Hey! Ass hole! We quit!

Maxwell turns around and sees them there. Sharon looks on. Steve stands and walks over to Sharon.

> STEVE (whispering) This should be interesting.

Sharon gives Steve a dirty look. She looks to Maxwell. Maxwell walks over to John.

> MAXWELL What the fuck is going on, John? It's 8:00.

Maxwell grabs hold of Victoria's arm.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) You, in my office!

VICTORIA

Let me go!

John pries Maxwell's hand off Victoria's arm.

JOHN Back off, Maxwell!

Maxwell is amused.

MAXWELL Oh! Tough guy!

Steve and Sharon watch on.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) Victoria! In my office now!

VICTORIA No! No, Maxwell! No more!

She looks to John, who places his arm around her, bringing her near.

JOHN She's staying with me.

MAXWELL No she's not.

Steve silently laughs.

STEVE (whispering) Oh, shit.

Sharon moves closer to Maxwell.

SHARON Maxwell, cut it out. Let her go!

Maxwell looks to Sharon.

MAXWELL You, keep out of this!

Suzanne and Roger enter the room. They near John and Victoria. Suzanne's eyes are red and swollen from crying.

Maxwell is a little surprised to see her.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) What are you doing here, Suzanne?

He points to Roger.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) And, who's this derelict? What's he doing in my studio?

Victoria and John are facing Suzanne.

SUZANNE (sarcastically) You're not so nice after all, are you? Mr., Maxwell, Bentow!

She takes Roger's arm.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) And this so called "derelict" as you so rudely put it, is my Uncle...

She points to Victoria.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) And Victoria's.

Maxwell laughs.

MAXWELL You two may look alike, but whoever has fed you with that bullshit is a fucking jerk. (Pointing to Victoria) Victoria "has" no family. I am as close as she'll ever get to having a family.

VICTORIA (infuriated) You've never been family!

Roger, infuriated, walks up to Maxwell, who takes a step back in disgust.

Maxwell places his hand over his nose and mouth in total disgust. He shakes his other hand in a shooing manner.

MAXWELL Get out of my studio! You're stinking the place out! You drunken Ass hole.

Maxwell points to Suzanne.

MAXWELL (CONT'D) And take her with you.

JOHN

You bastard!

John moves to take a swing. Roger looks to John.

ROGER

Let me!

Roger takes a swing to Maxwell. His fist lands on his jaw, knocking Maxwell off his feet.

ROGER (CONT'D) If anyone's an Ass hole, it's ya.

All look on, except for Sharon, who runs to Maxwell's side.

She kneels down.

SHARON Are you alright, babe?

Maxwell, holds on to his chin. He pushes Sharon out of the way as he stands to retaliate.

Roger is ready to take another swing, as John steps up to hold him back.

ROGER Ya're a two bit scum. Why didn't you look after 'er.

Sharon stands and creeps back to Maxwell's side. She helps him up. Maxwell shoves her away.

Maxwell looks to Victoria and back to Roger.

MAXWELL You're all filth! Get the fuck out of my sight!

ROGER The only filth is wot's comin' out of ya mouth!

Roger is fuming and is about to take another swing as John grabs hold of him.

JOHN Come on, Let's go. He's not worth it!

Maxwell thinks he has the upper hand. He steps towards Roger to take a swing.

Roger tries to break John's hold, to take swing.

Steve realizes and, quickly steps over to Maxwell. He restrains him.

STEVE That's enough!

MAXWELL Get your fucking hands off me.

STEVE Back off Maxwell. This little circus, is over.

Maxwell laughs as he tries to break Steve's hold.

MAXWELL (sarcastic) Circus? pff! you're no better! Why don't you join them?

Steve let's go of Maxwell in disgust and takes a step back.

STEVE

Best thing I've heard all night!

Steve itches to lay one on Maxwell.

Steve quickly exchanges glances with John. John nods and smiles understandingly.

STEVE (CONT'D)

My turn!

Steve takes a powerful swing to Maxwell's face and knocks him out.

Sharon screams.

SHARON

Maxwell!

They all look on for a moment.

Steve gently rubs his hand.

John smiles, giving Steve a wink.

JOHN Let's get out of here.

Sharon runs to Maxwell's side. She taps him gently on the cheek.

Steve shakes his hand, in pain.

John looks to Steve.

Steve smiles.

STEVE It was worth it.

Victoria walks up to Steve.

VICTORIA Are you alright?

Their eyes meet, Steve smiles.

STEVE Never felt better. I have been dying to do this, for the last 12 months.

JOHN

Come on guys, let's go.

Victoria grabs hold of John's arm. They turn and head out. Suzanne takes hold of Rogers arm and head out.

Steve heads out.

Sharon is fretting over Maxwell.

SHARON Babe, C'mon, wake up.

Sharon glances to them as they are about to exit.

SHARON (CONT'D) (shouting) I think you've killed him!

Steve looks back.

STEVE (smirking) He'll be fine.

EXT. JOHN AND VICTORIA'S HOME, 3 YEARS LATER.

A TODDLER, JANET sits on a garden swing in the backyard of a suburbia home.

Paling fence with minimal gardens surrounds the yard.

Toddler Janet, sits impatiently waiting to be pushed. She yells out.

TODDLER JANET Daddyyyy! push me!

She wiggles her legs.

TODDLER JANET (CONT'D)

Daddyyyy!

Near the back door of the house is an outside wooden table setting with six chairs.

Suzanne places a bowl of salad down.

They are turning a few sausages and patties.

John has a wine in hand.

Roger has a glass of orange juice ..

ROGER (jokingly) You should give that up!

TODDLER JANET (O.S.)

Daddyyyy!

Suzanne looks to Toddler Janet as she walks towards the Barbecue.

SUZANNE I think you're wanted, John.

They look towards Toddler Janet.

Toddler Janet tries to make the swing move, by kicking her legs.

TODDLER JANET (shouting) Come on daddy, push me!

John smiles to Suzanne.

JOHN Aunty Suzanne could go and push her.

Suzanne smiles.

SUZANNE I think she wants her dad.

Suzanne places her hand on Roger's shoulder.

Roger smiles.

John passes his beer to Suzanne.

JOHN Alright Janet, Dad's coming!

John walks over to the swings and lightly pushes Toddler Janet.

Roger and Suzanne look on, smiling.

The back door opens.

Victoria and Steve walk out carrying plates, cutlery and a pitcher of orange juice.

They walk over to the table and places the items in the centre of the table.

Victoria still has the pitcher in hand and looks over to Roger.

VICTORIA Would you like a top up, Roger?

ROGER

Yeah, thanks.

Roger holds up his glass.

Victoria walks over to the Barbecue. She glances at the swings.

VICTORIA Not too high, Darling!

ROGER Stop worrying! Ya and Suzanne sound so much like Janet.

Suzanne smiles.

SUZANNE I'm glad. It should keep you on your toes.

Roger smiles back, shaking his head.

Victoria tops up Rogers glass.

Suzanne looks to the swing and back to Victoria.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Janet is so beautiful, Victoria.

ROGER She sure looks like ya, girls.

Steve walks over to Suzanne and places his arm around her waist.

STEVE It will be your turn next.

Roger and Victoria instantly look to Suzanne.

ROGER Are ya pregnant? Suzanne giggles.

SUZANNE

No!

Suzanne lifts her left hand up to show Roger and Victoria a ring.

Roger looks on. He expects an explanation.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Steve asked me to marry him yesterday.

Steve gives her a kiss on the cheek.

Roger outstretches his hand towards Steve.

ROGER About bloody time.

Victoria quickly steps over to Suzanne.

VICTORIA Show me! -- Why didn't you tell me?

SUZANNE I was going to.

VICTORIA Look at this dazzler, it's so beautiful.

Victoria and Suzanne embrace.

VICTORIA (CONT'D) I am so happy for you.

John looks over.

JOHN What's going on?

Victoria looks over, still cuddled to Suzanne.

VICTORIA Steve and Suzanne are engaged.

John takes Toddler Janet from the swings. He walks over with Toddler Janet in his arms.

TODDLER JANET Swings Daddy.

JOHN Congratulation guys. John outstretches his hand towards Steve, they shake.

Toddler Janet outstretches her arms towards Roger.

TODDLER JANET

Poppy?

Roger hands his Barbecue utensils to Steve and takes hold of Toddler Janet.

John gives Suzanne a hug.

JOHN I am so happy for both of you.

Roger walks over to the swings with toddler janet.

The four of them look on.

Roger places toddler Janet on the swings and begins to gently push her.

Suzanne looks to Victoria.

SUZANNE It's the happiest I have ever seen him, and he has not touched a drop since Janet died.

VICTORIA How is he settling in with you?

Suzanne smirks.

SUZANNE He is getting used to sleeping on a bed.

Suzanne eyes begin to well She looks to Victoria.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) I wish Janet could have shared all of this with us.

Both girls can no longer hold their tears and lock in an embrace.

John and Steve look on.

John sees a little smoke coming from the Barbecue.

JOHN

Hey! Watch those sausages, Victoria hates burnt food!

The girls giggles as they wipe their tears.

VICTORIA Come on quys let's have lunch.

John holds an empty platter, whilst Steve places the sausages and meat patties on it.

Victoria and Suzanne lay out the cutlery and plates.

John places the platter on the table.

Steve looks to Roger.

STEVE Alright guys, lunch is ready.

Roger picks toddler Janet from the swings. Toddler Janet places her arms around Roger's neck and kisses him on the cheek.

Roger smiles as he makes his way to the table.

Victoria outstretches her arms to take Janet from Roger.

VICTORIA Come on Janet let's sit down and let poppy eat.

TODDLER JANET I want to sit with poppy.

Roger smiles.

ROGER She can sit on my laps for a while.

They all smile and sit. Roger sits last placing toddler Janet on his knee.

John begins to dish out the meat. Each hand out their plates one at a time.

Suzanne looks to Steve.

SUZANNE Did you tell them about Maxwell?

Steve shakes his head.

All look to Suzanne. Suzanne looks back to them.

SUZANNE (CONT'D) Whoa! Don't look at me like that.

VICTORIA We have not mentioned his name in this household, since that night. Suzanne takes a big sigh.

SUZANNE I'm sorry, but you'll love what you'll hear.

Steve begins.

STEVE Maxwell is in jail, and will remain there a long time.

Victoria smiles as she looks to John. She looks to Steve.

VICTORIA What did he do?

STEVE Child molesting and pornography.

JOHN How did you find out?

STEVE Suzanne bumped into Sharon

yesterday at the liquor store.

SUZANNE Sharon said she had him arrested. She couldn't live with what he was doing anymore.

VICTORIA I thought she loved him.

SUZANNE She told me that Maxwell would beat her up.

VICTORIA That's no surprise!

STEVE

He also forced her to drag homeless kids off the street.

SUZANNE His business collapsed after you guys left and desperate to make a quid; he began to use and abuse kids to make his backyard movies.

STEVE He got a 20 year sentence.

Victoria looks to John, smiling.

JOHN Uh! With those sorts of crimes, I doubt he will ever get out of jail alive.

Toddler Janet has taken a sausage off Roger's plate and places it near Roger's mouth.

TODDLER JANET

Eat poppy!

Roger opens his mouth.

They all look and giggle.

John picks up his beer and makes a toast.

JOHN

To family!

They all raise their glass. Toddler Janet looks on.

ALL

To family!