

OUR KIND

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. SORORITY REC ROOM - DAY

Pledge class paddles on the walls among composite photos of previous graduating classes. All the members in all the photos are black in this black sorority.

A ping-pong table commands one side, couches on the other. In the middle a small table where three black sorority sisters, 20, sit, notebooks and papers in front of them-- CANDACE, TAMIKA, SIEMONE. Pretty, intelligent.

Across from them sits EBONY, 18, black, attractive, interviewing for the upcoming pledge class.

EBONY

As a member of the university soccer team, I understand the importance of teamwork. My first semester GPA was three point seven, and I'm on track to repeat that performance. I can augment the already impressive house average. Socially, I helped organize the dorm float for homecoming, and I worked on the Christmas gala committee. And I do know a number of male athletes.

Ebony smiles, and the others smile back.

EBONY

To sum up, I feel I'm a very good fit. I've met many of the sisters here, and I sense a common bond. I'd like to join with you and make this the best sorority on campus.

CANDACE

Your application and credentials are impressive.

TAMIKA

You understand that we don't make the final decision. We simply recommend to the full membership.

EBONY

And I hope you'll recommend me highly.

SIEMONE

You understand the process?

EBONY

You recommend, the house votes, and I'm notified. If I'm selected, I move in next semester.

SIEMONE

Correct. We won't vote for another week, so relax and go to class.

EBONY

And practice. Sometimes, I think our coach doesn't understand that we have to study too.

CANDACE

(looking around)
Any other questions?

Siemone and Tamika shake their heads.

CANDACE

We want to thank you for your interest in our house.

EBONY

(standing)
Thank you for your consideration.

Ebony shakes hands with each of the three and leaves.

CANDACE

Well, what do you think, ladies?

TAMIKA

She certainly has a great resume.

SIEMONE

All the boxes checked, and she looks good too.

CANDACE

A worthy candidate...but....

SIEMONE

She's not our kind.

TAMIKA

I sensed that too. She's not like us.

CANDACE
Pity. She looked so good on paper.
Who's next?

The girls look at their list.

TAMIKA
Haley.

SIEMONE
I'll get her.

Siemone stands and walks out.

TAMIKA
(looking at application)
This shouldn't take long.

CANDACE
Don't pre-judge, girl.

Tamika rolls her eyes.

Siemone enters. Trailing her is HALEY, 18, blonde, white as snow, smiling way too wide. She's pretty and leggy and looks nothing like anyone in the room. She slides easily into the chair as Siemone resumes her place.

CANDACE
Good afternoon.

HALEY
Hey.

CANDACE
You understand the ground rules?

TAMIKA
This is an interview to determine
your suitability for our house.

SIEMONE
This is not an offer to join. It's
merely exploratory.

CANDACE
Do you understand?

HALEY
Sure. You want me for a sister.

SIEMONE
We 'might' want you for a sister.

TAMIKA

This interview will determine that.

HALEY

Oh, you'll want me.

The three trade looks.

CANDACE

Let's start with your qualifications. You're a year one?

HALEY

Yep, freshman, and I gotta say this was quite a change for me.

TAMIKA

Oh, how so?

HALEY

I was home schooled. So, a lecture hall with four hundred kids kinda made me blink.

SIEMONE

College requires change.

HALEY

You can say that again. They stuck me with a roommate that likes to cut her toe nails over the carpet, and let me clue you in, she doesn't pick them up.

SIEMONE

Did you try to change roommates?

HALEY

Hell ya! But the only place open was with some nerd with more pimples than a golf ball.

CANDACE

Dimples, a golf ball has dimples.

HALEY

Whatever. No way I'm going to share a room with a guy who believes they actually landed on the moon. Come on, everyone knows they shot that stuff in Hollywood. Please.

TAMIKA

Why don't you tell us about your grades.

HALEY

Oh, I'm all over grades. I mean, I own a solid two point six. I know that sounds low, but it's not about grades, right? It's about learning, and I've learned plenty.

SIEMONE

What about your extra-curriculars? How do you spend your time?

HALEY

I like to watch TV in the lounge. Did you know how many guys the bachelorette turned down? Hunks too.

TAMIKA

Do you date?

HALEY

Of course, I date, although I have to say the quality of men on this campus is ridiculously low--specially athletes. What's up with them?

CANDACE

What makes you think you'd be happy here?

HALEY

I'm just like you.

SIEMONE

The average GPA here is three point three.

TAMIKA

A number of our members play a variety of sports at the collegiate level.

CANDACE

We have members in the glee club, African language and culture club, business and law society, college mentors for kids, debate team...

SIEMONE
Environmental health society.

TAMIKA
Feminist student association.

SIEMONE
GLBT support.

TAMIKA
Leadership advisory board.

CANDACE
And many more. So tell us, Haley,
how are you like us?

HALEY
All those things are superficial.
They aren't what makes us...us.

SIEMONE
I wish you were serious.

TAMIKA
We all have things to do.

CANDACE
I think we're done here.

Haley sighs.

HALEY
I would think you would recognize
one of your own.

She waves her hand, and a pledge paddle flies off the wall
and hits the ping-pong table.

The three girls look at each other.

Then, Siemone nods, and two paddles fly off the wall and land
softly on a couch.

Tamika blinks. A composite photo flips and turns the photos
to the wall.

Candace claps and a ping-pong paddle jumps into the air. A
ball bounces off the table, and the paddle slams it for a
winner on the other side.

HALEY
More?

CANDACE

One.

Haley looks around the room. Then she settles on the girls and smiles. She waves, and the Trio rise off the floor till they hover two feet in the air.

With another wave, the Trio settle back down.

Haley stands.

HALEY

Enough?

The girls stand and offer hands.

CANDACE

Welcome to the sisterhood.

FADE OUT.