Hustle

by

El Faithful

# FADE IN:

### EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

Dog Barks. Still early in the morning, the hood is quiet. We see cars parked outside in front of each houses.

# INT. BREANA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Over the radio we hear news about racing. On the wall of the room there are different Medals hanging, next to the bed on the right is a glass showcase and in it we see different TROPHIES standing on different cases

Alarm Beeps. On the bed side table on the left there is the alarm beeping 6:00. On the table too is a little sized frame picture and an Mp3 player

#### INSERT PICTURE

A GIRL, 18, sitting in the middle with a trophy in her hands, her mom standing on her right and her father standing on her left, all smiling to the camera.

A YOUNG HAND comes from under the blanket and hits on the alarm

Alarm Stops abruptly. The hand pulls down the blanket from her face

BREANA JONES, 21, light skinned, average, a runner with athletic body, black hair, opens her eyes, she moans and she uses the back of her palm to clean her eyes

She gets up from the bed, stretches her hand above her head, she yawns again, she taps on the MP3 player

Rap Music On.

She nods to the beat and sluggishly walks into the bedroom.

### INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Everything moving so fast. BREANA brushes her teeth for a moment. Shows in the shower with her towel across her chest. She puts on the shower and throws the towel on the screen.

# INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

She steps out of her closet all dressed up for school.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MICHAEL JONES, 45, dark, average and a little huge body build, dressed up in BLACK SUIT and ready for work, sits in his dinning chair having breakfast. With a cup of coffee in his hand, his eyes looking at a newspaper on his side on the table and a saucer of sliced bread

REGINA JONES, 33, light skinned, beautiful, comes out of the kitchen with a cup of juice for herself

REGINA

(Yelling)

Breana come down and have your breakfast. You don't wanna be late again.

BREANA (O.S)

I'm comin' mom.

REGINA walks to her side of the table, she sits

REGINA

(She takes a sip) She is always so late for breakfast like everyday.

MICHAEL nods, he sips his coffee too, still looking at the newspaper

MICHAEL

Maybe she's got a lot to do every morning before coming out for breakfast.

He takes another sip from his coffee

REGINA

Speak for her, as usual.

He looks at REGINA

MICHAEL

Isn't that my job as her father, to speak for her?

REGINA

Isn't that the only thing you do?

MICHAEL smiles and looks back at his newspaper.

BREANA comes in from her room hanging her back pack and her head phones hanging on her neck

BREANA

Morning Pops. Morning Ma.

REGINA/MICHAEL

Morning.

She walks to her side of the table. She pulls out her chair and she sits taking off her back pack, she places it on another chair next to her. She looks in front of her table

**BREANA** 

Great Ma, called me out for breakfast when there is none for me.

REGINA

I'll go get it for you.

She gets up

REGINA (CONT'D)

You want coffee or tea?

**BREANA** 

Tea please.

REGINA start leaving the dining room. BREANA takes two slices of bread from her DAD's plates, she picks up the Jam and a spoon and she starts spreading on the bread

BREANA (CONT'D)

How was your night, Pops?

MICHAEL still looking at the newspaper

MICHAEL

Great. At least it wasn't me who got home very late last night.

MICHAEL finally looks at BREANA. BREANA still spreading jam on her bread

BREANA

Come on pops, you know I had to train. Just kinda trained a little overtime yesterday, that's all.

She drops the spoon in the jam, she puts the bread in her mouth and takes a big bite

MICHAEL

What about other days, you train overtime too?

BREANA

(mouthful)

I think so.

MICHAEL

Your mom just keeps complaining.

BREANA says nothing. MICHAEL takes a sip from his cup and looks back at his newspaper

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

How are things going with your training?

**BREANA** 

Good, I guess.

REGINA comes in with a cup of tea on one hand and a saucer of slices bread on the other hand. She walks to BREANA and drops them in her front

REGINA

Here.

**BREANA** 

Thanks Ma.

REGINA starts walking over to her seat.

BREANA finishes up with the slices of bread, she picks up two more slices of bread from her saucer, picks up the spoon and starts adding jam to them

REGINA

(to BREANA)

Did you sleep well baby?

BREANA

Yea, I did. What about you?

REGINA

Of course. Except you had me worried all night. Where were you?

BREANA

I was training. You know I got to train.

She takes another big bite of bread

BREANA (CONT'D)

(mouthful)

I'm fine, Ma. You don't need to worry 'bout me.

She sips her tea from her cup. REGINA watches her for a moment

REGINA

Baby I care about you. I don't like the idea of you training alone and all that, am not comfortable with it.

**BREANA** 

(chuckles)

But am comfortable with it. Am not complaining.

REGINA

Am your mother. Breana I know what is best for you... at least sometimes.

BREANA takes another bite and a sip from her cup

BREANA

What do you mean, Ma.

MICHAEL

Breana what your mom is trying to say is that you need someone to help you train. Someone like a coach.

BREANA

Okay. But I don't need no help from nobody, I can train on my own.

REGINA

But baby I still insist you get a coach so all these late night coming home will stop.

BREANA

Okay, fine. I'll stop coming home late but am gettin' no coach.

MICHAEL

Breana you have to listen to your mom.

BREANA drops her cup

BREANA

I think am done with breakfast. I need to head out now, I don't wanna be late for school.

She picks up her bag and gets up

BREANA (CONT'D)

See you guys later.

MICHAEL

Let me drop you off then.

**BREANA** 

Cool. Wait for you in the car.

She hangs her bag and starts leaving. REGINA watches her walk away

REGINA

You know I still insists she gets a coach for her own sake. Why can't she understand?

REGINA takes a deep breath. MICHAEL picks up the newspaper, he folds it and places it on the table again. He gets up, walks behind REGINA and starts rubbing her shoulders softly

MICHAEL

Honey, you worry too much. Don't worry, she will come to her senses one day and see things the same way we do and besides she is grown enough to handle herself.

REGINA

Taking her side again, aren't you?

MICHAEL

Yea, But just to calm you.

REGINA smiles

REGINA

I hope she really knows what she is doing?

MICHAEL stops rubbing her shoulders and moves a little to the side of his chair looking at her

MICHAEL

Of course she does. She is just like her pops.

REGINA laughs softly

REGINA

You are right. Just like her pops.

MICHAEL

I have to get going. So dinner tonight?

REGINA

(chuckles)

You're picking me up.

MICHAEL

(smiling)

Sure. See you later baby.

He kisses her forehead and starts leaving

REGINA

Have a nice day.

MICHAEL

I will. And you too.

He finally leaves the dining room. REGINA takes a deep breath.

EXT. COLLEGE - LATER

In the background, people walk in, some drive in, in cars, bicycles and some walk in fours or threes. MICHAEL BLACK CAMRY drives in, it stops in front of the walkway to class

INT. MICHAEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

BREANA looks around the school through the window

MICHAEL

Are you okay?

**BREANA** 

(nodding)

Mhm hmm! Am okay.

She looks at her Dad

MICHAEL

Alright. You be a good girl, stay in class and come home straight after school.

**BREANA** 

(scoffs)

Are you talking to me like that pops? Come on Pops, am not five years old anymore.

MICHAEL

Am only making sure you are safe.

**BREANA** 

Alright. Alright. I heard you sir. I'll be home right after school.

MICHAEL

Thank you.

**BREANA** 

See you later pops.

She takes off the seat belt, opens the car door and..

EXT. COLLEGE - CONTINUOUS

... She steps out of the car and she shuts the door.

Engine Starts. MICHEAL drives off. BREANA waves. She looks at the car for a moment, she starts walking towards the class.

Her friends LILA , 22, average, light skinned, and MIMI, 21, dark skinned, a little taller waits for her almost close to the building

LILA/MIMI

(feeling happy)

Hey girl!

**BREANA** 

Hey

She meets up with them and stops to stand with them. She stands facing the road, while LILA and MIMI stand facing her

LILA

That was your dad dropping you off again?

**BREANA** 

Yea, the guy loves doing it. Let him do what he loves doing.

MIMI

Wish I got my dad dropping me off every day. That'd be cool.

BREANA

There is nothing cool in it, except you got your Pops telling you

(mimics her dad)

"be a good girl and be home early"

MIMI and LILA laughs

LILA

Shit. He tells you that?

**BREANA** 

He sure does. And it is crazy.

LILA

It really is crazy. Very crazy.

MIMI

It's not crazy to me. It makes you look like one of them college big girls, having your driver drop you off at school everyday. sounds cool to me.

BREANA

Cool but he is my pops and not my driver.

MIMI

Nobody is calling your pops your driver.

**BREANA** 

I know that.

She looks over MIMI's shoulders for a second with her mouth wide open

BREANA (CONT'D)

(looking surprised)

Whoa!

MIMI and LILA turn to see what she is looking at.

A white, beautiful and expensive car parks in front, the DRIVER comes down, he walks to the back seat carrying a beautiful pink bag with CHANEL written boldly on it

BREANA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

What a car!

MIMI

I love the bag.

LILA

Who the hell is that?

The DRIVER opens the back door.

In Slow Motion. MILEY, 21, White skinned, white hair, BREANA race rival comes out of the door. The DRIVER gives her bag to her, she takes it. Still in slow motion, she starts walking towards the Girls.

BREANA, LILA and MIMI follow her with their eyes

MILEY stops in front of the girls, she twirls her hair to the back, gives a fake smile to the girls and starts walking again.

The girls keep looking at her until she enters the building.

Slow Motion Stops.

Still looking at her direction

BREANA

The bad bitch is back.

MIMI

What does she want this time?

**BREANA** 

Who knows? Maybe a rough semester.

LILA

Nobody is letting her ruin this semester.

(shaking her head)

Nobody.

**BREANA** 

Lila you said same thing last time and guess who took home the trophy?

LILA

That was last time, this is this time and I mean it now.

**BREANA** 

I bet you do. Come on.

They start walking to the class building too.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

On the white board written in marker is BIOCHEMISTRY and under it is LIPIDS.

A MALE WHITE ADULT LECTURER stands in front of the classroom. In the middle front row seat is MILEY, on the same line but the third to the last seat is BREANA paying attention to MILEY

On BREANA left hand on the same row is LILA, and in her front is MIMI all looking at MILEY.

On the back seat close to the wall is JAKE, 24, dark skinned, handsome, tall, Mohawk haircut and pink lips, and plays basketball leans on his seat staring at BREANA

LECTURER

(teaching the class)
Well like I said, Lipids are
Biogenic amines. They are soluble
in water and insoluble in polar
solvents like ethanol, chloroform,
ethyl ether.....

MIMI leans her head a little to the back, BREANA leans forward to her

MIMI

(whispering)
What is she doing here?

BREANA

(whispers too)

Learning biochemistry.

LILA leans her head towards BREANA too

LILA

(whispering)

I don't know what she thinks she is doing, but I do hate her.

MILEY turns back to the girls, she gives them another fake smile and turns to the front again

MIMI

(gasp softly)

Did you see that?

LILA

(still whispering)

Would you call that learning?

BREANA

(whispering)

I can't tell.

They sit properly and pretend to be paying attention

LECTURER

They are also classified into simple and complex lipids. Lipids have so many importance but we will be looking at the importance of lipids in our next class. Any questions so far?

The class say nothing

He gathers his books and starts leaving

LECTURER (CONT'D)

Have a good day.

He leaves the class. The students start packing their bags and having conversation

BREANA putting her books into her bag. MIMI leans her head backwards again

MIMI

Uhm Breana, why is she coming over here?

BREANA looks up and sees MILEY walking towards her with two other WHITE GIRLS walking beside her like bodyguards

MILEY

Hello

BREANA uninterested, still putting her books in her bag

JAKE watches them from his seat

**BREANA** 

What do you want?

MILEY

Stop acting like you don't know me. Pretending like you don't ain't taking you no where.

BREANA

Cool. And I just asked you what you want.

MILEY laughs, the two other girls join her. They stop laughing

MILEY

Well, I just came over to say Hello.

BREANA zips up her bag and drops it on her table. She looks up at MILEY

BREANA

You did well. Very nice of you to be nice.

MILEY

Yea. I also wanna tell you that I know about you running in the school's race next month.

**BREANA** 

Everybody know 'bout it

MILEY

I'm just trying to let you know that am in the game.

BREANA

(she shrugs her shoulders)

So?

MILEY

(becoming serious)

So I want you to watch out for me.

BREANA examines MILEY for a moment and laughs quietly

**BREANA** 

Who are you?

MILEY sighs tiredly

MILEY

(hoarse voice)

Let me make it easy.

She places both hands on BREANA'S table, LILA and MIMI stand up, their hands folding across their chest, looking at MILEY in a very angry way

MILEY looks at the girls, she smiles, she takes her hands off the table

MILEY (CONT'D)

(normal voice)

You are going down Breana. I am bringing you down. You are a failure girl.

LILA

(to MILEY)

Watch it bitch.

MILEY looks at LILA without saying a word

BREANA

Great. You are right. I can't wait to go down. I hope you bring me down. And lemme remind you, It's not an Olympic race anyways so please, do not kill yourself over it.

MILEY

Lets wait until then and see what it really is. I hope you don't sign out.

**BREANA** 

Nah, I ain't. I look forward to seeing you too.

MILEY

Word of advice, make sure to train hard. You don't know who you up against.

She fakes another smile, looks at LILA, LILA gives her a serious look. She stops smiling and starts leaving, the two girls follow suit

LILA

Who does she think she is? She doesn't scare me.

**BREANA** 

Me neither.

(she smiles)

Thanks.

LILA

It's nothing.

MIMI

We got your back B. But I swear am gonna cut the bitch's face next time.

**BREANA** 

Let it go. She ain't worth it.

She picks up her bag and gets up from her seat

BREANA (CONT'D)

Let's bounce.

They pick their bags and start leaving

JAKE smiles watching them leave.

EXT. STREET - MORNING

BREANA wearing her headphone, a workout sneaker and her workout outfit running down the empty street.

EXT. COLLEGE - LATER

BREANA walking to the class building, almost leaping. She meets up with MIMI. They keep walking up together

**BREANA** 

Hey!

MIMI

Morning B.

BREANA

What's up? Where Lila at?

MIMI

Dunno. Told me she'll be running late today. Your Dad didn't drop you off today?

BREANA

Yea, he had to leave for work very early this morning.

They see MILEY in her workout outfit too and her earphone stuck into her ears, running round the school.

They stop walking to watch her

BREANA (CONT'D)

You've got to be kidding me.

MIMI

Isn't that Miley? God! The bitch is serious.

BREANA

Why she is doing that during school hour? Ain't she got a training time or place?

MIMI

Who knows, maybe she is just showing off. Kinda like a way to say 'prepare Breana Jones 'cause am coming for you''

BREANA looks at MIMI and shrugs her shoulders, she looks back at MILEY

BREANA

She doesn't move me. She got to do better than running round the school.

MIMI

Yea, she ain't got nothing on you.

BREANA

Not even a leq.

They laugh and start walking.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

BREANA enters the kitchen in her workout outfit, her headphone on her head and sweating. She takes of the headphone, hangs it on her neck, she walks to the refrigerator.

She opens it, brings out a bottle of water, she closes the fridge and starts opening the bottle.

REGINA enters the Kitchen. She leans on the door

REGINA

You home already?

BREANA turns to her mom

BREANA

Yes, Ma. Didn't have to train that much today.

She drinks from the water bottle. She covers the bottle, opens the fridge and puts the water in the fridge and closes it again.

She turns back to her Mom

REGINA

You look okay.

**BREANA** 

Yea, am okay.

She walks to the table in the middle of the kitchen. She pulls out a chair and sits

BREANA (CONT'D)

Pops off to work already?

REGINA

Yea, he is.

She starts walking to the table

REGINA (CONT'D)

He's got this serious meeting with an agent.

She gets to the table, pulls out a seat facing BREANA and she sits

BREANA.

That is my pops for you. Always doing his job right.

REGINA

Yea, he does.

They say nothing for a moment

REGINA (CONT'D)

I heard about the game coming up in a few weeks.

BREANA

It ain't no game. It's just a school race except Miley is tryna make it look like a big deal.

REGINA

Miley? Again? What does she want this time?

**BREANA** 

What else? Race me.

REGINA

That little girl must got some damn mind and I know you are ready to take her too

BREANA

Am always ready.

REGINA

I know you are always ready baby and your dad and I are always here for you. But baby to be perfectly ready for this game it has to take a lot than you just training alone.

**BREANA** 

This is the point where you tell me to get a coach right?

REGINA

Yea, because that is what you need.

BREANA

Ma, I done told you I got this on my own. If you and pops don't believe I can do this alone then who else can?

REGINA

I know. I know you got this but I want the best for you. I wanna help you.

BREANA

You can help me by believing I got this first. I don't need no coach.

REGINA.

You do. You think you don't but you do. Do you know any runner who has made without a coach or two?

BREANA gets up

**BREANA** 

You are right, I don't but let me tell you something 'bout me you don't know, I like my life very solo and I ain't doing no coach thing. You can tell that to my pops.

She starts leaving. REGINA watches her leave.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Chattering, students laughing and talking. Some stand in groups chatting with each other.

LILA sits on her table facing BREANA who is sitting on her seat. MIMI stands next to LILA, behind them is a group of four boys

LILA

You missed out last night B. It was one hell of a night.

MIMI

It was fun. There was a lot to drink and the Jam was a bang plus my own very own special, the pretty boys.

BREANA/LILA

Pretty boys?

MIMI

Yea. you know I like them pretty. Can't go a party without them.

DANIEL, one of the boys standing behind, he turns to the girls

DANIEL

Can you go to a party with me there? You know am pretty.

MIMI

Nobody was talking to you Daniel, come off it.

DANIEL

Oh! That is a little harsh.

The boys laugh. DANIEL turns back to his boys

LILA

(to BREANA)

Guess who was at the party.

BREANA thinks for a moment

**BREANA** 

I don't know. You tell me.

LILA

It was Miley. The MIley.

BREANA

(looking surprised)
What? I thought she doesn't hang
out with a bunch of us.

MIMI

I thought so too.

LILA

I think she was only looking for trouble. God help her you wasn't there.

**BREANA** 

I was fucking busy at home.

MIMI

She was a party destroyer. I hate her more.

BREANA

She doesn't deserve it.

Another MALE LECTURER comes in. The class settles, they all start taking their seats.

BREANA looks at her side, she sees JAKE starring and smiling. She pretends not to see him, she faces her front again.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

After lectures, the Students start leaving the class for lunch.

LILA and MIMI waits up for BREANA to pack up her books

MIMI

Dude, hurry up am starving.

LILA

Me too. We don't have all day.

BREANA

You guys go on. I'll meet you up.

LILA

Okay.

LILA and MIMI starts leaving. BREANA still packing her books, she finally puts them in her bag and zips it

She gets up. JAKE walks up to her.

**JAKE** 

Hey!

BREANA looks at him for a moment, she looks around the class. JAKE follows her eyes, she looks at him again

BREANA

(Surprised)

Mhm!

JAKE

Are you okay?

BREANA

Are you talkin' to me?

JAKE

(chuckles)

Who does it look like am talking to? Is there a ghost in here? Of course am talkin' to you.

BREANA

I see it now.

**JAKE** 

So like I want to talk to you about something.

**BREANA** 

Okay. What you wanna talk 'bout?

**JAKE** 

(chuckles)

See you seem pretty cool to me.

**BREANA** 

That's 'cause am cool.

JAKE

(chuckles)

Cool.

And I wanna be friends with this cool girl who knows she is cool. (OFF: BREANA laughs) and I mean that.

**BREANA** 

Really?

JAKE

Yea, like cool friends. Get to hang out with you and your other friends.

BREANA

You mean Lila and Mimi?

JAKE looks surprised

JAKE

Are they the only friends you got?

**BREANA** 

They are the only good friends I got.

JAKE nods

**JAKE** 

That sounds mutual to me.

**BREANA** 

It is mutual.

They say nothing for a moment

BREANA (CONT'D)

I'll tell my friends 'bout you and get to hear what they got to say. You know, I don't get to meet anybody, make them part of the group without letting my girls know and expect them to be good with it.

**JAKE** 

I know what you mean. It's fine with me.

BREANA laughs shyly

BREANA

Cool. I'll see you later.

She starts leaving

**JAKE** 

And good luck on your race. You got it.

She smiles. Nods slowly, without saying a word she walks off.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

LILA and MIMI sits next to each other in their table having lunch

BREANA joins them with her tray of food in her hand, she sits facing the girls

MIMI

What took you so long?

BREANA smiles, ducking her head

MIMI and LILA look at themselves and back at BREANA

LILA

Why you smiling that hard, you 'bout to break your face or what?

**BREANA** 

(still ducking)

Am not smiling.

MIMI

(chuckles)

You are smiling. What's up?

BREANA says nothing. LILA and MIMI look at her waiting for an answer

**BREANA** 

It's Jake.

LILA

What about Jake?

BREANA

He thinks am cool and he wanna be friends.

MIMI claps quietly but excitedly. LILA screams quietly too

MIMI

Awww!

**BREANA** 

You guys stop.

LILA

I have always known Jake likes you. I see the way he looks at you in class everyday like the way I look at chocolate.

BREANA

Stop saying that. He didn't say he likes me, he said he wants to be friends, that's all.

MIMI

Why would anyone wanna be friends with you if they don't like you? He is totally into you.

**BREANA** 

He is not.

MIMI

I think you are getting a real gig this time.

BREANA

It's not a gig. He wants to hang out with us and I told him I've got to let you girls know before deciding anything.

MIMI

What?

LILA

Are you outta your mind? Go back I tell him we good.

BREANA

I will but you got to stop talking 'bout it.

LILA and MIMI pretend to be quite. They start laughing.

MILEY walks to BREANA'S table with her TWO GIRLS all carrying their tray of food

MILEY

Don't you got a Race to prepare for?

BREANA

That's some shit I do not want to worry myself 'bout. Glad to see you are working hard.

MILEY

Matter of fact I am. I got myself so many coaches and trainers just to make sure am ready for this. Who is your coach?

BREANA

I don't got none. I am my own coach.

MILEY laughs, the girls join her too

MILEY

You got no coach or a trainer and you think you can beat me (she laughs again)
You must be joking.

BREANA

You know what? Why won't you leave me the hell alone? Go mind your business just like am minding mine.

MILEY

Sure, I will mind my business. Word of advice, get a coach.

**BREANA** 

Word of advice, get to relax.

MILEY and the Girls walk away

MIMI

(mimics MILEY)

'get a couch'

LILA

That white bitch is crazy. Don't listen to her.

BREANA.

It doesn't trouble me.

LILA

It shouldn't. Don't ever think 'bout it. Miley is nothing compared to you.

**BREANA** 

You are just telling me this 'cause am your friend. Thanks anyway.

LILA

I tells the truth a lot.

**BREANA** 

I hope you are right 'bout me?

LILA

You are not scared Breana. You have been running all your life.

MIMI

You will be fine B.

BREANA gives a dull smile and nods her head slightly.

EXT. COLLEGE STADIUM - DAY

MAN ON SPEAKER

Students, parents, visitors, and more people get their seats in the stadium. Not much of a crowd but at least there are lots of people in the stadium ready to watch the school's race.

On the tracks, six girls including MILEY standing in their tracks, jogging and getting prepared. MILEY stands in track three while track four is left open for BREANA.

BREANA stands four steps from the track with LILA AND MIMI.

BREANA looks nervous

LILA

What are you doing right now? Don't tell me you are nervous?

**BREANA** 

I am nervous. This is like very stupid and I cannot believe am doing something this stupid. God!

BREANA bites her lips so hard, she swallows hardly

MIMI

B come on, relax. Not like you haven't done it before. You always do this.

BREANA

Did you hear me? I said this is stupid. Miley and her bitch life is making me do something this stupid. I feel like I shouldn't do it anymore.

MIMI

Breana don't say that. Please.

LILA

Look around you B. Everyone is here to see you run. Your parents are here too.

BREANA looks to her left in the crowd and sees her MOM and DAD smiling and waving to her. She gives a weak smile turns back to the girls

LILA (CONT'D)

You don't wanna mess things up.

MIMI

(whispering)

And Jake is here too.

BREANA raises her eyes a little and there is JAKE giving her a baby wave and a little smile.

BREANA smiles shyly

**BREANA** 

You are a crazy jerk, Mi.

MIMI

Thank you.

LILA

So you wanna do this or not?

BREANA hesitates. She looks at LILA, then at MIMI and back at LILA. They look at her waiting for an answer

**BREANA** 

(exhales)

Yea, I wanna do this.

LILA

I know you got it.

MIMI

I love you but let me get this for you.

She takes off BREANA'S headphone. BREANA smiles

**BREANA** 

Thanks Mi.

LILA

And don't worry we will be cheering you up, very loud.

MIMI

Very, very loud.

LILA/MIMI

Good luck!

They start walking to get their seat.

BREANA watch them for a moment. She takes her eyes off them and finds herself looking at JAKE. His eyes catches up with hers, she looks away quickly

BREANA walks to her track. She looks a little lost

VOICE ON SPEAKER

On your marks...

The girls take their marks.

VOICE ON SPEAKER (CONT'D)

Get set.

The girls get set. Whistle Blows. The girls take off.

We watch them run. BREANA is taking the lead with MILEY running up behind her. We see her parents cheering, we see LILA and MIMI standing up also cheering and clapping, we see Jake smiling.

In slow motion. All of a sudden, half way to the finish line, BREANA slows down, MILEY takes the lead. BREANA stops

CROWD CHEERING

We see the smile disappear from her parents face, they get up in surprise. LILA and MIMI also stop cheering, they look at each other in surprise.

MIMI

(mouthing to LILA)

What happened?

MILEY finishes the race first. People cheer. BREANA starts walking away. LILA and MIMI runs up to her. BREANA says nothing. She walks away in slow motion.

INT. BREANA'S SITTING ROOM - LATER

Door Opens. BREANA barges in, she throws her bag on the couch

MICHAEL enters. REGINA follows after

MICHAEL

(sounding angry)

What was that over there?

REGINA stands behind, calming him down

REGINA

Michael?

BREANA

(crying)

I don't know

MICHAEL

No, I think you know something but you ain't letting us know. What happened to you? I thought you always wanted to do this?

BREANA

I don't know anymore pops. I don't know what I wanna do anymore.

MICHAEL

You love running. I have always watched you run since you were a kid.

BREANA

I only did it to make you happy pops. This is bullshit to me now. Running is bullshit to me.

MICHAEL

Since when did all this turn to be 'cause of me. You've been doing this for a long time now.

**BREANA** 

I just got to realize it. Every time I run all I think is making you proud. I don't think 'bout me but you pops.

MICHAEL

Then why quit now?

**BREANA** 

It doesn't feel right no more.

MICHAEL opens his mouth to say something but he closes his mouth. REGINA pats his shoulder, he calms down

MICHAEL

Look child you are strong. You got my heart. If you don't wanna talk 'bout it, fine. But I want you to take up the challenge and fight it.

**BREANA** 

(sniffles)

I can't

MICHAEL

Then you need help. If you can't talk to us then talk to somebody.

**BREANA** 

(yells)

I don't need help. This is over. I quit.

REGINA

(gasps softly)

Breana it hasn't gotten to that. Maybe you should sleepover it, wake up the next morning and tell us if you still feel the same way about it.

BREANA

No, Mom. At least I won't have you both bug me 'bout gettin' any coach 'cause I won't be needing them no more.

She walks away. MICHAEL looks at REGINA. He sighs deeply.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Door Opens. BREANA enters. She bangs the door behind her.

She falls on the bed with her face and sobs hard.

INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - DAY

BREANA wearing her headphone and getting food from the fridge. She brings out a packet of cereal and a bottle of milk. She closes the fridge with her leg

She places the cereal and milk on the table, she pulls out a chair and sits

She pours the cereal into a bowl plate on the table, she pours milk too and stirs with a spoon

She starts to spoon the food into her mouth, again and again. She puts down the spoon, dips her hand into her jean trouser pocket and brings out her phone, browsing through it she wolfs down another spoon

REGINA enters the kitchen, she stands at the door for a moment watching BREANA eat. She walks to the table, pulls out a chair and sits

BREANA takes off her headphone. They say nothing for a moment

REGINA

Hey!

BREANA

Hey!

REGINA

Don't you got school this morning?

**BREANA** 

I do but am not going today.

REGINA

Why not?

**BREANA** 

After what happened you expect me to show my face to Miley like am fine. Nah, I don't feel like.

She takes another spoonful while her MOM watches her

REGINA

You also don't feel like training?

**BREANA** 

There is no point training anymore.

She takes another spoon. REGINA says nothing for a moment

REGINA

Honey, you can do better than this. 'cause you lose to someone doesn't make you a loser. You can try again.

BREANA drops her spoon

BREANA

Ma, please. I don't wanna talk 'bout it.

REGINA

If you don't how do I know what your problem is? Am your mother and you don't expect me to sit and act like I don't care when something is killing you inside.

**BREANA** 

I told you, am fine.

She gets up, picks up the packet of cereal and milk, she walks to the fridge

REGINA

How do I know that when you don't talk to me.

BREANA says nothing. She opens the fridge, puts the cereal and milk in it

REGINA (CONT'D)

What happened to the relationship we are supposed to have Breana?

BREANA walks to the table, picks up her bowl of food and starts leaving without saying a word

REGINA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Breana?

She stops walking and turns back to her MOM

**BREANA** 

What?

REGINA sighs

REGINA

Why are you doing this?

BREANA

Am not doing anything. I told you am fine. And would you please stop trying to force words out of my mouth 'cause there is nothing there.

REGINA

Am your mother.

BREANA

Then you'd understand when I say I wanna be alone.

She walks away. REGINA exhales and leans completely on her chair

REGINA

(to herself)

God knows I tried.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DOOR OPENS. she enters, closes the door behind her. She relaxes her back on the door

BREANA

(exhaling quietly)

Fuck!

She walks to her table, she puts on her phone and drops on the table. She sits on her bed eating

Phone Beeps

MIMI (ON PHONE)
Hey girl. Called you like a
thousand times but it's not going
through. What happened to you? I
wanna know you are okay. Call me
please.

Phone Beeps again

LILA (ON PHONE) at's up with you?

Hey B! What's up with you? I know things are bad but you really got to talk to somebody okay. On my way to school, call you when I get there.

Phone Beeps again

It stops for a minute. PHONE BEEPS again

JAKE (ON PHONE)

Hey, it's Jake

She looks at the phone very surprised.

**BREANA** 

Jake?

JAKE (ON PHONE)

This might look weird but yeah I got your number. I don't usually sneak up on a girl but I don't know why am doing it.

BREANA laughs

JAKE (CONT'D)

I called but I got no reply. I don't know what happened but I do believe in you.

(he pauses)

Call me when you get this. Bye.

Phone Beeps again.

BREANA

(soft chuckles)

He wants me to call him.

BREANA groans softly. Drops her food on the table and lays on her back in bed.

INT. MICHEAL'S OFFICE - DAY

He leans on his chair, his right hand touching his chin filled with thoughts

PETER, 42, white skinned, British with British accent, comes in. He stands at the door looking at MICHAEL. He knocks on the door

MICHAEL didn't make a move.

PETER

Michael?

No answer from MICHAEL. He is still in thoughts

PETER (CONT'D)

Michael Jones.

MICHAEL startles, he comes to his sense. He sits up and clears his throat

MICHAEL

Peter. Hey! come in.

PETER coming in

PETER

Bro, what's with the look on your face?

MICHAEL

Am stressed out.

PETER goes for a seat, he sits

PETER

Problems at home with your wife?

MICHAEL

Nah, not with my wife.

PETER

So there is problem at home? Talk to me about it. Am the problem solver.

MICHAEL

You are no problem solver. Matter of fact you make things worst the very moment you get involved.

PETER robs his chin

PETER

When have I ever made things worst for you. I just end up laughing at your jokes.

MICHAEL gives him a serious look

PETER (CONT'D)

Oh! They weren't jokes.

MICHAEL

That's your problem, you think everything is a joke. You see this face right here..

MICHAEL gives another serious face

PETER

Yea!

MICHAEL

This is my serious face, you should be damn careful when you see this 'cause it's serious.

PETER nods

PETER

Yea, I got it. You look scary right now.

MICHAEL

That's the idea boy.

They both start laughing

PETER

So you wanna talk 'bout it to a brother?

MICHAEL sighs deeply. He stands up, walks over to PETER and sits on the other seat next to PETER

MICHAEL

How would you feel when you know there's something going on with your daughter but she just wouldn't talk to you 'bout it? PETER

Probably feels like she doesn't trust you and you know what it feels when your own daughter doesn't trust you. It's like a stab right in the heart.

PETER touches his heart

MICHAEL

Why can't she trust me? Am her father, if she can't trust me who else can she trust besides her mom?

PETER

Maybe she got things in her own control.

MICHAEL

Or maybe not. She quitting on something she loves very much does not look like getting things in control to me. Something is wrong and she ain't telling me.

PETER

Maybe she is growing to love her own things. It's puberty.

MICHAEL sighs weakly

MICHAEL

It's not puberty. She is above puberty age.

PETER

What? For real? (OFF: MICHAEL nods)
Is Breana getting older than me or something? Damn!

MICHAEL laughs. PETER looks at him for a moment

PETER (CONT'D)

You are my man Mike, I have known you all my life and I know one thing for sure 'bout you. You make things happen man. If Breana is quitting on something she loves, then I know nobody who can talk to her back into doing it except her father.

MICHAEL says nothing for a moment

MICHAEL

I have tried but she doesn't wanna talk to me.

PETER

(chuckles)

Didn't you hear me? I say you make things happen. So you go make things happen.

MICHAEL laughs

MICHAEL

You know this is the second time you are telling me something like this. Thanks man.

PETER

Am your man. Remind me the first thing I did for you again.

MICHAEL

You pushed me to ask Regina out in college. You gave me the flowers I gave to her.

PETER starts laughing

PETER

Son of a bitch.

MICHAEL joins him.

INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

MICHAEL sits on a sofa with his laptop on the table and a cup of coffee next to it

He operates on his laptop, he pauses to sip coffee from his cup

BREANA comes in from upstairs, walking down the door

BREANA

Later pops.

MICHAEL

Breana, wait a minute. We got to talk.

She stops and turns to look at him

**BREANA** 

Can't it wait till I get back?

MICHAEL

No, it can't. It has to be now.

BREANA

But pops we stay in this house together, we can talk some other time.

She turns to leave

MICHAEL

Breana!

BREANA exhales, she turns to her Dad again. He points to a single couch next to him

She takes another sharp breathe and starts walking to the couch

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

This won't take long.

BREANA sits, she looks intense

MICHAEL drops his cup of coffee and closes his laptop. He exhales and look at BREANA for a moment

MICHAEL finally speaks

MICHAEL

Don't you think you are taking things a little too far?

**BREANA** 

(getting confused)

Too far?

MICHAEL

Yea, this is too far. Quitting on racing is too far.

(he exhales)

You are right, I made you do it. But all these years I never thought you were still doing 'cause of me. I thought you were starting to love it.

**BREANA** 

I thought I was.

**MICHEAL** 

You lost for the first time doesn't make you hate the game, it makes you stronger. Sometimes we gotta lose.

BREANA

But I didn't lose, I..

She exhales and pauses

MICHAEL

Why can't you just talk 'bout it?

**BREANA** 

'cause it's nothing.

MICHAEL

Why are you backing out if it is nothing?

BREANA

I ain't backing out.

MICHAEL

That's exactly what you are doing. You are backing out. Quitting is same thing as backing out. I don't know what happened out there but it's not a good reason for you to quit. Lemme ask you a question. How many times have you heard 'bout someone quitting after they lose to someone?

BREANA says nothing

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Most of these champions you see today did not become champions by winning everyday, sometimes they lose their race but they never quit. You cannot be a champion if you don't lose. I don't want you to make mistakes.

BREANA

I ain't making no mistakes.

MICHAEL

You are making mistakes and as your father I wanna help you correct them.

**BREANA** 

I don't want help..

...REGINA enters the sitting room from her bedroom, she leans on the door holding her kimono across her chest...

BREANA (CONT'D)

...I can handle myself.

MICHAEL

That's the problem with you, you think you always got it but you don't.

**BREANA** 

I got it.

MICHAEL

Na, you don't got it Breana, maybe you do but not this time. I am your guardian, I am here to help you.

BREANA

Pops, I think I am old enough to do what I want with my life.

MICHAEL

But I can't watch you throw it away when I can help you keep it.

**BREANA** 

There is nothing left to keep.

She gets up

BREANA (CONT'D)

Maybe you are right. Maybe this whole thing was a bad idea, I mean still living with you is a bad idea. No matter how bad it may look I don't wanna leave. So don't make me.

(quietly)

Am sorry pops.

She starts leaving, MICHAEL watch her leave DOOR OPENS and CLOSES.

REGINA walks up to him, she sits next to him

MICHAEL

You are right, she is still a child.

REGINA smiles

REGINA

I am so proud of you.

She kisses him on the lips and relaxes her head on his shoulder.

INT. COLLEGE - DAY

BREANA walking alone to her class building with headphone. Behind her we see JAKE running to her.

He finally meets up with her. He touches her shoulders

JAKE

(breathing heavy)

Hey B!

BREANA stops walking and turns to JAKE. She pulls her headphone down to her neck

BREANA

Hey!

JAKE

Damn! I have been chasing after you from afar.

BREANA

(chuckles)

I'm sorry I didn't hear you call.

JAKE

Yea, you sure didn't. Glad to see you back to school again.

BREANA

I was never gone.

**JAKE** 

(laughs nervously)

Yea, right.

They say nothing for a moment

BREANA

Um! so what do you want?

JAKE shrugs his shoulders

JAKE

Nothing. Except you got (looking around her) Something to give to me.

BREANA

(shaking her head)

Just making sure you don't need anything.

**JAKE** 

I don't but if you got some time to spare that's okay with me.

BREANA looks at her watch, she looks back at JAKE

BREANA

I can do that.

**JAKE** 

Yea

(soft chuckles)

Great.

BREANA and JAKE start walking together

JAKE (CONT'D)

So um, I heard you quit running.

BREANA

You know 'bout it?

**JAKE** 

Everybody knows 'bout it.

**BREANA** 

Whoa! News travel fast don't it.

JAKE

Yea, it does. The rumor is 'cause you lost to Miley.

**BREANA** 

(quietly)

For the last time I didn't lose.

**JAKE** 

I don't believe you lost. I know what you did. You gave her the spotlight.

They stop walking, they stand facing each other

JAKE (CONT'D)

You got distracted from the beginning, you never wanted to do it. Miley spent so much time practicing when you didn't. You don't wanna make her look bad.

BREANA looks speechless, she says nothing

JAKE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

After that you hate yourself for doing it and everybody thinks you lost. Yea, losing hurts, so you wanna quit.

BREANA still quiet for a moment.

**BREANA** 

(she stammers)

How do you know 'bout that?

JAKE shrugs his shoulders

JAKE

I don't know. I guess it looks familiar. You don't have to quit 'cause people don't understand you.

**BREANA** 

What 'bout you?

**JAKE** 

I guess am used to this.

BREANA nods

JAKE (CONT'D)

You love running, Breana.

**BREANA** 

(laughing)

You see things the way I do doesn't mean you know me now.

They start walking again

**JAKE** 

Yea, I don't know you but I do know you are a good runner. You look happy when you run.

**BREANA** 

Thanks for sounding like my Pops.

INT. MICHAEL'S OFFICE -DAY

MICHAEL signs on a paper, he gives it to his FEMALE SECRETARY who is standing in front of his table, she takes it

SECRETARY

Thank you.

She starts leaving. She walks out the door, PETER walks in

PETER

May I come in sir?

MICHAEL looks at him smiling. He says nothing

PETER (CONT'D)

Oh! Am already in.

MICHAEL

Are you here for jokes again?

PETER

Jokes or not. You always need me here.

He walks to a seat, he sits

PETER (CONT'D)

How are you doing my brother and my friend?

MICHAEL

Am doing my job. You are supposed to be doing same mind you.

PETER

I know. Am on break. I work for you doesn't mean I die like you.

MICHAEL

Speak for yourself.

PETER

I always do

(he winks)

How are things with Breana.

MICHAEL

(sighs)

The same every day. She doesn't want to run anymore and there is nothing I can do to change her mind.

PETER

What if she is right? What if it running wasn't made for her?

MICHAEL gives him a very funny angry look

PETER (CONT'D)

Don't look at me like that, you know what I'm talking 'bout.

MICHAEL

What are you talking 'bout?

PETER

Okay, lemme remind you. Remember childhood, you fuckin' loved running. You could skip school all day to go train with other kids and made me promise not to tell your father.

MICHAEL

Yea, I do remember. I was freaking obsessed with running. It was my second life.

PETER

Remember when your Dad found out and asked you to quit running. You cried everyday. You said it felt like committing suicide but you quit it anyway.

MICHAEL

Yea. And he took me to business school, said I need to be a business owner. Why are you bringing this up?

PETER

Good. cause I want you to think about yourself now as a business owner and still think about yourself as a runner who doesn't go to school.

He gets up

PETER (CONT'D)

Don't make your only daughter do what you couldn't do. Right now she needs support. You hate the idea she is quitting, we know but she needs you. Think about it.

He smiles and starts leaving

MICHAEL watch him leave. He seems touched with PETER'S words

INT. CD STORE - DAY

Rap song plays in the store. The LATIN STORE MANAGER, in his early thirties stand behind his counter

BREANA enters, she walks to pick up a CD, she picks up a CD, she looks at the CD for a moment

Above her head is a plasma TV, she raises her eyes

INSERT TV

It's a female race sports.

She looks at the TV for a moment. She takes off her eyes, she walks to..

THE STORE COUNTER to make payment.

BREANA

Hey!

STORE MANAGER

Hey!

He looks at her for a moment

STORE MANAGER CONT'D

You are Breana Jones right?

She looks surprised

**BREANA** 

Yea, I am.

STORE MANAGER

My daughter loves you. She is a huge fan of yours.

**BREANA** 

(chuckles)

I never knew I got a fan.

STORE MANAGER

She is so crazy about you. She's always wanted to see you run. She also keep dates of your next run.

**BREANA** 

She does?

STORE MANAGER

Yes, she does. She says there is a race coming up in two weeks, you are gonna run right?

She hesitates

BREANA

(she stammers)

Yea, um... I will. I will run.

STORE MANAGER

Great. My daughter would be so proud of you.

BREANA nods. She drops the CD on the counter

**BREANA** 

How much is the CD?

STORE MANAGER

Oh. It's not for sale. You can have it.

**BREANA** 

Thanks.

She smiles softly, she picks up the CD and she turns to leave. The STORE MANAGER calls her back

STORE MANAGER

Hey.

She turns back to him. He gives her a sheet of paper and a pen

STORE MANAGER (CONT'D)

Would you sign that for me, for my daughter.

BREANA nods slowly, she takes the sheet of paper and pen from him. She looks at it for a moment, she finally writes on it

She smiles, gives it back to him, he takes it smiling too

STORE MANAGER

Thanks.

She starts leaving again. The STORE MANAGER looks at the paper.

EXT. CD STORE - CONTINUOUS

BREANA comes out of the store, she starts walking to her right going home

DEE (O.S)

Yo B!

She turns.

DEE, 25, dark skinned, tall, covers his face with a fez cap, standing next to him is DALLAS, 25, dark skinned, tall and next to him is TEE, 24, light skinned, tall, all smiling at BREANA.

DEE (CONT'D)

Long time B

BREANA looks surprised

BREANA

Dee?

DEE

It's me baby

She takes another look at them

**BREANA** 

Where did y'all come from?

TEE

You gonna stand over there and ask question or you gonna come over here and hug?

DALLAS

He is right yo know.

She stands for a moment. she starts walking to the boys

TEE/DEE/DALLAS

Ohhhhhh!!!

They get a group hug

TEE

That's my girl

They break free

DALLAS

Look at ya, so fuckin' grown and shii' now.

TEE

She ain't never change. She looks the same to me except (he examines her) taller.

They all laugh

DALLAS

Damn! I miss that little B. Setting things right back in the hood.

BREANA

I miss you too. I miss y'all. My niggas from da hood.

They laugh

DEE

Tee is right, you look taller but you ain't never lost ya swags.

**BREANA** 

This is me. Always stickin' to the rules.

They laugh again

BREANA (CONT'D)

Y'all don't look bad yourselves. Always the same.

DEE

We are just stickin' to the rules too.

They continue laughing

DALLAS

So you still doing your Hustle, Running?

BREANA

Yea. What'd you call it, My hustle. That's what I live for.

TEE

(nodding)

Pho'sho.

DEE

I heard of the state race coming up in two weeks, you running?

**BREANA** 

I love my hustle.

TEE

Ya B. That's the fuck am talkin' bout.

DALLAS

Your hustle is your damn fuckin' life, remember that.

BREANA laughs

DEE

That's why we here B. We here to see our girl run that mo'fuckin' run one mo' time, you know what am sayin'

TEE

Let her know Dee.

BREANA

My niggas. Always representin'.

DALLAS

That's what's up.

DEE takes the CD from her, he looks at it

DEE

What are you doing with Eminem?

TEE

Hell, you still listen to Eminem?

**BREANA** 

Come on! We used to listen to him back in the days. He's still my jam.

DALLAS

It's a good thing you remember back in the days.

**BREANA** 

I always do. Word up.

DEE

That's the idea baby.

He gives the CD back to her

DEE (CONT'D)

Lets bounce B. You gotta show us around, tell us a lot too.

He puts his hands around her shoulders, they start walking toward BREANA'S house

BREANA

I wanna hear 'bout you guys too. Dallas who you datin' now?

DALLAS

Uhmm... no one right now.

BREANA

What happened to you? You always had someone.

TEE

He is the saint now. St. Dallas.

They start laughing

DALLAS

I ain't no saint.

**BREANA** 

(to DEE)

What 'bout you Dee?

DEE

I'm just off girls for real.

**BREANA** 

What happened to you fellas?

TEE

I think they got served.

They start laughing and continue walking.

EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - DAY

MICHAEL walks out the door, he walks to his car parked on the lawn in front of the house

BREANA comes out in her training outfit and her headphone hanging on her neck, she walks up to him

**BREANA** 

Hey Pops.

MICHAEL

Hey!

He looks surprised to see BREANA in her training outfit

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

You started training again ?

BREANA

Yea. This state race is coming up, I heard 'bout it, so I signed up A.S.A.P.

MICHAEL

Thought you hated running. some weeks ago I couldn't talk you into running and today you come in front of me telling me about the state race and you signing up. What is happening to you?

BREANA

I know it's crazy but I have been listening to you, all I wanted was some time to get things together and I did.

**MICHEAL** 

You got me worried. You got us worried.

BREANA

Am sorry, Pops.

MICHAEL smiles

MICHAEL

You are my number one priority. I really do care about you.

BREANA nods. She hugs her Dad

**BREANA** 

I love you pops

MICHAEL

I love you too.

They break free

BREANA

I've got a race to prepare for. See ya later.

MICHAEL

Have fun.

She nods, smiling. She puts her headphone on and starts running.

**BREANA** 

Bye!!

MICHAEL watches her run off

MICHAEL

Who says miracle don't really happen?

He opens his car door, he enters and closes the door.

EXT. STREET - DAY

MR ZOE, 59, his hair all white, he has a white goatee too, he looks older and his clothes look old and worn out. He looks very tired and hungry.

He carries an old black bag over his shoulders, walking the street.

A distance behind him, BREANA runs up very fast. All most two laps close to him, he falls to the ground.

She runs up to him, takes down her headphone. She helps him up, picks up his bag and gives to him

**BREANA** 

Are you okay?

MR ZOE

Yes. Thank you child.

BREANA watch him shake as he tries to hang his bag over his shoulder, she helps him

BREANA

Are you sure you will be okay Mr?

MR ZOE

Yes. yes.

He cleans up his clothes with his palm. BREANA keeps watching him

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You are a good runner child.

He starts walking again

**BREANA** 

Are you sure you don't want my help?

MR ZOE

(still walking)

No.

She puts back her headphone, she starts running again. MR ZOE waves to her.

INT, CAFETERIA - DAY

MILEY walks in, behind her are her TWO SIDE CHICKS. She looks around, in their normal spot she sees BREANA and her friends.

BREANA sit backing MILEY but facing LILA and MIMI.

MILEY walks up to the girls. She pushes BREANA on her head

MIMI

(to MILEY)

What the fuck is your problem bitch.

MILEY

I don't have your time.

BREANA gets up, she turns to MILEY. LILA and MIMI gets up too

BREANA

You got something you wanna iron out with me?

MILEY

I guess you are feeling like the champion already? Signing up for the state race. Who do you think you are?

BREANA

Am nothing like you.

MILEY

I thought you quit. What are you doing in my race again?

**BREANA** 

Your race?
Am sorry when did this become your race?

MILEY

Stop lying to yourself, you can never win in any race even if you quit and come back a hundred times. You can't run. BREANA

Oh I guess you are feeling like the champion now, well Everybody knows I gave you the spotlight.

MIMI and LILA laughs quietly

BREANA (CONT'D)

And you know why? 'cause I wanna make you enjoy the feeling of winning. Well I hope you did 'cause it's the last you ever gon get.

MILEY

You didn't let me win, I won 'cause am a better runner than you are.

**BREANA** 

You are not better than I am. You don't got legs like I do.

MILEY moves a little close to BREANA, she folds her hands across her chest

MILEY

If you think you really got legs more than I do, why don't you just run race me outside?

BREANA

Na, I won't race you. Am not a coward.

MILEY

You are being a coward right now.

MILEY looks at BREANA for a moment, she says nothing

MILEY (CONT'D)

Are you scared right now?

BREANA says nothing. MILEY laughs her SIDE CHICKS join her.

MILEY (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Are you for real?

SIDE CHICK 1

She looks scared to me.

MIMI

Shut the fuck up.

MILEY

All you have to is admit you are scared and we are good.

She looks at BREANA waiting for an answer

BREANA

I am not sacred.

MILEY

Prove to me you ain't scared.

**BREANA** 

You really want something but you ain't gettin' it, at least not from me.

(to her friends)

Lets go.

They get their bags and start leaving

MIMI

(to MILEY)

Bye.

MILEY

Why don't you just go on and say it Breana.

BREANA stops walking. LILA and MIMI stop too

MILEY (CONT'D)

Just say it, you are scared, you can't run. Say it.

BREANA turns to MILEY, she moves a leg. LILA holds her by her arm

LILA

(whispering)

don't listen to her, let it go.

BREANA calms down a little

MILEY

What are you waiting for. Say it. You are scared, you wanna quit.

BREANA says nothing, LILA still holding her by the arm

MIMI

You bitch, like I don't get it here. What the fuck is your problem? You wanna run, go run.

MILEY ignores MIMI

MILEY

You know you have to make it through the Nationals before you get to the International where you get to race me. Question is, can you make it to the nationals?

BREANA face turns red, she makes another move. LILA still holding her back

LILA

(to MILEY)

Ain't you tired of gettin' clowned. Beat it MILEY

LILA and MIMI holds BREANA and they start leaving again

MILEY

Just what I thought. You are a scared.

BREANA stops, she breaks free from LILA and MIMI. She walks up to MILEY looking at her straight in her eyes

**BREANA** 

I know you are looking for someone to beat your ass. But you are lucky I got better things to do with my time. I come from a very respectful family and you got my parents to thank for that and my friends too. Next time won't be your lucky day.

They look at each other for a moment

MILEY

Fuck you!

**BREANA** 

Well said.

She starts walking off again, her girls joins her.

INT. MICHAEL SITTING ROOM - NIGHT

BREANA leans on her back on the sofa watching female race sports on TV.

REGINA enters from behind her, she walks to the sofa and joins BREANA on the sofa, watching the race with her

REGINA

(still looking at the

TV)

That is a good run.

BREANA looks at her Mom

BREANA

(nods)

That's how I want it to look like tomorrow.

REGINA

Don't worry, you'll be fine.

**BREANA** 

What if am not?

REGINA finally looks at her

REGINA

Why say that?

BREANA

I don't know but Miley looks like she got it, am not scared but I can't tell what am feeling

(she sighs)

I feel like I can't make it to the nationals and the international.

REGINA

You are just nervous. Sleep over it, wake up the next morning and you'll be fine. You know you can always do this.

BREANA looks at the TV again, and back at her Mom

BREANA

What if the other girls am up against got this?

REGINA

Breana, everybody got it but you gotta show 'em you got it better than they, that's the show business.

BREANA

(soft chuckles)

Show business?

REGINA

Yea. and I don't know nobody better than you. Make me proud.

BREANA

Thanks.

REGINA

Lay down and give me your legs.

**BREANA** 

(laughs)

Why?

REGINA

Just do it.

BREANA lays on her back, she places her legs on her Mom's laps. REGINA massages on them

REGINA (CONT'D)

These little legs are so ready for tomorrow.

BREANA laughs.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

The Diner has chairs like sofa on every side, two sofa facing each other. Not much of customers in the room.

LILA and MIMI sit next to each other facing BREANA, she is sitting alone. They sit close to the window.

LILA wears a scarf on her head.

They all got smoothies on their table and plates of chips with sauce on it.

MIMI looking into her phone, she smiles and looks up at  ${\tt BREANA}$ 

MIMI

Have you see your hashtags lately?

BREANA

You have to stay off social media.

MIMI

You have to see this.

She gives the phone to BREANA, BREANA takes it, she looks at it for a moment

MIMI (CONT'D)

You see what am saying, everyone is happy you won the state run

LILA

Lemme see it.

BREANA gives, the phone to LILA. LILA takes it

**BREANA** 

They claim to know me now.

LILA

(looking at the phone) This is not bad.

LILA gives the to MIMI

MIMI

You could make cash with this, make everyone who talks 'bout you pay you for talkin' 'bout you.

LILA

Sounds like a plan to me.

BREANA

It's not okay to me. This people believe in me, am supposed to make 'em proud not take their money.

MIMI

You won't be takin' their money, they give it to you. The difference is very clear.

**BREANA** 

(shaking her head)
Nah. It sounds like stealing to
me. Thanks Mi, but I'll pass.

She picks up her smoothie and starts sucking from the straw

MIMI

Let me know when you change your mind.

BREANA shakes her head with the straw in her mouth. she takes it out, drops the smoothie and swallows

BREANA

You should try this.

LILA picks up her smoothie

LILA

Alright. Lets make a toast

MIMI picks up hers, BREANA picks up again.

LILA raises the smoothie above her face

LILA (CONT'D)

To our girl B, for winning the state's, taking it to the nationals and

MIMI

(interrupts)

And for putting Miley to shame again

They all start laughing. They jam their smoothies together; cheers, and start sucking from their straw, eating their chips

LILA

What do you think Miley is doing right now?

MIMI

(laughing)

I was thinkin' the same thing

**BREANA** 

I don't know. Maybe hatin' on herself.

MIMI

Or maybe worst.

They start laughing again. BREANA looks out the window, she smiles and looks back at the girls

**BREANA** 

I'll be right back

She gets up and start leaving. LILA and MIMI continue eating their chips.

EXT. DINER -CONTINUOUS

DEE, TEE and DALLAS standing outside.

BREANA comes out of the room, walking up to the boys

**BREANA** 

You're late.

She meets up with them

TEE

You havin' a party inside or what 'cause it doesn't look like one to me.

**BREANA** 

It's not a party Tee.

TEE

(disappointed)

It's not? Damn!

DEE

You supposed to be throwin' a party B, you won a fuckin' race.

BREANA

It's not the first time.

TEE chuckles

DALLAS

I guess winning is a thing for you now huh?

BREANA

I guess so.

DALLAS looks at the window to see MIMI and LILA eating and talking and laughing

DALLAS

You with people?

BREANA looks at the window too

**BREANA** 

Ya. My girls

TEE

(looking at the window)

Which one of 'em your girlfriend?

**BREANA** 

Both of 'em.

They guys give her a 'you are not serious look'

DALLAS

What?

BREANA

(laughing)

I'm jokin'. We are close, like very close.

DEE

You do girls now, so unlike you. I'm happy to hear that.

DALLAS looks at the window again

DALLAS

She is cool.

**BREANA** 

Yea Mimi is cool.

DALLAS

Her name is Mimi, the one with the scarf?

BREANA looks at the window. The one with the scarf is LILA

BREANA

That's Lila. She cool for sure but the girl hard as hell.

DALLAS

(chuckles)

Hard

(to Tee)

Yo Tee, did you tell her am tough?

TEE

(to BREANA)

He is tough.

**BREANA** 

You don't know Lila. She is hard and stubborn.

DALLAS

Great 'cause I love it stubborn. Are we going in or not?

**BREANA** 

Sure.

She takes the lead while the guys follow suit.

INT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

MIMI

And it keeps appearing every time

BREANA joins them with DEE, TEE and DALLAS.

BREANA

Hey Girls.

LILA and MIMI look at her. MIMI and DEE take a first stare. DEE side smiles and looks away

MIMI

Hey

BREANA joins LILA and MIMI. TEE, DALLAS and DEE sits on the other empty chair.

DALLAS keeps staring at LILA, she never looked back at him

**BREANA** 

(to the boys)

Meet my girls (she points) Lila and Mimi.

MIMI

(smiling)

Ηi

LILA says nothing

**BREANA** 

(to the girls)

And meet my guys (she points) Tee.

TEE

What's up shawty?

BREANA

(she points again)

Dallas and Devon.

MIMI

(to DEE)

It's nice to meet you Devon.

DEE

Call me Dee.

MIMI

Dee?

BREANA

It's okay. That's what we call him.

MIMI

I can do that

(She whispers to LILA)

he is very cute.

TEE

(looking at their

plates)

What do we have here, chips and sauce.

He dips his hand into MIMI'S plate, he picks up a chip

TEE (CONT'D)

I hope you don't mind?

MIMI

No, I don't. you are free.

TEE

Thanks.

He puts the chip into his mouth. BREANA moves her plate to TEE

BREANA

You can have mine, Tee.

DEE

B, how come no Chapman. we never stop takin' 'em Chapman back in the days.

BREANA

My girls wanted smoothies. How 'bout a Chapman for the guys?

TEE

Sounds good.

**BREANA** 

I'll be back.

She gets up and walks out of of their table

MIMI

(to DEE)

How long y'all known B?

DEE

Back in the days when she was as little as a peanut.

MIMI laughs

TEE

We grew up together in the hood. She is like a baby sis to us.

MIMI

You guys know about her love for running too?

DEE

Sure. we always got her back. We took her to every run back then and she never loses.

**DALLAS** 

We could chase her around the hood but hell the girl was as fast as a moving car, we would never catch up with her.

MIMI

Wow! That's a lot of memories.

DEE

I guess B, never told y'all anything 'bout us.

MIMI

Maybe she did.

 $\mathsf{DEE}$ 

What 'bout you, how long you known her?

MIMI

Not quite long but it feels like a long time. We met in our Senior year in high school.

BREANA joins them with three bottles of Chapman. She drops on the table for the boys and sit

BREANA

What y'all takin' 'bout?

MIMI

They are letting us know 'bout some of your secrets.

**BREANA** 

That is rebellin'. Come on guys.

DALLAS staring at LILA. He finally talks to her

DALLAS

You got a problem with talkin' girl?

LILA says nothing, she sucks from her straw

DALLAS (CONT'D)

What's your deal, huh?

LILA

I don't talk to strangers.

TEE

(quietly)

she is hard for sure.

DALLAS looks at BREANA

BREANA

(mouthing)

I told you so.

DALLAS

So am a stranger now, great.

DEE

When is your next run B?

**BREANA** 

Next month.

DEE

You gettin' prepared for the run?

TEE

She ain't got to prepare for nothing. She always make things happen you know that Dee.

**BREANA** 

Am just being good at my hustle.

MIMI

(confused)

Your Hustle?

BREANA

Yea, that's the word we use back in the days to describe what you love doing.

MIMI

Okay but I really don't understand

DEE

Look, I call Hustle anything you always find yourself doing everyday of your life. She loves running, if anyone ask what she good at, she say running. That's her hustle.

MIMI

Wow! This is interesting.

DEE

(to MIMI)

Lemme ask you. What you love doing?

MIMI

I love acting. I wanna act.

TEE

That's your hustle.

DEE

You look like an actress to me.

MIMI smiles shyly

MIMI

Thanks

DALLAS

(to LILA)

What is your hustle?

LILA

Not talking to people I don't know.

TEE and BREANA laughs

TEE

That's a tough one bruh. Hustle is Hustle.

BREANA

Whatever you may call it.

They continue laughing

LILA Phone Chimes. She brings her phone from her bag, she looks at it

LILA

(softly)

Shit.

BREANA

What happened?

LILA puts the phone back into her bag

LILA

I got to go.

MIMI

Why so early?

LILA

Nothing. Something came. see you later.

She gets up, BREANA gets up too making way for LILA to come out

BREANA

Take care.

TEE

Ain't you gonna say goodnight to a brother?

LILA says nothing. She starts leaving. BREANA takes a sit again

DALLAS gets up too, he jumps over DEE'S leg

DEE

Careful man.

DALLAS

I gotta check up on something.

He follows after LILA

TEE

Do your thing, make sure to get the number.

MIMI

She's not gonna talk. Lila is always like that.

DEE

Dallas is not easy too.

EXT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

LILA walking in a haste, DALLAS follows up behind her

DALLAS

Hey, wait up

LILA says nothing, she keeps walking. DALLAS runs up to her front. LILA stops

LILA

What do you want?

DALLAS

I wanna talk, that's all.

LILA

I don't wanna talk.

DALLAS

Why don't you?

LILA says nothing, She starts walking again. DALLAS walks up to her front again. LILA stops

LILA

(almost shouting)

What do you want?

DALLAS

Can I at least get your number, maybe talk on phone?

LILA laughs

LILA

Um Dallas right?

DALLAS

Yessum.

LILA

Am not ready for this shit. You wanna play with someone go find another girl 'cause am not falling for this.

She starts leaving again

DALLAS

You're gettin' the wrong impression 'bout me. I ain't gonna play you.

LILA keeps walking. DALLAS stands for a moment. He exhales and start walking back to the restroom. He enters..

INT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

..inside the restroom, walks up to their table

BREANA

How did you go?

**DALLAS** 

Hard.

DEE makes a space for DALLAS, DALLAS sits

TEE

You didn't get the number?

DALLAS

She is harder than she looks.

TEE

Damn! You 'bout to get served again my man.

They all start laughing.

INT. MICHAEL'S DINING ROOM - DAY

It's Saturday morning, MICHAEL having his breakfast, fried eggs and beacons and reading his newspaper

BREANA comes down in her training outfit

BREANA

Hey Pops.

MICHEAL

Hey.

**BREANA** 

Feeling good?

MICHAEL

Yea. Heading out again?

**BREANA** 

Yea.

MICHAEL

Good.

She pulls out a chair and sits

So my guys made me realize I cannot do without running. They made me realize running is my hustle.

MICHAEL

(confused)

Hustle?

**BREANA** 

Yea, hustle. You know Dee and 'em guys back in the hood?

MICHAEL

Mhm hmm. Devon, Dallas and Tallman, those guys?

BREANA

Yea. I remember when I told 'em guys I love running, I wanna be a runner. Dee told me cool, that's your hustle.

(she chuckles)

I know it sounded crazy at first but now I get it. All I wanna do is run, it's my life, my hustle. I love biochemistry as a course too, but I wanna run 'cause that's the hustle. You get me pops?

MICHAEL

(sighs)

Yea, I get you. My role as your father is to support you. I'll be here whenever you need me, anytime. Honey if you say running is your hustle, is all you wanna do then my hustle is to be your number one sponsor.

BREANA and MICHAEL laughs. REGINA comes in with another plate of fried eggs and beacon with a glass of juice on the other hand.

She gives it BREANA

REGINA

You have to eat something. I want you to be healthy everyday (she smiles) at least that's my hustle.

BREANA laughs again. She takes the food

MICHAEL

(to REGINA)

When will you stop listening to our conversation?

REGINA getting a seat

REGINA

Never. Fine I envy you. My only daughter finds it easy to talk to her dad about everything leaving me behind.

MICHAEL

I tend to understand more than you do, you are just a listener.

REGINA

(soft gasp)

How could you say such a thing a 'bout me? You know she loves me more.

MICHAEL

No, she loves me more. Am the one she talks to you said so yourself.

**BREANA** 

Parents!

They stop arguing

BREANA (CONT'D)

I love you guys, equally. You guys understand me and you don't judge me. Trust me am happy to be your child.

MICHAEL

And we love you too.

BREANA

Yea, and right now I gotta go hustle. See ya later

BREANA gets up

REGINA

Be careful.

BREANA

Look, if tomorrow things get hard for me and I say something 'bout quitting, please remind me that running is my hustle. MICHAEL

(he nods)

We'll do that.

BREANA smiles, she starts leaving. She stops and turns back to her  ${\tt Mom}$  and  ${\tt Dad}$ 

**BREANA** 

And Ma

REGINA

Yes baby.

BREANA

That coach thing you kept tellin' me 'bout, you are right. Am gettin' one.

REGINA looks surprised

REGINA

You are?

**BREANA** 

Yea.

(to MICHAEL)

Let me know when you get me a good coach.

MICHAEL

Alright

She turns to leave, she smiles and starts leaving. They watch her leave

REGINA

(almost crying)

isn't she just full of surprises?

MICHAEL

Am not surprised.

MICHAEL smiles fully.

EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

BREANA comes out, she stops in front, she starts stretching her body.

Car approaches, rap music plays faintly. She stops stretching and looks at the car.

It stops in front of her, music plays more loudly.

TWO DOPE BLACK GUYS, BLAKE, 28, driving and the other VICKIE, 29, sitting at the passengers sit, nodding their heads to the beat of the rap

BLAKE

Aye homie!

**BREANA** 

Hey blake, what's up?

**BLAKE** 

Am straight B.

**BREANA** 

Sup Vickie?

VICKIE

Your boy dope as hell. Your runnin' goin' fine?

**BREANA** 

Yea, I gotta do what I know how to do best.

VICKIE

That's what's up bruh.

BLAKE

You want a lift or somethin' like that?

**BREANA** 

Nah, am good. I'm gonna have to run.

**BLAKE** 

Shii' you make me wanna start runnin' B. You inspire me homie, see am takin' my music career to another level. All thanks to you B.

BREANA

You gon sign?

VICKIE

He already got signed. Label said they want boys like him in the bizness.

BREANA

That's good news.

BLAKE

It is pho'sho. Told the label rap is my hustle, they wanna hear me rap again. You hear this right?

BREANA nods

BREANA

Yea, it's sick.

BLAKE

Yeah, that's my jam homie. This is the hustle.

VICKIE nodding to the rap

VICKIE

Yeah!

**BLAKE** 

If you ever need anything homie, am just a street away you know. Do not forget to call a brotha.

VICKIE

Call a brotha B.

**BREANA** 

Cool.

BLAKE smiles, he drives off

BREANA (CONT'D)

Yea, right.

She stretches one more time and takes off in speed.

INT. THE STREET SIDE - LATER

At the side of the street, at the corner of a supermarket, MR ZOE stands with an old wooden table in his front. On the table are expensive but old looking jewelries.

BREANA running up, she stops close to his table and walks up to him

**BREANA** 

Hey!

MR ZOE looks at her

MR ZOE

You want to buy something?

He picks up an old silver necklace and shows it to her

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

This one is good. Try it.

**BREANA** 

You don't remember me ?

He looks at her, trying to recall

MR ZOE

(he remembers)

You are the runner eh?

**BREANA** 

Yea, it's me

MR ZOE

I see you run everyday. You have a competition?

**BREANA** 

Yea, almost close.

MR ZOE

You are very good.

He drops the necklace on the table

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You pay attention to balancing your legs in the right way eh.

**BREANA** 

You say what?

MR ZOE walks over to her side.

MR ZOE

See what I mean.

He carries her right leg up with her upwards parallel to her hips

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You get it now?

BREANA nods in surprise. She stands properly again. MR ZOE walks back to his side

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

You have trainer child?

**BREANA** 

No?

MR ZOE

I reckon eh.

BREANA turns to leave, she turns back to MR ZOE again

**BREANA** 

I'll take the necklace.

MR ZOE

(smiling)

good decision child.

He picks up the necklace, gives to her. She takes it

She dips her hand into her pocket, brings out two dollar notes

**BREANA** 

(giving him the money)

Here, for the necklace.

He takes, places the money on his forehead and takes it down again

MR ZOE

Bless you child.

She nods, she turns and starts running again.

EXT. STREET - DAY

We are watching from a distance behind a store. LILA walking home from school, her bag clutching tightly to her side.

A black sport car in speed approaches LILA. Car parks roughly in her front.

She stops, she tries to move backwards.

JOE, 35, comes out of the car, he walks to LILA, he grabs her by the arm.

LILA struggles to break free, JOE still drags her to the car. He opens the front seat door of the car, he drags her into the car and shuts the door.

JOE walks to the driver's side, he enters, shuts the door and drives off. He drives pass BREANA who has been watching behind the store.

BREANA looks at the car go a distance for a moment, she starts walking away.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT

 ${\tt MIMI}$  and  ${\tt BREANA}$  standing outside the store, waiting for  ${\tt LILA}$ 

MIMI

She is taking long.

**BREANA** 

Maybe we should go in already. She is not coming.

MIMI

She will. We should wait a little more.

They wait a moment. LILA walks up wearing a black sun shades, her black right eyes still showing out the shades

LILA

Hey! Sorry am late.

MIMI looks at her eyes

MIMI

Oh my God, what happened to your face?

LILA

It's nothing. I fell.

**BREANA** 

You fell on somebody's fist?

LILA

No, in the bathroom, I slipped.

BREANA

Nobody is a kid here Lila, stop lying to yourself.

LILA

What is your problem Breana?

**BREANA** 

I don't got a problem, you do and you know it.

LILA takes off her shades, exposing her black eyes completely

MIMI

Aww! What a fall.

Stop playing Mi, it looks like she got beaten in the eye.

LILA

Did anybody tell you shit 'bout me?

**BREANA** 

Nobody told me shit Lila, I got eyes.

LILA

Of course you got everything Breana but it doesn't make you anything better than me. You are a loser like me.

MIMI

What is going on here?

**BREANA** 

Am not a loser Lila, am better than you are.

LILA

Am sorry, I must have forgotten. You are Breana Jones, our very own but let me tell you something, you ain't shit B.

**BREANA** 

That makes you. You ain't shit too.

MIMI

You girls quit it right now. (to BREANA)

What is wrong with you?

**BREANA** 

It's me now? She started the whole thing.

MIMI

She is hurt, you can't blame her, all you gotta do is help her.

LILA

I don't need her help.

**BREANA** 

(to MIMI)

Did you hear her?

MIMI

Come on, let's go in.

She holds LILA by her hand, they start walking in. LILA stops and turns to BREANA

LILA

Lemme give you something for the mind. You are right, you are better than me and you are good at what you do, so why don't you focus on your life and stop being involved in mine.

She walks into the supermarket, MIMI joins her.

BREANA walks away.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - DAY

BREANA lays on her back in bed, she has earphones in her ears. Her eyes looking up the ceiling, she sighs and closes them.

DOOR OPENS. REGINA comes in. She looks at BREANA for a moment, she walks up to the bed, sits at the edge close to BREANA'S head.

BREANA opens her eyes

REGINA

Hey baby!

BREANA takes off the earphones, she sits up

**BREANA** 

Hey Ma.

REGINA

You don't look good. Everything alright?

BREANA

No, Ma. Lila don't wanna talk to me no more and Mimi is takin' sides with her, I feel like the bad guy and now am alone.

REGINA

You are not alone, you have your dad and I and we love you.

I know but my friends say I think am better than them and people always say that. I mean is it bad to help a friend?

REGINA

No.

**BREANA** 

Why did I get bailed on for trying to help a friend?

REGINA

People don't understand our intentions, they just go ahead and judge.

BREANA

I don't wanna be that girl people say I am. I wanna be me, I wanna be Breana Jones.

REGINA

And you are Breana Tamara Jones. There might be a lot of Breana Jones out there but you are one special one.

**BREANA** 

I am?

REGINA

Yes, you are. You are like your father, you always set things right and if you think things are not right with you then I think you should set them right.

BREANA

Really ma?

REGINA

Yes.

BREANA says nothing for a moment. She laughs and jumps out of bed

REGINA (CONT'D)

Where you going?

She picks up her jacket from the bed and starts wearing it in a haste

I wanna set things right

She picks up her phones too, runs to her Mom's side of the bed, she kisses her forehead

BREANA (CONT'D)

I love you.

She runs out the door.

REGINA

Be careful.

EXT. STREET - LATER

BREANA walking down to the same spot she saw MR ZOE the last time, she is there but no MR ZOE.

She looks around the place, yet no sign of MR ZOE anywhere, she keeps standing for a moment.

A LADY comes out of the next store, BREANA walks up to her, she says something to the LADY. The LADY points east.

BREANA takes a walk down East.

INT. THE NEXT STREET - CONTINUOUS

She walks down the next street. She sees MR ZOE at the corner of another store, his old table in his front and his old jewelries all over the table.

She walks up to him

BREANA

I was looking for you.

MR ZOE

You wanna buy another jewelry?

**BREANA** 

I wanna talk to you.

She sees a beautiful ring with sapphires on it. She slowly picks it up, looking at it

BREANA (CONT'D)

This is beautiful

MR ZOE

Put that back, it's not for sale.

BREANA still looking at the ring

**BREANA** 

Why not?

MR ZOE

That one so precious.

She looks up at MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

Why do you have it on the table if it's precious?

MR ZOE

Just put it down.

BREANA puts down the ring

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

What do you wanna talk about?

**BREANA** 

I need a coach.

MR ZOE

Okay. Go Get a coach

BREANA hesitates

**BREANA** 

I want you to coach me.

MR ZOE laughs

MR ZOE

You funny child.

**BREANA** 

Am being serious. I want you to be my coach.

MR ZOE

I can't coach you.

**BREANA** 

Why not?

MR ZOE

Am an old man, I sell old jewelries, I don't have the time to coach.

**BREANA** 

I'll pay you.

MR ZOE examines her for a minute

MR ZOE

I see you got an attitude child. You take your money and go elsewhere.

BREANA

All am asking is a coach

MR ZOE says nothing

BREANA (CONT'D)

Whatever.

She turns and starts leaving. She stops, she turns back to him

understand.

She waits for an answer but he says nothing. She turns and starts leaving

MR ZOE

Wait.

She stops and turns back to him

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Meet me at the old tracks on Saturday, 5 o'clock.

BREANA smiles, she nods, she starts leaving again.

EXT. ROADSIDE - DAY

LILA stands along the roadside. On the side of the road she sees DALLAS coming towards her, she looks away.

DALLAS walks up to her

DALLAS

Please don't walk away.

LILA

What do you want from me?

DALLAS

And she throws me with the 'W' question again. I just wanna hang that's all.

LILA

Can't you just leave me alone?

DALLAS

I try to but you always make me come back. Why can't you just talk to me?

LILA says nothing.

DALLAS (CONT'D)

I ain't what you think I am, I am a straight gentleman. You can ask your girl B.

LILA

Just leave me alone. I don't have time for this.

DALLAS

I ain't no player but I am stubborn as hell.

JOE'S car approaches slowly towards them

LILA

(almost pleading) look Dallas you have to leave.

DALLAS

What is going on?

LILA

Fine, you want my number I'll give it to you but you have to leave.

**DALLAS** 

Nah, I ain't leaving.

JOE car stops

LILA

(almost crying)

Please I am begging you. Leave

JOE comes out of his car

JOE

Lila.

DALLAS

Who is he?

LILA turns to JOE. He walks up to her

JOE

What is going on here?

LILA

(stammers)

it's nothing.

JOE looks at DALLAS

JOE

Who is this dog?

LILA

He is nobody.

DALLAS

Watch it fool, who are you calling a dog?

LILA

Dallas please.

JOE

You come to my street, call me a fool, playing around my girl. Damn you just broke the fuckin' rules.

DALLAS moving close to JOE

DALLAS

Yea, I do, what you gon do huh?

LILA holds DALLAS back

LILA

Stop it.

JOE

Push me hard nigga imma cut your face into half, who you think you are? You don't know who I am.

DALLAS

You don't scare me, you can't do nothing.

JOE looks at DALLAS for a moment, then at LILA

JOE

(to LILA)

You'll pay for this.

He looks at DALLAS again, he says nothing, walks to his car. He opens the door, enters and drives off

DALLAS

He is the reason you won't talk to me right?

LILA says nothing

DALLAS (CONT'D)

You gonna watch him beat on your ass?

LILA still says nothing

DALLAS (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Lila I wanna help you?

LILA

You can't help me, you've only made things worst. Stay away from me.

She walks away. DALLAS exhales, he leaves too.

INT. OLD TRACKS - DAY

The Stadium looks old, nobody there, no cars. BREANA sits on the ground, in her training outfit, her headphone over her head.

From a distance MR ZOE walks up, She keeps watching him walk down.

After a moment, he meets up with her. She takes down her headphone

**BREANA** 

(getting up)

You're late.

MR ZOE

Pity me child, am an old man you understand. Had to take a rest some blocks away, nobody want to see an old man lying dead on the street eh.

(almost laughing)

You should try running, I do that a lot.

MR ZOE

Ah! The attitude again.

He moves behind BREANA, she turns to look at him

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

What's your winning time?

**BREANA** 

(she thinks)

Um probably 23 minutes 4 seconds or so.

MR ZOE

Probably? you're not sure 'bout it?

**BREANA** 

Not, really. It kinda like fluctuate every time.

MR ZOE looks at her for a moment, he walks a little close to her

MR ZOE

You're supposed to have a normal running time, set it as a goal and try to reach it in every run.

**BREANA** 

Na, I think my timing is good.

MR ZOE

Show me what you got.

BREANA

You want me to run?

MR ZOE

Run eh.

**BREANA** 

Cool

She takes off her headphones, drops it on the ground. She starts walking to the track lines, MR ZOE follows behind.

MR ZOE brings out a timer and a whistle from his pocket. He wears the whistle around his neck.

BREANA takes track four

MR ZOE

Lucky number.

**BREANA** 

Yea. Won my first race on track number four.

MR ZOE

Ah! I see.

BREANA

Okay am ready.

MR ZOE

(calling loud)

On your mark!

BREANA takes her mark, her face looking straight forward

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

(still calling loud)

Get set!

BREANA gets set to run. MR ZOE blows the whistle. BREANA takes off in speed. MR ZOE checks the timer while he watches her run.

She gets to the end line, she starts running up to MR ZOE

BREANA

(breathing heavy)

Say what?

MR ZOE takes down the timer, he looks at her

MR ZOE

23 minutes 4 seconds.

BREANA

That's my time.

MR ZOE

You have to go faster than that child.

BREANA

Well you want more, I'll show you more.

MR ZOE

(smiling)

Easy child. We do it next time.

Is that all?

MR ZOE

Hmm! come back next time ready to work on your time.

BREANA

Great. Next time.

She goes for her headphone, she picks it up and wears it

MR ZOE

Make sure to get a rest.

**BREANA** 

And you too.

She start leaving.

INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - LATER

REGINA making egg sauce in the kitchen, she is standing next to the cooker stirring the eggs in the pan with a spoon.

BREANA enters

**BREANA** 

Hmm! What's cooking?

REGINA

(still stirring)

Egg sauce.

**BREANA** 

Am starving.

She walks to the fridge, opens it, brings out a bottle of water, she closes the fridge again.

REGINA turns to look at her still stirring

REGINA

Why you home so early?

**BREANA** 

Finished up in time.

REGINA

Things good with your coach?

**BREANA** 

Yea, he looks good to me.

REGINA looks at her egg sauce again

REGINA

You left your phone. A call came in, a boy called Jake.

She looks at BREANA smiling

REGINA (CONT'D)

He sounded pretty cool.

BREANA

He is just a friend, ma. And you shouldn't be pickin' my calls.

She runs out of the Kitchen

REGINA

He kept calling.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She enters, walks to her table, she picks up her phone, looks at it

BREANA

Great. He should call back.

She drops the phone again, drops her headphone and leaves the table, we don't follow.

We are still looking at the phone.

PHONE RINGS. She runs back to the table, picks up the phone, she sighs

BREANA (CONT'D)

Sup Dee?

(she listens)

The club down town?

(she listens)

Tonight?

(she listens)

Sure, I'll be there.

Phone hangs up. She drops it. She walks to the bathroom.

EXT. CLUB DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

DEE, DALLAS, TEE and BREANA walk out of the club half drunk.

BREANA in the middle of the boys. They start walking along the street to wherever

TEE

It was fun in there. Feels like back in the days again.

DEE

And you still suck at the drinkin' ish, you always lose.

TEE

No, I don't.

**BREANA** 

He doesn't.

DALLAS

Tee suck at everything, he couldn't even read a word from the English book.

DEE, BREANA and DALLAS laugh

DEE

Damn! He always got his ass whooped.

They continue laughing

TEE

Y'all tryna mock me now?

DALLAS

Ain't nobody mockin' you, it's the truth Tee.

TEE

You ain't never lie. I hated school, I went there errday 'cause I wanted to be with you guys and play soccer.

**BREANA** 

You hated everything Tee.

DEE

True man, we ain't never seen you do nothing in your damn life.

DALLAS

(laughing)

Aha ha ha ha!

TEE

I got plans you know.

DEE

You do? Shocker!

BREANA laughs

TEE

Yea, I do. I wanna make real cash.

DEE groans

DALLAS

Who doesn't wanna make real cash? wake up Tee, it's morning.

TEE

No, am serious.

BREANA

What you wanna do, sell drugs?

DEE

Strip? You look tiny.

BREANA and DALLAS laughs

TEE

Laugh at me but you be eating my shit later.

They continue laughing

DEE

So you wanna pop out of the blues and be Chris brown, is that what you wanna do?

TEE

Maybe

DALLAS

So not focused.

BREANA

What's your hustle Tee?

TEE thinks for a moment

DEE

Are you serious, you don't know what your hustle is? You got to be trippin'.

DALLAS

He is obviously trippin'.

TEE

I ain't trippin', maybe I don't got no hustle.

DEE and DALLAS laugh mockingly

**BREANA** 

Everybody got a hustle Tee.

TEE

Not me.

DEE

The nigga is crazy.

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - CONTINUOUS

They continue walking down the quite street, the street lights make the street very bright

DALLAS

B, you remember Aleya Brown from middle school?

**BREANA** 

She was like my middle school nemesis. Why would I ever forget her.

DEE

That girl gave you a tough time B.

BREANA

Swear! She did.

DALLAS

You know she quit runnin', the girl is now a top model in the country.

BREANA

Oh yea. I saw a commercial on TV like that. I knew the face was familiar. Damn! She fine as hell.

DALLAS

And she was pretty good at runnin' too but the question is, why did she quit?

I don't know. Maybe she found something else she loves more than runnin'.

DALLAS

That's it. Sometimes people do things 'cause they see other people do it and progress. Next thing, they decide to do it too

DEE

And claim it to be their hustle.

TEE

That's why I want sometime to know what my hustle is.

DEE

Shut up Tee. Your hustle is madness.

DALLAS

So what if runnin' was not her thing, maybe she only did it 'cause you did?

**BREANA** 

You know I got someone like Aleya in college too.

DALLAS

You do?

**BREANA** 

Miley. Only thing is she made it to the International, I have to make it thru' the nationals first before I get to compete with her.

DEE

You'll do fine.

They keep walking in silence for a moment.

**BREANA** 

Running is my life, I wanna run everyday. No matter how bad it is I always feel good when I run. It's my game, I own this game.

TEE

When you mess things up, you get (he kicks) kicked out.

Ain't nobody kickin' me out my game Tee.

DALLAS

That's the spirit.

They stop walking. DEE turns to BREANA

DEE

We know you B. You always make it right, and whether or not you want it, you'll make it to whatever level you want to.

**BREANA** 

If I can't make it to any level I want, then what's the hustle for?

DALLAS

You sure you don't want us to walk you home?

BREANA

Nah, it's cool

DEE

Alright, good night.

He pats her head like a baby. DALLAS hugs her

DALLAS

Good night.

They break free. TEE hugs her tightly

TEE

I miss you big head

They break free

BREANA

Good night y'all.

She starts walking ahead

TEE

You want me to walk you home?

BREANA turns to TEE

BREANA

That's like protectin' you. Am good.

TEE

Don't judge me.

DEE and DALLAS pulls TEE along. BREANA continues walking.

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - CONTINUOUS

BREANA walking home alone. Across the road on the other side, car light flashes, the car stops.

The flash from the car covers her eyes, so she couldn't see properly.

She strains her eyes to see but all she sees is shadow.

A shadow of a huge boy comes down from the drivers side, he walks to the other side, opens the door and starts pulling something out

JOE (0.S)

Get off my car, bitch.

LILA (O.S)

Where do you want me to go from here.

JOE (O.S)

I don't give a fuck, go get me some money.

The shadow pulls out another girly shadow out of the car

LILA (O.S)

Don't leave me here alone.

The boy shadow walks back to the drivers seat, enters and drives off in speed.

The look is clear now. LILA runs after the car, she stops and starts crying.

She looks, she sees BREANA standing looking at her. She stops crying and looks too. For a moment they keep looking.

BREANA moves her leg. LILA shakes her head, she walks backwards a little, turns around and walks off.

BREANA walks on too.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

MR ZOE looking at his timer and his whistle hanging around his neck. BREANA running up to MR ZOE  $\,$ 

(breathing heavy)

What is it?

MR ZOE looks up at her

MR ZOE

23: 4 seconds.

BREANA

I told you, that's my time.

MR ZOE

No, I need to see some progress.

**BREANA** 

Am trying.

MR ZOE

I don't want you to try. Give me another run.

BREANA walks to take her track. She takes her track four

**BREANA** 

I'm ready.

MR ZOE

(calling out)

On your mark

She takes her mark

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

set

She sets to go. WHISTLE blows.

BREANA takes off

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

No. come back. come back.

BREANA stops, she turns, walking up to MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

What happened?

MR ZOE

What is wrong child, you don't look good today.

**BREANA** 

I don't know.

MR ZOE

Things aren't right here.

**BREANA** 

Like what?

He examines her for a moment, he walks up to her

MR ZOE

Lemme see.

As he talks he puts her into position

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You must know your posture. keep your torso centered over your hips and your back straight with a slight lean forward, you understand?

BREANA nods. MR ZOE still putting her in position

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D) Keep your shoulders back and your elbows bent to enable you run as fast as you can, you understand?

She nods again.

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

And again your strides

He pulls her right legs by the knee upwards, she shakes, almost falling

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Your stride is the motion your legs take as they extend (he raises his right knee up and slowly drops it to the ground) and strike the ground carrying you

and strike the ground carrying you along, you understand?

**BREANA** 

(nodding)

Yea, I understand.

They stand properly again

MR ZOE

Feel free when you run, as a runner you have to clear your mind from all distractions, hmm.

BREANA nods

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Good. Give me a run

She takes her track again

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Are you ready child?

**BREANA** 

Ya.

MR ZOE

Good. Pay attention to what I told you. On your mark.

She takes her mark

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Set

She set to go. Whistle blows. She takes off.

MR ZOE times her. She gets to the end. She runs up to MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

So?

MR ZOE looks at the timer, he looks at BREANA

MR ZOE

It's same thing.

BREANA

(groans)

I can run again if you want.

MR ZOE

What is the matter here?

BREANA

Am sorry but I can't concentrate.

MR ZOE

I told you to free your mind from whatever it is.

BREANA

I tried but it keeps controlling me.

MR ZOE

Why do you let them control you?

I don't know but I can't help it.

MR ZOE

Ah! Nonsense child. Nonsense.

He walks close to her, wraps his hand around her shoulders and they start walking away from the tracks

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

We all got problems in life but we fail the very moment we let our problems keep us out of concentrating, you understand?

**BREANA** 

But I work hard.

They stop walking. He lets go of her shoulder, he looks directly at her

MR ZOE

I work hard too and I still got problems but here I am. All you need do is fight them in your heart and still look strong child. You control your mind and your legs, you understand?

BREANA nods

**BREANA** 

Yea, I understand

MR ZOE

I want to see it.

BREANA smiles, she turns to go take her track.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

BREANA walks into the cafeteria, she looks around and in their normal position close to the wall on the right she sees MIMI and LILA sitting next to each other.

She takes a look to her left, she sees JAKE sitting alone. He waves to her, she ignores him and starts walking up.

JAKE gets up, he walks up to her front

JAKE

Hey, I have been looking for you.

Jake, please. Not now.

She looks at him for a moment

BREANA (CONT'D)

You are on my way.

**JAKE** 

Am sorry

He moves a little out of the way, she walks up to LILA and  ${\tt MIMI}$ 

**BREANA** 

(to LILA)

We have to talk.

MIMI

(getting up)

What do you want Breana?

**BREANA** 

I wanna settle things out with LILA and am not leaving until she talks to me.

JAKE still stands staring, people are staring too

LILA

I get it Breana, you have a race coming up and now you need your friends, you need someone to cheer you up right?

**BREANA** 

I don't need nobody to cheer me up, I got like tons of them everywhere and you know this. Am tryna build up the relationship we had for a long time and this is you throwin' it all away, for what?

LILA

(getting up)

This is you, always showing up tryna set things right, the good guy. Isn't this what you've always wanted, you always wanna be the center of attraction and you got it.

MILEY walks in with her TWO SIDE CHICKS, they stand by the door watching

LILA (CONT'D)

A round of applause for yourself, am happy for you.

BREANA

Lila what has come over you? Why you tryna make this hard for me. I thought we are friends, we are supposed to have each others back.

LILA

You know what I just learnt, minding my business, you should try it.

She picks up her bag

LILA (CONT'D)

(to MIMI)

Lets get outta here.

She starts leaving. MIMI picks up her bag, she looks at BREANA

MIMI

Am sorry.

She starts leaving too. MILEY and her SIDE CHICKS start walking up, they walk pass MIMI and LILA

SIDE CHICK 1

(to MIMI)

Bye!

MILEY walks up to BREANA

MILEY

(laughing)

It feels so good to see you like this. Ow! you wanna cry baby?

**BREANA** 

Please, Miley am so pissed right now I do not wanna shit on you.

MILEY laughs, her girls join her. People are starting to gather up.

BREANA biting her teeth and shaking in anger, her eyes is red with anger. She clenches up her fists and holds it stiffly to her side

MILEY

You wanna take it out on me now? You're such a jerk, thinking you are better than everybody else.

**BREANA** 

Please, Miley do not say that again.

MILEY

You think you're better. I said it, you think you are better th...

BREANA punches her face, MILEY falls to the ground crying. People gather up and start talking at the same time

GIRL 1 (0.S)

Oh My God! Is she okay?

GIRL 2 (0.S)

She is bleeding.

BOY 1 (0.S)

Somebody call 911

BREANA looks up, she sees JAKE still staring, She stares for a moment, she stops staring and walks away.

INT. OFFICER SAM'S OFFICE - LATER

His office looks like every other office. Big frame pictures of the President and other Ministers who has served and who is serving the country hangs on the wall, behind is a shelf of books.

OFFICER SAM, 37, takes a look at her for a minute

OFFICER SAM

You know you are not supposed to hit anybody that hard.

BREANA

It was a mistake.

OFFICER SAM

Mistakes like that shouldn't happen again.

**BREANA** 

(softly)

It was all her fault, she was talkin' too much.

OFFICER SAM

Did you have to hit her..that hard?

BREANA

It was the only thing I thought of.

OFFICER SAM

What if something happens to her?

He waits for an answer, BREANA says nothing

OFFICER SAM (CONT'D)

You know an act like that can take you to jail, it could also get you suspended and of course prevent you from running in the nationals?

**BREANA** 

I hope it doesn't.

OFFICER SAM says nothing, he opens his drawer looking for something

OFFICER SAM

We are letting you go today, your dad called the office already and your well wishers still wanna see you run......

BREANA gets up, she leaves the office.

OFFICER SAM (CONT'D)

....but we shouldn't let something like this repeat again, for your sake, okay?

He waits for an answer, he looks up, she is not there. He exhales and leans on his chair.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

She lays on her bed reading a book. MICHAEL enters still in his work suit

MICHAEL

What happened today?

She takes down her book

BREANA

You didn't knock.

MICHAEL

I got a call from work that my own daughter is detained and for what?

BREANA

(getting out of bed)
I don't know how it happened. I lost control.

MICHAEL

The girl is hurt.

BREANA

It was a mistake pops.

MICHAEL

No daughter of mine is allowed to hit on somebody, I didn't teach you to fight with your hands.

**BREANA** 

Would you let me explain myself pops?

MICHAEL

(calming down)

What for? The deal is done.

**BREANA** 

Am sorry it happened.

He looks at her almost smiling

MICHAEL

She hit you?

BREANA

She didn't get a chance to.

MICHAEL

You hurt anywhere?

BREANA shows him the bruises at the back of her palm

**BREANA** 

It doesn't hurt.

MICHAEL

You okay?

**BREANA** 

Yea. Am sorry pops.

MICHAEL

You don't have to be. Am glad you are okay, but honey I don't wanna have a discussion like this again, alright.

**BREANA** 

Yes, sir.

MICHAEL hugs her

MICHAEL

I love you.

They break free. He looks at her for a moment.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I have to freshen up.

BREANA nods. MICHAEL starts leaving

**BREANA** 

Pops?

MICHAEL

(turning to her)

Hmm?

**BREANA** 

Thanks.

MICHAEL smiles

MICHAEL

See you at dinner.

He walks out the door, he shuts the door behind him

**BREANA** 

(quietly)

Thank God!

She falls on her back in bed.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

MR ZOE sits on a chair around the corner almost dozing off.

Footsteps approaching. He opens his eyes slowly, he sees BREANA running up, he opens his eyes fully

MR ZOE

You are late.

BREANA runs up

**BREANA** 

I know, am sorry.

He looks at the bruises at the back of her palm, he takes off his eyes and starts getting up

MR ZOE

You alright?

**BREANA** 

Yea, I'm fine. You good?

MR ZOE

Ah!

He starts walking up to the track line, BREANA follows up behind

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Did you win?

**BREANA** 

JAEAN (confused) What?

MR ZOE

Your hand.

She looks at the back of her palm

BREANA

It's nothing.

MR ZOE stops, he turns to look at BREANA

MR ZOE

You can't lie to an old man child. Am not blind.

BREANA sighs softly

**BREANA** 

It was a mistake. I don't know when I did it. She was just there talkin' too much shit and then I just did it.

MR ZOE laughs

MR ZOE

You hit her good?

Yea.

MR ZOE

Did it hurt?

**BREANA** 

It did.

MR ZOE laughs again, he starts walking again, she follows up again

MR ZOE

I know you have anger issues child, you let it control you and you find yourself doing what you don't wanna do.

He stops and turns to her

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

But we can work on that.

BREANA

At first I was expectin' everybody to blame me for what happened, am surprised nobody is. First my dad and now you, thanks man.

MR ZOE

No point blaming you, we don't know what happened and how it happened, you understand.

BREANA smiles widely

**BREANA** 

Yeah.

MR ZOE

Good. Now give me fifty.

**BREANA** 

(stops smiling)

Fifty what?

MR ZOE

Push ups.

**BREANA** 

Why push ups?

MR ZOE

For fighting.

I didn't fight.

MR ZOE

You wanna make it a hundred?

BREANA

No. Can't I just run?

MR ZOE

I want push ups, now.

BREANA sighs. She walks to one side

**BREANA** 

I'll give you push ups.

She sets herself in push up way and starts going up and down slowly

BREANA (CONT'D)

(counting)

One, two, three.

MR ZOE

Faster.

She goes faster still counting.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

MUSIC PLAYS

Another day at the stadium, BREANA running in her track, MR ZOE stands at the corner looking at the timer.

BREANA finishes up. MR ZOE looks at her, he shakes his head.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

BREANA stretching her hand above her head, she stretches her neck, her legs and her hands again.

MR ZOE walks up to her with a jump, he gives it to her. She looks at the jump rope, takes it.

MR ZOE walks away. BREANA unfolds the rope and starts jumping the rope.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Her legs at the edge of the bed and her two hands on the ground, with a slice of Pizza in her mouth.

She goes up and down; push up very fast. She stops, she uses her left hand supporting herself with the right, she munches the whole pizza into her mouth.

She drops the left hand on the ground again and continues her push up exercise.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

She climbs on a bicycle, MR ZOE holds it from behind. She starts riding in fear while MR ZOE still holds it from behind.

MR ZOE let go of the bicycle, she loses her ground, she falls over with the bicycle.

MR ZOE looking at her on the ground

MR ZOE

Focus, concentration, you understand?

**BREANA** 

(in pains)

I understand

MR ZOE

Lets do it again.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

Another day training. BREANA jumping rope and running on her track.

She keeps jumping, almost finishing up.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

Another bicycle training. MR ZOE holds BREANA from behind while she rides off. He lets go of the bicycle and she rides off perfectly

**BREANA** 

(excited)

Yea, I did it.

She keeps riding in speed.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

BREANA standing in her track

MR ZOE

All right. Lets do this child. You ready child.

**BREANA** 

Sure.

MR ZOE

On your marks.

BREANA takes her mark

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Set!

BREANA set to go. MR ZOE blows the whistle, she takes off. MR ZOE looks at his timer while she runs.

She reaches the end line. She runs up to MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

So?

MR ZOE smiles

MR ZOE

23: 2 seconds. Perfect timing

**BREANA** 

Yes.

MR ZOE

You did good child, come take a five.

He puts his right palm up open for her, she runs up and slaps on it; high five.

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You earned it.

EXT. PARK - DAY

The seat out looks like a love garden, long benches next to each other, beautiful trees around it to act like a shade, and beautiful flowers.

We only see two couples in the garden. First couple chatting and laughing, the other couple eating ice cream, laughing and chatting.

BREANA sits on a bench alone admiring the place. JAKE walks up to her from behind

**JAKE** 

Hey!

He joins her on the bench

**BREANA** 

(nervously)

Hi.

JAKE

You look tired.

**BREANA** 

(laughing)

I am tired, been training overtime for the race tomorrow.

JAKE

You look okay to me.

**BREANA** 

I do?

She laughs

**JAKE** 

(soft laugh) What?

BREANA

It's nothing. At first I thought you sounded like my dad but you do sound like my mum

> (she mimics JAKE with a hoarse voice)

'you look okay to me'

JAKE laughs

**JAKE** 

I don't sound anything like that.

They both start laughing. They stop and say nothing for a moment

JAKE (CONT'D)

Thanks for calling me out. Finally I get to spend some time with you alone.

BREANA smiles shyly

Yeah.

JAKE

Today is a good day for me though, and I do hope you won't be running off the next minute.

**BREANA** 

(soft chuckle)

Maybe. Maybe not.

JAKE

I hope not.

BREANA laughs. They are quite for a moment

**BREANA** 

I love this place. My dad and I used to come here a lot when I was a kid. Any time I won a race he would buy me my favorite ice cream, and I remember sitting on this particular bench eating my ice cream.

She laughs softly

**JAKE** 

You have such good memories. I bet you're his favorite girl.

**BREANA** 

(she chuckles)

Am his only daughter so why not. My dad is like my best friend, so yea.

**JAKE** 

(he nods)

I never knew my dad.

**BREANA** 

Am sorry.

**JAKE** 

It's okay. My mom said he died four months after my birth. I got used to living without a dad.

**BREANA** 

I don't know what it feels like to lose a parents but If it hurts so bad after now, try running, it helps.

JAKE smiles, and nods

**JAKE** 

When did you start running?

BREANA

When I was five. I never took the bus, I ran everyday to school and I got there before anyone else.

**JAKE** 

Whoa! You did?

BREANA

Yea, only that my school was very close to my house that's why I never took the bus.

JAKE opens his mouth, he laughs

**JAKE** 

You are corny.

**BREANA** 

(laughing)

That's the truth but hell I did run, I ran everyday.

JAKE

You ever gonna quit running?

BREANA

No. Running is my Hustle.

JAKE

Your what?

BREANA

My hustle. Running is all I wanna do. When am sad I wanna run, when am sick I wanna run. It's my life

JAKE

(still confused)

Hold on! why did you call it hustle?

**BREANA** 

I love running, my hustle.

JAKE

Great 'cause I don't understand.

I love doing this. How does the English dictionary define hustle?

**JAKE** 

(thinking)

Um maybe...

**BREANA** 

(cuts in)

That's the point, we don't know. Look at me, I love running, it's my life, when you wanna talk 'bout me you say, she is a runner....

JAKE pays more attention

BREANA (CONT'D)

Running makes me happy, gimme some time and am gon be gettin' paid for running, that's the hustle.

**JAKE** 

So you mean, what you love, what inspires you, what makes you happy is your what you call your hustle?

**BREANA** 

Yea, right. Hustle is the tittle.

JAKE

I like you.

BREANA looks away shyly.

**BREANA** 

Stop it.

JAKE

Why, am being serious. You're pretty cool do you know that?

BREANA

(soft chuckles)

Thanks.

They say nothing for a moment

**JAKE** 

Um, good luck tomorrow.

BREANA nods nervously

**BREANA** 

Can I ask you something?

**JAKE** 

Sure

**BREANA** 

What is your hustle?

JAKE says nothing.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - DAY

NATIONALS

BREANA walks nervously from one side of the room to the other, swinging her hands about.

She is wearing a vest and Knee sized sweat pant

BREANA

(to herself)

Am ready, am ready, am ready.

MR ZOE enters

MR ZOE

Alright, we are up.

**BREANA** 

Hold up I need a minute.

She closes her eyes, takes a deep breath and opens them again

MR ZOE

You gotta admit if you're nervous.

**BREANA** 

I am nervous.

MR ZOE

It's okay to be nervous.

BREANA

Am scared too. If I don't win you know I can't make it to the International race, I can't win MIley too.

MR ZOE

For once stop thinking about Miley and think about winning the race first, that's why you are here, to win, you understand?

(nodding)

Yeah.

MR ZOE

So what are you hear for child?

BREANA

(softly)

I wanna win!

MR ZOE

Say it like a winner. What are you here for?

BREANA

(yelling)

I wanna win!

MR ZOE

Good child. Now let's go out there and win this thing.

**BREANA** 

Lets do this.

They walk out the dressing room.

CROWD CHEERING.

EXT. COLLEGE - DAY

Group of students gather around BREANA getting her autographs.

She signs on a girl's shirt, gives it to her

GIRL

Thank you.

She runs off with two other girls. A BOY gives her his arm to sign on

**BREANA** 

Right there?

BOY

Yea.

She smiles and signs on it

**BREANA** 

It looks good.

BOY

Your number too?

**BREANA** 

I don't have a phone. Am sorry.

The BOY smiles and walks off. More students gather around her waiting to get signed.

She looks up, she sees JAKE waving to her

BREANA (CONT'D)

Sorry guys

The student sigh in disappointment

BREANA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Am so sorry.

She walks to JAKE

**JAKE** 

Hi Miss popular.

**BREANA** 

Hi.

**JAKE** 

Here goes Breana, Queen of the tracks

(mimics crowd cheering)

Ahh ahh ahh

BREANA laughs

**BREANA** 

Stop it.

JAKE

The whole school is feeling you.

**BREANA** 

Blame it on my hustle dude.

They start laughing

**JAKE** 

Damn! I wanna buy you a drink right now.

**BREANA** 

Chapman?

**JAKE** 

Sure.

It's a deal.

**JAKE** 

Can I get an autograph please?

BREANA

Where ever you want it.

**JAKE** 

On my lips?

BREANA

(laughing)

You are crazy.

JAKE laughs too

**JAKE** 

Am serious here.

They continue laughing. They stop and say nothing for a moment

BREANA

Thanks Jake.

**JAKE** 

Ummm for what?

**BREANA** 

For nothing

(she laughs)

Just thanks.

They are quite, they give each other a long look in their eyes for a moment

DEE (O.S)

Yo B!

She turns, DEE, DALLAS and TEE standing close to the small football pitch just four laps away from her.

High school students play a friendly soccer in the pitch

**BREANA** 

I'll be back.

She walks up to her guys

BREANA (CONT'D)

What y'all doing coming to my

school?

DEE

You didn't wanna come to us so we came to you.

BREANA

I was gonna call you guys, we gon hang out tonight.

DEE

We just wanted to see our champion.

TEE

You gon throw some party tonight eh?

BREANA

Sure Tee, if there ain't no party, there ain't no winning.

TEE

That's the spirit.

He high five BREANA

DALLAS

(looking around)

Where Lila at?

**BREANA** 

Mehn, your gurl doesn't do my shit no more, said am all nosy 'bout hers.

DALLAS

She got a problem I reckon eh.

BREANA

She does.

DEE

What 'bout the other one (he thinks) um Mimi.

**BREANA** 

They like a couple now.

TEE looks at JAKE

TEE

Yo, who that boy you was standing with?

BREANA turns to look at JAKE and looks back at TEE

He is my friend, Jake.

DALLAS

Your new nigga huh?

DEE and TEE laughs at BREANA jokingly

**BREANA** 

Come on y'all, we just friends, nothing serious.

DEE

He is fresh. Call him over.

BREANA turns to JAKE, she beckons to him to come over. JAKE starts walking to them

He meets up with them

**JAKE** 

Hey!

TEE

(laughing)

Hey? what happened to what's up, holler. Do you really gotta sound like a girl?

(girl's voice)

Hey.

DEE, DALLAS and TEE laughs

TEE (CONT'D)

Wait you wear thongs too?

They continue laughing. JAKE joins them

 $\mathsf{DEE}$ 

Only girls do that.

**BREANA** 

Not all girls, I don't wear thongs.

DALLAS

Okay B, he said girls, am not sure he mean't half girls.

JAKE laughs quietly

BREANA

What you mean half girls? Am a full girl and you know this.

TEE

You're a full girl then why you got muscles like me? I can see them sticking out your shirt for real.

TEE, DEE and DALLAS laughs

**BREANA** 

Fuck you Tee and I do not have muscles.

DEE

I think I see something.

They laugh again

TEE

(Laughing)

Just let the guy answer the question

(to JAKE)

You wear thongs like girls do?

DALLAS and DEE laughs again

**BREANA** 

Stop jokin' around Tee

(to JAKE)

Don't listen to him, he's always like that.

**JAKE** 

(almost laughing)

I don't mind

DEE

(to JAKE)

Sorry 'bout that man, sometimes I wonder what he is doing in my clique.

He gives JAKE his hand for a shake, JAKE shakes him

DEE (CONT'D)

I'm DEE

(pointing to DALLAs)
Dallas and this (he points to TEE)
rough- headed sweatin' ass
mo'fucker (OFF: TEE opens his

mouth) is Tee.

TEE

I ain't no sweatin' ass.

DALLAS

(to TEE)

Do you really have to say something, Jesus Tee.

DEE

(to JAKE)

B over here tells us you just friends.

JAKE looks at BREANA, she moves her lips to the side. JAKE looks back at DEE

**JAKE** 

Urm.. that's right, we are just friends.

DEE

Nigga there ain't no such thing as just friends, it's either you bangin' that ass or not.

TEE

That's right.

JAKE laughs nervously. BREANA gives DEE a long angry look

DEE

(mouthing to BREANA)

What?

**JAKE** 

(stammers)

We have not gotten to that yet?

DALLAS

Yet? you tryna say shit gon happen?

JAKE opens his mouth to say something

DEE

gives JAKE a serious

face)

You lay a hand on her, imma cut your face homeboy.

JAKE frightens a little. DEE, DALLAS and TEE laughs at JAKE

TEE

Damn! Look at his face man.

DEE

(laughing)

Am just playin' with you homeboy

They start laughing, JAKE joins them

BREANA

Ight, joke's over.

TEE looks around the school.

TEE

It's so big in here. You can have a girlfriend and still cheat on her, she wouldn't even notice.

DALLAS

Player! Player!

A soccer ball rolls up to them, one of the HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER runs after the ball.

TEE goes for the ball, he picks it up

TEE

Watch this

They all watch him, he drops the ball on the ground, he moves back a little, comes back to the ball and he kicks the ball so high with his right leg.

They all watch the ball fly over the sky in surprise and lands back in the middle of the pitch

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER

Whoa! Nice shot man.

He runs back to the pitch

TEE

(walking back to his

friends)

Did you see that? That's what am talkin' 'bout.

DALLAS

You're a good player, Tee. Why did you stop playin'?

TEE

Nothin'. I thought I wasn't good

BREANA

What are you talkin' 'bout, that was one hell of a shot.

DEE

You used to play in preschool, you were the winning guy.

TEE looks at the pitch, he loves back at his friends

TEE

I mean I love soccer but am not really good at it.

**JAKE** 

You are good. That shot explains everything man, you are a striker.

DEE

He is right.

BREANA

How come you say you don't know what you love, you love soccer and you are damn good at it. Why don't you give it a try?

TEE

My hustle?

(he nods)

I have been thinkin' 'bout it.

DALLAS

You don't think 'bout nothing Tee, you're a dumb ass

TEE

I was.

DALLAS

Well, when?

TEE

Just now.

DALLAS

Damn!

OFFICER SAM, walks up to them

OFFICER SAM

(clears throat)

Good day guys

They all turn to look at him

**BREANA** 

What do you want?

DEE

(to BREANA)

You know him?

I don't.

DALLAS

Who is he then?

**BREANA** 

(to DALLAS)

Ain't it obvious he a po po, man

(to OFFICER SAM)

What you looking for?

OFFICER SAM

Came to see if everything is fine here.

BREANA

Do we look like we ain't fine here?

OFFICER SAM looks at them for a moment

OFFICER SAM

I hope you aren't getting into any fight again?

DEE

You got into a fight B?

**BREANA** 

(to DEE)

It wasn't no fight

(to OFFICER SAM)

Look po po, we just talkin' 'bout hustle and minding your own business, why don't you go mind your business, mind your own hustle and leave me the hell alone. Get on.

DEE, DALLAS and TEE laughs quietly

OFFICER SAM

I might leave now but I'll be back tomorrow.

BREANA

Did you just hear me? I said Mind your business, mind your hustle, leave me alone.

OFFICER SAM getting confused.

DALLAS

You gotta help the man out B.

That's right.

(to DEE)

Tell him what hustle is

DEE

(he licks his lips)

Hustle is kinda like what you do, what you love, it could be your job, your passion for something, your career and whatnot.

He examines OFFICER SAM

DEE (CONT'D)

You are a po po and with the look of things you love your job, that's your hustle.

TEE

I wanna play soccer.

DEE

That's his hustle. And my girl B is a runner.

TEE

That's her hustle

DEE

You get it.

OFFICER SAM say nothing

BREANA

Now you go hustle your hustle and leave us alone. Come on y'all.

They start walking away. OFFICER SAM still look confused. He watches them leave

OFFICER SAM

(to himself)

Hustle?

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

BREANA sits on the ground tying up her shoes. MR ZOE bending to the ground marking on the track with a chalk but we don't see what he is marking

**BREANA** 

You saw me out there. It felt good.

MR ZOE

You're born a runner child.

BREANA

Finally, I get to race Miley.

MR ZOE

(he looks at her)

Miley, again?

**BREANA** 

(still tying up her

shoes)

Yeah, she is my second nemesis. I can't wait to win her.

MR ZOE stops marking, he stands up straight and looks at her

MR ZOE

Why do you run?

BREANA stops tying and looks at MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

Huh?

MR ZOE

Why do you run? You do it for the girl?

**BREANA** 

Hell no. I love running, it's my
hustle.

MR ZOE

Good. Then why make it look like it's all about her?

**BREANA** 

I don't know. Maybe 'cause she thinks she better than me.

MR ZOE

Hmm! So all your effort to win is just to race her in the international race?

BREANA shrugs her shoulders

**BREANA** 

Maybe.

MR ZOE

I see. All you think about is winning child, you don't think about the love for the game.

**BREANA** 

(she chuckles)

Ain't the love for the game all 'bout winning? It's supposed to be 'bout winning.

MR ZOE walks close to her

MR ZOE

If the game is all about winning why don't you bring her here, you race her here and when you win her you quit.

**BREANA** 

I don't wanna win like that.

MR ZOE struggles to get himself on the ground. He groans while he bends. He finally sits next to her

MR ZOE

Ah! Lets make an instance child, you race her in the international race, she comes up third you come up second, isn't that you winning her?

BREANA says nothing

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You see my point child? There are different ways to win and still be a loser, if you wanna win, you win everything. If you wanna run, you run for the love and the fun, you understand? Do not run trying to please anybody, run like it's your hustle child, run like you are having fun, you understand?

**BREANA** 

But I thought the plan is to win.

MR ZOE

The plan is always to win child. You wanna win you have to win like a winner not win like a loser, you understand?

(shaking her head)

I don't.

MR ZOE

Running is your hustle child, you wanna run for Miley or run for yourself?

**BREANA** 

I run for me.

MR ZOE

Good. Then when you run, do not run with winning Miley alone on your mind, you have to run with being a runner on your mind and in your heart

(he places his hand on his chest)

You understand?.

BREANA nods

**BREANA** 

Am sorry.

MR ZOE

It's okay child, all we need do right now is get me four huge guys to lift me off this ground....

BREANA laughs

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

I can't feel my backside anymore

BREANA continue laughing. Stops and look at MR ZOE for a moment.

**BREANA** 

Thanks Mr Zoe, for everything

MR ZOE

(nodding)

Ah! I hate being emotional. Give me 20 push ups.

BREANA squeezes up her face

**BREANA** 

What? Twenty?

MR ZOE

That's a lot right? Make it 30.

(she gasps)

Do you realize am a girl, Mr Zoe?

MR ZOE

Ah! Make it a 40.

She opens her mouth to say something

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You say another word you add 10 to it.

BREANA closes her mouth again.

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Good child

BREANA stands up. She sets herself in push up way and starts going up and down slowly.

**BREANA** 

(counting)

One... two

MR ZOE

Make it faster, child.

She stops, she frowns up her face and starts pushing up faster.

INT. OFFICER SAM'S OFFICE - DAY

OFFICER SAM on his chair, his hand on his table writing in a paper.

KNOCK ON DOOR. Door opens. OFFICER SAM looks up.

MILEY'S MOM, 39, white skinned, wearing a Lady of the 80's kind of suit but looking more pimped, her gold hair well curled up and MILEY'S DAD, 55, white skinned, brown hair, also wearing a suit, enter the office.

OFFICER SAM gets up immediately

MILEY'S MOM

Good day officer Sam.

OFFICER SAM

Good day ma'am.

(to MILEY'S DAD)

Good day sir.

MILEY'S DAD

Good day.

OFFICER SAM

(pointing to seats)

You can have a seat.

MILEY'S DAD

We are not here to sit. How is my daughter doing?

OFFICER SAM

I don't know, she is probably doing fine.

MILEY'S MOM

(almost yelling)

What do you mean you don't know? You are supposed to check up on her everyday.

OFFICER SAM

Your daughter can handle herself ma'am. She is safe.

MILEY'S MOM

She can't be safe when the girl who hurt her goes to the same school with her.

MILEY'S DAD

Your job is to take care of her, make sure she doesn't get hit again.

OFFICER SAM

No, my Job is a police officer not her guardian. You want to make sure she is okay then do it yourself.

MILEY'S MOM open her mouth in surprise. OFFICER SAM starts walking to the door  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left($ 

OFFICER SAM (CONT'D)

Am sorry ma'am but I wanna mind my hustle. This is my hustle, am a police officer....

He opens the door and holds it by the knob

OFFICER SAM (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

I love my job, I don't wanna lose it.

MILEY'S MOM and DAD look at him a little surprised and a little angry

MILEY'S MOM

You are out of your mind.

They leave the office. OFFICER SAM shuts the door, he sighs deeply and start walking back to his seat.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

MILEY sits alone eating chips from her plate, a white band aid underneath her lips. She chokes and starts coughing, she reaches for her bag, opens it and starts searching still coughing.

A hand gives her a bottle of water, she looks up and she sees BREANA smiling. MILEY sighs and claims busy still searching her bag for water

**BREANA** 

You sure you don't want it?

MILEY says nothing. BREANA takes down the water

BREANA (CONT'D)

Can I sit?

MILEY

(still searching)

No

**BREANA** 

Alright.

She sits next to MILEY. MILEY stops searching her bag, she looks up at BREANA

MILEY

I said no.

BREANA

I know, I heard you. I wanted to sit anyway.

She looks at MILEY'S mouth

BREANA (CONT'D)

Am sorry 'bout your mouth

MILEY

What do you want?

Truce.

MILEY laughs

MILEY

You don't have friends anymore, everyone knows you are alone, you push everyone away now you think you can use me to get them back? You are a jerk.

BREANA

(nods slowly)

Yea, you are right.

MILEY

(surprised)

You not going to hit me?

**BREANA** 

Why would I do that? I would never hit on you again. Am sorry I did it the first time, it won't happen again.

MILEY

You know one thing is to promise and the other is to keep the promise. You have anger issues B, it's all over

BREANA

I know I do but thanks to someone who is helping me with that.

MILEY

Lets hope so.

MILEY picks up a chip from her plate, she start eating

**BREANA** 

You are a good runner Miley. You remind me of the girl I wanna be.

MILEY looks at her

BREANA (CONT'D)

Am here today is 'cause of you Miley. I wanted to prove to you that am better but again I thought to myself, why try hard when she is a bad ass herself?

MILEY

(scoffs)

Bad ass

BREANA

Running is my hustle Miley, running is your hustle too. See we got something in common, we got same hustle. So why fight when we can do this together?

MILEY

You are better Breana. I wanna run like you, I wanna be like you.

**BREANA** 

You can be anybody you wanna be Miley.

MILEY

But not like you. You are the girl, you got it all.

**BREANA** 

Oh, that's me being bhad bhabie, Hi bich!

MILEY and BREANA laughs

MILEY

It's always about you.

BREANA

Nah, you got that wrong. It's not always 'bout me, it's also 'bout you, it's 'bout everyone, that's why we all exist in this world. some of us today do things 'cause we see others do it, while some of us were born for it. You are born a runner Miley, don't let nobody tell you the opposite, you understand?

She pauses, she chuckles and finally laughs softly

MILEY

Why you laughing?

**BREANA** 

You understand?

She laughs again. MILEY watches her getting confused

MILEY

Are you okay?

BREANA stops laughing

**BREANA** 

Yea. Look Miley win or lose it doesn't matter, just have in mind you are doing your hustle, playin' your game which is running. Let's put bullshit behind and focus on running, okay?

MILEY

You're pretty cool. I dig you.

**BREANA** 

I dig you too.

She gives MILEY the bottle of water

BREANA (CONT'D)

Friends?

MILEY looks at the bottle of water, she looks at BREANA. She smiles and takes the water

MILEY

Friends.

**BREANA** 

Thanks. And am sorry I hit you.

MILEY and BREANA laughs.

EXT. THE STREET - DAY

DALLAS walking along the street, his both hands in his trouser pocket.

LILA walking up to him looking at her phone. She looks up and their both eyes meet.

LILA stops, she turns around and start walking up front, DALLAS runs after her

DALLAS

Lila wait up

LILA

(still walking)

Please go away before you cause me more trouble.

DALLAS stops running

DALLAS

Lila stop

She stops walking, she exhales and turns to him

LILA

What?

DALLAS

I don't wanna cause no trouble for you, I just wanna talk.

LILA

Don't you get it, I don't wanna talk. Stop bothering yourself trying to talk to me.

DALLAS

You're right I bother myself, and you know what, I shouldn't be. Every time I think 'bout you I know something is wrong, all I wanna do is help.

LILA

You can't help me

DALLAS

I know, I just wanted to be a friend. Am sorry for bothering you.

She starts walking up, he walk pass her. LILA turns to him

LILA

Wait.

DALLAS turns to her again

LILA (CONT'D)

(almost crying)

Something is really wrong, i run away from people because i thought I could do it on my own, no matter how hard I try to hide it, it keeps showing up

DALLAS

Then why hide it?

LILA

I don't know. Maybe am ashamed of myself.

DALLAS walks up to her

DALLAS

You don't have to be ashamed. We are here for you, you girl B got your back. You can tell us anything.

LILA nods

LILA

(sniffles)

Can we talk?

**DALLAS** 

Sure, whatever you want

They start walking DALLAS way.

INT. OLD TRACK - DAY

BREANA riding slowly on her bicycle while MR ZOE walks along with her

BREANA

You know Mr Zoe you haven't told me anything 'bout you.

MR ZOE

What you wanna know?

BREANA

Where you got those old jewelries you were selling.

MR ZOE

They weren't old, they just look old.

BREANA

So you stole them?

MR ZOE

No, they belong to my wife.

BREANA

(chuckles)

You were married? I didn't know.

MR ZOE

I was, for only twenty years.

**BREANA** 

She left you?

MR ZOE says nothing

BREANA (CONT'D)

Divorced?

MR ZOE

(almost yelling)

She died.

BREANA stops the bicycle. MR ZOE starts walking to sit

BREANA

(to herself)

I did not see that coming.

She drops the bicycle and runs up to MR ZOE. She sits next to  $\mathop{\text{him}}\nolimits$ 

They say nothing for a moment

MR ZOE

Am sorry. I shouldn't have yelled.

BREANA

It's okay Mr Zoe, sometimes it's okay to let our emotions control us.

(she pauses)

You wanna talk 'bout it?

MR ZOE

It was an heart attack. She was heartbroken.

**BREANA** 

Why?

MR ZOE is quiet for a moment

MR ZOE

We had a daughter

**BREANA** 

Word?

MR ZOE

Yea, had.

(trying not to cry)

She was only five years old when she died. Cancer.

**BREANA** 

Am sorry

MR ZOE

(still trying not to

cry)

She was 2 years old when we got to notice, Doctor said she wouldn't make it to her next birthday.

(he forces a smile)

She was a fighter, she fought cancer untill she was five.

He pauses, struggles with tears for a moment. He dries up his eyes with the back of his palm

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

The night she died her mom and I were sitting in the living room, we heard her scream

(he sniffles)

We ran upstairs to find her struggling with her life. All she said was 'I love you' and that was all.

He looks at BREANA, he picks up her hands, feeling her fingers

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D) I still remember her cute little hands, her smiles. She was my little angel

BREANA tries not to cry too. He lets go of her hand

**BREANA** 

What happened to her mama?

MR ZOE

A week after our daughter was buried, I got home from work to find my wife lying dead on the same spot our daughter died. She cried herself to death.

(he sniffles)

I lost everything, I lost my mind too and I took off to a place I never knew.

After some few years I came back home, decided to start afresh, sell of everything and be a new man.

BREANA

Mr Zoe you know you can't burn the memories no matter what, the memories will always be there.

MR ZOE

I know, I tried so many times but they keep coming. What can I do eh, am just a man.

He looks at Her again

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

And you, you made me happy again. When I saw you, I saw her in you and when you came to me for help, I knew it was her coming back to me.

**BREANA** 

Am also happy to meet you too, Mr Zoe. You helped me, I wanna help you too.

MR ZOE

Ah! What?

**BREANA** 

No more training today, we gonna go visit a place.

MR ZOE

What place?

**BREANA** 

You have a house, don't you?

MR ZOE

Yeah, I guess

BREANA gets up

**BREANA** 

Then we got a date

She starts leaving, MR ZOE joins her.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The class is empty, just LILA and MIMI sitting on their normal seats.

MIMI gets up, she walks to the window, she looks through the window. She looks surprised

MIMI

(still looking)

Come see this Lila.

LILA starts walking to the window

LILA

What's that?

She joins MIMI, she looks through too to review BREANA and MILEY walking together on the lawn, talking and laughing

LILA (CONT'D)

(still looking)

Is that Breana with Miley? Are they like a couple now?

MIMI

You're seeing exactly what am seeing.

LILA

Is she just doing that to make us jealous?

MIMI

Breana is not like that and if she wants too certainly not with Miley.

They continue looking.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - DAY

BREANA still on bed, her blanket covers her up to her face.

KNOCK ON DOOR. Door opens, MICHAEL comes in, he stands at the door

MICHAEL

Honey are you still in bed?

BREANA takes the blanket down, her face filled with sleep

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I thought we are going for service together.

BREANA

(yawning)

Am tired pops, my legs hurt from running everyday.

MICHAEL

It's been long since you went to church.

I know. I'll go next Sunday.

MICHAEL

That's what you say every Sunday.

REGINA (O.S)

Lets go honey.

She walks in, standing behind MICHAEL

REGINA

Breana what are you still doing on bed?

BREANA

Am tired, Ma.

REGINA

We have to go to church.

BREANA

I'll just church here.

**REGINA** exhales

REGINA

(to MICHAEL)

Lets go honey.

She leaves

MICHAEL

You can do better than this.

MICHAEL leaves too

BREANA

Pray for me

She groans and covers her face with the blanket.

INT. MECHANIC STORE - DAY

MR ZOE stands outside the store. BREANA walks up to him

**BREANA** 

I got your call, I was in class

MR ZOE

I didn't know.

The class was boring anyways. What's up?

MR ZOE

I wanna show you something i got

**BREANA** 

What's it

MR ZOE

Follow me

He walks to the garage, she follows him. He pulls the door up, she sees an old truck in the middle, other machine parts lie on the ground too

**BREANA** 

Whoa! Mr Zoe is that for me 'cause I don't want it.

MR ZOE

No, it's for me. This is one of mine, looking a little old but we are going to work on it, maybe a spray.

**BREANA** 

Sorry, what do you mean by who 'cause I ain't spraying no truck.

MR ZOE

It's also for you.

**BREANA** 

So like am gonna have to drive a truck now?

MR ZOE

No, you are gonna run after it.

He starts walking to the front seat door of the truck

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Let's go.

**BREANA** 

In that?

MR ZOE

Ah!

He opens the door, enters and closes the door

Engine Starts. Truck Horns

Oh God!

She runs to the other side, opens the door, climbs up and closes the door.

EXT. MR ZOE'S HOUSE - LATER

The truck drives into a beautiful, big bungalow, nicely built and designed with flowers but still looks a little dusty.

BREANA comes down looking around the place in surprise. MR ZOE comes down too. She walks to MR ZOE

BREANA

What is this place?

MR ZOE

You wanted to come to my house, here we here.

**BREANA** 

(surprised)

Holy crap! This is your house?

MR ZOE

Yes. Follow me

He leads the way to the door

INT. MR ZOE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The living room is dark. Door opens, ray of light enters the room.

BREANA enters, MR ZOE follows behind her, he closes the door behind her

BREANA (O.C)

(coughing)

No light?

MR ZOE puts on the switch, light fill the room

MR ZOE

Sorry about the place.

BREANA looks around the room, no picture on the wall, the couches look old, dust covers the whole room

(Coughs again)

It's all dusty. How long you say you been gone?

MR ZOE

Twenty or so, who is counting anyway.

**BREANA** 

(still coughing)

Damn! I feel sick.

MR ZOE

I need to show you something.

He starts leaving the sitting, she follows up too still coughing.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Door opens. They enter the room. Still empty and dusty, a bed in the middle of the room, everything else packed to the corner of the room close to the dusty Window

BREANA

I feel like I have eaten dust. Damn!

She cleans her mouth with the back of her palm

MR ZOE

This was her room

He walks to the bed, he feels his palm on the corner of the bed

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

She died right here.

BREANA feels sorry. She takes her hand down

**BREANA** 

What was her name?

MR ZOE takes his palm off the bed, he turns to look at her

MR ZOE

Zilla. My wife was Zilla too. Everything still looks the same to me.

BREANA take another look around the room, she sees a stuffed animal in a Lion form at the side of the bed.

She walks up to it, picks it up, she looks at it for a moment

**BREANA** 

This was hers?

MR ZOE

Yeah, it was.

**BREANA** 

(still looking at it)

I used to have something like this too, I lost it.

MR ZOE

She loved it

BREANA she looks up at MR ZOE

**BREANA** 

Can I keep this?

MR ZOE

Ah! You can.

**BREANA** 

Thanks.

MR ZOE

Lets keep going.

They leave the room

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUE

They walk into the kitchen. The kitchen is empty too, every where looks dusty, the glass windows looking dirty

**BREANA** 

(coughs)

God, am gonna get seriously sick.

She waves off dust from her face with the stuffed animal

MR ZOE

You'll be fine.

BREANA

So what are we doing in the kitchen?

MR ZOE picks up an old clothe from the ground and gives to her

MR ZOE

Cleaning.

BREANA opens her mouth to say something

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You say a word you clean the whole house.

**BREANA** 

Yes, sir.

She takes the clothe from him

MR ZOE

Give me that.

She gives him the stuffed animal

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Let me get you a bucket of water.

He leaves the kitchen

**BREANA** 

(quietly)

Yes, sir

Rap Music Plays

INT. MR ZOE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

BREANA dusts the couches with a clothe. She dusts the middle table, she moves it properly to the middle. She looks at it, shakes her head, she moves it a little to the side again, she looks at it again, she nods and continues dusting.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

MR ZOE drives the truck on the tracks, BREANA runs after the truck. She is only two laps behind the truck.

The truck gets to the end before her, she finishes up and sits on the ground laughing.

EXT. MR ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY

BREANA trims off flower with the flower trimmer, a wheelbarrow next to her, her headphone on her head, nodding to the song.

She drops the trimmer, she starts packing up trimmed flowers on the ground and putting them into the wheelbarrow. She starts pushing the wheelbarrow away.

INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - DAY

BREANA climbs on a stool, still wearing her headphones, she cleans up the cupboards in the kitchen.

REGINA enters, standing at the door, her eyes filled with surprised, she leaves again.

BREANA continue cleaning. REGINA comes in again with MICHAEL, they watch her clean the cupboards in surprise.

EXT. MR JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

MR ZOE and BREANA standing in front of the house next to each other, they look at how beautiful and shinning the house looks. Flowers well trimmed, windows well cleaned.

They smile, give each other a high five.

Rap Music Ends.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

She falls on her bed, so tired and weak.

Phone Rings. She picks up her phone next to her side, she answers

BREANA

(sounding dull)

Hello

(she listens)

Dallas?

(she listens again)

Lila with you?

She sits up

BREANA (CONT'D)

Am on my way

She jumps out of bed.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - LATER

LILA and DALLAS standing outside the coffee shop, waiting for BREANA

LILA looks at her watch

LILA

Are you sure she is coming?

DALLAS

She will come.

LILA

Maybe this was a bad idea.

DALLAS

Trust me, it'll be fine. Just go in and wait.

LILA

Okay.

She enters. DALLAS still waiting. BREANA shows up

DALLAS

What took you so long?

BREANA

I had to run down, no cab this late. Where is she?

DALLAS

She is inside

They start walking into...

INT. COFFEE SHOP - CONTINUOUS

... They walk into the coffee shop, no customers, they start walking to LILA'S table

DALLAS and BREANA sit

**BREANA** 

Hey.

LILA

Hey B.

**BREANA** 

Are you okay?

LILA

(nods)

Yea. You?

**BREANA** 

Am okay now.

LILA

Am sorry B.

**BREANA** 

You don't have to be. Am sorry I left.

LILA smiles

DALLAS

(to BREANA)

She got something to tell you

**BREANA** 

(anxiously)

What is it?

LILA exhales deeply

LILA

It's Joe.

BREANA looks at her waiting to hear more.

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

JOE'S car parking outside his mini gate. He comes out holding two black bags in his both hands. He walks to his car, he drops one bag on the ground, deeps his hand into his pocket, he brings out his keys, sticks them into the key hole, opens up his trunk. One after the other he put the bags into the trunk.

He closes his trunk again. He walks to the front door of the car, opens the door and enters..

INT. JOE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

He enters his car, closes the door. He sticks his keys in the key hole, starts up car. He looks up the front window, he sees BREANA standing in front.

He stops the Engine, opens the car and...

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

He comes out, closes the door again. He walks a little to the front of the car

JOE

Who the fuck are you?

BREANA takes two steps close to JOE

**BREANA** 

What you want man, tryna run away with something that ain't yours?

JOE

What the fuck you talkin' 'bout huh?

DALLAS walking up behind BREANA with LILA

DALLAS

She is talkin' 'bout the documents you been hiding, Lila's document.

JOE

It's you again dog, I told you imma blow your brains out the next time I set eyes on you.

DALLAS

(walking up to JOE)
Imma be the one blowin' out your brains bitch.

BREANA holds DALLAS by the arm pulling him back

**BREANA** 

Ain't nobody blowin' out no brains, at least not now

She walks up to JOE, she takes a long look at him

BREANA (CONT'D)

Look man, we ain't here to cause you any troubles, you know you got 'em documents why don't you give it back?

JOE

I don't have any documents.

LILA

(almost crying and yelling)

He is lying, he has it.

JOE

What you talkin' 'bout bitch, what damn documents?

DALLAS moves to JOE again, his fists clenching up by his side

DALLAS

One more 'b' word from you imma let it loose

BREANA pulls his back again

BREANA

Dallas no fightin' here, we are gonna take this so easy

JOE

What is the dog doing here anyway?

DALLAS pivots and punches JOE hard on the face. JOE falls to the ground

DALLAS

I hate it easy.

**BREANA** 

I said no fightin', I was tryna talk to him.

DALLAS

We don't have time for that.

DALLAS bends to JOE on the ground, he grabs his chin tightly with his right hand

DALLAS (CONT'D)

So where are the documents?

JOE

I told you I don't have anything.

LILA runs to JOE, crying

LILA

You have everything, please give them back.

JOE

I don't know what you are talkin'
'bout. I don't have any damn
documents.

DALLAS punches JOE on the face again, his face turns red with blood

**BREANA** 

(yells)

Stop it. I'll search the car.

She walks to the car, we see her moving around the car, from the front seat to the back seat and to the trunk of the car

LILA

You know you have it, the documents my dad left me before he died. It contains ownership to everything he had, where are they?

JOE

I swear I don't know.

BREANA joins them again

BREANA

I found nothing. Are you sure he has it.

LILA

Yeah, he does.

DALLAS

(yelling)

Where are they?

LILA bends to JOE

LILA

You took something from me, you molest me because of it, you made sleep outside, get you some money if I want it back. It's over Joe, I want them back.

JOE

Jesus! I thought they were just papers, I never knew they were important

LILA

Where are they?

JOE

I don't know, probably in the house.

LILA starts crying and beating up JOE

LILA

I hate you, I hate you, go to hell

DALLAS grabs her on his body, he moves her away from JOE

DALLAS

Hey, it's okay. Okay.

LILA

(calms down)

Am done. I lost everything.

DALLAS

Don't say that, it's gon be alright.

LILA rests her head on his chest and sobs quietly.

EXT. MR JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

MR ZOE cleaning his truck, the truck no longer looks old, the color shines bright now.

Car approaching. Car stops. Car door opens and closes again

MICHAEL (O.S)

That's a beautiful truck

MR ZOE

(without looking)

Ah! Had it for more than twenty years now

He finally turns to look at MICHAEL

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

My father left it for me. Oh! The man loved the truck like it were his own son.

MICHAEL and MR ZOE laughs

MR ZOE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

You're her father eh?

MICHAEL

Yes. She is my daughter.

MR ZOE

(nodding)

I see. Now I know where she gets her boldness from. She looks just like you.

MICHAEL

I get that a lot from people.

MR ZOE

She knows you are here?

MICHAEL

No, she doesn't.

MR ZOE

Come, I have coffee inside enough for another full stomach

MICHAEL laughs

MICHAEL

You don't have to worry. Am fine

MR ZOE

Rejecting something from an old man eh?

MICHAEL

No, I should be one my way to work anytime soon

MR ZOE

Ah!

MICHAEL

I just want to thank you for my daughter Breana. You are all she talks about, it's either Mr Zoe or nobody else. Sometimes I feel like I'm being erased from her life.

MR ZOE

You know the young world talks about you too. She said something to me

(in BREANA'S voice)

Mr Zoe, I wanna make my pops proud of me.

MICHAEL smiles, he says nothing for a moment

MICHAEL

Thank you Mr Zoe for being the man.

He gives MR ZOE his hand for a shake, MR ZOE shakes it

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

(still shaking)

I appreciate.

MR ZOE

And am flattered.

MICHAEL laughs. They stop shaking

MICHAEL

Lets do this some other time, what do you say?

MR ZOE

Ah! Good.

MICHAEL

Thanks again.

He walks to his car, he enters, starts the car and drives off

MR ZOE

(watching the car drive off)

Like father like daughter.

He starts cleaning the truck again.

EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - DAY

REVEREND BOYCE, 55, comes out of the house with REGINA seeing him off, they walk down the lawn a bit

REGINA

Thank you Reverend for coming over, I really wasn't expecting this.

REVEREND BOYCE

(laughs)

All thanks to the Lord. The bible said we should go into the world and preach the gospel to all nation, am only being a servant.

REGINA and REVEREND BOYCE laugh. BREANA jogs up

**BREANA** 

Good day Reverend Boyce.

REVEREND BOYCE

Breana Jones! How are you doing child?

**BREANA** 

Am doing good man

(OFF: REGINA gives her a face, she sighs slowly)

Sir?

REGINA chuckles

REVEREND BOYCE

Girl I see you everywhere on TV but I don't see you in church. Don't your mama tell you I always ask of you?

BREANA

I don't have the time Reverend, I got a big game coming up and I gotta prepare.

REVEREND BOYCE
So you don't have time for the Lord?

BREANA

I didn't say that.

REVEREND BOYCE
You are a winner child, but a
winner without the Lord is no
winner. We have 24 hours in a day
and all the Lord wants is a
minute, we have 7 days in a week
and all the Lord wants is a day.
Lemme ask you something, do you
pray?

**BREANA** 

Sometimes.

REVEREND BOYCE

Why sometimes? The Lord wants us to talk to him everyday and he is sure to answer no matter what we are doing. I want you to make Prayers something you do everyday, before you run, when you are running, after you run and also when you win. Can you do that?

**BREANA** 

I think so.

REVEREND BOYCE

We can be who we want to be, the Lord wants us to, he holds nothing against us. The Lord calls us all Champions, but who is a champion without the Lord. As a child of the Lord, all you need to do everyday is Thank the Lord for each new day.

I can do that.

REVEREND BOYCE places his right hand on her shoulder

REVEREND BOYCE

You're a bright child, and The Lord loves you.

(he takes off his hand) I should be on my way.

**REGINA** 

Thanks again Reverend.

REVEREND BOYCE

My regards to your husband.

He starts leaving. BREANA and REGINA enter.

EXT. OLD TRACK - DAY

MR ZOE fixing up the tires of the truck, almost done with it. BREANA running to him from a distance.

She meets up, sweating and breathing heavy

**BREANA** 

Am sorry am late, overslept. I had a time with my guys last night and am feeling so washed right now.

MR ZOE

(almost finishing up
with the last screw)

Ah! washed? If I keep listening to you I think my grand children in the other life will totally flunk English Language.

He finishes up with the tires, he gets up from the ground, he turns to BREANA

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You don't have to apologize for living your life the way you want to, now is the time for you my child if not now then when, you understand?

**BREANA** 

I do but I got to train.

MR ZOE

Life is too short to spend it on training, have some fun.

**BREANA** 

(looking surprised)

Why are you sounding like that Mr Zoe?

MR ZOE

I don't know but I feel strange.

**BREANA** 

Don't you wanna go home and get a rest, I'll be fine.

MR ZOE

I'm okay. Go get ready.

BREANA still looking surprised, she starts walking to her track while MR ZOE climbs up the truck.

Truck Engine starts. He moves the truck to the track too.

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

You ready?

**BREANA** 

Gimme a sec.

She clutches her hands in her face in prayer way, her eyes closed

MR ZOE

What are you doing?

**BREANA** 

(opens her eyes)

Praying.

MR ZOE

(Smiling)

Carry on.

She closes her eyes again for a minute. She opens her eyes, takes her hands down

**BREANA** 

Am good.

MR ZOE

Alright

(he calls out)

On your mark..

She gets on her mark

MR ZOE (CONT'D)

Set.

She get set to run. MR ZOE puts the whistle in his mouth and blows.

At the same time, the truck and BREANA takes off.

In the middle of the race BREANA takes the lead. She gives the truck two laps gap before the finish line

**BREANA** 

(yelling and breathing
heavy)

Yea!

Mr ZOE still driving the truck, he brings his face out the window cheering her

MR ZOE

You did it. You did it.

BREANA rests her both hands on her knees, her eyes down the ground catching her breath for a moment.

We see nothing but we hear TIRES SCREECHING, CRASH SOUND. We hear something scatter and burn.

BREANA holds her breathe, things stop moving for a moment and all we hear now is her HEART BEATING so fast.

Things are back to normal again but in Slow Motion. She looks up, her eyes filled with tears, her legs and whole body shaking

**BREANA** 

Oh no! oh no! Oh no!

We see what she is looking at. The truck falls over on MR ZOE'S side, the front glass drops everywhere on the ground, the front two tires lie separately away from the truck.

We see MR ZOE laying half dead on the ground with his face on the ground, his clothes covered in red blood.

BREANA runs up to him still in slow motion. She knees on the ground with her buttocks resting on her hills. She carries MR ZOE'S head up and rests it on her laps.

SLOW MOTION stops. MR ZOE opens his eyes slowly

BREANA (CONT'D)

(crying)

Are you okay?

MR ZOE nods slowly

BREANA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

(still crying)

Lemme help you up. Lets go home.

MR ZOE struggling to say something, he closes his eyes and opens them again

MR ZOE

No child, am fine here.

**BREANA** 

No, this isn't fine. Let's go home.

MR ZOE holds her hand tightly

MR ZOE

You made me happy, child. I'll be thinking 'bout you

**BREANA** 

(still crying hard)

Don't do this, please. Mr Zoe please.

MR ZOE

I want this child. I want to see my wife and daughter again.

**BREANA** 

Please!

MR ZOE

Go home and be a good child. Make sure to bring the trophy home.

He forces a smile. BREANA nods holding herself from crying

**BREANA** 

(sniffles)

I'll miss you.

MR ZOE closes his eyes gradually, he finally closes them, his hands slip away from BREANA'S.

She covers her mouth with her right palm and she cries quietly.

We move away from them slowly.

SOFT MUSIC PLAYS

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Everybody all present in MR ZOE'S funeral, they all appear in full black outfit.

They gather round MR ZOE'S casket laying in the middle with flowers around it, while REVEREND BOYCE stands in front with A bible in his hand reading the Psalms

REVEREND BOYCE

...I shall not want, he maketh me to lay down in green pastures, he restoreth my soul, he leadeth me in the path of.....

BREANA turns and she starts leaving, paving her way through the crowd. Her MOM, DAD watch her leave

REVEREND BOYCE (CONT'D) ...surely, Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life...

INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

BREANA sits on the couch, her hands resting on her laps looking at the silver necklace she first got from MR ZOE in her right palm.

Tears rolls down her cheeks, she wipes it off with the back of her palm

MICHAEL and REGINA enters. She gets up immediately

BREANA

(crying)

This is all your fault, you made this happen.

MICHAEL

Honey whatever happened is nobody's fault.

**BREANA** 

It's your fault. Everyday in this house was Breana get a coach, you need a coach, I got one and then he died coaching me. I feel guilty, I done killed somebody pops.

REGINA

(crying)

Baby don't say that. It's gonna be okay.

**BREANA** 

(almost yelling)

It's never going to be okay. Mr Zoe is dead and gone, he's never coming back.

MICHAEL

We know how you feel.

**BREANA** 

No, you don't. It hurts so bad. I don't wanna do this alone.

MICHAEL

We are here for you.

He hugs her. BREANA still crying, she breaks free

**BREANA** 

I wanna be alone.

She runs upstairs.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

SOFT MUSIC CONTINUOUS

She crumbles up on her bed backing the door. REGINA enters with a tray of food. She looks at BREANA for a moment, she walks to the table, drops the tray of food on the table and picks up the other tray of untouched food on the table.

She looks at BREANA again, she starts leaving and walk out the door, shutting the door behind her.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

LILA, MIMI, MILEY and JAKE round up in a seat. LILA phone is on her ear while the rest look at her. She takes the phone down, she looks at them shaking her head.

EXT. FOOTBALL PITCH - DAY

TEE watch group of boys play football. The guys end up the football and gather up for a break.

TEE walks up to the coach. They talk for a moment. The coach stretches his hand to TEE, TEE shakes it.

INT. CEMETERY - DAY

REGINA and MICHAEL looking at MR ZOE'S grave. MR ZOE 1960-2019 encrypted on it.

REGINA holds a bouquet of flower. She gives the flower to MICHAEL, He takes it and he drops it at MR ZOE's grave.

MICHAEL side hugs REGINA, he kisses her forehead.

INT. AUDITION ROOM - DAY

Three judges seat over a table. MIMI walks in

The judges look at her for a moment. Judge one picks up a sheet of paper, he looks at it and looks up at MIMI

JUDGE 1

Mirabel Kings?

MIMI

(nervously)

Yea.

JUDGE 2

Why do you want to act?

MIMI inhales deeply and exhales

MIMI

Acting is my hustle. That's all i gotta say.

The judges look at her so confused.

INT. LILA'S ROOM - DAY

She is standing in the mirror wearing her earrings. It slips off her hand and falls to the ground. She looks around for it, she knees to the ground, looking under the bed. She puts her hand under the bed and pulls out some papers.

She sits on the ground, looking at the papers. She opens her mouth and covers it with her palms. LILA jumps up and runs out of the room.

INT. BREANA'S ROOM - DAY

BREANA crumbles on her bed playing Rap music on her phone.

KNOCKS ON DOOR. Door Opens, MICHAEL comes in

MICHAEL

Hey!

He shuts the door behind him. BREANA sits up properly, she picks up her phone goes through it. Rap music stops playing, she drops the phone beside her.

MICHAEL sits at the edge of the bed next to her

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

**BREANA** 

(nods)

I guess so

MICHAEL

Hey! I don't like seeing you like this and you know it. You should be strong for me.

**BREANA** 

It hurts Pops. It really does.

MICHAEL

I have lost so many people in my life, believe me when I tell you I know how it feels.

BREANA

I don't get it Pops. Everything happened so fast, it was like he knew he was gonna die. We shouldn't have trained that day.

MICHAEL

Stop blaming yourself, everything happen because they were meant to happen, you can't blame God for anything,

BREANA sighs. She says nothing for a moment.

BREANA

Maybe I shouldn't have gotten him involved. Mr Zoe was one of 'em people not meant to die on earth.

MICHAEL

Everybody is gonna die one day, that's the chemistry of life. You may have lost one coach but you got a million coaches out there, starting with me.

BREANA laughs

**BREANA** 

You are right?

MICHAEL

Yea and I'll always be.

He gets up from the bed

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

And he is waiting outside for you.

BREANA

Who?

MR ZOE

I don't know but he looks cool to me.

He smiles, he walks out the room. BREANA raises her brows.

EXT. MICHEAL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

JAKE standing outside on the lawn. BREANA comes out all freshened up. She walks up to JAKE

**JAKE** 

Hey!

**BREANA** 

Hey. What you doing standing outside my house?

JAKE

Thought it was cool I came over to say Hi.

**BREANA** 

Yea, it's cool.

JAKE looks around for a moment. He looks back at BREANA

JAKE

You wanna walk me to somewhere?

(nodding)

Sure

They start walking together hand in hand.

EXT. PARK - LATER

BREANA and JAKE in the park sitting alone in her favorite bench eating her favorite ice cream

BREANA

This really feels so good

**JAKE** 

Am happy you like it

BREANA

No, I love it

(she eats the ice cream)
And the ice cream ain't lost it's
taste since I last ate it. Thanks
for this.

She eats the ice cream again

**JAKE** 

You know what?

**BREANA** 

What?

JAKE

I feel like the man here.

**BREANA** 

(laughing)

Seriously?

**JAKE** 

Yea, I do. It feels so good to have somebody love what you do.

BREANA

But this is good, I swear.

She moves the ice cream to JAKE

BREANA (CONT'D)

You want some?

**JAKE** 

Nah, am good.

(taking it back)

Good, more for me. Imma keep eating this.

JAKE laughs. He stares at BREANA for a moment

BREANA (CONT'D)

(chuckles)

What? don't tell me I got ice cream on my face?

**JAKE** 

No, you are good.

**BREANA** 

Then stop starring, you gonna make me choke.

**JAKE** 

You still wanna know what my hustle is?

**BREANA** 

Yea.

**JAKE** 

Basketball. I love basketball.

**BREANA** 

You do? Hell I haven't seen you play.

JAKE

That's 'cause I stopped playing in high school.

**BREANA** 

What happened?

**JAKE** 

Let's say I helped a loser win, I gave him my spotlight so everyone would see him as a winner for once. Of course I never lost, I was the winning guy. Everyone looked down on me, the guy too, then I realized losing was hurtful and useless, so I guit.

**BREANA** 

Oh! familiar? I see.

**JAKE** 

Quitting was a hard one for me, I always wanted to go back and play basketball but I couldn't.

**BREANA** 

You ever try to go back now?

**JAKE** 

Yeah, I have. After I met you, you taught me a lot. I wanna play basketball again.

**BREANA** 

You wanna know one thing?

**JAKE** 

What?

**BREANA** 

I really didn't give Miley the spotlight, it was all because of you.

JAKE

(soft chuckles)

Me?

**BREANA** 

Yeah, you was sitting there and you was looking at me and there I was thinkin' 'bout you...

JAKE starts kissing her on the lips, and slowly she moves her palm to his cheek kissing him back.

INT. MICHAEL HOUSE - STAIRCASE - DAY

BREANA walking down the stairs still in her pajamas to..

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

...in to the living room

ALL

Surprise!!

BREANA startles. Her MOM carries a large Cake with HAPPY BIRTHDAY BREANA designed on it and a burning candle on it. Her DAD, DEE, TEE, MIMI, LILA and DALLAS all present.

DALLAS holds his hand around LILA'S neck

(Still surprised)

What is this?

 $\mathtt{ALL}$ 

(singing)

Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday, Happy birthday, Happy birthday to you!

They start laughing

REGINA

Happy birthday honey.

**BREANA** 

You guys, you didn't have to do this.

MIMI

It's your birthday. Come on!

TEE

We got you ight? You should seen your face.

They start laughing again

REGINA

Come on, blow out your candle.

**BREANA** 

I don't want to

MICHAEL

We put so much effort in that cake honey

DEE

Come on B, blow it out

LILA/MIMA

Come on!

**BREANA** 

Okay.

She blows out the candle. They all cheer

DALLAS

What did you wish for?

**BREANA** 

I don't know.

REGINA

We know.

**BREANA** 

Thanks y'all for this but I don't wanna have a birthday right now. You guys know what I wanna do now?

ALL

What?

BREANA

I wanna run.

EXT. OLD STADIUM - LATER

Rock Music Plays

All dressed in workout outfit, they start jogging from the beginning of the track all the way down.

INT. MICHAEL'S OFFICE - DAY

MICHAEL in his office writing on a paper. BREANA enters

**BREANA** 

Hey Pops?

MICHAEL looks up, surprised to see her

MICHAEL

Hey!

**BREANA** 

You busy?

MICHAEL

No.

She brings out a Tag from her back pocket, walks to his table and drops the tag

BREANA

I brought you this.

MICHAEL picks it up looking at it

BREANA (CONT'D)

It's my ticket for the game tomorrow. I already gave one of those to Ma and of course my friends.

He looks at her

MICHEAL

Thank you!

BREANA

You gon be there right?

MICHAEL

Am always going to be there.

BREANA smiles

BREANA

I still got one more. It was supposed to be for Mr Zoe.

MICHAEL

Am sorry.

**BREANA** 

I got someone else.

MICHAEL

You always make me proud.

BREANA

Thanks Pops.

She turns and starts leaving. MICHAEL watches her leave.

INT. CD STORE - LATER

Door opens BREANA enters. She walks up to..

STORE COUNTER

The STORE MANAGER standing behind the counter

**BREANA** 

Hey!

STORE MANAGER

Hey Breana Jones. Good to see you again.

BREANA

Good to see you too.

STORE MANAGER

You can buy anything you want. I won't charge you.

Thanks but I don't wanna buy.

She hands him the tag, he looks at it

BREANA (CONT'D)

Um it's my ticket for the race tomorrow..for your daughter.

STORE MANAGER

Am sorry Breana but she can't make it.

BREANA

But I got the ticket.

STORE MANAGER

It's not about the ticket. She died.

**BREANA** 

What? Died?

STORE MANAGER

She died two years ago of cancer.

BREANA

Cancer again?

STORE MANAGER

Yes but she always believed in you. I wish she was here to see you.

**BREANA** 

Am sorry

BREANA runs out of the store holding herself from crying.

INT. DRESSER ROOM - DAY

BREANA and MILEY all dressed up in their running vest and short, looking at the mirror

BREANA turns to MILEY

**BREANA** 

You look ready.

MILEY

(to BREANA)

You look ready too.

You gonna smash this thing right?

MILEY

Smash it or not, all I wanna do is run 'cause running is my hustle

MILEY and BREANA laugh

MILEY (CONT'D)

Make sure to win this thing Breana.

BREANA nods

**BREANA** 

Let's do this.

They high five and start leaving the room.

EXT. PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

They come out. DEE, DALLAS, LILA, TEE, MIMI, JAKE and BREANA'S PARENTS standing at the door

MILEY

Hi guys.

ALL

Hi Miley!

MIMI

You look good.

MILEY

Thanks

(to BREANA)

See you later.

She starts leaving

MILEY (CONT'D)

See you later guys.

ALL

Bye.

TEE

She is cute.

DALLAS

You checkin' her out?

TEE

Am only admirin' the handwork of the Lord.

DEE

Did you just call the Lord?

TEE

Yeah I did. Am a son of the Lord. Hallelujah!

They all laugh

REGINA

We just came to see you before the game.

MICHAEL

And make sure you're doing good.

**BREANA** 

Am fine.

LILA

And we will be cheering you up.

MIMI

Very loudly.

**BREANA** 

Thanks y'all, this means a lot to me.

DEE

We always got your back B.

REGINA

Aww! I wanna cry.

MIMI

(making a face)

Me too.

MICHAEL

Have fun alright, that's what matters.

BREANA nods

REGINA

We have to go now (she hugs B)

Have fun.

See y'all later

They start leaving except JAKE, singing and dancing

ALL

Go B! Go B! Go B!

BREANA and JAKE laughing as they watch them leave, singing and dancing.

The song finally comes to an end

**JAKE** 

Got you something

He brings out a red rose from his back and gives to her

BREANA

Thank you.

She takes it, smells it

**JAKE** 

You like it?

BREANA

It's nice but red is not really my thing.

JAKE

(chuckles) Great!

You wanna go out sometime, like on a date?

BREANA smiles

**BREANA** 

Sure.

**JAKE** 

Tonight?

**BREANA** 

Mhm Hmm!

JAKE

I guess we'll see tonight then?

BREANA

Sure.

JAKE smiles. He starts leaving. BREANA calls him back

BREANA (CONT'D)

Jake?

He turns to her. She throws him the rose, he catches it

BREANA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

You wanna keep that, I don't wanna smash it during the race.

JAKE smiles, he takes a bow and starts leaving again. BREANA laughs and leaves to.

EXT. STADIUM GROUND - LATER

The competition is a big one. More activities take place, we see High jump activities, long jump activities, javelin throw, swimming and lots more competition.

THE RACE SIDE

Crowd Cheering. Man talks on Speaker.

BREANA takes track three, MILEY takes track four and so did the other girls.

Crowd continue cheering. MILEY and BREANA hug one more time.

BREANA clutches her hand in her face in prayer way, she closes her eyes.

IN the Crowd, her MOM, DAD and friends all sit next to each other  $\,$ 

LILA

(yelling)

Yeah, go B!

BREANA takes her hands down, open her eyes. The girls start preparing to run. Some stretching their legs, some jogging and some doing both and other exercise

FEMALE VOICE (O.S)

On your marks!

The girls get on their marks

FEMALE VOICE (O.S)(CONT'D)

Get set!

They all get set, their face looking straight forward

Gun Shots. They take off immediately

Man talking on speaker continues.

Girl number 2, girl number 3, girl number 4, and Girl number 6 runs up in this order while the other girls follow up.

BREANA, number four, start taking the lead, she run pass MILEY, and Girl Number 2. She finally takes the lead.

MILEY, number 3, run pass Girl number 2 following up behind BREANA.

BREANA finishes up first in 23 minutes 2 seconds, MILEY second, Girl number 2 third, Girl number 6 finishes up fourth and the other Girls following up behind.

Crowd Cheering.

BREANA and MILEY high five and hug. In the crowd we see BREANA'S family jumping, clapping and cheering

BREANA and MILEY hold hands walking away

Crowd Continue Cheering.

EXT CEMETERY - DAY

BREANA Drops a bouquet of flower on his grave side. She wears her new Gold Medal around her neck.

## **BREANA**

Hey! Good to see you again man. Guess what? I brought home the Trophy like you asked me too

She pauses for a while, she exhales and continues again

BREANA (CONT'D)

You taught me a lot and you know what, I understand. Am a runner and you were a good man. I know you are happy right now, finally with your family, but you are forever in my heart.

She takes off her Medal, bends to his grave and drops the medal beside the grave. She stands up again

BREANA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

That's for you Mr Zoe, for everything, and I hope that in your next life you'd make running your hustle and bring home trophies too.

(she sighs)

I love you man.

She turns and starts leaving.

JAKE standing beside the front seat door of BREANA'S new Black Sports Car. BREANA walks up to him

**JAKE** 

Are you okay?

BREANA

Yeah. I wanna go out.

**JAKE** 

Where you wanna go?

**BREANA** 

Somewhere cool and quiet.

**JAKE** 

Okay. Wherever you want.

He kisses her on the lips, again, again, and again

**BREANA** 

(laughs)

You are naughty.

**JAKE** 

(chuckles)

I know.

They kiss again. They stop kissing. BREANA walks to the passenger seat of the car, she opens the door, enters and closes the door. JAKE opens his own door, enters and closes it again.

The Car drives away in speed.