SLIT
(currently under revision)

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FADE IN:

INT. DARK ROOM

A barely visible figure struggles frantically in a pitch black room. Sporadic hard breathing echoes loudly. A woman's voice whimpers.

Beat.

WOMAN
(screams)

CUT TO:

INT. CANDICE'S HOME, LIVING ROOM -- NIGHT

CANDICE, mid 20's, attractively depressed and lowly demeanor, nervously cleans her home. She scrubs the floor, dusts off the television, wipes the countertops and light switches, removing all traces of finger prints. She exits.

ODELL, her husband, early 30's, neat, well-kept enters the home SLAMMING the door five times and constantly clears his throat.

ODELL

Candy?!

CANDICE

In the kitchen!

INT. KITCHEN

Odell enters the amazingly clean kitchen, putting a handkerchief in his pocket.

ODELL

(to himself)

Eight, nine, ten.
CANDICE
Hey honey, how was work?

Odell walks by Candice heading to the sink. He snatches a paper towel and uses it to turn on the facet. He throws the paper towel away and pulls another. With this paper towel he presses a soap dispenser letting the soap run in the opposite hand.

ODELL
(distant)
It was fine I guess, that damn Mike tried to steal a sell from me, but I got it anyway.

Odell scrubs his hands intensely.

CANDICE
Well that's good.

Odell grabs another paper towel and dries his hands, then repeats the process.

CANDICE
You ready to eat?

ODELL
You know I am.

CANDICE
Um, okay I already set the table so just have a seat when you're ready and I'll fix your plate.

Odell sighs and continues washing his hands.

INT. DINING ROOM--LATER

The dining room table is full with a roast beef and mash potato dinner. Two plates are placed on opposite ends of the table. The salt, pepper, and
other necessary condiments are closer to one plate. Odell enters and sits in front of the favored side of the table. Candice submissively prepares the drinks.

CANDICE
Stop, go ahead and say grace now.

Candice stops and bows her head.

CANDICE
Lord, thank you for this food that we are about to receive. Please make it nourishing to our bodies. Amen.

Candice moves to fix her own plate as Odell fixes his. Odell picks up a fork and examines it. Startled he drops the fork on the table. Candice nervously notices his actions.

ODELL
Candice come here.

Candice hesitantly stops what she is doing and slowly approaches Odell like a reprimanded child.

ODELL
Look at that fucking fork.

Candice apprehensively bends over to look. Odell SLAPS her causing her to fall to the floor.

ODELL
It's smudged!! Are you trying to kill me or something? You're trying to poison me aren't you? How many times have I told about this shit?!

Odell extends his hand back to hit Candice again.
Candice lifts a bloody hand to brace herself. Odell sees the blood and looks at his own hand, there's blood on it as well. Odell rushes into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN

Odell deliriously repeats his hand washing process over and over. This visibly angers him more.

INT. DINING ROOM

Candice lies in the spot that she fell huddled up and sobbing. Odell enters grabbing her by the back of the neck and dragging her out of the room as she SCREAMS.

INT. BATHROOM

Odell still holding a struggling Candice snatches back the shower curtain and turns on the hot water.

CANDICE
Odie, please, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. Not this, please. It's too hot, I can do it myself!!

ODELL
Shut the fuck up! I already gave you that chance and you messed it up.

He pushes her into the shower. She screams from the pain of the hot water.

ODELL
You idiot, you got your self dirty with that blood on you! Wash it off now, you're lucky I'm even touching you!
He rips her clothes off.

ODELL
Scrub, scrub, scrub!

Candice obviously in pain grabs the liquid soap and pours it on herself. She rubs the soap onto her body. Watching Candice, Odell calms and exits. Candice immediately turns the hot water down and adds cold water to it. She sits in the shower and weeps.

INT. BEDROOM--LATER

Dimly lit, Candice lies in bed under the covers, motionless. Odell enters and undresses. He sits next to her in bed

ODELL
Candy, why do you do that to yourself? You know I can't stand germs, or anything dirty, but you still do things that make me have to do stuff to you. Why?

Candice holds back her tears.

CANDICE
I'm sorry.

ODELL
Did you clean yourself?

CANDICE
Yeah.

ODELL
How many times?

CANDICE
Three.
ODELL
Good girl, I'm stressed out and need to relax.

Candice hears her cue and pulls the covers up under her chin. She undresses under the cover. Odell disrobes completely and slides under the covers with her. He moves on top of Candice.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM -- DAY

Candice wakes up in bed and looks at the clock. It reads 5:00 am. She gets out of bed cautiously trying not to interrupt Odell's slumbering.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Candice turns on the television and pulls out the ironing board. While watching T.V., she irons her and Odell's clothes.

INT. KITCHEN--LATER

Candice puts the finishing touches on the breakfast she has prepared and is fully dressed. Odell enters and is also fully dressed in the clothes that Candice has ironed and is wearing plastic gloves.

ODELL
It's 7:45 I got to go.

CANDICE
Your plate is on the table.

ODELL
Thanks.

CANDICE
Um... Odell, did you enjoy yourself last night?
ODELL
Candice, don't start this crap again. I know you want a baby, but your body can't make them. Get that through your head and get over it.

CANDICE
I just don't want to give up that's all.

ODELL
We'll try again when I'm horny. I got to go.

Rolling his eyes, Odell grabs two paper towels. He uses them to grab a biscuit and a few pieces of bacon. He exits the home shutting the door five times. Candice slumps in sorrow, she throws away the breakfast that she has been preparing.

CUT TO:

INT. CENTRAL PEAK ENERGY -- DAY

Compact, busy, noisy, Candice sits at her desk in the call center discussing energy bills with customers. EMPLOYEE #1, older woman, grandmotherly voice.

EMPLOYEE #1
Yes sir, I understand. But you have to understand too. You did use the gas, so you have to pay for it.

She mutes the phone.

EMPLOYEE #1
Ya'll this fool, knows he used the gas, now he wants us to adjust his bill. The only thing we'll adjust is maybe adding a few more
charges.

Co-workers laugh. EMPLOYEE #2, young, feisty, portly.

EMPLOYEE #2
Look sir, if you continue to use that kind of language, I'll have to disconnect this call.

Beat.

EMPLOYEE #2
Customer using profanity, disconnecting call.

She hangs up.

EMPLOYEE #2
Jerk. Next time be there when the tech shows up.

CANDICE
Hello my name is...yes sir, I'm sorry. What is your...I will try sir...what is your...no sir. Yes sir...I'm so sorry sir. Yes sir if I can only...oh, ma'am I didn't know. I apologize. Hello? Ma'am...

EMPLOYEE #3, attractive, busy body.

EMPLOYEE #3
Candy, did you get hung up on again?

CANDICE
Yeah.

EMPLOYEE #3
Girl, you can't let these
people run over you like that. You need to learn how to put your foot down.

EMPLOYEE #1
The poor child needs to learn to enjoy herself first. She can't take control of others until she controls her own life.

EMPLOYEE #2
Yeah Candice, girl you do look like you need to have some fun. Come out with us this weekend.

EMPLOYEE #3
Child, I don't even know why you're trying that.
(into the phone)
Yes sir, one moment please.
(Back to convo.)
You know that husband of hers ain't letting her out.

EMPLOYEE #2
Yeah, he probably knows that if she gets out there good, that she ain't coming back.

EMPLOYEE #1
Ya'll leave Candy alone.
(to Candice)
So honey you think you might go with these hoochies.

EMPLOYEE #3
Yeah girl, come. Wait a
minute, hoochies?

They laugh.

CANDICE
You guys know that I can't do that.

EMPLOYEE #2
We know, but it was worth the try.

CANDICE
Thanks anyway.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD -- NIGHT

Candice's car parks in front of a nice home. Candice exits the car and approaches the home. She RINGS the doorbell. Her sister, MICHELLE, mid 30's, vibrant, answers holding an infant.

MICHELLE
It's about time.

CANDICE
I'm sorry, my last call was a long one.

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME

MICHELLE
Candy, I'm just playing.
You're just in time to help change diapers.

Candice enters the exquisite home that is tarnished by playful children.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Michelle sits on the couch and lays the baby down.
Candice also sits. Michelle changes the diaper.

MICHELLE
Candy, why didn't I make sure that diaper changing was in the divorce contract?

CANDICE
I don't know, sis. Hey I can only stay for a little while, I have to start on that house and I only have two hours before Odie gets home.

MICHELLE
Candy come on now, tell me again why can't you just follow my example?

CANDICE
Michelle don't start this again. Just because you got a divorce doesn't mean that it is meant for everybody.

Two more kids, JASON 7 and TOBEY 5, run by playfully.

JASON
Hey, Aunt Candy!

TOBEY
Hey, Aunt Candy!

CANDICE
Hey guys!

Michelle continues the diaper changing process.

MICHELLE
Yes Candy, I'm starting again. It's so obvious that
"you're not happy."

CANDICE
That's just how I look today, Michelle.

MICHELLE
No, that's how you have looked for a long time.

CANDICE
It's not Odie's fault. I look sad because I can't have this. I can't have what you got, not because of anything that Odie is doing.'

Tears form in Candice's eyes.

CANDICE
Look, I'm going to go since all we're talking about...

MICHELLE
Okay, okay, I'll leave it alone. But remember, I know you better than anybody, so I know when you're not being straight up with me and I know when you need something. But I'll leave it alone. Just throw this away for me.

Michelle tosses Candice the wrapped dirty diaper.

MICHELLE
And finish watching this soap that I TiVo'd with me, then you can run off.

CANDICE
Whatever, just hit play.
Michelle hits play.

    MICHELLE
    Oh hey, I have something to ask you.

    CANDICE
    What?

    MICHELLE
    No, I know how these things go. I'll wait and ask you when we're in front of Odie.

    CANDICE
    Why?

    MICHELLE
    I'm not going to ask you now, I'm just letting you know that I will be asking you in front of him, so you won't be surprised when I do it.

CUT TO:

INT. CANDICE'S HOME--LATER

Candice cleans intensely. Diner is finished and is lying on the table. She checks everything for smudges and fingerprints. Odell arrives slamming the door five times. He washes his hands. Odell sits at the head of the table, Candice sits on her side. Silently, they eat.

Beat.

    CANDICE
    How was work?

    ODELL
    Fine, sold two Pontiacs.
CANDICE
That's good honey.

ODELL
Yeah.

CANDICE
Work for me was boring as usual.

ODELL
Oh, yeah?

CANDICE
Yeah, some of the girls invited me out again, but I told them no.

ODELL
I don't know why they try that crap. It's not like you're actually on their level, anyway.

CANDICE
What do you mean?

ODELL
Now, don't get that all twisted around like I'm talking down to you or something. I'm just being realistic with you. These women go out every weekend. They get all made up and dress sexy and revealing just so they can go out and grind on some stranger that they will probably cheat on their spouses with. You're just not in their league. That's a good thing.

CANDICE
Oh, yeah, you're right.

ODELL
I know.

Silence takes over the room again.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM -- DAY
Candice sits up in bed and glances at the clock. 5:00 am.

INT. KITCHEN
Candice begins her morning process.

INT. LIVINGROOM -- LATER
There's a KNOCK at the door. Candice, fully dressed, answers. Michelle with bed hair and sweats on, enters.

MICHELLE
Good morning. You fixing breakfast?

CANDICE
Yeah, but there's not much, we weren't expecting company.

Odell enters folding his tie with plastic gloves on his hands.

ODELL
She can have mine.

INT. KITCHEN
He fixes himself a cup of coffee and grabs a few strips of bacon off of an already made plate.
MICHELLE
Are you sure, I wouldn't want to impose.

Michelle grabs the same plate.

MICHELLE
Well if you insist.

Odell moves to the front door to leave.

MICHELLE
Odell, today's my birthday.

ODELL
Happy birthday, Michelle.

MICHELLE
Thanks, hey I wanted to go out and celebrate tonight with my sister.

Michelle has Odell's attention.

ODELL
You want Candice to go with you, tonight?

MICHELLE
That's right. As a birthday present from you, I would like to have my sister for tonight.

Odell looks at Candice who nervously watches the exchange.

CANDICE
I didn't know that she would,...

MICHELLE
Candy didn't know that I came over to ask you this.
She's innocent.

CANDICE
Michelle I don't think...

MICHELLE
Hush Candy, I was asking Odie the question. You know that it really up to him any way.

ODELL
Yeah Candy, stay out of this.

Candice drops her head.

MICHELLE
So, Odell. It's up to you.

Beat.

ODELL
Okay, it's fine I guess. Candice, just make sure you have everything done including dinner when I get home. And don't be out too late. Michelle you take care of her.

MICHELLE
I've been doing that her whole life, Odell.

ODELL
And don't go trying to teach her none of your bad habits. Or filling her head with none of your relationship advice.

MICHELLE
Now, Odell why would I do
that? I enjoy the fact that
I have to ask my sister's
husband if she can go out,
as if he were her father.

ODELL
Yeah, whatever.

Odell exits slamming the door five times.

MICHELLE
Candice, what other car
salesman do you know that
goes to work at 8:00 am?

CANDICE
Michelle.

MICHELLE
I'm just saying honey, and
what's up with the gloves?

CANDICE
Michelle?!

MICHELLE
Okay, okay, don't get
yourself all worked up. Sit
down and eat. Are you
excited?

CANDICE
Yeah, I haven't been out in
years. But I'm worried what
will Odie say when I get
back.

MICHELLE
Candy, cross that bridge
when you get to it. Anyway,
I'll come over after you
get off work and help you
cook and clean. Then we'll
go to my house to get
ready.

CANDICE
Okay...Michelle?

MICHELLE
Yeah, sweetie?

CANDICE
Thank you.

MICHELLE
Don't thank me yet, sweetie. The fun hasn't started yet.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- NIGHT

Michelle enters carrying shopping bags, followed by Candice who is dressed like an out dated 80's woman.

MICHELLE
Candy, I was in such a rush to get out of that house of yours, which is bullshit by the way. No one cleans that damn much. But I didn't notice that you don't have any bags with you. What are you wearing to the club?

CANDICE
What I have on. We're just going to a Buck' em Joe's aren't we? I don't have to dress up for that.

MICHELLE
No, the club we're going to is like 45 minutes away. I figured you do something
like this. That's why I went shopping for the both of us today.

CANDICE
You bought stuff for me too?

MICHELLE
Sweetie, alimony is a beautiful thing and the child support is the cherry on top.

CANDICE
Michelle you're making me feel bad. This is your birthday. I wish Odell would have given me some money out of the account to get you something.

MICHELLE
Sweetie, having the chance to hang out with my sister without having to worry about the warden locking you up is all the gift I need. Now let's give you a make over like we used to do.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB GIGI'S -- NIGHT

Club Gigi's, popular urban night club, a line stretches from the front door to the end of the block. Michelle and Candice, beautifully dressed, surpass the line and walk to the front door. A huge BOUNCER stops them.

BOUNCER
What do ya'll think you're
MICHELLE
Easy said that we would be on the list.

The Bouncer checks the list.

MICHELLE
It should be under Michelle plus one.

The Bouncer keeps checking.

CANDICE
Michelle what is going on, where are we?

MICHELLE
I've been here once or twice, this is a great place. Don't worry it will be fun. I met a guy who works here.
(to herself)
This guy never remembers me.

The Bounce finds the name.

BOUNCER
Here we go, come on in ladies.

The Bouncer moves and allows the ladies to enter.

INT. CLUB GIGI'S

Cool, mellow, sexy, soft R and B music flows through the club.

CANDICE
I didn't know that you
liked places like this.

MICHELLE
Candy, the music ain't the only thing I like.

A tall DARK SKINNED black man walks by. Michelle checks him out.

MICHELLE
Let's get a drink.

The two stunning women approach the bar. EZEKIEL, late 20'S, caramel skinned, handsome and superbly dressed, is behind the bar serving drinks. Candice can't take her eyes off of him.

MICHELLE
Hey, Easy.

EZEKIEL
Hey Michelle, what can I get you?

MICHELLE
Give me a Malibu bay breeze, and give her a Cosmo.

He mixes the drinks. Candice softly speaks to Michelle

CANDICE
Michelle, he looks like this guy I had a huge crush on in high school.

MICHELLE
Really?

CANDICE
Yeah, He was a senior when I was a sophomore. I never got up the courage to talk
to him then.

MICHELLE
Really, I think I remember you talking about that guy. You think this is him?
(to Ezekiel)
Hey, Easy this is Candice.

EZEKIEL
Hey, how you doing? Are ya'll related?

MICHELLE
Yep, this is my baby sis. Can you tell that I'm the older one?

EZEKIEL
Hell no. Ya'll look like twins. So ya'll just out for a night on the town?

Ezekiel hands the drinks to the ladies.

MICHELLE
Yeah, you know today's my birthday.

EZEKIEL
Get out of here, why didn't you tell me before? Well you ladies go have a seat in the VIP area. I'll join you soon.

MICHELLE
Okay.

Candice hesitantly moves, following her sister.

CANDICE
Michelle, how do you know
him?

MICHELLE
Who, Easy? Oh, I met him through my lawyer's wife. He actually owns this place.

The pair make it to the VIP area. Bottles of champagne shortly arrive after them. The music stops. The smooth sounding DJ's voice is heard.

DJ
Ladies and Gentlemen, we have a birthday in the house. Over in the VIP our girl Michelle is celebrating her 21st birthday again. Michelle, Easy wanted you to know that you and your sister's drinks are free for the night. Fellas, I hope ya'll heard that. These two lovely ladies are drinking free all night long, ya'll better get over there and get them on the dance floor, lay your best game down and see if they can give you something all night long. Seriously, Michelle happy birthday, and we here at Gigi's hope that you have many, many more. All right ya'll I'll start it off right.

The DJ plays Stevie Wonder's "Happy Birthday". Ezekiel joins them in the VIP, sitting next to Candice, and the three of them laugh together.

MICHELLE
Awww, thank you Easy, that
was sweet.

EZEKIEL
You're welcome baby. How's your birthday been so far?

MICHELLE
So far so good.

The same Dark Skinned black man approaches Michelle.

MICHELLE
And could be getting better.

DARK SKINNED
Hi, how are you doing?

MICHELLE
I'm fine and you?

DARK SKINNED
I'm good, are you the birthday girl?

MICHELLE
Why yes I am.

DARK SKINNED
Would you like to dance?

MICHELLE
You're not just asking me to dance because the DJ made you think that you might be getting something from me are you?

DARK SKINNED
Well,...

MICHELLE
Oh hell, who cares, let's
Michelle takes Dark Skinned's hand and leads him to the dance floor.

**EZEKIEL**
So, have you been here before?

**CANDICE**
No, this is my first time. I told my sister that I would come with her.

**EZEKIEL**
Wow, you seem so timid and shy, the complete opposite of your sister.

**CANDICE**
Well, my sister used to be a lot more shy than she is now. After her divorce she declared that she would not waist her time on notions like timidity.

**EZEKIEL**
Yeah, I can see she fully embraced that declaration. What about you?

**CANDICE**
Oh I'm still married.

Candice laughs at herself because of the brash statement.

**CANDICE**
I'm not saying that if I weren't married that I would be acting like that...Not that how she's acting is bad or
anything...It's just.

EZEKIEL
Baby, I get it.
(laughs)
You know you shouldn't be so shy, it makes predators like myself more eager for the hunt.

CANDICE
Okay, if you say so.

EZEKIEL
Would you like to dance?

CANDICE
You want to dance with me?

EZEKIEL
As fine as you're looking tonight, who wouldn't?

CANDICE
I don't think so. Being a married woman, I wouldn't want to make this hunt of yours any easier for you.

Michelle returns a little winded.

MICHELLE
What are the two of you talking about?

EZEKIEL
I'm failing at an attempt to get your sister to dance with me.

MICHELLE
Don't feel bad honey, she only dances with her Odie, and he don't dance.
EZEKIEL
Odie, is that your dog?

MICHELLE
Close enough.

Michelle finishes her drink and starts on the champagne.

CANDICE
No, that's my husband.

EZEKIEL
What kind of a name is Odie?

CANDICE
It's short for Odell, what kind of name is Easy?

EZEKIEL
I'm sorry I didn't mean to offend you. It's short for Ezekiel, like from the bible.

CANDICE
Oh, that's nice.

Another man approaches Michelle and extends his hand.

MICHELLE
Why not? Candy, we're here to have fun and you sitting there is defeating that purpose, Sis.

Michelle takes his hand and follows him to the dance floor.

EZEKIEL
So, what do you say?
CANDICE
Okay, fine.

EZEKIEL
Cool.

Ezekiel takes Candice's hand and leads her to the dance floor. The song is moderately paced but Ezekiel steps close to Candice and slowly winds his body into hers.

CANDICE
What are you doing?

EZEKIEL
Just follow my body.

She does.

CANDICE
Ezekiel, this isn't a slow song, why are we dancing like this?

EZEKIEL
You're right.

Ezekiel motions into the air, and continues to dance. The music stops mid-song and changes to something slower.

DJ
Oh, yeah ya'll we're slowing it down for all the lovers on the floor. Grab somebody, anybody but make sure it's a consenting body and get your dip on, your two step on, and all things in between. Just make sure your partner feels you doing it. Here we go ya'll, get it started.
The mood is set. Ezekiel and Candice's bodies flow together.

**EZEKIEL**
Baby, you're too tense, just let go.

**CANDICE**
Ezekiel, I'm married.

**EZEKIEL**
Right here in this small radius it's just you and me. You're Candice and I'm Easy, just a man and a woman moving together. Let all that timidity, worry, and pains go, just for a little while. Lean into me, I got you.

Candice continues to move with him. Leaning on his shoulder she closes her eyes.

Beat.

**EZEKIEL**
Are you okay?

**CANDICE**
Yes.

**EZEKIEL**
Are you enjoying yourself?

**CANDICE**
Yes.

**EZEKIEL**
Can I have you tonight?

**CANDICE**
Yes,...I mean, no!
Candice awakens from her trance. She attempts to move away from Ezekiel, he is amused. He grabs her hand.

EZEKIEL
(laughing)
No, baby not yet. Don't break our radius.

Ezekiel pulls her close again hugging her from behind.

EZEKIEL
I was just playing, calm down. I wanted to make sure that I had your attention.

Candice gives in once again. They dance while he embraces her.

EZEKIEL
Have you ever noticed change?

CANDICE
What do you mean?

EZEKIEL
Well change happens all the time. There are decisions that we make or circumstances that happen that change our lives for a moment or for a life time. Have you ever noticed the exact moment that change has occurred and said to yourself that this moment right here might just change my life?

CANDICE
Yeah, I've done that, but are you saying that this
might be one of those moments?

EZEKIEL
Huh? Oh no, I was just making polite conversation.

They both laugh and look at each other.

Beat.

She looks away.

EZEKIEL
What are you doing?

He lifts her chin until they are looking at each other again.

EZEKIEL
Baby, you're breaking the number one rule of engagement when interacting with another human. Keep constant eye contact throughout your exchange. Your eyes are the windows to your soul, you expose your soul to show someone that you don't fear them.

They don't break eye contact.

CANDICE
But what if you do?

EZEKIEL
Put a tint on your windows so it doesn't show.

They both smile.

CANDICE
Are you just making a move
to try and kiss me?

EZEBIEL
No, I'm not going to do that, you are.

CANDICE
Excuse me?

EZEBIEL
I'm not going to kiss you until you tell me to. Until then we are just friends, dancing.

The pair continue their dance.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

Metal CLANKS together as violent moving shadows flicker. A soft womanly voice pants for air.

WOMAN
(sobbing)
Please, please.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- LATER

Michelle bursts through the door in a drunken laughter and Candice follows in a solemn daze.

MICHELLE
That was so much fun, thanks for driving. We should do it again tomorrow. Wait, we both know Mr. Odie wouldn't let you do that.

CANDICE
Yeah, really. I know Easy was the same guy I went to school with, but I never asked him.

MICHELLE
A blast from the past. Candy, I'm so wasted. Thank God tomorrow's Saturday. T.G.I.F....I mean T.G.T.I.F. Wait what time is it?

CANDICE
Two, ten. I have to be up in three hours to make Odie's breakfast. He has to work today.

MICHELLE
Today?! Oh crap, today is Saturday, T.G.I.S.! Candy, forget about Odie.

CANDICE
I can't forget about him, Michelle he's my husband.

MICHELLE
You forgot about him when Easy was dancing with you.

Candice looks down in a shameful pleasure, and smiles.

MICHELLE
Sis, don't mind me, I'm just teasing. Give me a hug and go home to your husband.

They hug.

MICHELLE
Candy, you're going home to Odie, but you smell like Easy.

Candice panics.

CANDICE
I do?

Candice smells herself and her clothes. She runs to Michelle's bathroom. Michelle laughs and stumbles into the living room.

INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Hundreds of beauty products are spread all over the counter. Candice admires her beautiful reflection for a moment. She snatches off her clothes, grabs a wash cloth and turns on the hot water in the sink. She wipes off her make up, lip stick, and scrubs her skin.

INT. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Michelle, passed out on the couch, snores. Candice enters dressed plainly again in the clothes she wore earlier. She spreads a nearby blanket over Michelle and exits.

CUT TO:

INT. CANDICE'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Odell lies asleep as Candice slides in bed beside him. Odell rolls over and drapes his arm across her chest.

ODELL
(mumbling)
Why the hell are you coming in so late?

CANDICE
Michelle got really drunk
and I had to make sure she got home okay and I put her to bed...

ODELL
That damn sister or yours. That doesn't surprise me. You better watch out for her, she'll be the death of you if you let her.

Candice's eyes twinkle as she stares at the ceiling.

INT. BEDROOM -- LATER

Candice is still in a daze as she rises from bed at 5:00 am. Happily she starts the normal process.

INT. KITCHEN

Odell enters fully dressed for work. Candice happily continues her morning activity.

CANDICE
Your breakfast is on the table honey.

ODELL
There's only one plate there, you're not eating?

CANDICE
No, I'm not hungry.

ODELL
So you had fun last night?

Odell sits and eats.

CANDICE
It was okay. Not really my thing, but I was happy to be there for my sister.
ODELL
Yeah, you remember what I said about your sister and her ways?

CANDICE
Yes, Odie.

ODELL
Don't get testy with me, Candice. You better watch out for her, she will get you in trouble.

CANDICE
I hear you Odie, but she is still my sister.

ODELL
And Cain killed Abel. Now, just think about what I'm telling you. I got to go.

Odell takes a few more bites.

CANDICE
Okay honey, have a good day at work.

ODELL
Yeah okay.

Odell exits. Candice starts her cleaning process. The phone RINGS. Candice answers.

CANDICE
(into phone)
Hello? Hey, Michelle....Yeah I had a lot of fun. That was crazy, and you were so wasted. ... I know, what are the odds of that? Yeah I can come
over, I don't have anything else going on besides cleaning. I'll be there by lunch time in about 3 hours....Okay see you then.

Candice continues cleaning.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- LATER

Michelle opens the front door and allows her sister to enter. Cheerfully, Michelle leads Candice into the kitchen. Michelle's older children run throughout the house.

MICHELLE
Hey, I'm making sandwiches. Turkey right?

CANDICE
You know it.

MICHELLE
I couldn't forget if I tried. That's all you ever wanted when mom would have to work late.

INT. KITCHEN

CANDICE
Yep, last night was amazing. Let me help you.

Candice takes off her watch and aids Michelle.

MICHELLE
I know, we haven't had the chance to enjoy ourselves like that in a long time. We have to figure out a way to do it again, Candy.
CANDICE
I don't know about that. Odie would never let me out again. He thinks you're a bad influence.

MICHELLE
Maybe I am, because I sure wasn't about to pull Easy off of you last night. You two looked great together.

CANDICE
Oh, Michelle. What a man. He looks the same way he did in high school but, sexier.

(gasps)
Listen to me, Odie would kill me.

Candice shies away from the conversation.

MICHELLE
Candy, what kind of hold does that man have over you? You're talking to your big sister. He's not here and he ain't monitoring our conversation. It's okay to tell me that you enjoyed Easy. You're not going to get in trouble here. It's okay.

CANDICE
I love Odie, Michelle. I'm not trying to do anything to hurt him. He's a good guy.

MICHELLE
Now, that's up for argument, but I know that
you love him. You can love your Odie with all your heart but still enjoy the company of another man. That doesn't make you a bad person. Plus, Easy is gorgeous.

CANDICE
Yeah, that's true.

They laugh. The doorbell RINGS.

CANDICE
Who is that?

MICHELLE
Hell if I know, go get it while I finish our sandwiches.

Candice goes to answer the door, as Michelle watches her walk away.

EXT. MICHELLE'S HOME

Ezekiel stand at the front door waiting. Candice opens the door. Wide eyed, she stands there in shock looking at Ezekiel.

Beat.

EZEKIEL
How are you doing?

Candice stands there.

EZEKIEL
Can I come in?

CANDICE
Michelle?!

Michelle opens the door wider.
MICHELLE
Hey, Easy. Come on in sweetie.

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME

Ezekiel enters walking past an awestruck Candice and an entertained Michelle.

MICHELLE
We're just having lunch. Do you like turkey sandwiches.

EZEKIEL
I love them.

MICHELLE
Just stay straight right on into the kitchen.

Ezekiel follows the direction. Candice grabs Michelle's arm.

MICHELLE
Ouch!

CANDICE
(whispering)
What in the hell are you doing?

MICHELLE
Making lunch sweetie, now lets go eat.

CANDICE
(whispering)
You know what I mean, Michelle. This isn't funny. You're just proving Odie right. Why are you doing this?
MICHELLE
Would it kill you to actually have fun for a change? Easy's here to eat lunch. You enjoyed being around him last night, there is nothing wrong with enjoying him right now.

CANDICE
There is something wrong with it. I am married. This is dangerous.

MICHELLE
Candy, quit being such as drama queen. If you don't want to have lunch, fine. Just leave. I'll just eat with Easy myself. Nobodies forcing you to be here and nobody's trying to hurt you. I just want you to be happy. If you're going to leave, go ahead and I'll just call you later.

Michelle snatches her arm away from Candice's grip. Michelle walks towards the kitchen.

MICHELLE
Hey, Easy? What kind of numbers did the club do last night? It was packed.

Candice nervously paces back and forth. She opens the front door.

INT. KITCHEN
Michelle finishes the sandwiches. The front door SLAMS.

EZEKIEL
We did about five hundred.
It was a good night.

MICHELLE
Well, it sounds like it's
going to be you and me. You
can have Candice's
sandwich.

Candice enters.

CANDICE
I was planning on eating
that.

MICHELLE
Oh good, because I didn't
feel like taking the potato
chips out of it.

EZEKIEL
You eat your sandwiches
with potato chips inside?

CANDICE
Yeah, it's something that I
did when I was a kid and
just never stopped.

EZEKIEL
Well, I'll try that. Add
potato chips to mine too.

MICHELLE
You got it.

The three stand around the kitchen island. Candice continues to help Michelle.

CANDICE
So, Ezekiel what made you
join us for lunch?

EZEKIEL
Please call me, Easy. Michelle called and invited me. I declined until she told me that you would be here.

Candice flinches.

MICHELLE
Ouch!...

EZEKIEL
You okay?

MICHELLE
Yeah, it's this damn bad knee. It always gives me problems. So Easy, what high school did you go to?

EZEKIEL
Oscar Dean Wyatt High.

MICHELLE
Wow, that's a coincidence. Candice and I went there too. What year did you graduate?

EZEKIEL
Ya'll went to Oscar Dean?

CANDICE
Yeah we did.

EZEKIEL
97.

MICHELLE
Wow, I won't say when I graduated then. But Candice graduated in 99. Did you guys see each other there?
CANDICE
No, I don't think so.

EZEKIEL
Well wait a minute.

Ezekiel takes a moment to look at Candice.

EZEKIEL
Did you always wear French braids and carry your books close to your chest?

CANDICE
Um, yeah.

EZEKIEL
Yeah I do remember you. You were a cutie then too and still timid. I wanted to come holler at you but you looked to pure I probably would have corrupted you.

CANDICE
Wow, you remember me?

EZEKIEL
Yeah I do.

CANDICE
You look familiar too.

Michelle flinches.

CANDICE
Ouch!

Candice bends down rubbing her leg.

CANDICE
That bad knee runs in the family.
The three laugh. The two playful children run through the kitchen.

MICHELLE
Hey, slow down!

EZEKIEL
Where's your youngest.

MICHELLE
Asleep, thank god.

One of the playful children cries.

MICHELLE
Dammit, I'll be right back guys. Candice finish his sandwich for me.

Michelle exits.

CANDICE
So you really remember me.

EZEKIEL
Yeah, why wouldn't I?

CANDICE
I don't know, because you were two grades above me.

EZEKIEL
You have an alluring quality about you. It drew me to you back then and it did the same thing last night. The only difference is last night I actually had the courage to approach you.

CANDICE
Yeah but things are different now. I'm married
and you're most likely in a relationship.

EZEKIEL
I'm not in anything serious that would distract me from you. And as far as you go, are you happy?

Candice is taken aback by the question.

CANDICE
Yes, Ezekiel I am.

EZEKIEL
Baby, I'm a simple man. There are only a few things that I want in life. Happiness is one of them and I want the same for those that are close to me.

CANDICE
So we're close now?

EZEKIEL
As close as you would allow me to be to you.

Michelle reenters.

MICHELLE
What are ya'll talking about?

CANDICE
Nothing.

EZEKIEL
I think it was more than that.

Candice hands Ezekiel his sandwich.
EZEKIEL
Thank you.

MICHELLE
Tobey hit his head and Jason was laughing.

Ezekiel bites into the sandwich.

EZEKIEL
Damn, that is good. I'm doing this from now on.

MICHELLE
Are you serious, you like that?

EZEKIEL
Yeah I do.

MICHELLE
You two are weird. So do you want to eat these in the living room?

CANDICE
Sure.

Michelle exits and Candice follows. Ezekiel lingers in the kitchen.

EZEKIEL
I'm just going to get a drink out of the fridge.

MICHELLE
Help yourself!

Ezekiel notices Candice's watch on the counter. He puts it in his pocket and grabs a soda out of the refrigerator.

INT. LIVING ROOM
Ezekiel enters and sits next to Candice. They all watch television.

EZEKIEL
Oh, I love this movie.

CANDICE
You know you're sitting pretty close.

EZEKIEL
What do you want me closer.

Candice smirks. Ezekiel continues watching television, Candice watches Ezekiel and Michelle watches Candice.

CUT TO:

INT. CANDICE'S HOME KITCHEN -- NIGHT

Candice prepares dinner. She notices her wrist is empty.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Candice lifts up seat cushions and searches in drawers. Candice picks up the phone and dials.

CANDICE
Michelle? Hey, did I leave my watch over there? Could you look for me? I remember taking it off to help you. It should be on the island. Thanks.

Beat.

CANDICE
You didn't see it? Well I don't know what I did with it. You know that was a gift from Odie's mother on
our wedding...Yeah go ahead and give him a call. Call me back.

She hangs up. Candice searches harder for the missing watch. The phone RINGS. Candice answers.

CANDICE
Hey,... he did what?!
Michelle why did he take it?! How does he want me to call him I don't even have his number? Michelle did you do this? Oh man, this is so messed up. Michelle I can't call him...I can't believe this. Michelle I have to have that watch! Fine, what's his number? He thinks he's being so smooth but now I'm just angry...
Oh, funny Michelle, bye.

Candice slams the phone down. Hesitantly she picks up the and dials.

EZEKIEL
Hello?

CANDICE
That was so messed up,
Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL
I love how you say my whole name when you're mad.

CANDICE
Highly pissed off is more like it. Ezekiel this isn't funny. I need that watch. What did you think you were doing?
EZEKIEL
Baby, you're giving me chills.

CANDICE
Stop that.

EZEKIEL
Okay, okay calm down. I just wanted to see you.

CANDICE
You didn't see enough of me today?

EZEKIEL
Not at all.

CANDICE
Can you give the watch to my sister and I'll get it from her later.

EZEKIEL
No, I'm holding this watch hostage. I'll only give it to you personally. I know that you can't get away now, but come to the club tomorrow morning. I'll meet you there because I have to do some cleaning anyway.

CANDICE
Easy, I can't do that.

EZEKIEL
Candice don't you enjoy feeling wanted and desired? Doesn't it intrigue you that a man who isn't your husband wants to see you so badly that he would resort to petty theft?
CANDICE
Easy.

EZEKIEL
I'll see you tomorrow morning. Sleep well.

Ezekiel hangs up.

CANDICE
Dammit.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

A woman cries. The crying transforms to subtle laughter. The crying returns.

WOMAN
(Screams!!!
!)

CUT TO:

The front door SLAMS five times. Odell enters clearing his throat. He moves to the sink and begins his hand washing process. Candice nervously continues cooking dinner.

CANDICE
Hey honey, how was your day?

ODELL
Same old, same old.

CANDICE
Dinner's almost ready.

ODELL
Damn Candice, it should already be done. You just,... oh hell forget it.
CANDICE
I'm sorry, honey. Do you want anything?

ODELL
Besides the dinner that ain't done? Get me some water.

Candice grabs a glass and places three ice cubes in it. She pours water from a gallon jug and places it next to Odell.

CANDICE
You going to church with me tomorrow?

ODELL
I don't know why you even ask me something like that. Candice, when was the last time that I went to church with you? Why would I go this time?

CANDICE
Oh, well we're suppose to have a new preacher tomorrow so I'm going to leave a little earlier.

ODELL
Well you know the routine. Is that food ready yet?

CANDICE
Yeah honey, go ahead and have a seat and I will bring it to you.

CUT TO:

EXT. RICHLAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST -- DAY
Candice drives into the church parking lot and parks in a nearby parking space.

INT. CANDICE'S CAR

Candice, plainly dressed up, fidgets and moves nervously. She opens the car door but doesn't get out. Candice looks at her empty wrist and hits the steering wheel. She SLAMS the car door shut and starts the car.

EXT. RICHLAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

Candice's car reverses out of the spot and exits the parking lot.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB GIGI'S -- LATER

Candice's car parks directly in front of the club and she exits the car. She hurries to the entrance doors and enters.

INT. CLUB GIGI'S

Candice hesitantly approaches the bar as she did two nights earlier and Ezekiel, casually dressed, is in the exact same place wiping down glasses. The lights are low and smooth jazz by Kenny G. reverberates throughout the empty club.

EZEKIEL
Hey baby, I was beginning to think that you weren't coming. I'm glad you did.

CANDICE
Ezekiel I'm just here to get my watch, now give it to me so I can go.

EZEKIEL
Why are you in such a rush?
Ezekiel mixes a drink.

CANDICE
I don't know what kind of game you and my sister have going on but I don't think this is cute. I am a married woman now and you're playing these high school games!

EZEKIEL
So you're using anger to suppress your other feelings that you might have about this special occasion.

CANDICE
What special occasion?

EZEKIEL
You haven't heard? This is a cause for celebration. You should be happy and smiling. I'm ecstatic. I can barely contain myself right now.

Ezekiel walks around to the front of the bar and hands Candice the drink staying close to her.

EZEKIEL
This is the first time that we've had a chance to be alone since we've met.

CANDICE
Easy I know what you're trying to do.

EZEKIEL
And yet you don't know how to appreciate it. I feel so
sorry for you.

CANDICE
What, why would you...

EZEKIEL
You poor thing, you've had things pretty bad haven't you? I'm sorry baby. Not all of life has to be that hard. Now, drink your cosmo.

Candice studies Ezekiel's face. She drinks the cosmo.

EZEKIEL
Would you like another?

CANDICE
No Easy, I need to go. Please...

Candice turns and sets her glass down as Ezekiel takes her other hand pulling her.

EZEKIEL
Not until we dance again.

CANDICE
Easy, come on.

EZEKIEL
I know, I know, my feeble attempt at seduction isn't working. Humor me at this point so you won't destroy my ego too badly.

She follows him to the dance floor. He pulls her in close as they dance.

CANDICE
Enjoying yourself?
EZEKIEL
Are you not? Do you listen to jazz? Have you ever danced to it?

CANDICE
No.

EZEKIEL
Yeah, I can tell.

CANDICE
(amusingly insulted)
How dare you, well why are we dancing then.

Candice attempts to move away. Ezekiel holds her even closer.

EZEKIEL
(laughing)
Just because I said that, it doesn't mean that I want to stop dancing. I'll look for any excuse to hold you close, even if its dancing badly.

Candice stares into Ezekiel's eyes, then breaks the gaze.

EZEKIEL
Oh, you did it again. I won't make you look at me this time though. I'm satisfied with this for now.

Candice rests her head on Ezekiel's shoulder.

EZEKIEL
Every other form of music that you dance to leads you
by the beat. The pounding of the song directs your body to its rhythm. Jazz on the other hand doesn't lead you at all. It makes love to you. It twists through your mind and into your soul like a passionate lover. But to really feel it, you have to know how to appreciate the joys of sexual pleasure. Baby, it's obvious that you don't know how to do that. That is why I feel so bad for you, because you deserve to know what that is like.

Beat.

Candice turns to look at Ezekiel with tears in her eyes. Ezekiel moves in close to kiss her. She places her hand on his chest stopping him.

CANDICE

Easy...

He grabs both of her hands, putting them behind her back. He leans in again but stops just before he reaches her lips.

EZEKIEL

What do you say?

CANDICE

Kiss me.

He obliges. They kiss passionately, thirsting for each other. Ezekiel backs up to the bar pulling Candice with his kiss the whole way. Once at the bar he spins, picking Candice up and sits her on top of the bar.

CANDICE
Easy what are you doing?
We have to stop, I
shouldn't have let it go
this far. God, what am I
doing?

Ezekiel kisses her again.

EZEKIEL
You're learning to actually
enjoy yourself. All it is
is pleasure, welcome it.

CANDICE
And the guilt that comes
along with it.

EZEKIEL
Well then don't stop me
now. If you're going to
feel guilty, let it be for
something worth feeling
guilty for. Something more
than just kissing.

Ezekiel kneels down and kisses Candice on her
thigh and trails his tongue higher.

CANDICE
(gasps)

She covers her own mouth and dangling from her
wrist is the watch that she came to get. She rolls
her eyes back and squeezes her mouth with her
hand.

CANDICE
(moaning)

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDICE'S HOME -- LATER

Candice's car pulls into the driveway and parks.
INT. CANDICE'S CAR

Candice turns the car off and sits back. Her mouth quivers as tears drip down her cheek onto her chin. Her slight sob turns into a smile.

She checks her reflection in the rear view mirror, dries her eyes and adjusts her hair. She sits back.

Beat.

INT. CANDICE'S HOME -- LIVING ROOM

Candice enters rushing past Odell who watches television.

ODELL
How was church? Hey, I'm talking to you! How was church?

Odell's abrupt question pauses Candice. She stands away from him in a visible fear. She doesn't fully hold his attention because he is fixated on what he is watching.

CANDICE
It was fine, you know same old same old.

ODELL
Yeah, that's why I don't even waist my time. Always the same shit. Since you're standing, get me a drink.

CANDICE
Um, what do you want?

ODELL
Candice quit playing with me.
Hearing her queue, Candice disappears into the kitchen and returns with a beer in her hand. She hands it to Odell, who never looks away from the television.

ODELL
Thank you. What are you about to do?

CANDICE
I'm going to go take a bath, it was hot and I got a little sweaty.

ODELL
Good girl, cleanliness is next to Godliness. That's your Christian duty is what my mother used to always say.

Candice exits.

INT. BATHROOM

Candice enters the bathroom shaken up. She takes a moment and composes herself. Looking into the mirror she has to smile at the reflection that she sees. She turns on the faucet and slowly gets undressed. She takes another moment to look at her bare flesh in the mirror. She slightly smiles and enters the tub slowly.

INT. LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Candice enters wearing a bath robe and drying her hair with a towel.

ODELL
Damn girl, what took you so long?

CANDICE
I had to wash five time
because today is Sunday, remember?

ODELL
Oh yeah, well hell Candy I'm getting hungry.

CANDICE
I was just about to start dinner, Odie, don't get all worked up. Odie, do you think you would want to go dancing some time? You know, we can go to Saddle Backs or Buck'em Joe's if you want.

ODELL
No, I sure as hell don't. I knew I shouldn't have let your ass go with your sister the other nigh, we're not the "go out dancing" type of couple Candy. Now get those stupid notions out of your head.

CANDICE
Just asking Odie, just asking.

INT. KITCHEN

Candice gathers pots and pans out of the cupboard and SLAMS them on the counter. She frustratingly takes food out of the refrigerator. Odell enters.

ODELL
Dammit, Candy quit making all that damn noise! I'm watching T.V. in here for Christ's sake.

CANDICE
Sorry Odie.

ODELL
You're damn right you are.

He exits. She continues preparing dinner.

INT. DINING ROOM -- LATER

The emotionally troublesome pair finish their meal.

ODELL
Damn girl, that was good.
I'm going to have to piss you off more often, you cook better when you're mad.

Candice sits in silence.

ODELL
Why have you stayed in your robe?

Candice shrugs at his question and begins cleaning off the table. She takes her own plate into the kitchen and comes back. Once in front of Odell, he stops her.

ODELL
Hold on a minute, Candy.

He pulls her robe belt loose and opens her robe. She instinctively goes to close it back.

ODELL
Stop it now. Be still.

Odell opens the robe again. He inspects Candice's body and gives an approving nod.

ODELL
Yeah, finish cleaning up
the kitchen and meet me up stairs.

CANDICE
But Odie, I'm not ovulating.

ODELL
Hell, Candy. Would it really matter if you were? We know how all that would turn out anyway. Now, finish what you have to do down here and meet me up stairs.

She closes her robe.

INT. KITCHEN

Candice puts all of the dishes in the sink and silently cries as she slowly washes them.

INT. BEDROOM -- LATER

Candice enter like a young girl going to the principle's office. Odell sits up in bed reading the paper.

ODELL
You're just taking your sweet time tonight ain't you? Sometimes I don't get you girl. The other day you're asking me to have more sex with you, Now that I'm obliging you and doing what you want me to, you decide to make me wait for you. Get over here.

Odell stands taking off his close and slides back under the sheets. Candice walks to her side of the bed and disrobes. She cautiously slides under the
He moves on top of her pulling the covers over their bodies. He licks four finger and sticks the same hand under the covers between him and Candice. Her face cringes.

**ODELL**

Oh, quit squirming. You're acting like we ain't done this before.

He roughly lunges forward with a GROAN, and she GASPS. Odell oddly moves on top of Candice in a selfish quick motion.

**ODELL**

Damn girl, you're as dry as sand. My hand gets wetter than you. I knew I should have just jacked off.

His actions continue as he slumps on top of Candice putting his full weight on her searching for his own gratification. Candice turns her head looking out of the window. Tear fall from her eyes onto the pillow. Odell's movements quicken, then stop with a HUFF. He slides off of Candice and lays on his side of the bed catching his breath.

Beat.

Odell gets up and enters the bathroom.

**ODELL**

You better not go to sleep! Be prepared to get in here after me!

He SLAMS the door shut.

Candice wipes her eyes. Staring at the ceiling her eyes again search for answers. She closes her eyes and slides her hands across her stomach underneath the sheets.
CANDICE
(whispering)
Easy.

The shape of her hand forms on her thigh under the sheets and slides between her legs.

CUT TO:

INT. CENTRAL PEAK ENERGY -- DAY

The call center buzzes with noise and busy employees. Candice blankly stares at her computer screen.

CANDICE
(into her headset)
Yes, sir. No, sir. We don't do that.

Candice's facial expression changes to disgust.

CANDICE
Sir, please refrain from using such,...customer using profanity, disconnecting call.

Candice rolls her eyes and presses the button and hangs up. Instead of taking the next call, Candice dials a number.

CANDICE
Michelle? I'll be over after I get off. I have something to talk to you about. Alright, bye.

She takes the next call.

CANDICE
Hi, thank you for calling
CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- NIGHT

Candice's car parks in front of Michelle's home. She gets out, and walks to the front door. She rings the doorbell. Michelle answers.

MICHELLE
Hey sis, come in.

CANDICE
No, Michelle I just needed to talk to you real fast. I'm not staying long.

MICHELLE
Oh, um okay.

CANDICE
Michelle, yesterday morning I went to see Ezekiel.

MICHELLE
Yeah, to get your watch?

CANDICE
Yeah,... it's just that, well.

MICHELLE
Oh, my God Candy, you didn't.

CANDICE
Well,...

MICHELLE
(screams)
Candy!!

CANDICE
Michelle, that's why I didn't come in. I knew you'd make a big fuss about this and then you'd try to make me stay.

MICHELLE
I'm just happy for you! How was he, how many positions, does he know what he's doing? Oh I know he did.

CANDICE
We didn't go all the way, he just... you know.

Candice makes a circular motion around her pelvic area.

MICHELLE
He went down on you? Candice. Did you have an orgasm?

CANDICE
I think I had three.

Michelle quizzically looks at Candice.

MICHELLE
You think? Candice, was that your first time that a man had done that to you?

CANDICE
Yeah.

MICHELLE
Awww, my innocent, inexperienced little sister.

Michelle hugs Candice. Candice sheds a tear.
CANDICE
Michelle, I don't know what to do. I'm a married woman.

MICHELLE
Unhappily married.

CANDICE
Michelle!

MICHELLE
Sorry, did you enjoy yourself, Candy?

CANDICE
Honestly, yes. I've never felt like that before and I feel so bad for wanting to feel that way again.

MICHELLE
Well, Sis. Easy makes you feel sexy and desired. There's nothing wrong with a woman wanting to feel that in her life, especially when your own husband isn't doing it on his end.

CANDICE
Michelle, I'm still married. I can't ignore my marriage and my husband for sex.

MICHELLE
Nobody's telling you to. You should enjoy yourself though. For once in your life, do things on your terms. Live your life with Odell and call Ezekiel when you need him. Just have
sex, don't try to fall in love with the guy.

CANDICE
I can't do that Michelle, that's the kind of stuff that you constantly do.

MICHELLE
Gee, thanks. I'm trying to be a big sister here, and you're calling me a whore.

CANDICE
You know what I mean.

MICHELLE
Sis, don't make up your mind today. Take some time and let it all sink in. When you're ready, call Easy.

CANDICE
I don't think that it will happen again.

MICHELLE
Don't speak to soon, just take your time and let it all sink in.

CUT TO:

INT. CANDICE'S HOME--MON TAGE -- DAY

Candice stops her normal rigorous cleaning duties and stares at the phone. She picks it up and pauses. She sets it back down. She stares at the phone. Again, she picks up the phone but this time she dials. The line RINGS.

EZEKIEL
(groggy)
Hello?

CANDICE
Ezekiel? I'm sorry to call so early. Actually, I don't know why I'm calling at all.

EZEKIEL
Who is this?

CANDICE
This is Candice Rodgers. This was a mistake. I'm sorry.

EZEKIEL
Wait, hold on. What took you so long to call?

CANDICE
It's only been three weeks.

EZEKIEL
It's felt like an eternity. I thought that I might have done something wrong.

Candice sits in a nearby chair smiling uncontrollably.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOCAL PARK--MONTAGE CONT'D -- DAY

Candice and Ezekiel walk together on a cloudy day by a river. They laugh and joke.

CANDICE
No, you didn't do anything wrong. If anyone was wrong it was me.

EZEKIEL
If I didn't do anything wrong, you definitely are innocent. I was the pursuer in this situation.

Rain pours, soaking Ezekiel and Candice as they run for cover under a nearby tree.

CANDICE
Yeah, but Ezekiel, I let it happen and I'm the married one.

EZEKIEL
Did you enjoy yourself?

CANDICE
What?

EZEKIEL
You heard me, did you enjoy yourself?

Ezekiel kisses Candice under the tree.

CANDICE
You know I did.

They tear away at each others soaked clothing. Candice wraps her legs around Ezekiel's waist as he holds her up against the tree. The two passionately make love.

CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATER--MONTAGE CONT'D -- DAY

Candice and Ezekiel have sex in the empty movie theater as the credits role.

EZEKIEL
Well so did I. so let's quit trying to pass the guilt and figure out how we
can see each other again.

CANDICE
Excuse me, what make you think that I want to see you again?

EZEEKIEL
We're on the phone aren't we? Baby we're both adults, we don't have to play games about what we want. If you enjoyed being with me and I enjoyed being with you, then how do we get together again?

CANDICE
I don't know. Odell usually has me pretty busy. I'm actually cleaning right now.

CUT TO:

EXT. EZEEKIEL'S BEDROOM--MONTAGE CONT'D -- NIGHT

Ezekiel awaits as Candice slowly enters the bedroom in a seductive two piece lingerie. They embrace.

EZEEKIEL
Candice, it's 5:30 in the morning and you're cleaning?

CANDICE
Yeah, it's a long story.

EZEEKIEL
Well I can't wait until we can see each other in person and you can tell me any story that you want.
Ezekiel removes Candice's lingeri top.

CANDICE
Well, I guess we can see each other later on today after I get off work. Odell only lets me work part time so I have about a three hour window before he gets home. I can't believe I just told you that.

EZEKIEL
That's perfect. Where would you be comfortable meeting? Just let me know and I'll be there.

Ezekiel pulls Candice's hair back and kisses her on her neck as she slowly gyrates on him. He lightly bites her shoulder.

CANDICE
We can go to the park if you like. There's a nice one down by the river.

EZEKIEL
I can't wait.

CANDICE
Neither can I.

EZEKIEL
I'll see you then.

CANDICE
Easy, what are we doing?

EZEKIEL
I'll let you know at the park. Bye, Baby.

CANDICE
Bye.

END MONTAGE.

INT. CANDICE'S HOME -- NIGHT

Candice enters the home visibly tired. Odell sits in his usual spot watching television.

CANDICE
Hey Odie, I'm going to go take a shower and go to bed. Michelle's children tired me out, they are so hyper.

ODELL
Candy, what the fuck is wrong with you?

CANDICE
What?

ODELL
What the fuck did you think you were doing?

Odell stands. Candice's face cringes as Odell draws closer.

CANDICE
Odie, what are you talking about?

ODELL
So you were baby sitting, huh?

Horror exudes from a motionless Candice.

CANDICE
Odell, I can explain.

ODELL
Explain?! How the fuck can you explain half way cooking a fucking meat loaf, Candy?!!

CANDICE
What?

ODELL
That damn meat loaf wasn't cooked all the way through!

Slight relief overcomes Candice's demeanor.

CANDICE
Oh, that's all?

ODELL
That's all?!!

He pushes her to the ground.

ODELL
Were you trying to fucking kill me.

Candice crying scoots away from the furious Odell.

CANDICE
Odie, please. It was done. I cooked it the same way I always do.

ODELL
It was not done, Candy. I cut the shit and saw blood! I don't ask for much dammit. You're home most of the day, and you can't cook a decent meat loaf?! You know my job is stressing me out, my fucking truck is in the shop getting a $1,500 transmission put in and you
pull this bullshit of serving me a half cooked meat loaf! What the fuck is wrong with you!!

He kicks her repeatedly.

ODELL
Didn't you say you needed a shower?! Huh, didn't you need a shower?!

Odell grabs a frantic Candice by her hair and drags her up the stairs.

INT. BATHROOM

Odell kicks open the bathroom door and throws Candice in. He stands over her.

ODELL
What the fuck were you thinking?! Huh, What were you thinking?!

CANDICE
Odie, it was finished. It's well done.

He kicks her.

ODELL
The hell it was, Candy. I cut the damn thing, it was damn near raw!!

Candice weeps.

ODELL
Look at you, you look fucking disgusting. You're actually laying on that disgusting floor.
Odell turns on the water in the tub letting the steaming hot water flow. He switches it to the shower without relieving the temperature.

**ODELL**
Stand the fuck up!

He forcibly picks Candice up and rips her clothes off of her.

**CANDICE**
Odie, it's too hot, it's hot!! Please, Odie.

**ODELL**
Shut up and get your ass in. It's not too hot!

He pushes her in.

**ODELL**
Pick up the soap with your left hand and your loofa with your right hand.

She horrifyingly complies.

**ODELL**
Pour the soap onto the a quarter inch in diameter, like I showed you and put the soap back with your left hand. Rup the loofa on your body counter-clockwise.

She does what Odell demands.

**ODELL**
Counter-clockwise, counter-clockwise, counter-clockwise. Rub the loofa on your body counter-clockwise.
He exits as Candice scrubs.

    ODELL
    Counter-clockwise, counter-clockwise, Rub the loofa on your body...

INT. CANDICE'S BEDROOM--LATER

Candice sits in front of her bedroom mirror, expressionlessly looking at her reflection. Odell sits behind her on the bed.

    ODELL
    88.

With only one stroke, Candice brushes her hair back.

    ODELL
    89.

She brushes.

    ODELL
    90.

She brushes. Tears form in Candice's eyes. Candice blinks freeing the tears to travel down her cheeks.

    CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

The shadowy figure struggles.

    WOMAN
    (grunts)
    I'm sorry, I'm sorry!!!!

    CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB GIGI'S -- NIGHT
Candice's car parks in front of the club and she exits dressed seductively. She hands the keys to the valet and enters.

INT. CLUB GIGI'S

Candice walks through the crowds of men being admired by all but looks past all of them. Candice stops a WAITRESS.

    CANDICE
    Excuse me, do you know where Easy is?

The sassy waitress looks Candice up and down from head to tow.

    WAITRESS
    (annoyed)
    Do I look like I,...

A smirk creeps across the Waitresses face.

    WAITRESS
    Oh yeah, sweetie he's in the back just go through those double doors.

Candice heads across the club through the double doors.

INT. STORAGE ROOM

Candice enters the dank storage room and notices a metal rack shaking. She walks deeper into the room and pears around the rack. She discovers that it is a very attractive BLACK WOMAN trapped in a moment of ecstasy that is shaking the rack.

    BLACK WOMAN
    (moaning)
    Oh, Easy right there. Don't stop.
Candice hesitantly takes a few more steps and sees Ezekiel grinding his body into the woman's while he nibbles on her neck.

CANDICE
(gasps)

Startled the Black Woman opens her eyes.

BLACK WOMAN
Oh, shit.

Ezekiel turns and sees Candice.

EZEKIEL
Fuck.

Candice turns and runs out.

EZEKIEL
Candice wait!

Ezekiel heads after Candice.

BLACK WOMAN
Where are you going? This is my time.

INT. CLUB GIGI'S

Emotional, Candice attempts to make her way through the crowd but the song that is playing has everyone on their feet dancing. Ezekiel speaks into a walkie talkie. Candice is cut off by a large security guard.

CANDICE
Would you please move?

The security guard stands in front of Candice blocking her every movement. Ezekiel approaches Candice from behind.

EZEKIEL
Thanks Big D., I'll take it from here.

Ezekiel turns Candice around making her face him.

EZEKIEL
Come with me.

He guides her through the club to his office.

INT. EZEKIEL'S OFFICE

Ezekiel pulls Candice into the office.

EZEKIEL
Look Candice,...

CANDICE
No, you don't owe me an explanation or anything. I should have let you know that I was coming. This is my fault, you're a man and you're not mine.

EZEKIEL
Candice will you stop? It's okay for you to be mad at me or want to yell or even hit me.

Ezekiel stands infront of Candice. Candice looks up at him. Tears fill her eyes. She rears her hand back.

EZEKIEL
Go ahead.

Candice drops her head and her hand follows. Candice weeps.

CANDICE
I can't.
Ezekiel holds her.

EZEKIEL
You poor thing. I hate that you saw that. Come on lets go to my place.

CUT TO:

INT. EZEKIEL'S BATHROOM -- DAY

Candice and Ezekiel relax in bath tub filled with bubbles and rose petals, Ezekiel sits behind Candice with his arms draped around her. His hands wounder and explore Candice's body. She snuggles into him closing her eyes and biting her lips with every touch.

CANDICE
Easy, this has been amazing. Well aside from what I saw earlier, this has been amazing.

EZEKIEL
Well, you know, I do what I can.

She lightly hits him.

CANDICE
You know that's not what talking about. I mean, that was great too but I'm talking about this, us. It's just been amazing. I haven't been this happy in long time.

EZEKIEL
Yeah, I've really enjoyed myself too. I see why you suggested a bath instead of a shower, this is cool as
hell.

CANDICE
I don't really like showers, much. They're insincere. Why couldn't I have met you before I got married?

EZEKIEL
Well, everything happens for a reason, baby. Just be glad that we're with each other now.

CANDICE
I don't want this to end.

EZEKIEL
Yeah, this is pretty nice.

CANDICE
No I mean it, Easy. I want to be with you forever.

EZEKIEL
Baby, calm down. Don't over fantasize about something that can't happen.

Candice disengages from the cuddling. She sits up sadly looking away for Ezekiel.

CANDICE
Easy, I know I'm married, but... what if I wasn't?

EZEKIEL
Candice, you are married and you're not going through some messy divorce because of me. That's why there's no use over fantasizing about it.
They both sit a moment in frustration. He pulls her back to their engagement, embracing her from behind.

**EZEKIEL**

It would be nice though
baby, it would be nice.

Candice snuggles next to Ezekiel, her eyes glimmer as she watches a rose pedle dance in the water.

**CUT TO:**

**INT. CANDICE'S HOME -- NIGHT**

Candice quietly eats as Odell CLANKS silverware on his plate and sets his glass down hard on the table after he drinks.

**ODELL**

Candice.

Candice doesn't respond.

**ODELL**

Candice.

Candice doesn't respond. Odell grabs a handful of salad out of a nearby bowl. He tosses it at Candice.

**ODELL**

(giggling)

What in Christ's name is wrong with you?

Candice picks the salad out of her hair and off of her clothes.

**CANDICE**

Odie, I have something to tell you.

**ODELL**
Did you buy something without my permission again?

CANDICE
No Odie, I want a divorce.

Odell takes a few more bites from his food. He slides the plate away and sits back looking at Candice.

CANDICE
Odie, we haven't been happy for a long time. You have obviously been frustrated with me and I don't like the way that you treat me.

Odell turns in his chair and reaches into a drawer behind him.

CANDICE
Odie, please. We...we keep getting into it. We are still young, there is no reason why we can't just cut our losses and move on with our lives...

Odell pulls a gun out of the drawer and sets it on the table.

CANDICE
(sobbing)
What are you going to do with that, Odie?

ODELL
Candice, I am not a stupid man. I know that I am a dick to you sometimes. I know that I can make it very hard on you. There are very few people in this
world that would actually put up with my shit. Fact of the matter is, you're one of them. I've told you before that if you ever tried to leave me that I would kill you. I meant that. And with the swamps and bayous that we have here, I will make sure that they never find the body and I will report that you left me. I'd just chop you up and dump a different part of you in each swamp for the gators to feast on. Then I'd head my ass on to Mexico for a while till everything died down.

CANDICE (crying)
Odie,...

Odell jumps from his seat and strikes Candice.

ODELL
Don't Odie me, bitch! Till death do us part!

He strikes her again causing Candice to crash to the floor.

ODELL
Do you fucking hear me?

Odell kicks her in the stomach.

ODELL
Till fucking death do us part!

Odell turns and reaches for the firearm. Candice scurries away to the best of her ability.
ODELL
Where the fuck do you think you're going?!

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDICE'S HOME

Candice frantically runs out of the home. She hurries to her car and jumps inside.

INT. CANDICE'S CAR

Candice struggles to insert her car keys into the ignition. Candice looks back at the home.

CANDICE
(Screams)

She is finally able to insert the keys and start the car. Candice drives off.

CUT TO:

EXT. EZEKIEL'S HOME -- LATER

Candice's car screeches to a halt in Ezekiel's driveway. Ezekiel rushes out of the home embracing Candice as leaps out of her car.

EZEKIEL
Don't worry baby, don't worry. He won't find you here. I've got you.

Ezekeil walks a distraught Candice inside.

INT. EZEKIEL'S LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Candice enters in a large bathrobe and a towel wrapped around her head. She joins Ezekiel on the couch watching T.V. and cuddles up next to him.

EZEKIEL
So you called the police before you got here right?

CANDICE
Yeah.

EZEKIEL
What did they say?

CANDICE
They're going to check the house and the local places that he always goes to, like the bar and the car lot.

EZEKIEL
Good, maybe they will catch him pretty quick.

CANDICE
I'm just glad that I'm away from him. We don't have to lie or hide anymore. We can be together out in the open. I can't wait to show you off to people.

EZEKIEL
Candice what are you talking about, this isn't over. They haven't caught that son of a bitch yet. Plus being seen together won't help your case any if this thing goes to court.

CANDICE
Easy, I don't care about any of that. My marriage is over and we can finally be together like we said we wanted to.
EZEKIEL
Your sister never talked to you about this did she?

CANDICE
Yeah she just wanted us to screw and thats it, but she doesn't know love like I do.

EZEKIEL
This really isn't the best time to talk to you about this. But there is something that I have to tell you. There are a few things that you should know about me before you really try to make this a real relationship.

CANDICE
Like what, Easy.

EZEKIEL
Like the truth behind how we met. It wasn't by chance that you walked into my club.

CANDICE
I knew it. Michelle was wanting to hook us up from the beginning wasn't she. Well seeing that I have you now, I can't be mad at her for it.

EZEKIEL
That's not it sweetie. Your sister met me through one of my clients.

Candice sits up getting a better more direct look
at Ezekiel.

CANDICE
What do you mean one of your clients?

EZEKIEL
(hesitantly)
Candice your sister met me through an escort service. I am a male escort.

Candice stands and backs away.

CANDICE
Are you saying my sister paid you to see me?

EZEKIEL
Only at first, Candice. For the past four months I've been seeing you on my own.

CANDICE
She was paying you for two months?!

Candice grabs her stomach slumping over.

EZEKIEL
Are you okay?

Ezekiel rushes to her and Candice snatches away from him.

CANDICE
I have to get the hell out of here.

EZEKIEL
Come on now Candice, you're tired and in no shape to be leaving. Just rest here on
the couch, I'll go get you something.

CANDICE
No, I have to leave. I need to see Michelle. What the hell is wrong with you? Is everybody crazy?

Candice backs away from Ezekiel still holding her stomach, heading to the front door.

EZEKIEL
Candice, please. Sit down, we can call your sister and have her come here. Your not feeling well. Just stop for a minute...

CANDICE
No!! I'm tired you everybody trying to control my life but me. Everyone wants to tell me what to do in my own life. (sobbing) I can't believe this. What have I done? What have ya'll done to me? Don't you call Michelle. Don't let her know that I am coming to see her. Ya'll have taken enough from me, at least give me that.

EZEKIEL
Candice, I think I should call her...

CANDICE
Promise me!! You promise me right now that you won't call her, dammit. Promise me that!!!
EZEKIEL

I promise.

CANDICE

Good.

Candice exits the home holding her stomach.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

The dark figure struggles histarically and breaths heavily.

CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- LATER

Candice shuddering stands at Michelle's front door and RINGS the door bell. She GRUNTS and shakes, barely balancing herself on her feet. Michelle opens the door grabbing her first look at the bruised and weary Candice.

MICHELLE

Oh my God!! Candy, what the hell happened?? What did that bastard do to you??!

Michelle moves to embrace Candice. Candice stops her.

CANDICE

How could you? How the hell could you?

MICHELLE

Oh my God, he told you didn't he?

Candice faints.

MICHELLE
Candice?!! Candice?!!

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- DAY

Candice opens her eyes and sees Odell standing over her. Candice blinks. A doctor is standing in Odell's place looking over Candice. Candice sees Michelle across the the room asleep with a blanket draped across herself.

DOCTOR
Well good morning, Candice. You've been asleep for quite some time.

CANDICE
(groggy)
For how long?

DOCTOR
For about three days now.

CANDICE
What?!

Michelle awakens.

MICHELLE
Candy, you're awake!

Michelle rushes to Candice's bedside in tears.

MICHELLE
Honey for a while there we didn't think that you'd ever wake up.

CANDICE
Why does my body hurt like this?

DOCTOR
Well that is one of the usual side effects of the tragedy that you've experienced. Due to the stress, anxiety, and loss that your body went through, you slipped into a slight coma because your body needed to regenerate itself.

CANDICE
You're not making any since. Why did I pass out in the first place? I remember intense pain and then I passed out.

The Doctor takes a moment to look at Michelle.

MICHELLE
Doctor I don't think she knew.

DOCTOR
Oh,...um Mrs. Rodgers we're sorry but you were pregnant and you suffered a miscarriage.

Tears fill in Candice's eyes, her joints stiffen and strain. The veins in Candice's neck pertrude as her eyes focus on her weeping sister.

CANDICE
(screams)

Candice jolts at Michelle reaching and clawing for her but is only able to grab her hair. The Doctor attempts to seperate the sisters.

MICHELLE
(screams)
Candy, I'm sorry honey!!
I'm so sorry!!!

DOCTOR
Nurse?! Get me a sedative in her asap!! I need help in here! Nurse?!

Two Nurses rush into the room. They each grab one of Candice's arms in effort to restrain her but Candice struggles and kicks wildly. The Doctor inserts the needle of a syringe into Candice's I.V.

MICHELLE
(weeping)
I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

Candice's rage subsides. Everyone in the room steps away from the bed, taking a moment to rest.

MICHELLE
Oh my God, I've never seen her react that way. She just snapped.

DOCTOR
Well that is actually normal seeing as she has been through a lot. We'll let her rest for probably another day or two then we'll release her.

MICHELLE
Well I'll be here to take her home because I'm actually concerned for her safety. That husband of hers has been abusing her as I told you before. I just don't know what he might do.
DOCTOR
Yes ma'am you can trust that we are taking the proper precautionary measures while she is in our care.

MICHELLE
Thank you, Doctor. Do you think that she will be more calm by the time she is released?

DOCTOR
Oh most definantly, that is the usual immediate reaction, but what is actually in question is if she will suffer from depression and if so for how long.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S CAR -- DAY

Michelle drives but is distracted by Candice who sits in the passenger seat blankly staring out of the window.

MICHELLE
I'm glad they finally released you, sis. Staying in that room for almost a week must have been terrible.

Candice doesn't respond.

MICHELLE
Well the kids have missed you? They keep asking me, when's aunti Candy coming over. There hasn't been any
sign of Odell. The police have been to his job, talked to his friends, and looked around your house, but no sign.

CANDICE
Did they go inside?

MICHELLE
No, they haven't got a search warrant yet. But they can accompany you if you want to go back.

Candice sheds a single tear.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- LATER

Michelle enters followed by Candice.

MICHELLE
Well Candy, you know where everything is and I've set you up in the guest room across from the nursery. I'm going to go pick the kids up from day care. When I get back I'll make us some lunch.

Michelle steps out of the door to exit.

MICHELLE
And don't forget to take your meds.

CANDICE
You're fucking loving this aren't you? Just like when we were kids, just what you wanted, Candice needs
Michelle once again.

Michelle stares at Candice for a moment then shuts the door as she exits.

INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Candice reaches into the bath turning on the water to her desired temperature, water and steam emerges from the fawcet. Candice opens the medicine cabinet and places her medication inside. Candice shuts the cabinet door and sees Odell's reflection in the mirror standing behind her in the bath tub.

CANDICE
(screams)

Candice spins around to see that there is nothing behind her.

CANDICE
(chuckles)

To hell with this. You can't fucking run my life anymore.

Candice reaches to the fawcet and switches it to a shower. She quickly strips away her clothes and steps beneath the steady flow. The water dances on her head as she runs her fingers through her hair. She tilts her head back and the water glides across her face.

CANDICE

Fuck you, burn in hell.

INT. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM

Candice enters wearing a bath robe and drying her hair with a bath towel.

JASON

Hey, Aunt Candy!
TOBEY
Hey, Aunt Candy!

Jason and Tobey run to Candice embracing her with sandwiches in their hands. Michelle stands at the kitchen counter preparing lunch.

MICHELLE
Girl, I didn't think you'd ever get out of there. I'm making your sandwich now.

CANDICE
I'm not hungry.

MICHELLE
Candy, you need to eat sweetie.

CANDICE
I said I'm not hungry.

MICHELLE
Fine.

Michelle tosses a sandwich in the trash can.

CANDICE
Did you call Ezekiel and let him know that I was out of the hospital.

Beat.

MICHELLE
No I didn't, I thought that it would be best if ya'll didn't contact eachother for a while.

CANDICE
There you go, trying to run my fucking life again!
Michelle SLAMS the silverware on the counter.

MICHELLE
Candy, not in front of my children!

CANDICE
You don't think that he would want to know that I was pregnant with his child? Fuck this, I'll just do it my damn self. I'll be back later on.

MICHELLE
The Doctor doesn't want you to drive, Candy.

CANDICE
Whatever.

Candice heads back to the bathroom.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOCAL PARK -- LATER

Ezekiel walks up to Candice who sits on a park bench rocking back and forth. Candice notices Ezekiel and jumps from her seat running to Ezekiel. They hold each other squeezing tightly.

EZEKIEL
Lord, you had me so worried.

CANDICE
I'm okay, I guess.

EZEKIEL
Thank you for meeting me here.

CANDICE
Why couldn't we have just met up at your place.

EZEKIEL
It's too beautiful of a day so I thought we could talk about us by the river.

They walk to the park bench holding hands. They sit and look at one another.

Beat.

CANDICE
Easy, why didn't you tell me?

EZEKIEL
Candice, I know I really hurt you. That's never what I wanted to do. I wanted to tell you after our first night together, but your sister insisted and told me that she would tell you in her own way.

CANDICE
How long have you been doing this?

EZEKIEL
About four years.

CANDICE
Why?

EZEKIEL
The money is really good, and I enjoy it.

CANDICE
This is crazy, do you have male clients too?
Candice, I'm not going to sit here and justify myself,...yes I do.

Oh my God, I can't believe this. Why didn't you tell me, Easy?

You're sister said,...

I can't fucking believe her! She has always tried to control my life and I'm fucking sick of it!

Candice, she was only trying to help you. She meant well. She told me about your marriage, and how your husband treats you.

That still gave her no right...

You're right but she never wanted to hurt you. She only wanted you to be happy, and in her thinking, that meant you being away from your husband.

I don't give a shit what her fucking intentions were. You don't understand what it's like she's a
controlling,
manipulative...

EZEKIEL
Candice, I know you're mad
but your sister is a good
person at heart and...

CANDICE
Stop defending her Easy,
she is a bitch and...why
are you defending her so
much?

EZEKIEL
I'm just saying, that's
your sister and blood is
thicker than water.

Candice stands.

CANDICE
Easy, did you fuck my
sister?

EZEKIEL
Candise listen you're
upset.

CANDICE
Quit telling me how fucking
pissed off I am, you have
no fucking idea! Did you
fuck my sister!

EZEKIEL
At one point in time, your
sister was a client of
mine.

CANDICE
(crying)
Oh my God, oh my God. I
can't believe this.
EZEKIEL
Candice listen to me...

CANDICE
Oh my God, oh my God, who are you people? How fucking sick do you have to be.

EZEKIEL
Candice I know this is a lot to take in...

CANDICE
A lot to take in, you son of a bitch. You have no fucking idea, do you know that I was pregnant with our baby?!

EZEKIEL
What?

CANDICE
I was pregnant, Easy.

EZEKIEL
But I thought you said that you couldn't...

CANDICE
That's what Odie told me. He said that he went do the doctor and checked himself out and that his equipment was working fine so it must be something in me that wasn't working right. I just took what he said and believed him, like a fucking idiot. Obviously he lied.

EZEKIEL
Well how do you know it's
CANDICE
I later asked the Doctor how far along I was and he told me that he suspects about four months. Odie and I haven't had sex in six.

EZEKIEL
Candice, you said was.

CANDICE
I miscarried!!

Candice turns away from Ezekiel and weeps.

Beat.

Ezekiel stands and embraces Candice from behind.

EZEKIEL
Baby, I am so sorry for all of the shit that everybody has put you through. You've been through so much and I know how much you wanted children. But at least now you know.

CANDICE
Easy, I don't care about all of the other shit. Let's just go away and try again.

EZEKIEL
What do you mean,...

CANDICE
I want to have your baby, our baby. Fuck everything else, let's just go and start our life together.
EZEKIEL
Candice you're still married.

CANDICE
I'll handle that.

EZEKIEL
Um..., Candice I can't.

Candice tears away for Ezekiel's embrace.

CANDICE
You can't or you won't?

EZEKIEL
It's not that simple. I can't just...

CANDICE
I'm telling you that I want to spend the rest of my life with you.

EZEKIEL
Well you would have to take me as I am.

CANDICE
As you are, what the fuck is that that suppose to mean? You still want to be a fucking gigalo?!

EZEKIEL
I like my life, Candice! I enjoy what I do!

Candice slaps Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL
Look I know this is the wrong time to hear this.
CANDICE
What about all of that shit you told me. You said yourself that it would be nice if we were together.

EZEKIEL
I wasn't lying to you, it would be nice if I were able to live a simple life like that, but I'm not because I would crave what I have now.

CANDICE
You fuck. That's why you wanted to meet in this fucking park, you knew that it would happen like this.

EZEKIEL
Candice, I'm so sorry. I do love you.

CANDICE
Just not enough to give up your life for me.

He reaches for her.

CANDICE
Fuck you. Fuck all of you.

Candice coldly wipes away her tears and walks away. Ezekiel sits on the park bench and watches Candice's silhouette fade away.

INT. CANDICE'S CAR

Candice jumps in the car and slams the door. She frantically beats the steering wheel.

CANDICE
(screams)
She starts the car and looks in the rearview mirror. Odell's reflection appears in the back seat.

CANDICE
So you think you've won
huh, is that it? Well
you're wrong, you're
fucking wrong.

EXT. THE PARK

Michelle's car skids out of the parking lot.

CUT TO:

INT. MICHELLE'S HOME -- NIGHT

Candice enters slamming the front door behind her.

MICHELLE
Candice, please. I just got
the kids to sleep. Did you
talk to him?

Candice looks at Michelle.

MICHELLE
Are you okay.

CANDICE
What the fuck do you think.

MICHELLE
Sweetie, I'm so sorry...

Candice turns and walks away.

INT. GUEST ROOM

Candice storms into the room and falls onto the bed. She curls into the fetal position and cries.

CUT TO:
INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Candice lays asleep with Ezekiel's arm draped around her.

BABY
   (crying)
   Mama!! Mama!! Mama!!

Candice's eyes open.

EZEKIEL
   (groggy)
   It's your turn, baby. I went last time.

CANDICE
   Okay, I'm going, I'm going.

Candice removes Ezekiel's arm from around her and slowly eases out of bed.

EZEKIEL
   I love you, baby.

CANDICE
   Yea. You're always so in love with me when I do the baby stuff.

EZEKIEL
   Because you're so good at it.

CANDICE
   (laughs)

INT. MICHELLE'S NURSERY

Michelle's infant cries in his crib. Candice enters.

CANDICE
   Awww, my poor baby. You
can't sleep? Huh, you can't sleep? Did you have a bad dream? Huh?

Candice picks the baby up out of the crib and rocks him.

CANDICE
Ohh, I know, I know. Are you hungry? Is that it, are you hungry?

Candice unbuttons her pajama top, removing one of her breast. She attempt to place her breast in the child's mouth, but the infant continues to cry.

CANDICE
Come on, now. Come on and drink so we both can go back to bed.

EZEKIEL
Candice? Candice?

CANDICE
I'm in the nursery, crazy.

Michelle enters unaware of Candice's actions.

MICHELLE
(groggy)
Thank you sis, I almost didn't hear him.

Startled Candice quickly covers up? A horrific expression overcomes her face and tears fill in her eyes.

MICHELLE
I'll take it from here.
He's probably just hungry.

Candice looks down at the sobbing infant. She hesitantly hands him to Michelle.
MICHELLE

Thanks.

Candice looks and Michelle with flaming eyes.

Beat.

Candice exits the room.

INT. GUEST ROOM

Candice sits on the edge of the bed and rocks. She picks up the phone next to the bed and dials.

INT. MICHELLE'S KITCHEN -- DAY

Michelle prepares breakfast while her children sit at the dining room table. Candice enters in her pajama's.

MICHELLE

Good morning, sweetie.

CANDICE

Yea, it will be.

Michelle places the children's plates in front of them.

MICHELLE

I hope you're hungry. I made us a big breakfast.

Candice sits at the table.

MICHELLE

I made bacon and eggs, with grits and pancakes. And there's some coffee...

The doorbell RINGS.

MICHELLE

Who the hell could that be
this early in the morning.

Michelle exits the room.

CANDICE
You guys hurry up and eat, I think you're going on a trip today.

TOBEY
Really, where are we going?

Michelle reenters followed by a portly, older gentleman.

JASON
Daddy!!

TOBEY
Daddy!!

The children jump from their seats and run to the Gentleman.

DADDY
Hey guys, how've you been?

Daddy gives the children a huge embrace.

DADDY
Michelle, I need to talk to you.

MICHELLE
About what? Are you increasing my alimony or child support checks?

DADDY
I would prefer talking to you in private.

MICHELLE
Okay, you guys go finish
your breakfast.

The children run back to the table. Michelle and Daddy exit the room.

**CANDICE**
See, your daddy's come to pick you guys up. So hurry up and eat, okay.

**JASON**
Okay, do you know where he's taking us.

**CANDICE**
Probably to his house for a little while.

Muffled yelling can be heard. Candice gets up and fixes herself a plate. Daddy returns.

**DADDY**
Hey, guys go get dressed. You're coming with daddy.

**JASON**
Okay!

**TOBEY**
Okay!

Jason and Tobey race to their room. Michelle enters in tears.

**MICHELLLE**
You'll never get away with this. You can't have them.

**DADDY**
I never fought you for custody before because I trusted that you were able to take care of our children. Now, I don't
trust you anymore. I have visitation rights so they'll be with me this weekend and Monday I'm having my lawyer submitt the paper work to contest custody.

MICHELLE
You bastard, you visit them once a month and now...

DADDY
Go get our kids ready to go and the baby dressed. Give them a kiss and say goodbye. I'll be waiting in the car.

Daddy exits. Crying, Michelle heads to the children's room.

MICHELLE
(sobbing)
Guys make sure you have your coats!

INT. MICHELLE'S KITCHEN -- LATER

Candice washes dishes.

MICHELLE
Bye guys, I'll see you Sunday!

The front door slams. Michelle slowly enters and takes a seat at the dining room table. Candice continues washing.

MICHELLE
I know that it was you who called him. I knew it soon as I saw him standing at that door. Why did you do
that, Candy? Why did you lie?

Candice doesn't look up from the sink, she continues washing dishes.

MICHELLE
Look at me dammit!

Candice's eye's slowly crawl from the sink and meet Michelle's without a blink. Michelle stands and meets Candice face to face at that sink.

MICHELLE
(emotional)
All I ever wanted is for you to be happy, Candy. I know that I might have fucked up but I have been trying my damnedest to make up for it. Are you doing this because you miscarried? Are you blaming me for that?

CANDICE
What's good for the goose,...

Michelle SLAPS Candice.

MICHELLE
Just because you lost your child doesn't give you the right to try and take mine, and I'll be damned if I'll let you do it, Candy.

Michelle storms off to her room. Candice brushes her hair out of her face. Michelle's bedroom door SLAMS. Candice grabs Michelle's car keys off of the counter and exits.

CUT TO:
EXT. CANDICE'S HOME -- LATER

Michelle's car parks in the drive way and Candice exits. Candice admires the home for a moment.

INT. CANDICE'S HOME

Candice enters slamming the door five times.

CANDICE

Honey, I'm home! Odie, where are you? Ooh, what smells so good? Are you cooking? Is that a new cologne?

Candice walks into the dining room. The chairs are still knocked on the floor along with the plates and food that fell from Candice's altercation with Odell. The food stains the rug with mildew. Flies swarm around the table.

CANDICE

Odie, honey what is that smell, is it delivery?

Candice walks around the dining room table and sees Odell's rotting corpse on the floor. Rigamortis has set in and the corpses joints are stiffened and brittle. Maggetts gleefully play on the decaying body.

CANDICE

Oh, that's you that smells so good. Well Odie, just stay there while I tidy up.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM -- FLASH BACK -- NIGHT

Odell strikes Candice again causing her to crash to the floor.
ODELL
Do you fucking hear me?

Odell kicks her in the stomach.

ODELL
Till fucking death do us part!

Odell turns and reaches for the firearm. Candice scurries away to the best of her ability.

ODELL
Where the fuck do you think you're going?!

Odell reaches for Candice but stops short of grabbing her.

ODELL
Oh fuck.

Odell grabs his stomach. Candice stands and watches Odell. He falls to the floor grabbing the table cloth in the process and bringing the food down with him.

CANDICE
(emotional)
I knew you'd say that, Odie. I knew you'd never just let me be happy. I'm sorry Odie, but I have to finally choose myself and I knew you wouldn't let me do that.

ODELL
What the fuck did you do to me?

CANDICE
I poisoned you Odie. You left me no choice.
Odell convulses. Candice turns and runs away from the site.

end F/B

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

Candice enters the kitchen and turns on the dish washer. She picks up a dish rag and a brillo pad; she scrubs the counter tops and stove.

CANDICE
Odie, you're never this quiet so I guess I'll take advantage of that and let you know how i've been. Well, it turns out that you were right about my sister, she turned out to cause a lot of trouble for me. I know, I know, you warned me. Odie? Now Odie, that's mean. She's still my sister, Odie.

Candice grabs a broom and sweeps the floor.

CANDICE
Odie, I have to get that dining room clean. Do you think that you can go in the living room? Yes, Odie. No it's not a problem. I'll just clean around you and do the dining room last.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Candice enters and wipes the light switches.

CANDICE
You know, Michelle's ex
might get the kids. Yeah, he came to pick them up this morning. Yeah, she's not taking that very well.

She wipes the coffee table.

CANDICE
Odie, there is something that I have to tell you.
(hesitates)
I've been seeing someone. I know that hurts to hear, but he's a great,...what? His name is Ezekiel, like from the Bible. I call him Easy. Well Odie, you've never really been there for me! No, I'm not shutting up!! No, no, no, no! You don't control me anymore, Odie.

Candice stands in front of the coffee table.

CANDICE
No, you can't hurt me anymore, dammit.

Candice violently whips her head around and crashes through the coffee table.

CANDICE
(screams)

Beat.

Candice catches her breath.

CANDICE
Like I said, you can't hurt me anymore.

Candice jumps to her feet.
CANDICE
No, fuck you! Burn in hell mother fucker.

Candice storms into the dining room.

INT. DINING ROOM

She kicks the corpse.

CANDICE
You tried to fucking ruin my life! And control every aspect of it! Making me take those stupid showers. Look at you, you look fucking disgusting. You're actually laying on that disgusting floor. You look like you need a shower.

Candice runs into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN

Candice reaches into a drawer and pulls out a set of rubber dishwashing gloves.

INT. DINING ROOM

Candice puts the gloves on and grabs the ankles of the corpse. She drags the corpse out of the dining room and up the stairs.

INT. BATHROOM

Candice kicks the bathroom door open and drags the corpse into the bathroom.

CANDICE
You heavy fucker.

Heavy winded, Candice turns the faucet on. Steamy water pours out. Candice dumps the corpse into the
tub and switches the flowing water to a shower. She grabs the liquid soap and pours it onto the corps and throws the luffa on top of it.

CANDICE
Don't forget to rub the soap into your skin counter clockwise, asshole.

Candice walks out of the bathroom, SLAMMING the door behind her.

INT. DINING ROOM
Candice sprays window cleaner on a window that shows the sun high in the sky.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM -- NIGHT
Candice sprays window cleaner on a window that shows the moon illuminating the dark night.

INT. BATHROOM
Candice enters wearing an aprin. a large wooden handle sticks out of one of the pockets. She carries a large hammer with a box of trash bags under her arm.

CANDICE
Are you clean yet?

Candice runs her hand under the steady flow of the shower.

CANDICE
Wow, that's cold.

The drenched corpse is blue from the moisture. Candice drops the box of trash bags and the large hammer.
CANDICE
I was in the middle of tidying up the house for you and remembered what you told me the other day, about dumping different parts of my body in the swamp, and it occurred to me that I should give you the same respect that you would have given me.

Grabbing the wooden handle, Candice removes a giant butcher's knife from her pocket. She swings downward into the tub, chopping at the corpse's neck, over and over.

EXT. CANDICE'S HOUSE -- LATER

Candice drags a black garbage bag to the opened trunk of Michelle's car. She tosses the bag into the trunk and it falls among a group of other black trash bags. She SLAMS the trunk shut. Candice casually walks to the drivers side of the car and enters. She starts the car and drives off. A hazy yellow light flickers in the window of the home. Dark smoke escapes from the windows and front door.

INT. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM -- LATER

Candice enters dropping Michelle's keys on a coffee table.

MICHELLE
I can't believe you. I was two seconds from reporting my car stolen.

Candice looks at Michelle and walks into the kitchen.

INT. MICHELLE'S KITCHEN
Candice looks into the refrigerator. Michelle enters.

MICHELLE
You have some nerve, Candy. All I ever wanted to do was help you. I could never treat you as bad as you're treating me. I won't stand for this.

Candice shuts the refrigerator and gives Michelle her full attention.

MICHELLE
Suffering from depression or not, I want you out of here tomorrow. The police have put an APB out on Odie, so hopefully he won't show up. But I can't have you disrupting my life like you are trying to do. So now that my car is back, I am going to go take one of my soothing long showers, go out tonight with some friends, and try to forget about the bullshit that happened today and when I wake up tomorrow, you better be gone, Candy.

Michelle storms out of the kitchen. Candice reaches into a bottom cabinet and pulls out a large wooden bowl. She stands and reaches into an upper cabinet pulling out one champagne glass after the other. She softly places the glasses into the bowl. The water from the shower can be heard flowing into the tub amongst smooth jazz. Candice removes a small hammer from a drawer and beats the hammer into the wooden bowl crushing the champagne glasses.
INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Candles flicker in the dimly lit room and smooth jazz loudly flows with the light. Candice slowly tiptoes into the room carrying the wooden bowl. Michelle stands under the steady flowing stream with her eyes closed, shampooing her hair. She suddenly opens her eyes and sees a hazy figure through the shower curtain. She wipes the soap out of her eyes and pulls the shower curtain back.

MICHELLE
Candy?!

Michelle shrugs her shoulders and closes the shower curtain. Candice lays with her back again the base of the tub on the bathroom floor.

CANDICE
(giggle)

Candice crawls backward as low to the ground as she possibly can. She pours the broken glass all over the floor as she crawls out of the room and shuts the door behind her.

INT. JASON'S PLAYROOM

Candice opens a large toy chest and dumps out all of the toys. She drags the toy chest out of the room.

INT. HALLWAY

Candice drags the toy chest next to a door and sets it down. She sits on top of the chest and rocks back and forth.

INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Michelle turns off the shower but steam still hovers. She pulls back the shower curtain and puts a foot forward to step out but places it back in.
INT. HALLWAY

Candice tilts her head back as she hears the shower stop. A smile creeps across her face.

INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Michelle bends over and twists her hair, wringing it out. Water drips from her drenched hair. She turns and steps out of the tub, reaching for a nearby towel and steps on the broken glass. Her opposite foot slips out of the tub and Michelle falls forward.

MICHELLE
(screams)
Candice!!!

Blood streams from Michelle as her naked body is covered in glass.

MICHELLE
(frantic)
Candice!!!

With her body shaking Candice places her hands against the glass covered floor and attempts to pick herself up from the torturous agony.

MICHELLE
(shrieks)
Candice?!!!

Michelle reaches from the door knob as blood drips from her finger tips. She places the uninjured foot against the floor, giving herself more leverage.

MICHELLE
(sobbing)
Candy?

Michelle's balance gives way against the moistened glass and she slips, hitting her head on the
porcelain sink on the way back down to the floor.

INT. HALLWAY

Candice shudders as she hears the loud THUD. She open the bathroom door and sees Michelle's unconcious, bloody, glass covered body. Candice opens the toy chest and places it in the doorway of the bathroom. She steps inside.

INT. MICHELLE'S BATHROOM

Candice pulls Michelle's head off of the floor by her hair and drags her head first into the toychest. Candice knicks herself on a piece of glass judding from Michelle's body.

CANDICE
Ouch! Dammit. There you go still trying to hurt me, sis.

Candice bends and folds the rest of Michelle's body into the chest. She SLAMS the top shut and locks it.

EXT. MICHELLE'S BACKYARD

Rain pours down as Candice drags the toychest outside. She picks up a nearby shovel and stabs it into the ground. Candice scoops a shovel full of dirt and tosses it aside and repeats the process.

CANDICE
You should be proud of me, sis. I'm finally taking control of my life. I'm grabbing the bull by the horns and saying fuck everything else. No one is in control of me any more. I'm finally making my own decisions and choices in life, and removing
everybody that would stand 
in the way of that. I'm not 
listening to you or Odie 
any more, sis. Fuck the 
both of you!! I will have 
the life that I always 
dreamed about having, and I 
am going to have it with 
Easy.

CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLE'S BACKYARD -- LATER

Candice is shoulder deep into the ground and still 
digging. She tosses the shovel and crawls out of 
the muddy hole. She grabs one end of the toy 
chest. A KNOCK POUNDS from the inside. Candice 
jumps back.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

The dark figure struggles wildly and breaths 
heavily.

WOMAN
(screams)

CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLE'S BACKYARD

Candice kicks the toy chest.

MICHELLE
(muffled)
Candy!!! Help me, somebody, 
help me!!! Candy!!!!

KNOCKS and POUNDS cause the toy chest to slightly 
mov
CANDICE
Shut the fuck up!!

Candice jumps behind the toy chest and pushes it towards the hole. She slips and slides as the chest slowly moves.

MICHELLE
(muffled)
Candy, please!! What are you doing?!!! Don't do this!!! Help me!!! Somebody help me!!!

CANDICE
Fuck you! I have to stop you!! If I am ever going to be happy, I have to stop you!! You said that all you wanted to do was help me, sis. So this is how you're helping me!

MICHELLE
(muffled)
Candy!!!!

Candice pushes the chest into the hole. Out of breath, Candice picks up the shovel and dumps the previously shoveled dirt back into the hole on top of the chest.

CANDICE
Fuck you, sis.

Candice scoops another pile of dirt and tosses it in.

CANDICE
Fuck you.

She tosses in another scoop.

CANDICE
Fuck you.

Another scoop.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

WOMAN

(sobbing)
How could you do this to me?

(screams)
How could you?!!

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKWOODS LOUISIANAN BAYOU ROAD -- NIGHT

Michelle's car speeds down the highway. The front right blows causing the car to come to a screeching halt.

INT. MICHELLE'S CAR

Candice frantically beats the steering wheel.

CANDICE

Fuck, fuck, fuck! Two fucking miles away and this has to happen. Think, think, think, think.

Candice rocks back and forth.

CANDICE

Fuck you, Odie. I know you did this. One last ditch effort to keep me from Easy.

EXT. BACKWOODS LOUISIANAN BAYOU ROAD

Candice exits the car and slams the door behind
her.

CANDICE
Well fuck you!! You're not going to win, Odie. I stopped Michelle and I will stop you.

Candice walks to the rear of the car and opens the trunk. She grabs one of the trash bags and carries it to the edge of the bayou. Candice opens the bag and tosses out the contents. A severed head and arm from the corpse splashes into the bayou.

CANDICE
Fuck you, Odie!!!

Candice walks back to the trunk of the car, grabs a second trash bag, and drags it out. She reaches the edge of the swamp and tosses out two legs and the remaining arm from the bag. She returns to the trunk and grabs the last trash bag. She struggles in pulling the bag from the trunk. She tugs and pulls the bag away from the car, slipping in mud in the process.

CANDICE
I always said to lay off the beers, fucker.

Candice rolls the last trash bag into the bayou and waves goodbye. Candice walks back to the car and kicks the tire.

CANDICE
Two fucking miles.

Candice walks down the empty highway in the same direction the car was traveling.

EXT. EZEKIEL'S HOME -- LATER

A dirty and winded Candice approaches the front door.
CANDICE
Your car's not here. Why are you not home, Easy. I need you.

Candice walks to the side of the home and notices a nearby plant. She tilts the pot over revealing a key underneath. She picks the key up.

CANDICE
(laughs)
I remember what you said, Easy. We might have been drunk but I remember. For the nights when you're too drunk to remember what you did with your keys and too lazy to care.

Candice unlocks the side door and enters.

INT. EZEKIEL'S HOME

Candice walks through the home visibly admiring every square inch of it. She is captivated by paintings, certain parts of architecture and gently touches the furniture.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BATHROOM

Candice moves to the bathtub and turn on the water to her desired temperature. She strips away her muddy and blood stained clothes and steps inside. Bubbles emerge from the jet streams. Candice closes her eyes and lays back in the midst of the rapid waters.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Candice elegantly walks through the room naked. Water pelets glissen on her body. Her damp hair streams down her back. Candice searches through Ezekiel's dresser drawer. She removes a dress shirt and puts it on, she sees a 9mm pistol
sitting in the drawer. Candice walks to the bed and sits down. She caresses the sheets and lays back. She revels in the texture and inhales the sent that surrounds her. The front door SLAMS. Candice sits up in the bed, an expression of excitement creeps across her face.

EZEKIEL
Baby, will you stop. We'll be upstairs in a minute!

BLACK WOMAN
(Giggles)
I can't help myself.

The excitement creeps from Candice's face slower than it appeared. Tears fill her eyes. Candice nervously looks around the room and notices a closet. She runs inside the closet and almost closes the door behind her. The door remains barley open as Candice peers out. Ezekiel and the beautiful Black Woman stumble into the bed room. They fall on the bed together. They tear away at eachother's clothes.

INT. CLOSET
Candice weeps intensely yet silently as she peeks at the spectacle before her through the slight opening of the door. Expressions of anger, pain, disappointment, dispair, and hatred all morph on the face of Candice.

EZEKIEL
You're incredible, baby.

BLACK WOMAN
(moans)
Easy, just don't stop. Keep going just like that, baby.
(screams)

INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM -- LATER
Ezekiel and Black Woman cuddle together as they drift off to sleep.

BLACK WOMAN
(groggy)
Hold on baby, I'll be back. I need to get a drink. My throat is dry. Do you want anything?

EZEKIEL
(groggy)
No, just hurry back.

BLACK WOMAN
Why, so we can take that bath filled with rose petals that you told me about?

EZEKIEL
No we're doing that in the morning.

Black Woman gets out of bed wrapping herself with the white sheet, it clings to her perspiring body. She exits.

INT. CLOSET

Candice's face is stiff and cold, she barely blinks her eyes and her mouth is up turned and quivers. She silently opens the closet door.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM

Candice quietly glides past the slumbering Ezekiel and exits the room.

INT. EZEKIEL'S KITCHEN

Black Woman bends over looking into the refrigerator. Candice approaches behind her and presses her pelvis against the woman's butt as she
bends over.

BLACK WOMAN
Easy, baby didn't you get
enough already? I don't
think that I can handle a
second round this time.

Black Woman pushes back into Candice's pelvis. Black Woman peers over her shoulder as Candice
grabs the refrigerator door handle. Candice
hunches her further into the refrigerator as she
SLAMS the door into Black Woman's head,
repeatedly. Candice reaches into a nearby drawer
and removes a long knife. She pulls Black Woman's
head back by her hair and slits her throat.
Candice unbottoms the dress shirt she is weaing
and lets it fall to the floor. She pulls the sheet
from around the lifeless body of Black Woman and
wraps it around herself. Black Woman's blood soaks
into the sheet as it clings to Candice.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM

Candice enters silently. Bloody foot prints soak
the carpet behind every step that Candice takes.
Candice eases into bed next to the slumbering
Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL
(groggy)
What was that sound baby?
Did you drop something?
Ooh, your feet are cold.

CANDICE
(whisper)
Easy?

Ezekiel opens his eyes and looks at Candice.

EZEKIEL
Candice?! What... what the
fuck are you doing here?!
Ezekiel sees the blood at the bottom of the sheets. He falls out of the bed crawling away from Candice.

**EZEKIEL**
Oh shit!! What did you do?!
Where's... oh shit.
Where's...

**CANDICE**
Don't you dare say her name again! You've been saying it all night. She's not here to get in our way anymore, no one is honey. Now come back to bed. We can be together now. Fuck everything else baby. We're all that matters.

**EZEKIEL**
You crazy bitch, what the fuck did you do?!

**CANDICE**
Easy, don't talk to me like that.

**EZEKIEL**
What the fuck.

Ezekiel jumps to his feet and runs out of the room.

**CANDICE**
Easy, don't leave me!!
Easy!!!

**INT. EZEKIEL'S KITCHEN**
Ezekiel rushes to the lifeless body of Black Woman.

**EZEKIEL**
Oh, baby what did that psyco bitch do to you?!
What the fuck?!

In a panic Ezekiel grabs a nearby phone and dials.

EZEKIEL
Hello, I need help at 207 Fountainview Ln! My friend has been killed and the killer is still in the house! Hurry the fuck up! This crazy bitch stabbed...

CANDICE
(shreiks)

Candice runs behind Ezekiel stabbing him in the back, twice. Ezekiel drops the phone and swings backward, hitting Candice and knocks her to the floor.

CANDICE
(sobbing)
You're no different. You're no different at all. You're just like, Odie!! You fuck!! You're the same as him!!

To the best of his ability Ezekiel runs out of the kitchen. Candice grabs the knife again.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BEDROOM

Ezekiel hurries to his dresser drawer and tosses the clothes out. He grabs the 9mm pistol. Candice enters.

EZEKIEL
You crazy fucking bitch.

Ezekiel aims the weapon at Candice and squeezes the trigger. The weapon CLICKS. Ezekiel looks
shocked. He squeezes the trigger again, the weapon CLICKS.

CANDICE
I emptied it. I told myself that I was being silly, that you'd never shoot me, but I did it any way. Odie told me once that he'd shoot me. You Fuck!!

Candice charges towards Ezekiel, he backhands her with the pistol, she falls. She swings the knife at his feet as he runs by her. She slices his achilles tendon. Ezekiel falls. He crawls out of the room.

INT. EZEKIEL'S HALLWAY

Candice quickly straddles his back and stabs him repeatedly. Candice pulls the knife back to stab Ezekiel again but stops. Candice drops the knife and attempts to put pressure on the wounds.

CANDICE
Oh, shit...What the fuck? Oh shit. I'm sorry Easy. I'm sorry. Fuck me, Fuck me!!! I'm sorry.

Candice grabs Ezekiel by his wrist and pulls him into the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM

Candice pulls Ezekiel by one arm.

EZEKIEL
(groans)

CANDICE
I know baby, I'm sorry. I know it hurts, but it will be over soon. I'm so sorry.
struggling, Candice puts Ezekiel into the bathtub, turn on the water and runs out. Candice returns holding the knife in her hand. She lets the sheet fall to the floor and enters the tub sitting between Ezekiel's legs. Candice fold Ezekiel's arms across her chest.

CANDICE
Do you remember how happy we were right here, baby? I want to be here with you forever.

Candice turns on the jet stream, and the water boils. She pulls Ezekiel's head forward and meets his mouth with hers. She kisses him passionately. As she releases her grasp on him, his head falls back against the elegant tub with a lifeless THUD. Candice pulls the knife out of the water along with her opposite arm. She slits her on wrists.

CANDICE
I wan't to be here with you forever, Easy. Just you and me baby, with no body getting in our way.

Candice lays her head back against Ezekiel and closes her eyes. She enjoyably drifts away with a smile across her face.

INT. EZEKIEL'S LIVINGROOM -- LATER

The front door is KICKED open. Officer's rush into the home.

INT. EZEKIEL'S BATHROOM

Two Officer's rush in.

OFFICER #1
We got two more up here!!

OFFICER #2 checks Ezekiel's pulse.
OFFICER #2
This one is gone.

He checks Candice's pulse.

OFFICER #2
This one is alive!

OFFICER #1
Get an ambulance here quick! We got a live one here!!

The Officer's grab Candice by her wrists and pull her out of the tub.

OFFICER #2
We need to wrap her wrists and stop the bleeding.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

The dark figure struggles violently.

WOMAN
(screams)
I'm sorry!!!

A light comes on in the padded room and it reveals Candice strapped to a bed. With the sudden burst of light Candice lays still on the bed. An ORDERLY enters.

ORDERLY
What?! You've been screaming for hours! You knew that I was on duty tonight didn't you? You wanted some attention from big daddy, didn't you? You want some more of what I gave you last time, huh?
Okay I'm here now. I'll give it to you.

The Orderly shuts the door behind him. He unbuttons his shirt and pulls a set of keys out of his pocket.

ORDERLY
You don't have to worry about us getting interrupted like we did last time. I'm the only one on duty tonight in this section. I can stay as long as I want.

He reaches for Candice's pants and snatches them off of her. He lays on top of her.

ORDERLY
I love how you just lay there for me and don't move and don't make a sound. You're used to this aren't you. Lets undo one of you're straps this time since you behave so well when I come and visit you.

The Orderly unlocks one of Candice's wrist restraints. He kisses her on her neck and places her hand on his butt. He reaches his hand between her legs.

ORDERLY
Damn girl, you're as dry as sand paper.

Candice looks at the Orderly. Her sudden glance startles him. With her free hand, Candice pushes the Orderly's head closer to hers. She clamps her teeth down on his ear.

ORDERLY
(screams)

The Orderly pulls away from Candice and she rips his ear off in the process. He frantically jumps off of the bed dropping his set of keys on Candice's stomach. As blood streams from Candice's mouth she notices the keys.

FADE OUT