

The Woman Who Knows

By

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THE WOMAN WHO KNOWS

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

MEI RAVEN (black, late 20s, stoic) stands in the center of the room.

On the nightstand are an empty wine bottle and prescription medications from AMBIEN to KLONOPIN to TRAMADOL to GABAPENTIN.

She hears noises that aren't there.

THUD THUD THUD.

Her eyes are glassy. She sees hazy colors that aren't there.

She tries to find the noise under the bed...

Behind the curtain...

Under the nightstand.

HUM HUM.

She covers her ears distraught.

She screams.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM-BATHROOM - NIGHT

MEI barely makes it to the toilet before she hurls.

She lies on her back in a great deal of pain as she massages her arms and legs and cries out.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM-BATHROOM - MORNING

Mei lies on the floor near the toilet with her eyes closed.

JOSEPH RAVEN (Korean-American, early 30s, adoring) picks her up and carries her out the bathroom.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Joseph lies Mei down and covers her up with the comforter.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - MORNING

Mei awakens under the sheets in bed. She struggles to sit up.

On the nightstand is a bottle of water. She opens it and takes each pill.

She deeply massages her legs then her arms as she winces from pain.

The door opens, and Joseph enters.

JOSEPH

How are you feeling?

MEI

Okay. Why?

JOSEPH

Because I found you on the fuckin' bathroom floor.

MEI

You know me. I party hard.

JOSEPH

It's not funny, Mei. You can't take all this medication and drink too.

MEI

How was rehearsal?

JOSEPH

Fine. Don't change the subject.

MEI

Why are you back?

JOSEPH

We're on break. One of the stuntmen broke his arm.

MEI

Yikes. Well, I have all the medication he'll need so send him my way.

Mei chuckles as Joseph scowls.

JOSEPH

I'm calling your doctor. You don't need to be on all this shit.

MEI

Joseph, stop. You know I need it. It's not like I'm taking this just to take it unless you believe your mother.

JOSEPH

They're overprotective.

MEI

Ha-Yeah. I'm so grateful they welcomed you into their family. I really am, but other than that, hate isn't even a strong enough word for me to use right now.

JOSEPH

I just want you to get better.

MEI

What do you think I'm doing?

JOSEPH

Look, your doctor said your fibromyalgia isn't going away, and the meds are a temporary fix. They're additive so please stop taking them. It's not healthy.

MEI

You need to back off.

JOSEPH

You've been on it since the accident. A year is enough. The pain isn't going away, and I'm sorry, but you keep doing the same things expecting different results.

MEI

What are you trying to call me?

JOSEPH

No-I-

MEI

You don't know what it's like to have your entire body feel like it's on fire! To not be able to wear clothes because your skin is too sensitive!

JOSEPH  
I know, and I'm sorry-

MEI  
You know what? Just go back to set and  
leave me alone.

Mei lies back down and turns away from Joseph.

JOSEPH  
I'm gonna to tell the hotel to stop  
bringing you wine. Can't be mixing  
this shit together, Mei.

Joseph exits the room.

Mei pulls a bottle of wine out from under the bed.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY - LATER

Mei wears her bathrobe and sips on a glass of wine as she gazes out the window. She doesn't see anything extraordinary: Just people coming and going.

She starts to massage her legs.

Her phone beside her vibrates. She opens the camera and starts a zoom appointment with DOCTOR MUHAMMAD (Indian, mid fifties, easygoing).

MEI  
Hi, Dr. Muhammad.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
Hi, Mei. What's new since the last  
time I saw you?

MEI  
Well, we're in Los Angeles. The  
husband's filming a new movie.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
You're traveling? Good. Wasn't it just  
your anniversary?

MEI  
Yup.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
That's wonderful.

MEI

Thanks.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

How's the drinking?

Mei glances at her glass of wine.

MEI

I'm not drinking.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Good because you can't drink on those medications. Especially the Ambien. It can cause hallucinations.

MEI

I'm not drinking.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

You said that. How's the pain?

MEI

My entire body hurts so much. Can't I get something stronger than tramadol? Maybe Vicodin.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

I wouldn't feel comfortable doing that. Tramadol can cause addiction itself-It's an opioid, and I just wouldn't prescribe it to someone who drinks.

MEI

I don't drink.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Well, with your history of alcohol use.

Muhammed starts typing away on his computer.

TAP TAP.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

That's the thing about fibromyalgia. It's a chronic disorder that never goes away. Meds will mask the symptoms for a little while, but sadly, they won't cure it.

MEI

I just want it to go away. I'm sleeping all the time, my memory isn't as good as it used to be, I can't wear jeans because of my legs. Ever since the car accident, I just hurt all the time. I'm so tired of it all.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

I know. Another medication we can try is Elavil. It's an antidepressant that should help with your mood, but Mei, you can't drink on this.

Mei glances at her glass of wine.

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei enters still in her bathrobe and approaches a vending machine. She puts in the coins and chooses her favorite bag of chips.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei eats her chips as she gazes out the window. She then takes out her cell phone from a pocket and dials a number to no avail. No one answers.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

In the front lobby are SEVERAL WOMEN with signs that read, "WE HEART JOSEPH RAVEN".

One FEMALE FAN (early twenties, obsessed) struggles to get farther inside.

FEMALE FAN

We just want to see him! Omigod is that his wife? That's his wife! He is here!

SECURITY repels them outside.

Mei approaches the front desk where TIM (early 20s, tidy) stands in full uniform. He says goodbye to a smiling PATRON.

MEI

Excuse me! Do you need any help back there?

Mei glances at the female fan, who gazes at her with a wide

grin from outside.

TIM

Pardon?

MEI

Do you need any help because I've been calling and no one is answering! So are you busy? Should we put out now hiring signs?

TIM

I'm so sorry.

MANAGER

Mrs. Raven! How wonderful to see you. Tim, help the next customer.

Tim moves to the next computer and helps the next patron.

MANAGER

How is Mr. Raven's filming going?

MEI

Fine. I've been calling for breakfast.

MANAGER

Mrs. Raven, it's noon.

MEI

...Oh. Haha I still want food.

VIOLET SPARKS (white, late 30s, model) in red with long, flowing blonde hair and high heels enters and glances around. She wears shades and ambles confidently to the back of the line.

MANAGER

We can take care of that. What would you like?

Mei glances behind her as the manager lists the things they have for lunch. She's not able to tell, but the woman is gazing at her.

Mei turns back to the manager.

MEI

Fries.



INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei sits in her usual place eating fries.

Joseph enters.

MEI

Where'd you go?

JOSEPH

I was studying lines.

MEI

Hmph.

Joseph tosses his phone on the bed and bends down in front of Mei.

JOSEPH

I didn't mean to argue this morning.  
I'm sorry.

He kisses the back of her hand.

JOSEPH

I'm just worried.

MEI

I'm fine. I am tired of being cooped  
up in this hotel. When is filming  
gonna be done?

JOSEPH

Two weeks. Just give me two more  
weeks, yeah? Then we'll be back home.  
Yeah?

MEI

Yeah.

JOSEPH

Then I'll give you all the attention  
you want. All the attention you  
deserve.

Joseph presses his lips to the back of her hand.

JOSEPH

I love you.

MEI

Why?

JOSEPH

Stop.

MEI

I can't work. I can't do anything. You're finally getting work, but what about the bills? They're piling up and-

JOSEPH

Mei. Stop. I'm taking care of it. I just need you to be healthy, and let me take care of you.

MEI

Ever since the car accident, I haven't been myself.

JOSEPH

I'm sorry.

MEI

For what?

JOSEPH

I was the one driving. I'm the one who should be dealing with any pain. Not you.

MEI

I wouldn't wish this on you.

JOSEPH

The doctor says it does get better with time.

MEI

Yeah, I'm sure.

Joseph presses his lips against Mei's lips then to her neck. She chuckles.

MEI

Don't you have work?

Joseph glances at the Apple watch on his wrist.

JOSEPH  
Yeah. I'd better go. Lets finish this  
tonight.

Joseph kisses Mei goodbye and exits the penthouse.

Mei glances at the nightstand and sees that Joseph left his  
phone.

MEI  
Ahh, Joseph!

Mei grabs the phone and hurries out the door.

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei rushes around the corner when she hears the voice of  
Joseph. She listens in making sure to stay clear of his view.

JOSEPH  
(low tone)  
You can't keep doing this.

VIOLET  
Then answer my calls.

JOSEPH  
Get the fuck out of here.

VIOLET  
Why are you doing this?

JOSEPH  
What is wrong with you? You need to  
stop.

The woman throws herself on Joseph, who tries to keep her at  
a distance.

VIOLET  
Please! What did I do?

JOSEPH  
Keep your voice down!

VIOLET  
I'm going to tell her. I'm going to  
tell her everything.

Joseph grabs the woman by both arms and squeezes so tightly,  
the woman panics.

JOSEPH

If you go anywhere near my wife...

VIOLET

Just talk to me. Please.

Mei scrambles back to her room.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mei enters and grabs her chest as she struggles to breathe. Gags. She collapses to her knees and tries to catch her breath.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei sits near the window as she scrolls through Joseph's phone, though nothing stands out.

The wallpaper itself is of a genially smiling Mei being embraced from behind by Joseph.

She scrolls through his FACEBOOK friends, though there is just too many. Onto his messages, though it's just direct messages from friends and herself.

Mei then scrolls through his message requests, and she finds one message from an account with no avatar.

It reads, "PLEASE TALK TO ME."

She scrolls through his blocked users and finds the photo of the woman that Joseph was speaking with in the hall. Her name reads, "VIOLET SPARKS", and in the profile picture is an entire family: Violet, A HUSBAND tagged as SCOTT SPARKS, A teenager and one girl (pudgy face) in her early teens, and two dogs.

Mei clicks on the profile and scrolls through it.

Mei scrolls through the photos, and one catches her eye.

It's a picture of Violet and Joseph at a gathering. Both have a drink in their hand and smile at the camera.

She scrolls through Violet's social media page. There are pictures of her on trips with her family, with the ladies at book clubs, sipping wine at resorts...

Mei tosses a hand into her disheveled hair.

Mei stands in front of the full length mirror and takes a look at what is reflected back. She's still in the same bathrobe as this morning, her hair is thrown into a messy ponytail, her eyes have bags under them.

She sighs.

Mei scrolls through the photos of her own Facebook page. She was happy, smiling, in cute clothes, all over Joseph in some of the photos. She was genuinely happy.

Her cell phone vibrates, though she just stares at it as it rings. It reads "HUSBAND".

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - NIGHT

Tim stands behind the front desk. Must be working a double.

Mei approaches the front desk.

MEI

Tim, right?

TIM

Mrs. Raven! How may I help you?

MEI

A friend of mine thinks she left her keycard in her room and wants me to check. Goodness, I forgot the room number. Can you tell me?

TIM

I can't give you the room number, ma'am-I'm sorry.

MEI

Oh, silly me. Of course you can't. Haha. Can someone check her room to see if she's left her keycard?

TIM

Sure. What's her name?

MEI

Violet Sparks.

Tim types away on the computer.

TIM

Where is she? We can easily let her

back into her room.

MEI

Really? She's here?

Tim raises his brows.

Mei clicks her teeth.

MEI

I'll let her know. Can someone meet her at her room?

TIM

No problem.

Tim ambles to the phone and makes a call.

Mei hovers over the front desk to peek at the computer screen.

Tim turns around as Mei climbs back down and grins as if she's up to nothing.

Tim turns back around.

TIM

Mrs. Raven-

Mei isn't there.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei gets off the elevator and hears a commotion. She cautiously heads toward the yelling and peeks around a corner.

Standing there is Violet and the man from her profile picture, her HUSBAND (mid 40s, burly, intimidating). He wears dingy jeans and a leather jacket.

SCOTT

(southern accent)

You want to destroy our marriage? And for what?

VIOLET

I told you I'm here for a photo shoot!

SCOTT

Right! Like I'm supposed to believe

that. I know he's here, Violet.

VIOLET  
I don't know who you're talking about.

SCOTT  
Do you think I'm stupid?

VIOLET  
I'm here for work, Scott.

Scott scoffs.

SCOTT  
How can you stand there and lie to my face?

VIOLET  
I'm not lying.

SCOTT  
Then let me in so I can see for myself!

VIOLET  
No one is in here, but I'm not going to let you in with you yelling at me like this!

Scott pushes her and lets himself inside.

Violet closes the door.

Mei takes a deep breath and breathes again. She's back at the elevators when she sees someone peek their head inside from the staircase.

MEI  
Hello?

Mei ambles to the staircase, and standing there is the JONATHAN (late teens, lanky, nonchalant) from Violet's profile picture.

MEI  
What are you doing here?

JONATHAN  
(southern accent)  
Huh?

MEI

I mean-Why are you standing in the staircase like that?

JONATHAN

Can't exactly show my face right now, can I? What about you? Wait-You look familiar. You're married to that actor, right? Why were you listening in on my dad and his wife?

MEI

How could I not? Sounded pretty juicy if I do say so myself. What were they fighting about?

JONATHAN

You tell me.

Mei twitches then turns to the elevators. The teenager grabs her by the arm.

MEI

Hey-

JONATHAN

Is my stepmother really having an affair with your husband?

Mei yanks her arm away and calls for the elevator.

JONATHAN

I'm Jonathan.

MEI

Why are you telling me?

JONATHAN

We have something in common. We've both been betrayed, right?

MEI

Don't know what you're talking about.

JONATHAN

You wouldn't be here if you didn't. Your home isn't the only one she's broken.

MEI

What do you mean by that?



JONATHAN

My dad was married when he met her.

MEI

Well, damn.

JONATHAN

Maybe you can help me with her if I help you with your husband. We could get even.

MEI

'Get even'?

JONATHAN

Yeah.

MEI

I don't know what you're talking about, but I'd say stay out of grown folks business if I were you.

The elevator dings, and the doors open. Mei slips inside and waves goodbye.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei enters as she rubs on the back of her neck from soreness.

Joseph stands up from the bed.

JOSEPH

Where were you?

MEI

Taking a stroll. Where were you?

JOSEPH

Don't ask stupid questions.

Joseph picks up the empty bottles of wine.

JOSEPH

If you're going to drink, at least stay in the room.

MEI

Do I embarrass you, Mr. Raven?

JOSEPH

What?

MEI

Am I not good enough to be shown in public? I'm sure there is someone much prettier you'd rather have around on your arm, yeah?

JOSEPH

What the fuck are you talking about?

Mei staggers to the bed as Joseph helps her.

She climbs under the sheets with glassy eyes as he sits on the edge of bed.

MEI

Are you coming to bed?

JOSEPH

I'm gonna take a shower first. Just close your eyes, yeah?

MEI

Yeah.

Mei lays back and closes her eyes.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - MORNING

Mei awakens to Joseph getting dressed. She doesn't stir though and closes her eyes.

Joseph kisses her on the forehead.

MEI

Where are you going so early?

JOSEPH

I have to go shoot.

MEI

Of course you do. I wonder if she'll be there.

JOSEPH

What?

Mei falls back to sleep.

Joseph raises a brow and then exits the room.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY - LATER

Mei sits in her bathrobe staring out the window as she sips on a glass of wine.

Her stomach GROWLS.

She picks up the phone and dials a number to no avail. No answer.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

The same female fan with her sign parades in the lobby until security escorts her out.

FEMALE FAN

Wait! Is Joseph Raven here right now?

Mei sees this then strides to the front desk until BEATRICE (white, late 60s, gaudy) in cheap black heels with RACHEL (the girl in Violet's family photo) beats her to it.

BEATRICE

(southern accent)

What room number is Violet Sparks in?

Mei's ears perk up.

TIM

I'm sorry. I'm not allowed to give out that information.

BEATRICE

I'm her mother in law.

RACHEL

Grandma...

BEATRICE

Call your mother and tell her we're here.

RACHEL

I did. She's not answering.

BEATRICE

What a sorry excuse for a mother. What a sorry excuse.

Rachel scowls.

TIM  
Shall I call her?

BEATRICE  
Do that. Tell her Beatrice is here  
with her daughter.

Tim picks up the phone.

TIM  
(in phone)  
Hi, Mrs. Sparks? A Ms. Beatrice is  
here to see you...Okay.

Tim returns to Beatrice.

TIM  
She's in room 406. Shall I have  
someone-

Beatrice strides toward the elevators with her granddaughter,  
her heels CLICK-CLACKING.

Mei follows, though uses the stairs.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei peeks her head around the corner to see Beatrice knocking  
on Violet's door.

The door opens.

VIOLET  
(to daughter)  
Rachel, hi.

Violet embraces Rachel, though Rachel doesn't accept the hug.

VIOLET  
Beatrice...

BEATRICE  
Can you not pick up the phone for your  
own daughter?

Rachel heads inside followed by Beatrice, nearly nudging  
Violet out the way.

VIOLET  
What are you doing here?

Violet closes the door.

Mei tip toes toward the door and presses her ear against the door.

Behind the door...

BEATRICE (O.S.)  
What are you doing in Los Angeles?

VIOLET (O.S.)  
I have a modeling job.

BEATRICE (O.S.)  
You're too old to still be modeling, darlin'. Besides, Scott says you're here for something else. Mind explainin'?

VIOLET (O.S.)  
Excuse me?

A housekeeper enters with towels and catches Mei, who backs away from the door and rushes to the stairwell.

INT. HOTEL-STAIRCASE - DAY

Mei peeks her head in and sees that the housekeeper has left. She steps back into the corridor.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei sits against the wall, leaned back when she hears the door open, and Rachel leave. Rachel strolls to the end of the hall toward the window and looks out.

That's when Mei hears...

BEATRICE (O.S.)  
You've never been good enough for my son! You're a cheat!

VIOLET (O.S.)  
How dare you! I have never!

BEATRICE (O.S.)  
Do you think he's blind? That he can't tell? Was it worth it? To lose your entire family!

Mei peeks around the corner to see that Rachel is still

gazing out the window, though she can hear the commotion too.  
Mei stealthily ambles up to Rachel.

MEI

Hey, is everything okay? I can hear them from my room.

RACHEL

No, but they're always like that.

MEI

I see. I'm always fighting with my mother in law too. It's nothing new.

RACHEL

How do you know that's my mom's mother in law?

MEI

Um-Just overhearing the conversation. Am I wrong?

RACHEL

They're that loud, huh? I think it's my fault.

MEI

Your fault?

RACHEL

Maybe if I wasn't born, my mom would be a famous model now and she'd be happy with my dad.

MEI

Oh.

The silence lingers on.

MEI

I think that sometimes about my husband.

RACHEL

You do?

MEI

Yeah. Sometimes I think he'd be more successful if I wasn't holding him back. See? It's normal to think

something is your fault when something goes wrong.

RACHEL

I hate her for making me feel like this. I hate her for doing what she did to my father.

MEI

You don't hate your mom.

Rachel just gazes out the window until...

VIOLET (O.S.)

Oh just die already!

BEATRICE (O.S.)

I will not take my last breath until you're dead!

The door opens, and Beatrice storms off toward the elevator doors while Mei hurries to the staircase.

Rachel goes after her grandmother.

Violet enters the hall.

VIOLET

Rachel! Where are you going?

BING.

The elevator doors open.

BEATRICE

Come now.

Beatrice tugs on Rachel's sleeve, and they board the elevator.

VIOLET

Rachel!

Rachel gazes at her mother with ice-cold eyes.

The elevator doors close.

Silence.

Violet's eyes widen at the sight of Mei, whose eyes widen at the sight of Violet.

Mei ambles to the staircase and exits inside when...

...She bumps into Joseph's infatuated female fan.

FEMALE FAN

Hey! You're Joseph Raven's wife!

Mei sidesteps her and exits.

The female fan watches her go.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DUSK

Mei paces back and forth as she gulps down her wine. She empties the glass then pours another.

Joseph enters. He sees what's in her hand.

JOSEPH

I thought I told you to stop with this.

Joseph takes the glass, goes to the restroom and pours it out. He returns.

MEI

Who is she?

JOSEPH

Who?

MEI

Violet Sparks.

Joseph's brow twitches.

JOSEPH

Who?

Mei holds up her cell phone to show who's on the screen. It's a photo of Violet and Joseph, the same photo Mei saw on Violet's Facebook page.

MEI

Does this help?

Joseph clears his throat.

JOSEPH

Oh. Her. An old friend. Why?



Mei tilts her head.

JOSEPH

Why?

MEI

You want to try again?

JOSEPH

I don't know what you're-

MEI

When is the last time you saw her,  
Joseph?

Joseph ponders.

JOSEPH

I don't know. Not since then.

MEI

Oh? Haven't run into her when she's  
staying at this same exact hotel?

Joseph throws a hand into his hair.

JOSEPH

I didn't know that.

MEI

You sure?

JOSEPH

What are you getting at?

MEI

You think I'm stupid, don't you?

JOSEPH

I don't know what you're talking  
about, Mei. She's a friend. You've  
seen her?

MEI

Yes.

Joseph gazes at Mei trying to study her.

JOSEPH

What did she say?

MEI  
I didn't talk to her.

Joseph breathes again.

MEI  
Did you sleep with her?

JOSEPH  
No!

MEI  
I'll ask you again and hopefully  
you'll think over the next few words  
that leave your mouth. Did you sleep  
with her?

JOSEPH  
I didn't.

Mei nods then puts the phone on the nightstand.

JOSEPH  
Why would you ask that?

MEI  
I don't know.

Mei sits near the window in her usual seat.

Joseph bends down to her.

JOSEPH  
I love you. More than you know. More  
than you could ever realize.

Mei ponders then nods. He presses his lips against her lips.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Only the moonlight permeates the room.

Mei's eyes open. She's in a daze. She sees Joseph climb out  
of bed and go towards the door.

MEI  
J-

The words won't come out.

Joseph puts on his shoes and exits.

Mei falls back to sleep.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

Mei awakens.

Joseph isn't beside her.

She sits up then massages her achy neck and shoulders then takes a couple pills, pours a glass of wine, and rinses them down with a sip of it.

Mei sits on the edge of bed and swirls from dizziness. She grabs a few coins from her purse dangling off the bed then exits.

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Mei enters and heads to the vending machine and finds her favorite bag of chips aren't there.

MEI

Ugh.

She ponders then staggers to the elevator doors and calls for the elevator.

BING.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei staggers out the elevator and goes toward the vending machine until she hears a commotion. She stops and peeks her head around the corner.

Joseph and Violet are in a heated argument.

Mei can't make out what they are saying as their voices are too low.

Joseph grabs Violet by the hair.

VIOLET

Joseph!

JOSEPH

If you go anywhere near my wife, I  
will kill you.

Mei rushes into the stairwell.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei enters the room and jumps into bed. She closes her eyes and pretends to sleep.

Moments pass.

Joseph enters and takes off his shoes and shirt. He climbs into bed.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

Mei opens her eyes. She looks to Joseph, who is asleep.

MEI

Joseph?

Joseph doesn't stir.

She takes a couple pills then washes them down with wine.

Mei climbs out of bed and staggers to the door.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei knocks on Violet's door. Her eyes are glassy. She holds herself up using the wall.

The door opens.

Violet stands there. Her eyes widen in shock to see Mei.

Mei rubs her dizzy eyes not sure if this is an hallucination.

THUD THUD.

Mei hears a noise that's not there. She looks around for it.

VIOLET

You.

MEI

You know who I am?

VIOLET

I assume you know who I am.

MEI

Yes.

The two stand in an unbearable silence.

THUD THUD.

Violet doesn't seem to react to the noise.

VIOLET

I don't know what to say.

MEI

I'll help you. How do you know my husband?

Violet steps aside, and Mei enters.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is an average size hotel room with a queen size bed planted in the center of the room. Mei sees that the window is open. They're pretty high up.

VIOLET

I'm sorry.

MEI

How many times?

VIOLET

More than I remember.

Mei clicks her tongue.

MEI

I don't believe you.

VIOLET

Then why are you here?

MEI

He said it never happened.

Violet chuckles.

Mei scowls.

STATIC.

Mei glances around the room. She sees the television. It's off.

Violet's brows rise.

MEI

Does he lie?

VIOLET

You wouldn't be here if he didn't.

MEI

And where might your husband be?

Violet twitches at the word 'husband'.

VIOLET

Wherever he is. I know this is painful to hear, but I love Joseph. I love-

With the back of her hand, Mei slaps Violet.

Violet backs up toward the window.

MEI

He is my husband! Mine!

VIOLET

He doesn't belong to you!

MEI

Oh?

VIOLET

He wants to leave, but he's afraid. He says you can't even go to the bathroom without him. You're just a pill popping drunk!

Mei rushes toward Violet and tackles her. The two struggle as they inch closer to the window. Mei pins her down and wraps her hands around Violet's neck.

Violet tries to push Mei away.

Mei slaps Violet and gives her a bloody lip. Some of the blood gets on Mei's silk robe.

Violet pushes Mei off her then rushes toward the window as she gasps for air.

VIOLET

He doesn't want you! He wants me!

MEI

Does he now?

Violet nods, yes, sure of herself.

VIOLET  
He doesn't want you.

Mei deeply nods.

WHEN...

...She rushes toward Violet pushing her out of the window. She can hear Violet screaming to her death as she peeks her head out the window.

Her glassy eyes widen at the shock of what she's just done.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei awakens. She sees that Joseph is asleep next to her.

She sits up and yawns.

She looks down at her bathrobe. There's blood.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei rushes toward Violet pushing her out of the window. She can hear Violet screaming to her death as she peeks her head out the window.

Her glassy eyes widen at the shock of what she's just done.

She holds herself up using the wall.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei's heart starts racing. She can hear it within her chest.

Mei jumps out of bed as she rubs on her arms and shoulders from the soreness. She tosses the robe into the trash can and rushes into the restroom.

INT-HOTEL-BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mei closes the door and turns on the water. She paces back and forth then rinses her face and looks into the mirror.

MEI  
What did you do?

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei comes out and takes a peek at Joseph.

Joseph hasn't stirred.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei knocks on Violet's door.

No answer.

KNOCK KNOCK.

MEI  
(to self)  
Please be okay.

Mei knocks again.

She tries to open the door to no avail, then tries to force herself inside.

Mei rushes toward the staircase.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

Mei enters from the stairwell and rushes out the double glass doors.

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

Mei gets to the area which is right under Violet's room. No body.

MEI  
(to self)  
I don't understand.

Mei circles the building. She sees two cops in their vehicles chatting with one another.

Mei enters the hotel.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Mei goes up to the front desk, where Tim helps a couple of PATRONS.



MEI  
I think there's an emergency!

TIM  
(to Patrons)  
Excuse me.  
(to Mei)  
Hi Mrs. Raven.

MEI  
Did you not hear what I just said?  
There's an emergency! You need to send  
someone up to room three thirteen!

TIM  
I don't understand-

MEI  
Because there might be an emergency!  
Are you not following me?

TIM  
'Might be'? Is there an emergency or  
not?

MEI  
I-I don't know, but you may want to  
call the police.

TIM  
Um-

MEI  
Call the police!

TIM  
Let me just-

Tim rushes to get on the phone.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Patrons are scattered on the floor due to the commotion. Mei waits with baited breath. She holds her quivering body as she fiddles with her thumbs.

Paramedics carry out a sheeted BODY from Violet's room.

A POLICE OFFICER tapes off the crime scene.

A FEW POLICE OFFICERS keep the gasping patrons at bay.

An OFFICER and Tim approach Mei.

MEI  
Is-Is that her? How?

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL-STAIRCASE - DAY

Mei is being questioned by the officer as she rubs on her sore arms and shoulders.

MEI  
I told you-She wasn't answering her door so I thought something was wrong and then I came to check on her.

OFFICER  
But you didn't know she was dead?

MEI  
How would I know that? She wouldn't answer the door.

OFFICER  
You didn't think she was out?

MEI  
This early? What happened to her?

OFFICER  
How do you know the victim?

MEI  
We-Um-We both like to go to the pool. What happened to her?

OFFICER  
I can't say yet.

Mei stares at her quivering hands.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei pushes Violet out the window. She watches her fall to her death in shock.

END FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei sits near the window deep in thought biting on her nails.

Joseph enters from the restroom and grabs his phone then throws on his jacket.

JOSEPH

I'll be back late so don't wait up.

Joseph presses his lips against Mei's.

KNOCK KNOCK.

Mei and Joseph exchange looks.

Joseph opens the door.

TWO DETECTIVES stand in the doorway.

SLOAN

Hi, Mr. Raven?

JOSEPH

Y-Yeah?

SLOAN (black, late fifties, assertive) flashes her badge as POWELL (mid forties, lanky, follower) flashes his badge.

SLOAN

I'm Detective Sloan and this is Detective Powell. May we come inside?

JOSEPH

What is this about?

SLOAN

You haven't heard the news?

Joseph raises a brow.

SLOAN

Violet Sparks was found dead this morning.

The blood vanishes from Joseph's face.

Mei goes as pale as one can in these circumstances. She glances down at her quivering hands.

SLOAN  
 Didn't your wife tell you? She's the  
 one who called it in.

Joseph and Mei exchange looks.

JOSEPH  
 So what does this have to do with me?

SLOAN  
 Do you mind if we come in and ask a  
 few questions or would you rather go  
 to the station?

Joseph doesn't dare turn to Mei.

JOSEPH  
 The station.

MEI  
 Joseph, just answer them here.

SLOAN  
 I figured you'd say that. Come on now.

Sloan puts an arm on Joseph's shoulder, and the two  
 detectives lead him to the elevators.

MEI  
 Joseph-

The elevator doors open, and they exit inside.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

The detectives lead him out as his biggest female fan waits  
 outside. She's ready to greet him when she sees who he's  
 with.

FEMALE FAN  
 Hey!

POWELL  
 Back away.

FEMALE FAN  
 Hey, where are you taking him?

POWELL  
 I said back away or you'll be  
 arrested.

The female fan backs away with her sign.

FEMALE FAN

Joseph, I'll be waiting for you!

Joseph climbs into the backseat of the vehicle of Sloan and Powell.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

From her window, Mei has been watching.

She sees the female fan glance up at her window.

Mei paces back and forth nearly pulling her hair out.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei pushes Violet out of the window and then observes as she screams to her death in shock.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei tosses her hands into her hair. She glances at her prescription and reads off the pill bottles.

MEI

God.

Mei dials for Dr. Muhammad.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

(from phone)

This is Dr. Muhammad.

MEI

Doctor, this is Mei Raven. Something happened. I don't know what's going on!

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

(from phone)

Calm down. What's wrong?

MEI

I-I-I think I killed someone.

Mei sits on the edge of the bed.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 What do you you mean?

MEI  
 'What do you mean?' I mean I think I  
 killed someone!

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 Tell me what happened.

MEI  
 I just found out my husband had an  
 affair, and I confronted the woman  
 about it. Last night.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 And then?

MEI  
 Things get fuzzy. I can't remember.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 You can't remember if you killed  
 someone?

Mei takes a deep breath.

MEI  
 I was drinking, okay? I was drinking  
 after I took my medicine.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 Which pills did you take?

MEI  
 All of them.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 Even the Ambien?

MEI  
 Yes.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 Keep going.

MEI  
 That's it! I remember heading to her  
 room, and things get a little fuzzy,  
 but I have this memory of pushing  
 Violet out the window!

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 Violet? Violet Sparks?

MEI  
 H-How did you know?

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 It's all over the news. A woman was  
 found dead at your hotel.

The hand holding the phone starts to quiver.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei strangles Violet as Violet struggles to get free. She  
 hits Mei, who in return hits Violet, busting her lip open.

END FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei throws her hands into her hair.

MEI  
 I must've strangled her.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 That can't be, Mei.

MEI  
 How can it not be?

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 (from phone)  
 She was stabbed.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei is in bed in tears as if she can't move. Her body is stiff. She rubs on her arms and legs then screams out. She catches her breath.

Mei turns on the tv and watches the news program as she winces in pain while she rubs her legs. She takes a couple pills.

She flips to different stations, some showing the news about Violet being found dead in her room.

REPORTER

(from the tv)

Coming up, an up and coming model is found dead in her hotel room. What could've happened and who are the suspects?

Mei jumps up and throws on sweats and a white t-shirt. She grabs her phone and key card and rushes out the door.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei peeks her head in from the stairwell and overhears a POLICE OFFICER questioning Scott. Mei steps out and hides around the corner.

SCOTT

I told you! Ask that son of a bitch she was sleepin' with! He did this!

POLICE

Her neighbors overheard you fighting with her last night. Care to explain that?

SCOTT

We weren't fighting.

POLICE

What were you arguing about then? They mentioned you were shouting about her having an affair.

Scott twitches.

SCOTT

Yes, she was having an affair.



POLICE  
When did you find out?

SCOTT  
She told me when it happened. A month ago.

POLICE  
That must've been pretty hard. To hear your wife admit that.

SCOTT  
Oh, don't fuckin' do that! Don't patronize me!

POLICE  
Where were you between 1am and 2am?

SCOTT  
Sleepin'.

POLICE  
Can anyone vouch for you?

SCOTT  
I was alone! I gave you a name. Why aren't you askin' him questions?

POLICE  
We will. Are you staying at this hotel, Mr. Sparks?

SCOTT  
No. Down the street. Monsolem Inn.

POLICE  
We'll be in touch. Again, we're sorry about your wife.

SCOTT  
Yeah. Are we done?

POLICE  
For now.

Scott strides toward the direction of Mei.

Mei exits.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

Mei sits at one of the beige couches and pretends to read a magazine when Scott enters from the elevators and strides toward the exit.

EXT. HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Scott strides toward his dirty four door sedan as Mei watches.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

Mei approaches the front desk, where Tim says goodbye to a ELDERLY PATRON.

MEI

Tim!

TIM

Mrs. Raven. How may I help you today?

MEI

I need a ride. Can you call a Lyft for me?

EXT. MONSOLEM HOTEL - DAY

Mei climbs out the backseat of the Lyft and closes the car door. She enters the shabby hotel.

INT. MONSOLEM HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Behind the desk is a RECEPTIONIST chewing gum and scrolling on her phone.

MEI

Ahem.

RECEPTIONIST

How may I help you?

MEI

What room is Scott Sparks in, and before you say you can't give me-

RECEPTIONIST

Room ONE THIRTY TWO.

MEI

Oh. Thanks.

Mei heads toward the corridor with the rooms.

INT. MONSOLEM HOTEL-CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei knocks on the door of one thirty two.

No answer.

She knocks again.

SCOTT (O.S)

What?!

MEI

I'm-My name is Mei Raven. I'm the wife of Joseph Raven. I believe your wife was having an affair with my husband.

Silence.

The door CREAKS open.

Scott stands there scowling.

Mei nervously chuckles.

MEI

Sorry. I wanted to say I'm sorry about your wife. I...

Scott steps aside to let her in.

INT. MONSOLEM HOTEL-SCOTT'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mei enters and Scott closes the door behind her.

MEI

I wanted to ask you some questions.

SCOTT

What for? Don't you think I did it?

MEI

How did she die? Wasn't she pushed?

SCOTT

'Pushed'?

MEI

Out the window.

SCOTT

No. What would make you think that?

Scott's eyes waver. His downcast eyes start to water. He sits on the edge of the bed.

SCOTT

I didn't want this. I would've rather gotten divorced. At least our kids would still have a mother.

MEI

Why do the police think you did it?

SCOTT

I saw her last night before...

MEI

It's not possible, right? You couldn't have done it.

SCOTT

It's not! I would never kill my wife!

MEI

Why did you mention a divorce? Were you getting a divorce?

SCOTT

You know about your husband and my wife. She wanted to leave us for him. Ruin our lives because of some damn fling.

Mei's hands start to quiver.

MEI

You know more than me. Was it just a fling?

Scott chuckles as he wipes away a tear from his cheek.

SCOTT

She's a damn fool to have thought it was anything else. Don't worry. Your husband didn't want to leave you.

MEI

You sound angry.

SCOTT

Why wouldn't I be? My wife was leaving me.

MEI

She's dead. You sound more angry that she wanted to leave you.

Scott rises to his feet and gets in Mei's face. She backs away.

SCOTT

What are you trying to say? Well? Say what you mean.

MEI

I-I didn't mean-

He pins her against the door.

SCOTT

So what are you trying to say, bitch?

Mei rushes out the door.

Scott snickers then scowls.

INT. MONSOLEM HOTEL-CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Mei rushes toward the exit when she bumps into Jonathan.

JONATHAN

Mei Raven. What a surprise. What are you doing here?

MEI

I wanted to talk to your father.

JONATHAN

About my stepmother.

MEI

You don't seem too upset.

JONATHAN

I'm not surprised is all.

Mei steps back. Jonathan steps forward.

JONATHAN

Told him not to marry the home-

wrecker. She was no good, but he didn't listen. Now look.

MEI

She was still your mother.

JONATHAN

Stepmother. It's hard to feel sorry for someone you barely knew.

Jonathan steps toward her.

MEI

What are you doing?

JONATHAN

You happy knowin' she's out of the way?

MEI

What do you mean?

JONATHAN

You know, you have beautiful eyes. That wanna be actor husband doesn't deserve you.

Jonathan lifts up Mei's chin as he leans in.

MEI

S-Stop it.

Mei slaps his hand from her.

MEI

Did you see her last night?

Jonathan tilts his head.

JONATHAN

You're about to interrogate me too?

MEI

'Too'? Did you talk to the police?

JONATHAN

They questioned me.

MEI

Why?

JONATHAN  
I'm the stepson.

MEI  
What did they ask you?

Jonathan grins.

JONATHAN  
What will you give me if I tell you?

MEI  
I'm going now.

Jonathan grabs Mei's hand, and she yanks it away as she rushes out the hotel.

Jonathan waves goodbye to her.

JONATHAN  
Don't be a stranger!

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei enters the room to find a worried Joseph with red eyes as if he's been crying.

JOSEPH  
Where were you?

MEI  
Out. Why?

JOSPEH  
When I came back, you were gone.

MEI  
Thought I left, huh?

Joseph rushes in to hug her. Mei let's him.

MEI  
What happened with the police?

JOSEPH  
They asked me questions about Violet.

MEI  
Why?

JOSEPH

I...

MEI

It's going to be on the news. Want me to find out that way?

Joseph takes a deep breath and runs his fingers through his hair.

JOSEPH

I don't know where to start.

MEI

Let's start with you cheating and lying about it! How about that, Joseph?

JOSEPH

Mei...

MEI

Why?

JOSEPH

Mei-

MEI

Why? Was I not good enough? I know I haven't been much since the car accident but-

JOSEPH

Don't blame yourself. This is on me. I fucked up.

MEI

I'm not happy. I haven't been happy in a long time.

JOSEPH

With me?

MEI

With myself. I hate everything about me. I hate it all, and honestly I just want you to love me enough to tell the truth. Can you do that? Love me enough to tell me the truth? Because that's all I have right now.



Mei stands there ready for the worst.

JOSEPH

After the car accident and your diagnosis and the pain you were in, you isolated yourself. You left me out. You didn't talk to me. You didn't want to be near me, and I get it.

MEI

No you don't. No you don't. So it is my fault?

JOSEPH

No! I-I fucked up-

MEI

How could you make my diagnosis about you? I'm the one who's hurting! I'm the one in pain. I'm the one suffering so why?

JOSEPH

I was in Miami for that one shoot, and she was there too. We just-It happened.

MEI

Two months ago? Just recently...

JOSEPH

You wouldn't let me in. You wouldn't talk to me.

MEI

You were there for three weeks, Joseph. The whole time?

JOSEPH

It was one time. I swear it.

Mei goes to the space at the window and climbs into the chair.

JOSEPH

I didn't kill her. You believe me, yeah?

Mei doesn't say anything.

JOSEPH  
You believe me, right?

MEI  
...Yes.

Joseph takes Mei's hands and kisses the back of them.

JOSEPH  
I don't know how this happened. I'm  
sorry for everything.

MEI  
I know.

JOSEPH  
Please forgive me.

MEI  
I don't know, Joseph.

JOSEPH  
Please.

Joseph gets on both knees.

JOSEPH  
I'm begging you. What more do you want  
me to do? Just tell me, and I'll do  
it.

Joseph takes Mei's hand and nearly crushes it. He quivers  
under her gaze.

MEI  
Right now we need to figure things out  
about your mistress.

Joseph winces. He stands up and goes to the restroom and  
closes the door behind him as Mei watches in silence.

Mei takes a deep breath.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

Only the moonlight permeates the room.

Mei sleeps in bed. Her eyes flicker open and finds that  
Joseph is at the window on the phone.

JOSEPH  
(on phone)  
I need this to go away. Now.  
(beat)  
I'm finally rid of her, and she's  
still a fuckin' thorn in my side.

Joseph turns to Mei, who closes her eyes right away.

JOSEPH  
(on phone)  
Make this go away.

Joseph tosses his phone on the bed then throws his hands into his hair. He leaves the room.

Mei opens her eyes and sits up. She grasps his phone and sees that the number he was speaking with reads, "LAWYER".

She scrolls through his emails that are connected with the word "ATTORNEY". One email to his attorney reads, "I WANT HER GONE."

Mei glances at the door.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei sits in her robe in the chair near the window holding an empty glass. She gets up and looks under the bed and takes out a nearly empty bottle of wine.

She chugs the remaining wine.

MEI  
Oh, Tim!

Mei then tosses the bottle into the trash can that's full of empty wine bottles.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

Several PATRONS stand in line waiting to be waited on by Tim.

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

Joseph's female fan stands outside the hotel with a sign with a couple other female fans.

Joseph's female fan argues with a SECURITY GUARD.

FEMALE FAN

I have to make sure he's okay! Let me wait here!

SECURITY GUARD

How do you keep getting inside? You need to get off the hotel's property!

FEMALE FAN

Come on! Let me in!

The female fan then observes Beatrice and Rachel enter the hotel.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - DAY

Mei gets in line.

In the corner of her eye, she finds Beatrice and Rachel behind her. Beatrice wears sunglasses, and both wear black as if mourning.

RACHEL

Why couldn't dad get her things? Why do we have to?

BEATRICE

Scott's with the police, dear.

RACHEL

I didn't know last night would be my last time with her.

Beatrice wraps her arms around Rachel as she cries.

Mei is next in line.

TIM

Mrs. Raven!

Beatrice's ear perk up.

BEATRICE

'Raven'? Don't tell me you're the wife of that bastard Violet has been sleeping with.

MEI

Um...

RACHEL

Grandma-

Beatrice looks Mei up and down.

The OTHER PATRONS exchange looks.

MEI

Tim, could you deliver a bottle of white wine to my room? Um-Asap?

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Beatrice sips on a glass of wine at the window as Mei stands a distance away.

Rachel sits near the window.

BEATRICE

You know, I'm not surprised about any of this. Even if my son did do it, I don't blame him. I blame her.

MEI

Do you-Do you think he did it?

BEATRICE

I think it was your husband.

MEI

He was in bed with me.

BEATRICE

Were you awake the entire time? No? Or maybe it was you.

MEI

Don't disrespect me. Joseph and I are innocent. We had nothing to do with her death, and besides, Joseph would never put his career in jeopardy.

BEATRICE

He did his marriage.

MEI

I-

Mei scowls and glances away.

BEATRICE

All I know is my granddaughter is innocent.

MEI

Your granddaughter? Did the police question her?

BEATRICE

I returned early last night and allowed Violet to speak with her about how her marriage was coming to an end and why. We even got a room here so Rachel could be close to her mother.

MEI

You're staying here?

BEATRICE

Well not anymore.

MEI

But you were here last night?

Beatrice shrugs as she takes a sip of wine.

BEATRICE

I was.

MEI

(to self)

Who wasn't here last night?

BEATRICE

Excuse me?

MEI

Nothing! I-I'm just surprised you two spoke with what's going on between my husband and her.

BEATRICE

She wouldn't let me get two words out before she started screaming at me. The audacity of her.

MEI

She was screaming at you?

BEATRICE

She never understood her place with

your husband, and someone had to remind her. She was delusional. Crazy even.

MEI

Why didn't I notice anything?

BEATRICE

Honey, you must've not have had eyes.

MEI

Um-How is your granddaughter doing?

Beatrice glances at Rachel.

BEATRICE

She's devastated. Who would've known last night would be the last time she would see her mother. Truly heartbreaking.

RACHEL

I can hear you.

MEI

Who would want to hurt her?

BEATRICE

Who wouldn't want to? She destroyed my son even in death.

Beatrice finishes her drink.

BEATRICE

I better go collect Violet's things. Would your husband like any of it?

Beatrice chuckles as she exits with Rachel.

Mei closes the door behind her then hops on the laptop scrolling through Beatrice's social media. Beatrice has pictures with Rachel, Jonathan, and Scott, though none with Violet.

Mei scrolls through her timeline and sees a post from Beatrice that dates back a year that reads, "SOME THINGS SHOULD BE PUT OUT OF THEIR MISERY."

Mei clutches her head as if trying to remember details.

Mei pounds on her frontal lobe.

There is a knock at the door.

MEI  
Who is it?

SLOAN (O.S.)  
It's detective Sloan and Detective  
Powell.

Mei leaps from her seat and calls Joseph.

JOSEPH (V.O.)  
(from phone)  
Mei? Hi. I-

MEI  
(in phone)  
The police are here!

JOSEPH (V.O.)  
(from phone)  
What?

MEI  
(in phone)  
The police are here!

JOSEPH (V.O.)  
(from phone)  
Stay calm, and answer their questions  
best you can. Do you hear me?

Mei says nothing.

JOSEPH (V.O.)  
(from phone)  
Do you hear me?

MEI  
Yes.

CLICK.

Mei opens the door.

Standing outside the room are the detectives.

SLOAN  
Mrs. Raven?



MEI

Yes?

SLOAN

We have some questions for you. May we come in?

Mei glances around the room that looks like a tornado has hit it.

MEI

It's a little messy.

SLOAN

We've seen worse.

Mei steps aside.

The detectives enter and glances around. Sloan finds the prescription bottles and bottle of wine.

Powell takes out a notepad.

SLOAN

May we ask you some questions about Violet Sparks?

MEI

What about her?

SLOAN

Were you aware that your husband had an affair with her?

MEI

Apparently I'm the last to find out, but yes.

SLOAN

Are you aware that Mr. Raven was sending Mrs. Sparks threatening messages?

MEI

He wouldn't do that.

Sloan takes out her phone and faces the screen toward Mei.

The screen shows a screenshot a message from Joseph to Violet, which reads, "I'VE NEVER WANTED ANYONE MORE DEAD THAN YOU."

MEI

He-He was upset, perhaps. He can get a little...like that.

Sloan shows her another text message. It reads, "YOU BETTER NOT FOLLOW ME TO LA!"

MEI

I can see why he was upset. Don't you?

SLOAN

When did you find out? About the affair.

MEI

Last night.

SLOAN

Before or after Mrs. Sparks was found dead?

Mei brushes a strand of hair to the back of her ear.

MEI

Before. She-She told me.

SLOAN

Told you what exactly?

MEI

That my husband was having an affair with her.

SLOAN

How did you react?

MEI

I was upset. What wife wouldn't be?

Powell jots down notes.

POWELL

What time was this?

MEI

I can't remember the time, but it was after midnight. Maybe 1am.

SLOAN

Hm.

Mei clenches her fists. She wipes away the sweat from her brow.

SLOAN

How was she when you saw her?

MEI

I-I can't remember. I can't really remember seeing her.

Sloan picks up the prescription bottles and carefully reads them. she glances at the wine bottle and the empty glass.

SLOAN

Were you drinking while taking these?

MEI

Yeah. So?

Sloan deeply nods.

Powell jots down notes.

SLOAN

Do you remember what you two talked about?

MEI

Just the affair and how he was going to leave me for her.

SLOAN

I bet that made you angry. To find out your husband was cheating and was going to leave you.

MEI

Yes.

SLOAN

Do you think your husband would've left you?

MEI

No, but it still stung.

SLOAN

Did you two get into a fight?

Mei goes to open her mouth then stops.

MEI

Yes. No.

SLOAN

Which is it?

MEI

No. It was more of an argument.

SLOAN

It never got physical?

Mei starts to quiver under their gaze.

MEI

No. I think.

SLOAN

You think?

MEI

I can't remember.

Sloan and Powell exchange glances.

SLOAN

So you two just argued about the affair. Then what?

MEI

I went to bed.

SLOAN

Do you own any knives or have any of the hotel's?

MEI

N-No.

POWELL

You seem nervous.

MEI

What do you expect?

Sloan and Powell nod in agreement. Touché.

SLOAN

Look, Mrs. Raven-

MEI

Mei is fine.

SLOAN

If you know something, this is the time to speak up.

Mei wipes away a tear from her cheek.

MEI

I-I-I think I pushed her out the window.

SLOAN

You think you pushed her out the window?

MEI

I don't know how her body got back into her room, but I'm certain I pushed her. No, I strangled her.

SLOAN

All right, Mrs. Raven. You know you can go to jail for lying to the police, right?

MEI

I'm not lying! What would make you think I'm lying?

SLOAN

Because she wasn't strangled to death. She was stabbed.

MEI

Right. Stabbed. That's what I meant.

SLOAN

So you stabbed her?

MEI

Yes. No. Yes. I tried pushing her out of the window then I strangled her then I stabbed her.

BEGIN FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei has her hands wrapped around Violet's neck as she

strangles her. Violet tries to gasp for breath, but to no avail.

CUT TO

Mei stands over Violet's body with a kitchen knife.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Joseph barges into the room and wraps his arms around Mei.

JOSEPH

(to the detectives)

I told you if you needed anything, to ask me! My wife is off limits! She doesn't know anything!

SLOAN

That's up for us to decide, Mr. Raven. While we have you, were you aware that Mrs. Sparks was pregnant?

Joseph goes as white as a sheet of ice.

Mei clutches her chest.

JOSEPH

It-It couldn't have been mine.

POWELL

Why is that?

JOSEPH

I was careful...

SLOAN

We'll need a DNA sample from you. Can you stop by the station tomorrow?

JOSEPH

Yes.

SLOAN

Mrs. Raven, I would be real careful with those meds and drinking. You don't want to find yourself in any trouble.

Sloan tries to hand her a business card, though Joseph

snatches it away.

SLOAN

We will be in touch.

Powell nods.

The two detectives exit.

Mei wipes the tears from her face and sits at her usual spot near the window.

JOSEPH

Mei-

MEI

Don't you have work?

JOSEPH

I swear it isn't mine.

MEI

It doesn't matter now, now does it?

Joseph bends down to her.

JOSEPH

I would never bring anything into our marriage.

MEI

You brought her though.

Joseph winces.

JOSEPH

What did you tell the police?

MEI

...Everything I know. No more. No less.

JOSEPH

Good. Good. Just do that, and they'll leave you alone, yeah?

MEI

Yeah. I told them it was me.

Joseph raises his brows and goes to open his mouth, though shuts it.

WHEN...

JOSEPH

What?

MEI

I went to see her, Joseph. I don't even know why, but I did, and she told me.

JOSEPH

Told you what?

Mei just gazes at Joseph, who then wipes the sweat from his brow.

Mei gulps.

MEI

I-I saw some of the text messages you sent her, and I know you went to go see her...

JOSEPH

You don't think I did it, do you?

MEI

I'm not saying I think you did it-

JOSEPH

Yes, the fuck you are!

MEI

Joseph, I would never think-

JOSEPH

I was angry! Why wouldn't I go off? She was threatening my marriage!

MEI

Oh, don't blame her! This is you! I'm in constant pain, Joseph, and you're sad and lonely? I'm the one hurting! Then you probably get her pregnant?

JOSEPH

I promise you, I didn't-

Mei pushes his face out of her space and stands up. She throws on some clothes.



JOSEPH  
Where are you going?

MEI  
I'm leaving. I'm going home.

JOSEPH  
Don't do this.

MEI  
Fuck you!

Joseph grabs Mei by the arms as she struggles to get free.

JOSEPH  
You're not going anywhere! Will you  
just talk to me?

MEI  
They're going to do a paternity test,  
Joseph! And if it's yours...

The blood vanishes from Joseph's face.

JOSEPH  
It's not.

Mei starts to pack her a bag.

Joseph grabs the bag and tosses it against the wall.

JOSEPH  
Fuck, Mei! Will you stop?

Joseph embraces Mei as she struggles to push him away.

MEI  
I hate you! I hate you! I hate you!

Then gradually she just cries into his arms.

JOSEPH  
I'm so sorry. You don't deserve this,  
but I don't know what I would do if  
you left me, and I can't find out.

The two embrace each other in silence.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei cries in her usual spot by the window. She clutches her

chest and tries to calm her breathing.

A moment passes, and she starts to breathe normally.

Mei, picking up her favorite bag of chips, says:

MEI

At least you won't let me down.

She finds that the bag is empty.

MEI

Oh, all right. Just this once, huh?

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei sees that her favorite bag of chips aren't in the vending machine.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei enters from the staircase and sees that her bag of chips are available on this floor. As she puts in the coins...

...Scott enters and slams both hands against the vending machine.

Mei is trapped. Her eyes widen.

SCOTT

Whose is it? Is it his? Was that his baby?

MEI

I-I-I don't know! Please move!

Mei struggles to get free.

SCOTT

I will kill him. I will cut him open and feed him to my dogs. Do you hear me?

MEI

Yes! Loud and Clear! Please move!

SCOTT

Now, they have my son in custody. Tell your husband to come clean!

The female fan of Joseph enters.

FEMALE FAN

Hey!

SCOTT

I better not run into him.

Scott slams his fist against the vending machine then storms off into the staircase.

Mei slides down and holds herself as she catches her breath.

FEMALE FAN

Are you okay?

MEI

Yes, thank you.

Mei peers up and squints her eyes. She recognizes her, and spots that the female fan's left earring is missing.

FEMALE FAN

Thank goodness. Wouldn't want anything to happen to thee Joseph Raven's wife.

MEI

Wait-Do I know you?

FEMALE FAN

No. I'm simply just a female fan of Joseph.

MEI

O....Kay.....

FEMALE FAN

It's a shame what happened to his other female fan.

MEI

Who?

FEMALE FAN

I think her name was Violet?

MEI

How do you know about her?

FEMALE FAN

The news.

MEI

Aww.

FEMALE FAN

Since she isn't high profile, we're not getting the gossip, but I know why Joseph is suspected. I'm so sorry.

MEI

Excuse me?

FEMALE FAN

Joseph's cheating.

MEI

How would you know-

FEMALE FAN

I would have never thought of him to do that, but he is an actor. I just know he would lose it if he lost you-Omigod. I read that in a magazine once.

MEI

Right.

Mei rises.

MEI

I'm going back to my room now.

FEMALE FAN

Okie Dokie. See you later.

Mei takes one last look at Joseph's female fan.

MEI

Um-Have we met before?

FEMALE FAN

I don't think so. I'd remember meeting Joseph Raven's wife!

Mei nods then exits.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mei enters the police station.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

Mei enters.

Sloan enters from around the corner.

SLOAN  
Mrs. Raven?

MEI  
Detective Sloan! Is it true that you  
have Violet's stepson in custody?

SLOAN  
I don't know how you know that, but  
we're letting him go for now.

MEI  
Oh?

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mei sits at the top of the stairs.

Jonathan walks out of the station.

Mei rises.

JONATHAN  
Mei Raven. Come to see me off?

MEI  
Why did the police arrest you?

JONATHAN  
They just wanted to ask me some  
questions that I didn't want my dad  
around for.

MEI  
Why not?

Jonathan steps into Mei's personal circle.

JONATHAN  
Aren't there some things you're  
keeping from your husband?

Mei takes a step back.

MEI

What didn't you want him to know?

JONATHAN

That I went to see Violet the night before she was found.

MEI

You did?

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM-CLOSET - NIGHT

Mei stands over Violet's body with a knife.

CUT TO:

Mei is in the closet as she watches Violet open the door. She hears noises that aren't there.

THUD. THUD.

Violet steps to the door.

VIOLET

Who is it? If it's you, Beatrice, I have nothing more to say to you!

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Jonathan hurls a wad of spit to the grassy plain.

JONATHAN

Yeah, and the hotel has video of me coming and going.

MEI

Why did you want to see her?

Jonathan goes to twirl a strand of Mei's hair. She slaps his hand away.

JONATHAN

I was okay with them getting a divorce, but my dad wasn't so I went to reason with the woman.

MEI

And how did that go?

JONATHAN

I don't know. She never came to the door.

INT. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Mei sits across from Joseph's attorney, PAUL (mid 50s, grayish black hair, professional), who's dressed in a black suit with a navy blue tie. He taps his fingers on the desk.

On both sides of Mei are bookshelves of law books and a couple floor plants.

PAUL

Mrs. Raven, I can't tell you anything about Joseph as that would breach confidentiality.

MEI

Um, you know you're my attorney too, right? And he is definitely not keeping me in the loop so that'll be your job right now. I need to know what's going on.

PAUL

Mrs. Raven, maybe you should sit down and talk with him.

MEI

What good will that do? How much trouble is he in?

Paul purses his lips together.

MEI

How much?

PAUL

A lot.

MEI

Well, go on. Tell me more.

PAUL

Mrs. Raven-

MEI

Is he a suspect?

Paul sighs.

PAUL

Not yet.

MEI

You think he will be one?

Paul tries to gauge how much she knows.

MEI

I know about the affair, Paul.

Paul starts to breathe again.

PAUL

From what the police has told me, Joseph, Mrs. Sparks's husband, Mrs. Sparks's stepson, and Mrs. Stark's mother in law are all going to be suspects. The police are trying to pin point who by the times on video of them entering the hotel.

MEI

Whoa.

PAUL

You can say that again. People wanted her dead.

MEI

So whoever was last to see her should be on video.

PAUL

Not necessarily. Joseph says he went to see her, and it's not on video.

MEI

Everyone else?

PAUL

You'd have to ask their lawyers.

Mei deeply nods.



MEI

So they all went to her room then...  
What about me?

PAUL

You're currently not a suspect, but  
Mrs. Raven, that could change.

MEI

I know, and I'm prepared.

PAUL

I'll have to ask the question, Mrs.  
Raven.

MEI

Ask away.

PAUL

Did you do it?

Mei purses her lips together.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mei enters and treads up to the front desk, where a rather  
large officer presides.

CHUBBY OFFICER

What can I do for you?

MEI

I'm here to turn myself in.

The chubby officer raises a brow.

MEI

I want to talk to Detective Sloan.

INT. POLICE STATION-SLOAN'S DESK - DAY

Detective Sloan enters with two mugs of coffee. She puts one  
down in front of Mei then sits across from her at her desk.

Her desk is rather tidy. Not a one pen or sheet of paper is  
out of place.

Mei takes a sip of coffee. She holds the mug in between her  
hands.

SLOAN  
Now, Mrs. Raven-

MEI  
Mei is fine.

SLOAN  
Mei. You say you killed Violet Sparks?

MEI  
Before you say my husband is a suspect, I want to confess.

SLOAN  
Tell me what happened then.

MEI  
I went to confront her, and she admitted it all. We got into a fight, and...

SLOAN  
...What else?

MEI  
I strangled her. Then stabbed her.

SLOAN  
Okay, what was the murder weapon?

MEI  
A knife.

SLOAN  
What kind of knife? A kitchen knife?

MEI  
Um...Yeah.

SLOAN  
That's not what forensics said.

MEI  
What?

SLOAN  
It was a pocket knife.

MEI  
That can't be.

Sloan leans forward.

SLOAN  
It is. Now Mrs. Raven-

MEI  
Mei.

SLOAN  
Mei. Let's say you did do it. Where is the murder weapon?

MEI  
I-I threw it away.

SLOAN  
Where?

MEI  
Inside the hotel.

SLOAN  
Then it can't be far, right? Bring it to me.

MEI  
Um-

SLOAN  
I understand you're trying to protect your husband, but if he's innocent, you have nothing to worry about, right?

Mei glances at her quivering hands.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei sits near the window on her phone on a Zoom appointment with Muhammad.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
Hi, Mei. What's new since I last spoke with you?

MEI  
I think I'm going insane so that's new. Well, not new, but new enough.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
What's going on?

MEI

I told you I found out my husband had an affair, and the woman ended up dead in this exact hotel, yeah? And that I have memories of pushing her out the window? Yeah?

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Yes.

MEI

She was actually stabbed in her room. Well, now I have memories of that. I think. I don't know.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Do you remember anything about that night? Anything that certainly did happen?

MEI

No.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Lets do an exercise. Put your phone down and lay back. Get comfortable.

Mei puts the phone down and lays back.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Take a deep breath.

Mei takes a deep breath.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Now close your eyes.

Mei closes her eyes.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)

Now think about that night. What's something that you remember?

MEI

I remember lying in bed that night. I woke up because I was hungry. Next to me was Joseph. He was asleep. I got up and went to the vending machine outside my room. I couldn't get her off my mind, and I found I had a chance to confront her.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
So what happened?

MEI  
I-I got on the elevator and went to  
her floor.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei gets off the elevator and approaches Violet's closed  
door. She knocks.

MEI (V.O.)  
Wait.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei lies back in her chair. She shakes her head, no.

MEI  
That's not what happened.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei gets off the elevator and approaches Violet's room. The  
door hasn't been closed all the way.

Mei knocks on the door. No answer.

She opens it and enters.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mei glances around the room and notices the window is open.  
She sees that no one is in the room. It's empty except for  
Violet's belongings scattered throughout.

MEI (V.O.)  
The door was open so I went in, but  
she wasn't inside.

Mei hears someone yell a distance away.

VIOLET (V.O.)  
You don't know anything!

The voice sounds close.

Mei hides in the closet, though peeks out of it as she closes the closet doors. She covers her mouth.

MEI (V.O.)

I heard someone coming, and I panicked  
so I hid in the closet. I-

Violet enters and shuts the door. She leans against it with downcast eyes.

Mei goes to open the closet door, though stops herself...

WHEN...

KNOCK KNOCK.

VIOLET

Who is it? If it's you, Beatrice, I  
have nothing more to say to you!

Violet opens the door, though Mei isn't able to see who stands in the doorway.

VIOLET

What do you want?

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei lies back in her chair as she is deep in thought.

MEI

Wait-I remember it clearly now. I  
never confronted Violet. I hid in the  
closet. There was someone else there.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

BLACK SCREEN.

VIOLET (O.S.)

What are you doing?

Mei can hear the door slamming shut.

THUD.

VIOLET (O.S.)  
 What are you-

Mei hears someone choking for air. She hears a struggle between two people.

VIOLET  
 Help!

Violet screams.

A struggle continues.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Mei opens her eyes as she lies in the chair.

MEI  
 I can't remember.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 Mei, I need you to think. This could be crucial. When she answered the door, who was standing there?

MEI  
 I can't remember. I can't-

Mei ponders. She shakes her head, no.

MEI  
 I can't remember. I had taken the Ambien with wine, Dr. Muhammad. I'm so sorry. I know I shouldn't have.

MUHAMMAD (V.O.)  
 It sounds like you saw or heard a struggle.

MEI  
 Yeah. It does.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM-BATHROOM - DUSK

Mei opens her pill bottles and takes a look at the pills. She empties the bottle in the toilet then flushes it.

She pours the bottle of wine out into the sink.

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - DUSK

Mei is at the vending machine getting her favorite bag of chips...

WHEN...

...she sees someone poke their head around the corner. It's Jonathan. He grins then puts his finger to his lips.

Mei rushes inside her hotel room and slams the door shut.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei sits near the window in her usual spot.

Joseph gives her a kiss on the cheek.

JOSEPH

I'll be back late so don't wait up.

MEI

Hm. Have a good day.

Joseph exits.

Mei opens her bathrobe and throws on sweats.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mei exits the elevator and approaches Violet's door. She knocks.

No answer.

Mei tries to open the door to no avail.

INT. HOTEL-LOBBY - NIGHT

Mei approaches the front desk.

Tim stands behind it.

MEI

Hi, I got locked out of my room.

TIM

That's no problem. What is the room number?



INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Violet's room is sectioned off with caution tape.

Mei walks under the caution tape and enters the room.

CUT TO:

Mei inside Violet's gloomy hotel room. Only the moon gives it light.

The hotel door doesn't shut all the way.

The room is clean. Not a speck of blood on the carpet is seen. The bed is made. The window is closed. Nothing is left in the room.

MEI

(to self)

Okay, I came in. I looked around. I heard her voice coming back to the room.

Mei points to the closet.

MEI

I hid in the closet so I wouldn't get caught.

Mei enters the empty closet and closes its doors.

MEI

Come on, Mei. What did you see?

BEGIN FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Inside Violet's room, Violet leans against the door with downcast eyes.

KNOCK KNOCK.

VIOLET

Who is it? If it's you, Beatrice, I have nothing more to say to you!

Violet opens the door.

VIOLET

What do you want?

Scott forces himself inside the room.

VIOLET  
What are you doing?

MEI (O.S.)  
No. No. It wasn't Scott.

REWIND.

Jonathan forces himself inside the room.

VIOLET  
What are you doing?

MEI (V.O.)  
No. No.

Beatrice forces herself inside the room.

MEI (V.O.)  
Maybe. It had to be.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM-CLOSET - NIGHT

Mei stands in the closet.

MEI  
They all saw her that night though. So  
the question is, who saw her last? It  
couldn't have been Beatrice. Right?

Mei goes to exit the closet...

WHEN...

...The door opens.

Mei gets back inside the closet.

At first no one enters.

Mei can see the foot of someone.

Mei waits with bated breath as...

...the female fan of Joseph enters.

FEMALE FAN

Hello?

The female fan closes the door behind her.

Mei's eyes widen. She remembers now.

BEGIN FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Violet leans against the door with downcast eyes.

KNOCK KNOCK.

VIOLET

Who is it? If it's you, Beatrice, I  
have nothing more to say to you!

Violet opens the door.

VIOLET

What do you want?

BEAT.

The female fan forces her way inside.

VIOLET

What are you doing?

FEMALE FAN

Joseph doesn't want you so back off!

VIOLET

What are you-Get out of my room!

FEMALE FAN

Not until you leave him alone! Or I'll  
leak this to the press.

The female fan holds up her phone and reveals a picture of  
Violet and Joseph kissing in a parked car.

VIOLET

H-How?

FEMALE FAN

What can I say? I'm a female fan. I'll  
post this, and you'll be known as the  
model harlot while his career

skyrockets.

VIOLET

He doesn't want her! He wants me!

FEMALE FAN

No, he doesn't! You are not going to ruin him!

VIOLET

I would never hurt him.

FEMALE FAN

You're hurting him now!

VIOLET

Delete that picture.

FEMALE FAN

I could, but I won't.

Violet then struggles to get the female fan's phone. The two begin a struggle over the phone.

The female fan's earring falls off and gets swept up under the bed.

Violet is pushed down.

The female fan climbs on top of Violet and strangles her.

Violet strikes the female fan in the face.

The female fan slaps Violet and busts her lip.

Violet manages to get the female fan off of her and steps back toward the open window. She has the phone.

VIOLET

Joseph wants me!

Just as Violet is about to toss the phone out of the window, the female fan tackles her and tries to push Violet out of the window.

Violet manages to repel the female fan back.

The phone falls to the floor.

Violet goes after the female fan's cell phone.

The female fan takes out a pocket knife...

WHEN...

...she stabs Violet in the chest.

Back to Mei, her whole body starts to quiver. Her eyes start to water.

Violet's eyes widen as she glances down at the knife in her chest.

The female fan goes white at what she's done.

Violet collapses.

Joseph's female fan stands still as if frozen in place. That's when she pulls the knife from Violet's chest and grabs her phone. With her sleeve, she opens the door and rushes out.

Mei cautiously staggers out of the closet.

MEI

I'm dreaming. I'm dreaming.

Mei staggers out of the room.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - NIGHT

Mei climbs back in bed, takes a pill, then falls asleep.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mei in the closet...

Mei observes as the female fan scans the room and searches under every crack she can find.

The female fan gets near the closet.

Mei waits with bated breath, though the female fan only searches the corners of the closet.

FEMALE FAN

(to self)

Where can it be?

Mei ponders then comes to a realization.

BEGIN FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Inside Violet's room, the female fan and Violet put up a struggle. The female fan's earring falls and gets swept underneath the bed.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM-CLOSET - NIGHT

Mei peeks out of the closet.

The female fan goes to open the closet door.

Mei waits with bated breath.

As the female fan opens the closet door, Mei swings the door hard and nearly cracks open the female fan's skull.

Mei staggers out of the closet then gets on all fours. Using her hand, she feels for the earring.

The female fan, disoriented, rises to her feet.

FEMALE FAN

Mrs. Raven?

Mei finds the earring.

MEI

You killed her! It was you!

FEMALE FAN

You're confused, Mrs. Raven. Very confused.

MEI

We'll let the police decide that.

The female fan tackles Mei then slaps her hard.

The female fan goes to the window and opens it. She drags Mei to it.

Mei struggles to free herself.

FEMALE FAN

I'm so sorry about your wife, Joseph.  
So sorry.

The female fan takes out her pocket knife and pushes it into Mei's abdomen.

Mei cries out.

Just as the female fan is about to push Mei out the window, Mei head butts her.

Both are disoriented.

Mei checks her wound. Her shirt is soaked in blood.

FEMALE FAN

I won't let you ruin Joseph's life  
anymore. Just kill yourself already!

The female fan rushes to push Mei out the window...

WHEN...

Mei side steps.

The two try to push the other out the window.

That's when Mei shoves her fingers into the female fan's eyes.

As she shrieks, she's at the edge of the window.

WHEN...

...Mei shoves her out the window.

FEMALE FAN

Ahhhhh!

Mei watches the woman fall to her death.

Below her are patrons entering and leaving the hotel.

The female fan lands on the sidewalk in between a COUPLE OF PATRONS.

Mei sits down near the window as if in her own hotel room and closes her eyes. Her hand then goes limp.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Mei is asleep in the hospital bed. Next to her on the table are a dozen roses with a card.

Joseph sleeps in the chair near her.

Her eyes flicker open, and she takes in the room. She stirs and causes Joseph to stir.

JOSEPH

Thank God. You're okay. Thank God.

MEI

What happened?

JOSEPH

You lost a lot of blood. If the bellboy didn't find you...

MEI

I'm okay. Really.

Joseph presses his lips against her forehead then squeezes her hand.

MEI

(referring to the roses)

Those for me?

JOSEPH

Yeah.

Joseph hands her the roses.

JOSEPH

I'm so sorry, Mei. I want to spend the rest of my life making this up to you. I just don't know how.

MEI

I know, and you'll figure it out.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY - LATER

Mei watches television leaned back in her hospital bed.

WHEN...

Detective Sloan and Powell enter.

SLOAN

Welcome back.

MEI

Thank you.



SLOAN  
We thought we lost you.

MEI  
I'm still here.

SLOAN  
Can we ask you a few questions about  
what happened?

Powell takes out a pen and notepad.

MEI  
Um...

Joseph enters with a glass of orange juice and Mei's favorite  
chips.

JOSEPH  
Not this shit. Can she rest first?

SLOAN  
We'll only be a few minutes. We also  
have the DNA results back on Violet  
Sparks's unborn child.

Joseph's ears perk up.

SLOAN  
Turns out you are not the father, Mr.  
Raven.

Mei takes a deep breath.

MEI  
Thank God.

Joseph squeezes Mei's hand.

POWELL  
Bet you're relieved, Raven.

Joseph scowls.

SLOAN  
Anyway, we're still investigating, but  
the person who attacked you, her name  
is Christy Jones, and she's been a  
female fan of yours since your first  
professional acting credit.

JOSEPH  
Has she been following me?

SLOAN  
Looks like it.

POWELL  
Also, the murder weapon that was found  
is a match to the one that was used on  
Mrs. Sparks.

SLOAN  
That's why we need you to remember  
everything carefully, Mei. You can't  
leave anything out.

Mei nods, okay.

MEI  
Sure.

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei packs her clothes into a suitcase. As she stretches, she  
winces from her injury. She picks up her various prescription  
bottles and looks them over. She packs them.

INT. HOTEL-CORRIDOR - DAY

Mei steps to the vending machine and before she can make a  
purchase, she sees Rachel leaving a room as she carries  
luggage.

She approaches Rachel.

MEI  
Hi. I just wanted to say I'm sorry.  
About your mom.

RACHEL  
Thanks. I'm still a little bit in  
shock.

MEI  
That's understandable. This isn't  
something you should have to go  
through.

RACHEL  
Thanks. I wish things could've ended  
differently.

MEI  
Don't we all?

RACHEL  
Am I sorry for what she did.

MEI  
That's not something for you to be  
sorry about.

Beatrice enters from the room with her luggage in hand.

MEI  
Bye, Rachel.

RACHEL  
Bye.

Mei goes back to her room.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Mei sits at the window with Joseph beside her on the aisle.  
The plane is fully occupied. A stewardess moves a cart to the  
front of the plane.

Mei takes a couple pills from her tote bag.

The stewardess approaches the couple.

STEWARDESS  
Would you like any crackers or  
something to drink?

MEI  
Do you have water?

The stewardess hands her a cup of water and a pack of  
crackers.

The stewardess moves on.

Mei leans back in her seat, takes a breath, then closes her  
eyes.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-ROOM - DAY

Mei sits near the window on a zoom call with Muhammad. She  
holds her side where she was stabbed.

MUHAMMAD

(from phone)

Oh my goodness. Are you okay?

MEI

I'm okay. She didn't hit anything.

MUHAMMAD

Still. You could've been killed.

MEI

I could've been, and I wasn't, but Dr. Muhammad. I feel like I'm missing something.

CUT TO:

Mei awakens in bed and sees that there are specks of blood on her robe.

CUT TO:

Back to Mei speaking with Dr. Muhammad.

MUHAMMAD

(from phone)

Whatever is lying dormant will rise up. Don't force it. You will eventually remember.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Mei opens her eyes. That's when she remembers.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HOTEL-VIOLET'S ROOM - NIGHT

Just as Violet is about to toss the phone out of the window, the female fan tackles her and tries to push Violet out of the window.

Mei watches with bated breath. She tries to climb out of the closet, though is frozen in place.

Violet manages to repel the female fan back.

The phone falls to the floor.

Violet goes after the female fan's cell phone.

The female fan takes out a pocket knife...

WHEN...

...she stabs Violet in the chest.

Back to Mei, her whole body starts to quiver. Her eyes start to water.

Violet's eyes widen as she glances down at the knife in her chest.

The female fan goes white at what she has just done.

Violet collapses.

Joseph's female fan stands still as if frozen in place. That's when she pulls out the knife from Violet's chest and grabs her phone. With her sleeve, she opens the door and rushes out.

Mei cautiously staggers out of the closet. She ambles toward Violet, who is still alive.

Violet cries out as her blouse soaks in red.

VIOLET  
Please help me.

Mei stands over Violet with glassy eyes.

VIOLET  
Please help me!

Mei bends down to Violet and tries to cover her mouth.

Violet struggles to scream as Mei struggles to keep her mouth covered.

Finally, Violet goes limp.

Mei uncovers Violet's mouth and stands up.

MEI  
I'm dreaming. I'm dreaming.

Mei staggers out of the room.

INT. HOTEL-FIFTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Mei enters and staggers to the elevator. She calls for it as she holds herself up using the wall.

MEI

I'm dreaming. I'm dreaming.

BING.

The elevator doors open, and she disappears inside it.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

The blood vanishes from Mei's face. She rushes into her tote bag to take out the Klonopin prescription bottle then clutches it.

Mei takes a deep breath.

JOSEPH

You okay?

MEI

Actually, I am.

Mei returns the pills back into her purse and leans back in her seat.

FADE OUT

THE END.