

TWISTED. Episode 1 (Not nice to meet you.)

By

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INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - BEDROOM - DAY

SARA, 18, beautiful despite her messed up hair, sits on her bed.

She's on the phone with a friend.

SARA

Are you still coming or not?

FRIEND(V.O)

Yes. Grandma. Don't get your
panties in a twist. It was my Idea,
remember?

SARA

I know, Relax. I just can't wait to
get something off my -- I mean, to
get out of here. Tell me when
you're at the gate --

FRIEND(V.O)

Hold that thought. I'm at the gate.
Come open.

Sara ends the call and heads for the door.

INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - BEDROOM - DAY

The door opens. Sara walks in with CHRISTINA, 19, who
goes straight for the mirror and starts touching up her
face.

Sara sits on her bed, plays with a pair of earrings she has
on her hand. Looking down as if she has forgotten that
there's someone else in the room.

CHRISTINA(O.S)

What's wrong with you? You look
like ... well ... yourself! The
first time I met you.

Sara shakes her head and stares at the ceiling. Christina
leaves the mirror, and walks towards Sara.

SARA

(clears throat)

It's nothing. It's just that ... I
have something to tell you. And ...
I, I need you to promise me that
you won't tell anyone.

Sara begins to cry, slowly.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISTINA
(confused)
What's wrong? Is it Pipes again?

INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - KITCHEN - MORNING

Sara prepares tea. Her mother , MS MANGOPE, 40s, sits on a chair, with her hands gently resting on top of the kitchen table. She reads a bible.

SUPER: ELEVEN MONTHS EARLIER

Sara pours water into the kettle and switches it on. She sits down opposite her mother and waits for the water to boil.

SARA
Mom, I'm seconds away from getting a job. I feel it. I just met this girl and ... and, I think she has money or something. The way she dresses! Her hair! She must have connections. I just need her to connect me with anyone in an Acting Agency, who can pull some strings and get me auditions without having to pay. They're so expensive.

MS MANGOPE
(happy)
Good for you, my child. I hope this works out. But ... your mother still believes that you should have went to varsity.

The kettle reaches it's boiling point, snaps.

SARA
Mom ... I told you about school. You know I want to go, but I can't. Even with bursaries. All the media schools I want to go to are private. And I can't go to any university, they don't teach anything at all. That is still not an option --

MS MANGOPE
Young lady, please make Mommy her tea. We don't have enough electricity to boil the water again.

(CONTINUED)

SARA
Yes, Ma'am.

Sara gets up, takes two cups from the kitchen counter and pours tea for her mother, then herself. She gives her mother a cup of tea and sits down holding hers.

MS MANGOPE
(smiles)
See? Now we can talk better.

They both smile and take sips.

MS MANGOPE (CONT'D)
You were saying?

SARA
I was saying that I -- It's fine. I don't want you to worry about this, Mom. I will be one of the best actresses on Tv one day. Dad will know about me.

Ms Mangope's facial expression changes, dramatically.

MS MANGOPE
SARA! I told you not to speak of that man in this house!

SARA
Sometimes I just want to be on Tv just to let him see that you've raised a star, Mama. On your own --

MS MANGOPE
That man destroyed me, my innocence and left us to starve! I had no one else to support me when your dad walked out on us -- While I was Pregnant with YOU! My parents --

SARA
(pleads, sincerely)
Disowned you, Mama. I know. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to --

MS MANGOPE
Exactly. Then --

Tiny drops of tears run down on both of their faces.

(CONTINUED)

SARA

I didn't mean that. Ma. I'm sorry.

A beat.

MS MANGOPE

(brushes her tears away)

It's okay, Sweetie. I just don't want you to feel like you need this man, or any other man. You're smart, beautiful. Live life for you, yourself. If anyone, especially a man, wants to be in your life, they should make an effort. Okay? I want you to be an independent woman.

(then)

It's fine even if you want to do this acting thing, but make sure you can support yourself with it, Okay?

Ms Mangope stands and walks over to Sara, gently touches Sara's face, brushes Sara's tears away.

MS MANGOPE(CONT'D)

Okay, Sweetie? Make me proud.

She squeezes Sara's cheeks. Jokingly.

MS MANGOPE(CONT'D)

You will, won't you? Yes, You will.

Sara tries to take her mother's hands off of her face.

SARA

(smiles)

Mom, stop ... I'm not a baby anymore.

Ms Mangope lets go.

MS MANGOPE

To me you are, young lady.

She kisses Sara on her forehead.

MS MANGOPE(CONT'D)

I got to go take a shower.

(sniffs Sara)

And ... so do you.

Ms Mangope leaves the kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

SARA
(to herself)
No. I don't. And I'm not a baby
anymore.

MS MANGOPE(O.S)
Yes, You do and Yes you are!

SARA
Snap.

Sara's phone rings, She picks it up.

SARA(CONT'D)
Hello. This is --

CHRISTINA(V.O)
Yes. How are you, babes? I'm sorry
I couldn't get back to you earlier
on, but I'm sure you'll understand.
I'm just a busy person.

SARA
(excited)
Of course, of course. I understand.
Thanks for calling me back --

CHRISTINA(V.O)
Yeah, so listen. I'm walking around
your neighborhood. What number is
your house? Sorry to cut you off,
by the way. my adrenaline is just
... Whew, this one is in the bag,
baby!

SARA
Okay. It's fine, just look for
house number ...

INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The door opens, Sara walks in with Christina. She offers her
a seat.

SARA
You can sit anywhere, except for --

Christina beats her to it, and sits where Ms Mangope was
seated.

(CONTINUED)

SARA(CONT'D)
(murmurs)
that one...

CHRISTINA
Excuse me? Did you say something?

SARA
Oh, No. No. No, I didn't. It's just
that my ... Well, only mom sits on
that chair.
(off Christina's face)
I know. It's uhh ... crazy. It's
her thing. Anyway, you don't have
to worry about that.

CHRISTINA
(smiles)
Great. I wasn't. Anyway, sit down.
Let me talk to you, girl.

Sara takes a seat.

CHRISTINA(CONT'D)
So ... On my way here, I met this
loser and he was on some 'Hey, how
are you? I'd love to know you
better.' And I was like 'Please.
You don't even have a car.'
(laughs)
You know? I'm tired of Johny
Walkers.

Sara is confused. She forces a fake laugh.

SARA
Yeah. Guys, right? Can't live with
them, can't live without them.
Johny ... Ahem. Johny Walkers are
the worst, aren't they? --

CHRISTINA
I'm not done. Anyway, So I walked
away from that loser, thinking to
myself: This is going to be a long
day. But as I was about to call
you, a Range Rover pulls up and
stops just in front of me. I keep
walking, the windows roll down and
I see this delicious older babe. He
calls me.

(CONTINUED)

SARA
(worried)
Oh no.

CHRISTINA
Oh yes, girl. Weren't you
listening? I'm done with Johnny
Walkers! Hello?

SARA
Oh ... Yeah. I remember. You ...
you did say that.

CHRISTINA
So I walk up to him. Swinging my
hips more than usual, of course.
And ... yeah, we spoke. I took his
number. He took mine. Ooh girl ...
This one is in the bag babes.

SARA
Wow, I ... don't know what to say.

MS MANGOPE(O.S)
I do.

Sara panics and tries to change the subject.

SARA
So ... about my acting contacts.
Any responses from the people
you've spoken to about me?

Ms Mangope walks in. Stands next to Sara.

MS MANGOPE
(to Sara)
Are you going to introduce me to
your friend?

Ms Mangope points at Christina with her head.

SARA
Ahem ... Yes,uhmn ... Mom, this is
the friend I was talking about
earlier. Christina.

CHRISTINA
(waves)
That's me.

(CONTINUED)

MS MANGOPE

Good to know, young lady. I'm sure you can see that in front of you there's an unfinished cup of tea and an open bible. Meaning someone is sitting there.

(waves)

That's me. Now, if you'll excuse me.

Ms Mangope walks towards Christina. She quickly stands and gets out of Ms Mangope's way.

SARA

(to Christina)

We were about to leave, right?
Follow me.

Ms Mangope gets comfortable on the chair as Christina and Sara exit the house.

MS MANGOPE

What a brat! In Jesus name.

EXT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - FRONT YARD - CONTINUOUS

Sara and Christina walk towards the gate.

CHRISTINA

What's wrong with your mom, hey?
What a rude person.

SARA

Nothing really. We fought earlier.
I guess she's still -- She'll be fine.

CHRISTINA

What did you fight about that made her this mad?

SARA

Nothing serious ... It involves me not knowing my father ... and, wanting to know him ... her not wanting anything to do with him and ... and how it SHOULD be how I also feel about him too. It's not. It's --

(CONTINUED)

CHRISTINA

(closes her ears)

Stop! Whew ... That's enough. I don't like sob stories. Anyway, I'll call if any of the guys I've spoken to about you respond.

They reach the gate. Christina takes out her phone and looks at the time.

CHRISTINA(CONT'D)

Damn ... I missed call. And it's him.

(smiles)

Okay, I gotta call this guy back. We'll talk.

They hug. Christina walks out, Sara walks back towards the house.

INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Sara walks in. Her mother is still seated. Sipping tea and reading the bible.

MS MANGOPE

I don't like your friend, Sara. I don't like her one bit. There's something wrong with her. She's the type that will take advantage of you. She's going to bring you nothing but trouble. I tell you.

SARA

Mom, please. Not this again. I think she's okay. I just want her to help me get noticed ... help me get to the right people. She knows people. The media industry is about who you know. Networking.

MS MANGOPE

You must sit when talking to me, young lady. I know people too. Trust me, she's the bad kind.

Sara stands, regardless.

MS MANGOPE(CONT'D)

Where does she get all that fancy stuff she's wearing? No family in this town is that rich -- I said sit down!

(CONTINUED)

SARA
No, Mom. I'm going to take a
shower. I need one, remember?

She walks away. Ms Mangope looks on in disbelief.

INT. MANGOPE HOUSEHOLD - SHOWER - LATER

Sara is in the shower. We hear her speak behind the curtain.

SARA
(to herself)
I just want to know who my dad is.
I mean ... Is that too much to ask?
Every time I talk about him, I'm
yelled at. "Sara this!, Sara that!"
(begins to cry)
He's my father! I just want to know
him --

Sara's phone rings.

She extends a hand through the curtain and grabs a towel,
wears it and steps out of the shower. She walks to the sink
and answers her phone.

SARA(CONT'D)
Hello?

CHRISTINA(V.O)
Hey, babes.

Sara's face lights up. She holds her phone against her
chest.

SARA
(to herself)
Please tell me someone responded.
Please tell me someone responded.
Please tell me someone responded.

CHRISTINA(V.O)
Hello??

Sara holds her phone to her ear, again.

SARA
(to phone)
Oh. Sorry. Yeah, I'm here. Go
ahead.

(CONTINUED)

CHRISTINA(V.O)
You won't believe what I'm about to
tell you ...

Sara waits, impatiently.

CHRISTINA(V.O)(CONT'D)
My boyfriend to-be called me back.
I didn't even have to call him.
Remember I said I was gonna? Well,
I waited ... because I didn't want
to look cheap, or desperate. He's
taking me to dinner tomorrow. I
will be at your place after that,
to tell you all about it.

SARA
(disappointed)
Wow. I don't know what to say. Have
fun?

CHRISTINA(V.O)
You bet I will. It turns out he
owns a Casting Agency too.

SARA
(excited)
Wait ... WHAT?

CHRISTINA(V.O)
He owns a C-A-S-T-I-N-G A-G-E-N-C-Y
slow head!

Sara screams and jumps in Jubilation.

MS MANGOPE(O.S)
Keep it down in there! This is not
a tavern!

SARA
(to phone)
Sorry. I gotta go. See you tomorrow
then.

She hangs up. She screams in silence as she balls her fists.

SARA
YES!

THE END.