

What?

written by

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**"The Greatest Trick the Devil Ever Pulled Was Convincing the
World He Didn't Exist"**

- Charles Baudelaire

FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

A woman sits at her desk, typing on the **keyboard** of her **office desktop**.

DRE (V.O.)

I met the devil once in my life.

DRE, 29. A journalist. Cunning, driven and social able.

Dre grabs at her head in frustration.

DRE

No, no, no!! This sounds stupid!

The **phone** rings.

Dre grabs the **receiver**. She sticks it to her ear.

DRE (CONT'D)

Hello!

PAUL (V.O.)

Can I see you in my office!

DRE

Yes.

The dial tone sounds.

DRE (CONT'D)

Good morning to you too!

Dre stands up.

RUSTY, 25. Mail boy. Friendly, eager and helpful.

Rusty steps towards Dre's desk.

RUSTY

Good morning!

Dre stands up.

DRE

Good morning.

Dre steps towards the hallway.

RUSTY

Hey! What's going on?

DRE
I got to go face the king fish.

RUSTY
Good one. I have to use that one!

Dre rushes down the hallway.

CUT TO:

INT. EDITOR'S OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

A man pounds his fist into the top of his desk, also wanting to strike pain into the man's head on the front page of the morning **newspaper**. PAUL, 47, Editor. Depressed, cranky and demanding.

PAUL
Do you know what this is Lopez?

DRE
What?

PAUL
Garbage!!

He pounds his hand into the front page

PAUL (CONT'D)
(yell)
My hand!

He swipes the newspaper off his desk.

PAUL (CONT'D)
You're fired!

DRE
What?

PAUL
Fired! Get it! Have your office
cleared out by the end of the week!

DRE
I need this job, please!

PAUL
I need a story but we're both
disappointed.

Paul steps past Dre.

Dre follows him into the hallway.

CUT TO:

INT. MEN'S BATHROOM-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Paul steps to a *urinal* and lowers his pants.

PAUL
(breath)

DRE
I can make it up!

Paul looks at Dre.

Dre leans her face towards his.

EMPLOYEE, early 20s.

EMPLOYEE
Hey!!

Dre looks at the Employee.

DRE
Please, I've seen plenty of dick!

The Employee steps away.

Paul turns away, guarding what little privacy he has left.

PAUL
If I say yes, will you just go
away!

DRE
Yes!

PAUL
Fine! You have one week to make it
up. If you screw up, you're gone!!

Dre kisses him on the cheek.

DRE
Thank you, sir. You won't regret
it!

Paul looks down at his groin.

Dre rushes to the door.

DRE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
We'll just pretend that's morning
wood!

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-NIGHT

Balls of **paper** all over the desk. Dre scribbles all over the notebook page.

RUSTY (O.C.)
May I make a suggestion!

Dre jumps out of her skin, feeling a sudden jolt go through her body.

DRE
You scared the shit out of me!

RUSTY
I'm sorry.

DRE
What do you suggest?

RUSTY
Try an heiress. Someone wealthy.

DRE
A celebrity?

RUSTY
Heiress!

Dre thinks to herself.

DRE
Yes, thank you!

Dre stands up and kisses him on the cheek. She sits down and starts writing.

RUSTY
(clear throat)

DRE
What?

RUSTY
Don't you think you should go home?

DRE
Journalist don't sleep!

RUSTY
Trust me, sleep. There's going to
be a party.

Dre looks at him.

DRE
Okay, I'm listening.

RUSTY
Get some sleep and we'll discuss
the details tomorrow.

Dre grabs her notebook and pushes the balls of paper into the
trashcan.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

The door opens.

Dre steps in. She shuts the door.

BABYSITTER, late teens.

Dre steps past the Babysitter.

DRE
(clap)

The Babysitter sits up.

BABYSITTER
(scream)

The Babysitter looks at Dre.

DRE
I'm home!

She puts on her shoes.

Dre reaches into her pocket.

DRE (CONT'D)
How much do I owe you?

BABYSITTER
Forty.

Dre pulls out **two twenty-dollar bills**. She hands her the money.

DRE
There you go.

BABYSITTER
Thanks.

The Babysitter grabs her purse from the couch.

DRE
Do you mind babysitting tomorrow?

BABYSITTER
Sure.

DRE
See you tomorrow then. Good night.

The Babysitter steps towards the door. She opens it.

BABYSITTER
Good night.

She steps out and closes the door.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

DRE
(breath)

Dre sits down on the bed. She lays back and closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM-DRESS SHOP-NIGHT

Dre looks at herself in the mirror. The **black silk dress** on her makes her feel like a princess.

DRE
Perfect!

Rusty's hand reaches in, holding two party **invitations**.

Dre looks back.

DRE (CONT'D)
You got them!

Rusty steps in. He looks at Dre.

RUSTY

Wow!

Dre looks at the dress, feeling self-conscious.

DRE

What?

RUSTY

You look beautiful.

Dre smiles. She steps towards him and grabs at his cheeks, kissing him.

DRE

You sweet talker you!!

RUSTY

Are you ready?

DRE

Yes.

He reaches for her hand.

She grabs a hold.

RUSTY

Here we go!

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN-NIGHT

Rusty and Dre step towards a man.

PARTY HELPER, early 20s.

PARTY HELPER

Welcome!

Rusty hands the Party Helper the two invitations.

PARTY HELPER (CONT'D)

Enjoy!

DRE

Thank you.

Rusty and Dre step into the garden.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-NIGHT

Dre grabs a *wine glass* from the table.

Rusty takes the wine glass from her.

DRE
What are you doing?

RUSTY
You're working, remember?

DRE
Right.

Dre looks at the PARTYGOERS.

DRE (CONT'D)
Who do I start with?

RUSTY
Try the host of this shindig.

DRE
Shindig?

RUSTY
It's an expression! I'll go check
out the party.

DRE
You do that.

Rusty rushes away.

DRE (CONT'D)
Make good choices!

RUSTY
No promises.

Dre steps away from the Partygoers.

SUPER MODEL #1, #2 and #3. Early 20s.

Super Model #1 looks at Rusty.

SUPER MODEL #1
So, what do you do?

RUSTY
I'm an artist.

SUPER MODEL #1
Really!

SUPER MODEL #3
Can you paint me?

RUSTY
Sure!

Dre covers her face, feeling embarrassed for Rusty.

DRE
(laugh)

Dre steps away. She walks towards a **lounge chair** and sits.

SUPER MODEL #1 (O.C.)
How do you start?

RUSTY (O.C.)
I draw you first, then I paint.

A woman steps towards Dre and sits in the other lounge chair. ANGELICA, 35. An orchard owner and heiress of the Santiago estate. Ruthless, manipulative and demanding.

Angelica lights a **cigarette**.

Dre looks back at her.

ANGELICA
Are you enjoying the party?

DRE
Yes.

Angelica stands up and steps towards Dre. She watches Rusty with Super Models #1, #2 and #3.

RUSTY (O.C.)
I drop to my knees, right into a chalk drawing I completed! Chalk all over my suit pants I was supposed to wear to a date!

ANGELICA
(laugh)
Friend of yours?

DRE
I won't get thrown out if I say
yes, will I?

ANGELICA
No.

SUPER MODEL #1 (O.C.)
(laugh)

SUPER MODEL #3 (O.C.)
(laugh)

RUSTY (O.C.)
I had to go to the same store to
replace the pants.

ANGELICA
Wait! Aren't you that journalist?

Dre looks at Angelica.

DRE
Yes, I am.

ANGELICA
I thought you looked familiar.

Angelica puts her cigarette out in the **ashtray**.

BODYGUARD, early 30s.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Get her off my property!

The Bodyguard lifts Dre up and carries her away.

Dre looks at Angelica.

DRE
Please, hear me out!!

Angelica looks at Dre.

ANGELICA
Alright. Ten minutes.

The Bodyguard lets Dre down to her feet.

Dre steps towards Angelica.

DRE
I believe you have a story. A
family story.

ANGELICA
Question?

 DRE
Yes?

 ANGELICA
Do I look like I care about what
people think of my family?

 DRE
Uh --

 ANGELICA
-- I don't.

 DRE
Give them something to care about.
Share your story!

Angelica turns her back to Dre.

Dre turns around and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. CAR-NIGHT

Dre turns the car off. She takes off her seatbelt and opens
the driver side door.

 DRE
Good riddance!

She stands up from the driver seat.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Dre drops face down into the pillow.

The cell phone vibrates on the nightstand.

Dre looks at the cell phone. She grabs it.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Angelica walks around the living room. The receiver pressed against her ear.

DRE (V.O.)
Hello?

ANGELICA
One hour a day. You want a good
juicy story --

DRE (V.O.)
-- Yeah.

ANGELICA
You're going to get one.

DRE
Thank you.

ANGELICA
Don't thank me yet.

DRE (V.O.)
Okay.

ANGELICA
See you at ten.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS

Dre puts the cell phone down on the nightstand.
She stands to her feet and flops herself down onto the bed.

DRE
Yes!!

Dre sits up. She grabs the cell phone.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-NIGHT

Super Model #1 rushes through the living room.

SUPER MODEL #1
(laugh)

Rusty runs after her.

RUSTY
I'm gonna get you!

SUPER MODEL #1
No!!!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS

Dre ends the call.

DRE
That's a first.

Dre sets the cell phone down on the bed.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

Her left hand on the steering wheel, while holding her coffee cup in her right. Dre looks at the mansion.

DRE
Here goes nothing.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-NIGHT

Dre steps through the courtyard.

BODYGUARD
Lopez!

Dre looks at the Bodyguard.

BODYGUARD (CONT'D)
Ms. Santiago is waiting in her study.

DRE
Alright.

CUT TO:

INT. PISTE-MANSION-DAY

TEACHER, 30s.

The Teacher fence fights with a young girl. LUCIA, 12. Sweet and brilliant.

Lucia spins herself in circles. She hits the Teacher on the leg. He drops to his back. Lucia pokes him in the chest with the **sword**.

LUCIA
Bow to the queen!

DRE
(clap)

Lucia takes off her **Sabre mask**. She looks at Dre.

LUCIA
I take it that you fenced before.

DRE
Sort of. Mind if I give it a try?

Lucia hands her the sword.

LUCIA
Knock yourself out.

Dre takes the sword.

The Teacher stands to his feet.

TEACHER
You might want to wear some protective gear.

DRE
Just try to hit me!!

The Teacher puts on his Sabre mask.

Dre swings her sword, spins in circles towards the Teacher.

He blocks her swing.

Dre kicks him in the chest. He falls to the floor.

She pokes him in the chest.

The Teacher pulls off his mask.

TEACHER
Where'd you learn that!

DRE
The streets.

Dre hands the sword to Lucia.

LUCIA
That was awesome!

Dre steps towards the Bodyguard.

LUCIA (CONT'D)
Can you teach me some moves?

TEACHER (O.C.)
What!

DRE
I wouldn't mind but your mom
wouldn't be alright with it.

The Bodyguard leads the way towards the study.

BODYGUARD
Right this way!

Dre smiles. She follows the Bodyguard.

DRE
Later kid.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

A small cup of **cappuccino** in the grip of her hand, Angelica looks down from the balcony above the first floor of the study.

Dre steps into the study. She looks around. Her eyes surprised at all the books in front of her.

Angelica walks down the steps.

Dre grabs a book from the shelf.

ANGELICA
That's my favorite. **The Count of Monte Cristo.**

DRE
Do you mind --

-- Angelica snatches the book from Dre's hand --

ANGELICA
-- Not a chance!

DRE
Okay.

Angelica sits at a table.

Dre steps towards the table. She sits across from Angelica.

ANGELICA
So, do you like my daughter?

DRE
Yeah, she's a smart girl.

ANGELICA
Do you have any children?

DRE
A daughter.

ANGELICA
How old?

DRE
Ten.

ANGELICA
Do you know how old I was when my
mother died?

DRE
How old?

ANGELICA
Six months. I never knew her. I
never got the chance. My friend and
aunt raised me. Shelly was a
writer. One day, at a family get
together, she told me she was
helping a classroom of delinquents
write, you know. Put all their
feelings into a journal. One of
those delinquents is sitting in
front of me, asking me to spill my
guts.

DRE
You knew Shelly?

ANGELICA
She was my friend. We'll get to that story when we get there. Let's go all the way back to the beginning. It started with two sisters and their gods.

CUT TO:

EXT. NORTHERN VILLAGE-DAY

ANGELICA (V.O.)
Hundreds of years ago, two sisters, one soon to be queen. The other, still too young, ruled their village.

SUPER: 1500 CE

Two young girls run through the village.

ANACAONA, 15. A princess of the Northern village and second heir to the throne. Adventurous, loving and compassionate.

QUETZAL, 17. A future queen of the Northern village of the throne. Self-centered, selfish and conniving.

Quetzal runs past Anacaona.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
Slow down Quetzal!!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
Hurry up!!

CUT TO:

EXT. RAINFOREST-DAY

To the top of the cliff, just above a waterfall, Quetzal prepares to jump.

ANGELICA (V.O.)
The oldest sister was so brave.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Come on!!

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 I can't!!!

ANGELICA (V.O.)
 But the youngest sister was weak
 and filled with fear.

Quetzal jumps.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 No!!!

Quetzal drops to the bottom of the water. She swims to the surface.

QUETZAL
 (breath)

A scared look on Anacaona's face.

Quetzal looks at Anacaona.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Come on!!

Anacaona steps towards the edge. She looks down.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Hurry up!!

The sky darkens.

Quetzal looks up at the sky.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
 (In Nahuatl)
 The gods are talking!

CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMID-NIGHT

VILLAGERS #1, #2 and #3. early 20s.

Villager #1 steps to the altar.

Villager #2 grabs the **pearl necklace** from the **plate** and sets them down on the **altar**.

Villagers #1, #2 and #3 turn around.

CUT TO:

INT. HUT-NIGHT

Quetzal sits on her bed. She brushes her hair.

Anacaona steps into the hut. She walks towards her bed.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
You could have jumped, you know?

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
I know.

Quetzal stops brushing her hair and sets the brush down. She stands up and steps towards Anacaona. Quetzal touches Anacaona's face and kisses her.

CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMID-NIGHT

SERVANT, late teens.

A Servant rushes towards the altar. He pulls Quetzal to him, kissing her. The Servant pushes her towards the altar. He turns her to the altar.

Quetzal looks at the pearls.

The Servant presses himself against Quetzal.

QUETZAL
(gasp)

He goes back and forth.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
Ugh!

Quetzal's hand reaches out for the pearls.

CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMID-NIGHT (DREAM SEQUENCE)

The Servant turns Quetzal. He pushes her up onto the altar.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Come to me!

The Servant climbs onto the altar gets on top of her. He kisses her. The Servant backs away and looks her in the eyes. His face changes into a woman's. Her body wrapped in pearls. DEVIL, early 20s.

DEVIL
 So much for being subtle!!
 (laugh)

Quetzal's eyes grow wide, feeling fearful.

The Devil's face changes, becoming a **Quetzalcoatl serpent**. It screams in her face.

QUETZAL
 (scream)

CUT TO:

INT. HUT-DAY (END DREAM SEQUENCE)

Quetzal's head rises up from the bed, sweating uncontrollably. She looks at Anacaona.

QUETZAL
 (breath)

ANGELICA (V.O.)
 That's enough for today!

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Dre's face in shock.

ANGELICA
 Juicy stuff, huh!

Angelica smiles.

Dre stands up.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
I'll see you in the morning then.

Dre looks at Angelica.

DRE
(nods)

Dre steps away from the table.

ANGELICA
Dre?

Dre looks at her.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Off the record, Shelly thought
highly of you. Try not to tarnish
what she taught you.

Dre steps away.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

Dre's hands on the steering wheel. The radio plays.

She turns the knob to turn it off.

DRE
(sob)

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-LOFT APARTMENTS-DAY

Dre pounds her hand onto the door.

The door opens.

Rusty looks at Dre.

RUSTY
Dre! What's wrong?

Dre's eyes filled with sadness.

DRE
(sob)
Can I come in?

RUSTY

Sure.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Dre sits on a *stool*. She rests her head on the *isle counter*.

Rusty looks at the pages written in the notebook. He looks back at Dre.

RUSTY

This is what you got from today?

DRE

Yes.

RUSTY

Wow. Are you going back?

DRE

Tomorrow.

Dre gets off the stool.

DRE (CONT'D)

I better go.

Rusty stands up from the couch.

RUSTY

You don't have to leave!

DRE

Thank you. It's best that I do.

Rusty grabs the notebook and hands it to Dre.

DRE (CONT'D)

I'll call you later.

Dre steps towards the door. She opens it and steps out. The door closes.

Rusty steps towards his office.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Rusty pulls out a *sheet* of *paper*. He grabs a pencil. Lines are drawn across the paper. A figure becomes a woman. Clothed with pearls.

MONTAGE

-- He draws a pyramid.

-- He draws Quetzal.

-- He draws Anacaona.

BACK TO SCENE

Rusty puts his pencils and pens down into his drawer. He backs away, feeling satisfied.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

ANGELICA

Can I interest you in a coffee?

Dre sits.

DRE

No thank you.

Angelica steps towards the table. She pulls out the chair.

ANGELICA

(sip)

Angelica sits.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Do you know why Columbian coffee is the best?

DRE

Why?

ANGELICA

The Arabica beans. It's smooth and the flavor is so much like Chocolate. You don't know what you're missing.

DRE
I'll take a coffee.

ANGELICA
Excellent choice!

Angelica stands up and steps towards the stairs.

Dre looks out the window. She sees Lucia step towards a **hive** of **bees**.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-DAY

Lucia puts on a **Ventilated Helmet Bee Veil**.

The Teacher steps towards a **Wooden Beehive Box**.

TEACHER
Let's see what we got here.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-CONTINUOUS

DRE
Is it safe for your daughter to be around bees?

ANGELICA (O.C.)
It's never too late for her to learn how to handle herself.

Angelica steps down the stairs.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
(sniff)
I love the smell of fresh coffee in the morning!

Angelica sets the mug down on the table. She sits.

Dre pulls out a pen and her notebook. She flips to a blank page, preparing to write.

DRE
What happened after the dream?

Angelica smiles.

ANGELICA

Married -- She is about to get married. Hell, it's every woman's dream.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN-DAY

Walking through the rows of the *flower bushes*, Quetzal holds the hand of a young man. ACHCAUHTLI, 21. Prince and Quetzal's soon to be husband. Arrogant and smug.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

What can I expect from your mother and father?

ACHCAUHTLI (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

What do you mean?

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Will they like me?

Achcauhtli pulls her close to him. He kisses her.

Quetzal steps back.

ACHCAUHTLI (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

I like you. That's all that matters.

He grabs a hold of her hand and walks.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAINFOREST-NIGHT

Submerged under the water, Quetzal looks down at the ground under the water. A hand grabs a hold of her neck.

Quetzal fights off the hands grabbing at her. Her head bursts up.

QUETZAL

(breath)

Anacaona pulls her to the edge of the stream.

Quetzal falls onto the shore. She looks back at Anacaona.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
 (In Nahuatl)
 What are you doing here!

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 I was saving your life! What are
 you doing here alone!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Swimming.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Aren't you supposed to be sleeping,
 getting some rest for your wedding
 day.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Being alone is what I wanted.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Come on!

Anacaona grabs Quetzal by her arm and pulls her away from the stream.

CUT TO:

EXT. NORTHERN VILLAGE-DAY

Achcauhtli and Quetzal sit across from each other. A **rope** in both their hands, tying a **knot**.

CUT TO:

INT. HUT-NIGHT

In bed together, Achcauhtli lays on top of Quetzal, pressing himself against her.

QUETZAL
 (pant)

Achcauhtli goes back and forth.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
(moan)

Quetzal wraps her arms around his neck and pulls him closer to her. She pulls him against her. Her eyes roll.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
(moan)

CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMID-NIGHT (DREAM SEQUENCE)

At the top of the pyramid, Quetzal steps in circles around the altar. The tip of her finger on the altar. She climbs on to the altar and lies flat on her back.

QUETZAL
(breath)

Her eyes on the stars. Hands reach around Quetzal's neck and legs.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
(scream)

Villagers #1 and #2 hold her down.

VILLAGER #1 (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
Do it!!

Villager #3 climbs onto the altar. She gets on top of Quetzal.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
What is this!

Villager #3 rips her dress off, exposing her stomach. She pulls out a **dagger**.

VILLAGER #3 (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
A sacrifice!

Villager #3 drives the dagger down. She cuts Quetzal's stomach open and reaches down, pulling out her unborn child.

QUETZAL
(scream)

Villager #3 looks at the child.

VILLAGER #3 (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 He has his father's eyes.
 (laugh)

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Staring off into space, Dre looks out the window.

ANGELICA
 To be continued.

Angelica looks at Dre.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 Are you okay over there?

Dre looks at Angelica.

DRE
 Yes.

Dre brushes her fingers through her hair.

ANGELICA
 Kind of a turn on, huh?

DRE
 What?

ANGELICA
 The love making.

DRE
 How can you tell?

ANGELICA
 The way you're touching your hair,
 your mood. A man's touch.

DRE
 I guess.

ANGELICA
 You haven't had a man in a while?

DRE
 No.

ANGELICA
 What happened?

DRE
Work.

ANGELICA
Yours or his?

DRE
Mine.

Dre closes her notebook.

ANGELICA
Deep down, there's something
enticing you down there. Lust or
passion. It's all in here!
(point)

Her fingers point at the temple of Dre's head.

DRE
(blush)

ANGELICA
See you tomorrow.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

Her hand tugs at her pants.

DRE
(breath)

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Rusty sits on his bench, lifting a *forty-five dumbbell*.

A knock on the door.

RUSTY
Coming.
(breath)

Rusty grabs his towel from the bench and wipes the sweat from his head. He steps towards the door and pulls it open.

Dre stands in front of him.

RUSTY (CONT'D)
 Hey, I thought we were --

-- Dre steps towards him and kisses him --

He lifts her up and carries her towards the couch. He lays on top of her.

She pulls her shirt over her head. He kisses her chest.

DRE
 (moan)

She unfastens her **bra** and tosses it to the floor.

He unzips his pants.

Dre yanks her pants down and lays on her stomach.

Rusty gets on top of her. He goes back and forth.

DRE (CONT'D)
 (pant)

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Rusty finishes coloring in the drawing. He sets the pen down.

Dre steps into the office.

DRE
 Hey --

-- Rusty flips the drawing over.

DRE (CONT'D)
 Can I see?

RUSTY
 It's a surprise.

DRE
 Ooh -- I can't wait.

Dre kisses him --

DRE (CONT'D)
 I got to go.

RUSTY
 Call me when you get home.

DRE
Okay.

CUT TO:

INT. ELLA'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

A young girl lies in her bed. ELLA, 10. An attention, energetic young girl.

Dre steps in. She sits on the edge of the bed.

DRE
I know you're awake.

Ella opens her eyes.

She sits up.

ELLA
How was work?

DRE
It was work. Are you hungry?

ELLA
Yes.

DRE
Good. I ordered pizza. Come on!

Ella jumps over Dre and off the bed.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Sitting on the sofa with a sleeping Ella, Dre looks through all the writing she has written in her notebook.

DRE
Queen.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-DAY

As she approaches the door to the study, Dre prepares her mind for the mental state she's going to have to overcome.

Lucia steps in front of Dre.

Dre smiles.

DRE
Hey --

LUCIA
Hey, is for horses!

DRE
Yes.

LUCIA
Do you want to see my horse, Rusty?

DRE
What did you say?

LUCIA
My horse, Rusty, do you want to see
him? Mother bought him for me
yesterday.

DRE
Sure.

ANGELICA (O.C.)
Lucia, darling, stop bothering that
young woman and go tend to Rusty,
please!

Dre looks at Angelica.

LUCIA
As you wish, mother!

Lucia looks at Dre.

LUCIA (CONT'D)
See you later.

Dre glances at Lucia.

DRE
Yeah -- See you later.

Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA
(wave)
Ready when you are.

Dre steps towards the mansion.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Dre sits. She opens her notebook.

DRE
Okay, where were we?

Angelica stands and holds a coffee mug in the tips of her hands.

ANGELICA
Field trip.

DRE
They went on a field trip.

ANGELICA
No. We are.

Dre looks at her with a confused look.

CUT TO:

INT. LIMOUSINE-DAY

In a limousine with Angelica and Lucia, Dre looks out the window.

DRE
Where are we going?

Angelica sticks her finger to her mouth.

ANGELICA
Shh!!

Dre sits back.

DRE
(breath)

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

Angelica pushes the curtain out of the way.

Dre looks at Super Model #1 and #2.

DRE
What's this?

Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA
A fashion show. Guess what?

DRE
What?

ANGELICA
You're in it.

DRE
Me? No.

Angelica lifts a ***cheetah patterned dress***.

Dre looks at the dress with disgust.

DRE (CONT'D)
Seriously?

DRE (CONT'D)
As a heart attack.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

Across the ***catwalk***, Dre walks across.

AGENT, early 30s.

The Agent lowers his sunglasses. He takes a clear look at her.

Angelica sits down next to him.

He leans towards Angelica.

AGENT
How much for a quickie?

Angelica looks him in the eyes. She smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-STUDIO-DAY

The dress falls to the floor.

Dre looks at herself in the mirror.

The door opens.

The Agent steps in and shuts the door.

DRE
Hey -- Get out!

The Agent leans towards her. He caresses her breast with his fingers.

AGENT
Easy -- Okay -- I just want five
minutes alone --

DRE
-- What! Why?

The Agent pulls her panties down. He unbuckles his belt.

DRE (CONT'D)
Five minutes --

AGENT
-- Five minutes.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

Angelica sits by the bathroom door.

DRE (O.S.)
(moan)
(grunt)

AGENT (O.S.)
That's it, baby! Right there!

ANGELICA
(giggle)

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

The Agent zips up his pants.

Dre leans her face towards the sink.

AGENT
You got true potential!

He opens the door and steps out.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

The Agent closes the door.

Angelica holds her hand out.

He hands her a stack of a *hundred-dollar* bills.

The Agent steps away.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

She covers her mouth with the palm of her hands, Dre's eyes water with emotion.

DRE
(sob)
(cry)

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION-DAY

Dre steps away from the limousine.

ANGELICA
Don't you want to stay?

DRE
I got to get home.

Dre steps towards her car.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

Dre leans her head onto the steering wheel.

DRE
(sob)
(cry)

Dre grabs her cell phone from her pocket. She looks at her contacts and selects Rusty's.

RUSTY (V.O.)
Hello?

DRE
Hey, are you busy?

RUSTY (V.O.)
No.

DRE
Can I come over?

RUSTY (V.O.)
Sure.

DRE
Okay. I'll see you in a bit.

RUSTY (V.O.)
Okay.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Rusty opens the door.

A look of sadness on Dre's face.

RUSTY
What's up --

-- Dre starts to faint -- and drops to her knees -- Rusty catches her -- and fights to keep her up -- He shuts the door with the tips of his fingers --

RUSTY (CONT'D)
What's going on!

DRE
Can I sit down?

Rusty sits her down on the couch. He sits with her.

RUSTY
What happened?

DRE
I don't want to talk about it.

Dre wipes her face.

RUSTY
What can I do then?

DRE
Can we stay here tonight? I can't
be in my apartment right now. Not
alone. It's not safe for Ella.

RUSTY
Sure.

Dre lies back.

RUSTY (CONT'D)
Come on.

Rusty stands up. He lifts Dre off the couch.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Rusty lays Dre down on the bed. He covers her with the
comforter.

DRE
Would you go and pick up Ella for
me?

RUSTY
Yes.

Rusty leans down and kisses her on the forehead.

DRE
Thank you -- For

RUSTY
Shh!! Sleep now.

DRE
Okay.

Rusty steps out of the bedroom.

CUT TO:

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-DAY

Ella stands on the front steps of the elementary school. She looks around for Dre.

RUSTY (O.C.)
Ella!

Ella looks at Rusty.

ELLA
Who are you?

RUSTY
I'm a friend of your moms.

ELLA
Prove it?

RUSTY
Smart girl -- Umm -- How do I prove it?

ELLA
What's the last thing she said to you?

RUSTY
Okay.

ELLA
No. The last thing she said to you!

RUSTY
That was it. Okay.

ELLA
Okay.

RUSTY
Right this way.

Rusty steps towards the passenger door of his car. He opens it for Ella.

ELLA
Thanks.

Ella sits down.

Rusty shuts the passenger door. He steps towards the driver side door.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

DRE
(breath)

Dre sits up. She looks around.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

The door opens.

Ella steps in.

ELLA
Mom!!

Dre steps into the living room. She smiles.

Rusty walks in. He shuts and locks the door. Rusty raises up a bag of takeout.

RUSTY
I got chinese!

DRE
Thank you.

RUSTY
Your welcome.

Ella sits on the floor and digs through her backpack.

Dre steps towards Rusty. She kisses him.

RUSTY (CONT'D)
Wow!

CUT TO:

INT. SPARE BEDROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-NIGHT

Comfortable and asleep, Ella rests underneath the **comforter**.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-DAY

Nestled up close together, Dre kisses Rusty.

Rusty rests his head back against the headboard.

RUSTY
Wow!

DRE
(laugh)
I feel the same.

RUSTY
(laugh)

Dre leans herself on Rusty's chest.

RUSTY (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

DRE
More than okay.

RUSTY
Do you want to stay the night
tomorrow?

DRE
I'm sure you want your place back.

Rusty kisses her.

RUSTY
I want you here. No doubt.

Dre rests her head on his chest again.

DRE
(breath)

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

At the second floor of the study, Angelica sips on her coffee from her mug.

ANGELICA
(slurp)

Angelica steps down the stairs. She walks towards the table and sees Dre sitting.

Dre looks at her.

Angelica smiles.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
I was starting to think you weren't
going to show up!

DRE
You obviously don't know me.

Angelica sits down.

Dre opens her notebook. She grabs a pen.

DRE (CONT'D)
So -- Where were we?

Angelica thinks to herself.

ANGELICA
Oh yeah, life after marriage.

CUT TO:

INT. HUT-NIGHT

QUETZAL
(breath)
(pant)

NURSE, early 20s.

NURSE (SUBTITLE)
(In Nahuatl)
One more push!!

QUETZAL
(scream)
(breath)

The Nurse lifts the newborn up and hands it to Quetzal.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
(laugh)

CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMID-NIGHT

Quetzal holds the newborn close to her chest.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 All this will be yours one day! My
 beautiful son!

CUT TO:

EXT/INT. HUT-NIGHT

Achcauhtli stares at Quetzal. Deep in his mind, he knows that a child can't be reproduced that fast unless Quetzal committed adultery.

ACHCAUHTLI
 Hmm --

CUT TO:

EXT. RAINFOREST-DAY

Deep into the river, Quetzal dips her head into the water. She raises her head up.

QUETZAL
 (breath)

Achcauhtli steps towards her.

ACHCAUHTLI (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 My beautiful queen!

Quetzal touches his chest and leans in for a kiss. Achcauhtli moves his head away from hers.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 What?

ACHCAUHTLI (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 The gods told me that you bared
 another man's son!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 You're listening to the wrong god.

Achcauhtli grips his hands around her throat.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
 (breath)

Quetzal looks at the *knife* on his belt. She grabs it and drives it into his midsection.

ACHCAUHTLI

Ahh!!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

He will be king!!

Achcauhtli drops to his knees. He looks her in the eyes.

Quetzal backs away.

He falls to the water, dead.

Quetzal runs to the waterfall. She washes herself with the water.

CUT TO:

INT. HUT-DAY

She paces back and forth.

Anacaona steps into the hut.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

You called for me?

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

He's dead!

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Who!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Achcauhtli!

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

How'd that happen?

Quetzal steps towards the wall.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

He accused me of adultery!

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 What do we do?

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Act natural.

Quetzal grabs Anacaona by her shoulders.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
 (In Nahuatl)
 Whatever happens -- Take care of my
 son!

Quetzal hugs Anacaona.

ANGELICA (V.O.)
 That was their bound, taking care
 of each other. Being sisters.
 Having each other. It's beautiful,
 don't you think?

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Angelica sips the last bit of her coffee from the mug. She stands up.

ANGELICA
 That's it for today.

Dre closes the notebook.

Angelica steps towards the steps to the second floor of the study.

Dre stands up. She grabs her notebook.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 Dre?

Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 It's coming to that breaking point.

DRE
 Okay.

Angelica watches the door close. She smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-DAY

Dre looks back at the mansion.

DRE
(breath)

Dre runs into Lucia.

Lucia falls to the ground.

DRE (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry!

Dre leans down. She reaches her hand out.

Lucia grabs a hold.

Dre pulls her up to her feet.

DRE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry.

LUCIA
I'm fine. Thanks.

Dre steps away.

LUCIA (CONT'D)
I'll see you tomorrow then!

DRE
You bet!

ANGELICA (O.C.)
Lucia, it's time for your studies!!

LUCIA
Coming, mother!!

Lucia rushes towards the door.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-NIGHT

Dre lays in the bathtub, soaking herself in the warm water.

Rusty steps into the bathroom. He grabs a towel.

DRE
How's Ella?

RUSTY
She's fine. She's in the living
room, doing her homework.

Dre stands up.

Rusty wraps the towel around her. He lifts her up.

DRE
Whoa!

RUSTY
What?

DRE
Nothing. I just like it when you
take charge.

Rusty steps out of the bathroom with Dre in his arms.

She kisses him on the cheek.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Rusty walks into the bedroom, carrying Dre in.

The door shuts.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Ella looks at the hallway.

ELLA
Mommy!

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Across from Lucia at the dinner table, Angelica takes a sip
from a wine glass.

Lucia cuts into the **steak** on her plate.

Angelica stares at the steak, going into a daze. She smiles.

Lucia looks at Angelica.

LUCIA
Mother?

Angelica continues to look off into space.

LUCIA (CONT'D)
Mother!!

Angelica looks at Lucia.

ANGELICA
What!

LUCIA
Are you alright?

ANGELICA (SUBTITLE)
(In Spanish)
I'm fine darling.

Angelica cuts into her steak. She takes a bite.

CUT TO:

INT. ELLA'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Rusty carries Ella into her bedroom. He lies her down and covers her with her blanket.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Rusty crouches down. He kisses Angelica on the cheek.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-NIGHT

Rusty sits at his desk. He sketches out a drawing of Quetzal.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS

Dre opens her eyes. She sits up.

DRE
Rusty!

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-NIGHT

Rusty fills in the last spot of his drawing with a **blue metallic plumage** color.

RUSTY
(breath)

Rusty stacks the drawing with the rest of his drawings. He sticks them into a **cardboard box**. He lifts a big piece of the floorboard up. He lays the cardboard box into the hole. Rusty sets the floorboard down.

Rusty stands up. He steps towards the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-RUSTY'S LOFT APARTMENT-NIGHT

Rusty dries his hair. He wraps the towel around his neck.

The Bodyguard stands behind Rusty. He grips both of his hands onto the towel.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD-MANSION-DAY

From her car to the front door of the mansion, Dre holds her cell phone to her ear. She ends the call.

DRE
Where are you!

ANGELICA
Right here!

Angelica stands in front of her.

Dre slides her cell phone into the back pocket of her pants.

DRE

Hi.

ANGELICA

Good morning! Shall we!

Angelica turns around and walks towards the mansion.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Angelica sits, her coffee mug in the grip of her hands.

Dre opens her notebook.

DRE

So, what happened after the oldest
killed her husband?

ANGELICA

It didn't take long to find him,
but the village knew who he was
with before he died.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAINFOREST-DAY

Quetzal runs. She looks back.

QUETZAL

(breath)

She falls to the ground and rolls.

VILLAGER #3

(yell)

Quetzal gets up. She runs.

VILLAGER #1 (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Get her!!

Quetzal stops at the edge of a cliff.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIVER-DAY

Across the river, Anacaona steps through the water. She ducks.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)

Shh!!

(In Nahuatl)

Almost there little one.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAINFOREST-DAY

Villager #1 rushes towards Quetzal.

Quetzal slices his face.

VILLAGER #1 (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Come here, witch!!

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

He will avenge me!!

Quetzal walks off the edge and drops to her death.

Villagers #1 and #2 step to the edge.

VILLAGER #2 (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

What do we do about her?

VILLAGER #1 (SUBTITLE)

(In Nahuatl)

Let her rot!

Blood streams from her body. Her eyes stare up at the sky.

The Devil steps over her. She grabs a hold of her hand and drags her away from her lifeless body.

QUETZAL

(scream)

CUT TO:

EXT. SHIP-NIGHT

Anacaona stands on the deck. She rocks the infant.

ANACAONA (SUBTITLE)

Shh!!

(In Nahuatl)

I got you baby.

DRE (V.O.)

And the sister?

ANGELICA (V.O.)

She made it. Her and the boy.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL YARD-ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-DAY

Underneath a tree, Ella sits, writing her name in the dirt with a **popsicle stick**. A swarm of **honeybees** surround her.

ANGELICA (V.O.)

Come on, I got something that will make the story more interesting.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-DAY

Angelica pushes a door open. She steps in.

ANGELICA

Are you coming or not!

Dre stands up. She grabs her notebook.

Angelica steps aside.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Ladies first.

Dre steps in.

Angelica steps in and shuts the door.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-MANSION-DAY

DRE

I can't see where we're going!

A flame appears from a **lighter**. Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA
Come on, we're almost there.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-HOSPITAL-DAY

PARAMEDICS #1 and #2, early 20s.

Paramedic #1 pushes the gurney with Ella.

PARAMEDIC #1
Almost there!!

CUT TO:

INT. HEIRLOOM ROOM-DAY

Lights of *flames* light up the ceiling.

Dre looks around. She steps towards the *murals* on the walls.

A mural of Quetzal with her infant son.

DRE
This is her.

Dre steps towards another mural. Her eyes in amazement.

ANGELICA
Her son.

Dre looks back at Angelica.

To another mural, Dre looks at it. The person not familiar to her.

DRE
And him?

ANGELICA
Oh, I got you confused. Not even the great Dre Lopez recognizes a man of many talents. My grandfather, Nick Valens. Do you care to know what he did?

DRE
Yes.

Angelica looks at the mural. She hits the *play button* underneath the *monitor screen*.

MONITOR SCREEN

At the POOLSIDE of a MOTEL, NICK VALENS cleans the pool as RACHEL watches him.

ANGELICA (V.O.)

Rachel was an escort and like all escorts, they have a pimp. Do you know what he does?

DRE (V.O.)

What?

ANGELICA (V.O.)

He has sex with her. I mean the kind that makes you not want to stop.

Nick pile drives himself deep into Rachel.

ANGELICA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Months pass, and the escort gets out of rehab. Weeks turn into months; Nick is living with her. She gets pregnant and they have a girl.

Angry XANDER yells at the sky.

ANGELICA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Do you know what happens next?

DRE (V.O.)

No?

ANGELICA (V.O.)

Xander gives Rachel a hot dose.

Rachel crashes her car on the street.

ANGELICA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Rather than going himself, Xander hires an assassin.

A girl stands in the BACKYARD, her knife in Nick's back.

BACK TO SCENE

Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA

Pretty crazy but it happened. Our family history is not written in any books. If you look to your left, you'll see a woman suffering the similar fate.

Angelica hits the play button under the mural of NICOLA.

MONITOR SCREEN

Nicola sits on her knees. ROMAN and HAYLEY stand behind Nicola. Hayley fires a shot into Nicola's head, killing her instantly.

ANGELICA (V.O.)

Two women, fighting for the affection of a man. A man that got them both pregnant. Need I say sisters!

BACK TO SCENE

ANGELICA

(point)

My mother, Nicola!

Angelica steps towards a mural of SHELLY.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Ready for the big finale!

(point)

My aunt Shelly!! You're teacher!!

Dre looks at the mural.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

His first child.

MONITOR SCREEN

Nick sits and watches a ballerina dance around. Brittney looks at him.

ANGELICA (V.O.)

His first true love. A girl with a dream to dance.

Brittney walks the streets and is almost hit by a car. Brittney hits her head and falls unconscious.

ANGELICA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Her mother learns that she's
 pregnant. Want to know what she
 does?

DRE (V.O.)
 Yeah?

ANGELICA (V.O.)
 She gives the baby up for adoption,
 selling her for a hefty price.
 Turns out, the adoptive father
 takes her and leaves her in the
 middle of nowhere.

Shelly rolls dice.

ANGELICA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Shelly became a street hustler and
 took all the kid's lunch money. A
 cunning and cool woman.

BACK TO SCENE

DRE
 (sob)

ANGELICA
 It hits a soft spot in your heart,
 doesn't it?

DRE
 Yes.

Angelica steps towards Hayley's mural.

ANGELICA
 The black sheep of the family,
 Nick's second daughter.

DRE
 Second?

ANGELICA
 History has a way of repeating
 itself. Especially with Quetzal!

Dre looks at Hayley and then at Angelica.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 You killed Quetzal! My sister.

DRE

What?

ANGELICA

Who do you think gave her all that power while your brother was away. I did! Who do you think taught her to fight? Me!!

Angelica looks at her watch.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Wow! Times a wasting! You better hurry. Ella's all by herself in the hospital.

Dre rushes towards the hallway.

ANGELICA (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Good luck!

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-HOSPITAL-DAY

Dre rushes down the hallway. She turns every corner, trying to make it to the front desk.

RECEPTIONIST, early 30s.

Dre stops at the front desk.

DRE

Where's Ella Johnson!!

The Receptionist looks on the list of patients.

RECEPTIONIST

She's in the ICU.

DRE

Thank you!

Dre rushes down the hallway.

DOCTOR, early 40s.

Dre stops at the door. She sees the name Ella on the **white board**.

The Doctor steps out of the room. He looks at Dre.

DOCTOR
Hello?

DRE
Doctor, is Ella alright?

DOCTOR
Are you her mother?

DRE
Yes.

DOCTOR
I'm afraid your daughter's in a
coma.

Dre drops to her knees.

The Doctor catches her.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Come on! Let me help you up.

The Doctor grabs a chair from the room. He sets it next to
her.

Dre pushes herself up on it.

DRE
(sob)
What happened?

DOCTOR
There was an enormous amount of bee
stings.

Dre looks at the Doctor. She puts the pieces together.

DRE
Bee's?

Dre's eyes wander.

Her cell phone vibrates.

Dre grabs her cell phone from her pocket and answers it. She
puts it to her ear.

DRE (CONT'D)
What!

PAUL (V.O.)
You might want to get down here!!

DRE

Okay.

Dre ends the call.

DRE (CONT'D)

I'll be right back doctor.

Dre stands up. She walks down the hallway.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

He ends the call and sets his cell phone down on the desk.

PAUL

She's on her way.

Angelica turns to him as she sits in the desk chair.

ANGELICA

Good. It'll be more fun.

Angelica stands up. She steps towards Paul.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

What's the matter, Paul, you don't look happy!

She grabs him by the groin.

PAUL

Ugh!

Angelica smiles. She looks back at Super Model #1 and #2.

ANGELICA

Good thing I brought them to do the dirty work.

She steps aside.

Super Model #1 removes her shirt. She drops to her knees and unzips his pants.

Super Model #2 unbuttons his shirt. She rips it off.

Angelica sits.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Dre steps into the office. She walks towards Paul's office door.

WORKER #1 and #2, early 30s.

DRE
What the hell is going on!!

WORKER #1
Dre?

Dre looks at Worker #1.

DRE
What!

Worker #1 steps towards Dre.

WORKER #1
You might want to sit down.

DRE
I got to talk to Paul!

WORKER #1
Rusty's dead.

DRE
What!

WORKER #1
They found him dead this morning.

Dre steps towards the door. She keeps herself up from falling to the floor.

DRE
(sob)

Dre closes her eyes. She knocks gently.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Paul opens the door.

Dre steps in. She looks and sees Angelica.

ANGELICA
So good to have you! Welcome!

DRE
What's going on!

ANGELICA
Ladies, please excuse us!

Super Model #1 and #2 step out of the office.

Paul shuts the door.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Lock that door!

Paul locks the deadbolt.

DRE
What is this!

ANGELICA
You have permission to speak, Paul.

PAUL
I'm --

DRE
-- What!

PAUL
I'm not your boss anymore. She is.

Dre steps towards Angelica.

DRE
I'm going to --

ANGELICA
You touch me and I'll sue you for
every dime in your fucking bank
account!

Angelica pulls out a **whip** and slaps her across the face.

Dre falls to the floor.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Help her up!

Paul leans down and pulls her up.

DRE
Get off me!

Dre leans herself onto the desk.

ANGELICA
I don't know why you put your
clothes back on, Paul!

PAUL
What do you mean?

ANGELICA
Strip! The both of you!!

DRE
You want us to take off our
clothes?

ANGELICA
Did I stutter!

Dre leans down and takes off her shoes. She lifts her shirt
up.

Paul unbuttons his shirt and drops it to the floor. He unzips
his pants.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Hurry up!!

Paul kicks his pants off along with his shoes.

Dre unfastens her bra and lets it drop to the floor.

Angelica looks at Dre and Paul.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Everything!

Dre drops her panties to the floor.

Paul drops his boxers.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Whoa! Somebody's hard!
(wave)
I'm getting hot flashes now!

Angelica stands up. She steps towards the window.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Now, do me the honors of fucking
her.

Paul looks at Dre and then back at Angelica.

PAUL
What?

She steps towards Paul.

ANGELICA
(point)
Put that in her!!

Angelica steps towards Dre. She leans her mouth towards her ear.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Present the position!!

Dre backs up onto the desk. She lifts her legs.

Angelica pushes him towards Dre.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Do it!!

Paul steps towards her.

Angelica steps between Paul and Dre.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Oh!!

Angelica pulls out her cell phone.

PHONE SCREEN

The live icon goes on.

BACK TO SCENE

Angelica zooms in on Paul.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Isn't that the biggest dick you
ever seen!

Paul leans himself towards her.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
See that go in!!

DRE
(moan)

ANGELICA
Oh!! You hit the spot big boy!!

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-CONTINUOUS

Workers #1 and #2 look at the TV screen.

TV SCREEN

Paul goes back and forth.

DRE
(pant)

ANGELICA
Who needs cable when you can watch
it right here!!

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-CONTINUOUS

PAUL
(grunt)

Angelica leans her head on his shoulder.

ANGELICA
That's a work of sweat big boy!
Don't worry, I'm sure your wife
will forgive you!!

Angelica backs away.

Paul backs away from Dre.

Dre drops to the floor.

DRE
(sob)

Angelica turns the phone to face her.

ANGELICA
And that's show business everyone!!
Kiss, kiss!!

Angelica ends the live on her phone.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Now, if you would excuse me, I got
a lot of work to do!

Angelica crouches down. She grabs a hold of Dre's hair.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 If you think that's bad, take my
 word for it. I'll have the cartel
 fuck you and cut your head off!!
 (snap finger)
 Like that!!

Angelica lets go.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-CONTINUOUS

Angelica steps out into the office.

Worker #1 looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA
 What the fuck are you looking at!!
 Do you want some too!

Worker #1 steps away.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 Jeez!! You can't find good help
 these days.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-CONTINUOUS

Dre grabs her panties and bra.

PAUL
 I'm sorry --

DRE
 Shut up, please!

PAUL
 I -- never --

DRE
 (cry)

Paul slides his boxers up to his waist.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Dre washes her face. She looks at herself in the mirror.

Paul steps in.

PAUL
Dre?

DRE
I'm warning you, get away!

PAUL
I know someone that could help.

DRE
Who?

PAUL
He's a police detective.

DRE
Who?

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH-DAY

Dre sits on a bench. She looks at her cell phone.

A man steps towards the bench and sits alongside of Dre.
NICHOLAS, 37. Police detective. A repressed man with a lot of weight on his shoulders.

Dre looks at him.

NICHOLAS
Don't look at me!

Dre looks straight ahead.

DRE
Can --

NICHOLAS
Shut up!!

Nicholas looks around.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
What do you want?

DRE
It's Angelica.

NICHOLAS
Goodbye --

Nicholas stands up --

DRE
-- Please!!

Nicholas sits.

NICHOLAS
What do you know about me?

DRE
I know you're her brother.

NICHOLAS
You don't know shit!! Nothing!

DRE
My daughter's in a coma, my
boyfriends dead! This is a losing
battle for me.

Nicholas's eyes water.

DRE (CONT'D)
If you had a chance to do
something, don't you wish you did
it for your little girl.

Nicholas grabs a hold of his knees.

NICHOLAS
Go be with your little girl.

Nicholas stands up. He steps away.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
We'll be in touch.

Dre stands up. She turns and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Angelica sits at her desk, her feet up.

PHONE SCREEN

Paul goes back and forth.

BACK TO SCENE

ANGELICA
A hundred million views! Yes!!

A knock on the door.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Yes!

The door opens. Worker #1 opens the door.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
What do you want?

WORKER #1
Your brother wanted to meet you for lunch.

ANGELICA
Where?

WORKER #1
At his home.

Angelica grabs her purse and stands up.

ANGELICA
Call the driver, please and thank you!

Angelica steps out of the office.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK YARD-SMITH RESIDENCE-DAY

Across from each other, Angelica looks at the woman between Nicholas and her. CARMEN, 35. A police detective. Humble and kind.

A cry comes from inside the house.

CARMEN
Excuse me, please?

Carmen stands up and steps into the house.

ANGELICA
So, what's happening?

NICHOLAS
What's going on with you?

ANGELICA
What?

NICHOLAS
Don't play dumb, you know.

ANGELICA
Oh, you mean the video. Yeah, I did what I had to.

NICHOLAS
Humiliating a woman to the public,
is that really the message you want
to send?

ANGELICA
Hey!! I did what was right!

NICHOLAS
No!! You destroyed her, publicly.
What would Shelly think?

ANGELICA
Shelly's not here.

Angelica stands up.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
I appreciate the lunch big brother,
I really do. Take care.

Angelica steps away from the table.

NICHOLAS
Angelica!

Angelica looks at him in the corner of her eye.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
I can't protect you. From this day
forth, you're on your own.

ANGELICA
Goodbye, Nicholas.

Angelica steps away.

Nicholas looks up at the sky.

NICHOLAS
(breath)

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-DAY

Dre opens her eyes.

A hand brushes through her hair.

ELLA (O.C.)
Mommy?

Dre looks at Ella.

DRE
Baby!!

Dre gets onto the bed. She hugs Ella with all her strength.

DRE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry baby.

Dre looks at Ella.

Ella kisses Dre on the forehead.

The Doctor steps into the room with a woman. SOCIAL WORKER,
early 30s.

DOCTOR
Mrs. Lopez?

Dre looks at the Doctor and the Social Worker.

DRE
Can we have a word with you,
please?

DRE (CONT'D)
Sure.

Dre gets off the bed.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-HOSPITAL-DAY

DOCTOR
I'm sorry Mrs. Lopez --

DRE
It's Miss.

DOCTOR
Ms. Lopez, the staff is concerned
for Ella's wellbeing. We think
maybe that she should spend --

DRE
You're not taking my daughter away
-- Get that out of your heads!

DOCTOR
Just think of what this is doing to
her --

DRE
She's, my daughter!! Got it!!

The Doctor and the Social Worker step away.
Feeling a lot of anger, Dre punches the wall.

CUT TO:

INT. WAITING ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

Dre sits in the waiting room. She stares down at the floor.
Nicholas steps towards Dre.

NICHOLAS
Hey.

DRE
They want to take her away from me
-- They think I'm an unfit mother.

Nicholas sits. He clutches his hands together.

NICHOLAS
There's nothing I can do.

DRE
What can I do then?

NICHOLAS
Get yourself a good lawyer.

DRE
I can't afford a lawyer.

NICHOLAS
I know someone.

DRE
Thank you.

NICHOLAS
Your welcome.

Nicholas thinks to himself.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
How did you get involved with
Angelica?

DRE
I was writing a story about her.

NICHOLAS
Story?

DRE
About your ancestors.

NICHOLAS
(laugh)

DRE
Why is that so funny?

NICHOLAS
Because that's how she duked you
and your editor. Who gave you that
idea?

DRE
My boyfriend --

-- Dre thinks to herself.

NICHOLAS
-- Angie knows how to pick them.

DRE
Bitch!

Nicholas stands up.

NICHOLAS
I'll be in touch.

DRE
Thanks.

NICHOLAS

Good night.

Nicholas turns around and walks away. He looks at Dre.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

His hands tied to the **bed posts** of the **bed frame**; Paul lies in bed, unconscious.

ANGELICA

(moan)
(grunt)

Angelica goes up and down.

Paul opens his eyes. He looks at Angelica. Horrified and disturbed by Angelica having sex with him while he's sleeping.

PAUL

Where's my wife!!

ANGELICA

Cheryl? She's here.

Angelica looks at a woman sitting on the floor. CHERYL, 40. A homemaker. Humble but thinking about divorce at this very moment.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Mind if I fuck your husband's
brains out for a minute? Okay.

Angelica goes faster.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

(moan)
Someone's eager to come!

PAUL

(grunt)

She slows down.

ANGELICA

What did you tell my brother?

PAUL

Nothing!

She goes faster again.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Stop!!

ANGELICA

Remember, I can come in here
anytime and do this again! Fuck it,
I'll finish!

Angelica goes faster.

PAUL

(grunt)

ANGELICA

(moan)
(pant)

Angelica gets off him. She looks at Cheryl.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Good to know that there's two women
that can make him come!
(laugh)

Angelica grabs her panties and slides them up. She puts her
collared shirt on, covering her nice firm breast.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

I got to go. After all, it is a
school night.

Angelica blows him a kiss.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

See you at work!

CUT TO:

INT. LIMOUSINE-NIGHT

The back passenger door opens.

Angelica sits down and shuts the door.

ANGELICA

Worked like a charm.

Rusty smiles.

RUSTY

I knew it would.

Angelica hops onto his lap. She kisses him on the cheek.

ANGELICA
Great job!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

A loud knock on the door.

Dre opens her eyes. She sits up.

DRE
Coming!

A louder knock.

DRE (CONT'D)
I said I'm coming!

Dre steps towards the door. She unlocks it and pulls it open.

Nicholas stands in front of her.

She looks at him with a surprised look on her face.

NICHOLAS
Coffee?

DRE
Sure. Come in.

Nicholas steps in. He sets the cups of coffee down on the table.

NICHOLAS
Here!

Nicholas sets a card down on the table.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
For the lawyer. I talked to him for you. He has your daughter's room off limits to visitors, especially social workers.

DRE
Thank you.

NICHOLAS
Everything's confidential.

Nicholas grabs a cup of coffee.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Now, if you would excuse me.

Nicholas steps out.

DRE
How can I ever thank you?

NICHOLAS
Let's just call it even. I have a
little girl. Take care, okay.

DRE
I will, thank you.

Nicholas steps away from the door. Dre closes the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

Nicholas walks across.

Angelica and the Bodyguard stand in front of Nicholas.

ANGELICA
So, you decided to be her knight in
shining armor. How cute!

Nicholas looks at the Bodyguard.

NICHOLAS
Tell your boy here if he ever wants
to smile right, he better stop mean
mugging me!

BODYGUARD
Try it!

Nicholas turns away. He slugs the Bodyguard across the face.

The Bodyguard falls to the ground.

Nicholas kicks him across the mouth.

The Bodyguard drops to the ground, unconscious from the hard
blow to the head.

Nicholas steps past Angelica. He glances at the damage he's
done to the Bodyguard.

NICHOLAS

Told you!!

Angelica looks at Nicholas. She looks at the Bodyguard.

ANGELICA

Ah, shit!

Angelica opens the door. She sits.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

Dre looks outside the window. She turns around and walks away.

DRE

What did I get myself into.

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-DAY

Dre lies on the bed with Ella.

ELLA

Mommy?

DRE

Yes?

ELLA

When can I go home?

DRE

Soon. Okay.

ELLA

Okay.

Dre kisses her on the forehead.

DRE

Now, sleep.

Ella closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. HEIRLOOM ROOM-DAY

Angelica sits on the floor, looking through her heirlooms. She picks up a **glass tube** of **sand**.

ANGELICA
Mexico -- hmm --

CUT TO:

EXT. BOARDWALK-DAY-FLASHBACK

A young woman stands in front of the ocean. ANGELICA, 17. A senior high school student. Dark wavy hair, brown eyes. A young woman with eagerness to learn and a driven attitude.

She turns around and starts walking.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH-DAY

To her knees, Angelica dips a glass tube into the sand of the beach. She stands up.

ANGELICA
Wonderful!

A young boy steps towards her. He takes a **polaroid picture** of her. The light flashes and blinds her for a second. POLAROID BOY, 12.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Ahh!

POLAROID BOY (SUBTITLE)
(In Spanish)
I'm sorry miss.

ANGELICA (SUBTITLE)
(In Spanish)
It's fine.

A girl steps behind Angelica. PURSE GIRL, 8.

The Purse Girl cuts the strap and runs off with the purse.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Hey!!

POLAROID BOY (SUBTITLE)
 (In Spanish)
 Run!!

Angelica runs after her.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

The Purse Girl runs and hits every corner.

ANGELICA
 Come here you little shit!!

The Purse Girl grabs a couple of **oranges** from a **fruit stand**.

PURSE GIRL
 (throw)

An orange hits Angelica on the head.

ANGELICA
 Ahh!!

The Purse Girl runs into an alley.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
 Got you now!

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY-DAY

The Purse Girl looks around the alley. No where else to go.

Angelica steps into the alley. She grips her hands into a fist.

ANGELICA
 I got you now!!

A teenage girl steps out, holding a bat in her hand. Quetzal, 19. A street hustler. Manipulative and cunning.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE)
 (In Spanish)
 Problem?

ANGELICA
 She took my property!

Quetzal looks at the Purse Girl.

QUETZAL
Give it back.

She looks at Quetzal's green eyes.

QUETZAL (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
(In Spanish)
Now!!

The Purse Girl hands it back to Angelica.

Angelica takes it.

ANGELICA
Thanks.

QUETZAL
Now you have your property back.
Go!

Quetzal turns around. She steps away.

ANGELICA
Wait!!

QUETZAL
What?

ANGELICA
You're the only person that speaks
English here.

QUETZAL
Is it that obvious.

Quetzal takes three steps. She stops.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)
Are you hungry?

ANGELICA
Starved.

QUETZAL
Come on!

Angelica follows Quetzal.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

Angelica takes a bite from a *tamale*.

ANGELICA

I never had tamales before.

Quetzal looks at her, feeling like she's eating with a person that came from under a rock.

QUETZAL

Are you some kind of alien or something.

ANGELICA

I'm just a girl from America that doesn't eat Mexican food that often.

QUETZAL

(laugh)

Quetzal takes a bite.

QUETZAL (CONT'D)

It's alright. I don't see a lot of white girls eating them that often either.

ANGELICA

I'm not white.

QUETZAL

Really? I thought you were.

ANGELICA

I came to see where my parents died.

QUETZAL

Really?

ANGELICA

Yes. My mother met my father here. They were in love at first sight.

Quetzal looks around.

QUETZAL

Who was your father?

ANGELICA

Ramon Santiago.

QUETZAL
Ramon's your father?

ANGELICA
Yes. Why?

QUETZAL
He's my father too.

ANGELICA
You got to be fucking kidding me!

Quetzal leans towards Angelica. She touches Angelica's face.

QUETZAL
So, we're sisters then?

ANGELICA
I guess we are.

QUETZAL
(laugh)

CUT TO:

INT. COURTYARD-COMPOUND-DAY

Angelica runs up the steps.

Quetzal hops over the **fence**. She backflips over the fence.

ANGELICA
Cheater!!

QUETZAL
(laugh)

Angelica runs to the ledge and looks at the ocean.

ANGELICA
(breath)

QUETZAL
(breath)
So, I guess you're going back
tomorrow.

ANGELICA
Yes.

QUETZAL
Too bad.

ANGELICA
You can go too.

QUETZAL
No, I can't.

ANGELICA
Sure, you can. All you need to do
is go for a green card.

QUETZAL
America isn't my home. I have all
these kids that I would be leaving
behind. I can't do that.

ANGELICA
Bring them.

Angelica reaches into her pocket and pulls out a *wad* of *cash*.

Quetzal looks at the wad.

QUETZAL
I don't want your money.

Angelica hands it to her.

ANGELICA
Take it. Please?

Quetzal takes it.

QUETZAL
Thanks.

Angelica wraps her arm around her back.

CUT TO:

INT. HEIRLOOM ROOM-BACK TO PRESENT

The tube of sand reflects in her eyes.

Rusty steps towards Angelica.

RUSTY
What do you have there?

ANGELICA
Sand from the beach in Mexico.

Rusty crouches down. He leans his mouth towards hers and
kisses her neck.

RUSTY

Cool.

Rusty puts his hands underneath her skirt and pulls down her panties.

ANGELICA

You better fuck me fast.

Rusty yanks his pants down. He pushes himself against her.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

(grunt)

He goes back and forth.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-APARTMENT COMPLEX-NIGHT

Dre steps towards her apartment door. A paper on the door. It reads: Eviction Notice! Cease and desist.

Dre rips the note off.

DRE

Okay. I'm sorry but now I have to kill you.

LANDLORD, early 50s.

The Landlord steps towards Dre.

Dre looks at him.

LANDLORD

I'm sorry, you're a good woman but someone made me an offer.

DRE

Who?

LANDLORD

A lady. Real beautiful.

DRE

What did you do?

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-DAY-FLASHBACK

The Landlord lies on the bed.

Angelica goes up and down.

ANGELICA
Nice and tight!!

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-APARTMENT COMPLEX-BACK TO PRESENT

DRE
I see. You get a piece of ass and
I'm out on mine. Got to go!

Dre steps past the Landlord.

LANDLORD
I'm sorry.

DRE
Don't be. Be sorry for what I'm
about to do to her!

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Her hand on the steering wheel, Dre pushes her foot on the gas pedal.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-POLICE DEPARTMENT-NIGHT

At his desk, avoiding answering the phone, Nicholas grabs the receiver. He puts it to his ear.

NICHOLAS
Hello?

DRE (V.O.)
Nicholas?

NICHOLAS
Dre? What's going on?

DRE (V.O.)
Oh, I'm just on my way to your
sister's house.

NICHOLAS
What?

DRE (V.O.)
I'm about to kill her.

Nicholas stands up.

NICHOLAS
Think of what you're about to do,
okay?

DRE (V.O.)
I am. This is just easier.

NICHOLAS
Think of your daughter!

DRE (V.O.)
I am! Take care of Ella for me,
please.

Dre ends the call and tosses her cell phone to the back seat.
She looks at the white dress resting on the passenger seat.

Dre turns the car onto a secluded area. She parks the car and
turns off the ignition.

DRE
Here we go!

Dre lifts her shirt over her head.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION-DAY

A line full of PARTYGOERS.

Dre gets in the line. The white dress and a **redheaded wig** on.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Dre steps past the SERVANTS #1 and #2.

SERVANT

Drink?

Dre takes the drink.

DRE

Thanks.

(sip)

Dre steps towards the study. She looks around.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY-MANSION-NIGHT

Rusty sits at the table, sketching a drawing.

Dre steps into the study.

Rusty looks back at her.

RUSTY

Are you lost.

DRE

No.

Dre pulls the wig off her head.

Rusty stands up. His arms up.

RUSTY

People know I'm down here.

DRE

Their too drunk to care.

RUSTY

Calm down.

DRE

You really have to be careful who
you fuck with. Especially when
their daughter's wellbeing is on
the line.

Rusty runs.

Dre reaches down and throws a **butter knife** at him. It hits him in the back.

RUSTY

Ahh!!

DRE
Hurts, don't it?

RUSTY
Yes!!

DRE
Imagine those bee stings.

Dre grabs him by the back of his jacket. She pulls him towards the door to the heirloom room.

DRE (CONT'D)
Field trip time!

Dre opens the door. She kicks him in the butt.

DRE (CONT'D)
Go!!

CUT TO:

INT. HEIRLOOM ROOM-NIGHT

Rusty crawls in the dark.

The flames on the ceiling light up.

DRE
You helped her build this.

RUSTY
Yes.

DRE
(clap)
Nice.

Dre pulls him up.

DRE (CONT'D)
Don't worry, I'm not going to kill you!

RUSTY
Really!

DRE
Gravity is!

Dre pushes him onto his back with the butter knife sticking out. The knife entering his torso.

RUSTY
(breath)

Rusty looks at her.

Dre looks away.

He turns his head and dies.

ANGELICA
Rusty!!!

Angelica steps into the room. She looks at Rusty's body.
Horrified. She looks around.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Tell me, was it easy for you to put
a butter knife in him like it was
for Quetzal.

DRE (V.O.)
It was easy.

ANGELICA
Didn't you learn from the law, you
broke an entry. Burglary is a
serious offense.

DRE (V.O.)
Not when you have a houseguest that
brought me in!

Angelica looks around.

ANGELICA
So, what, you came to try and kill
me!

DRE (V.O.)
I'm hoping we could work it out but
you're too arrogant to reason with.

ANGELICA
(wave)
No one's stopping you. Come on!!

DRE
My pleasure!!!

Dre jumps onto Angelica. She digs her fingernails into her
face.

ANGELICA
Ahh!!

Dre pulls out a butter knife.

Angelica tosses her off her back.

Dre falls to the floor.

Angelica looks at her.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Get up!

Dre pushes herself up.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Your brother had more heart than
you. I fucked him too. He left you
to fuck me.

(laugh)

DRE

(scream)

Dre rushes towards her, knocking her to the floor. She slugs
her across the face.

ANGELICA

(laugh)

Angelica digs her nails into Dre's eyes.

Dre headbutts her.

Angelica punches Dre across the face. She kicks her off.
Angelica kicks her in the stomach.

DRE

Ahh!!

Angelica kicks her in the face.

Dre rolls away, facing the wall.

ANGELICA

(breath)

You got heart little girl. Not good
enough!!

Angelica grabs a **mop handle** from the wall.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

(breath)

This is just a present from my
grandfather. He knew how to clean
up. Here's to you!!

Angelica smacks her across the face.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Oh, that sounded serious!!

Angelica steps towards a butterfly knife. She picks it up. She crouches down and points it close to Dre's eye.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
Nice seeing you again!!

Angelica raises the knife up over her head.

NICHOLAS (O.C.)
Stop!!!

Angelica looks at Nicholas.

A gun in his hand, pointed at her.

ANGELICA
Are you going to shoot me big brother!

NICHOLAS
Don't make me!!

ANGELICA
Then do it!!

Angelica brings the knife down.

Nicholas fires a shot.

Angelica falls to the floor. She raises her head and looks at the gunshot to her left shoulder. She looks at Nicholas.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
You motherfucker!!

Nicholas steps towards Dre. He leans down and pulls her up.

DRE
Ahh!

Nicholas wraps her arm around his shoulder.

ANGELICA
You're really going to choose her over me! What about me!!

NICHOLAS
Fuck you.

Angelica stands to her feet. She looks at all the Partygoers.
Cell phones recording her.

ANGELICA
(wave)
What are you fuckers looking at!!
Parties over!! Get out of my
house!!

The Partygoers step away.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
That's right, leave!!

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-DAY

In front of his desktop computer, Paul sits, stunned from
what he's watching.

COMPUTER SCREEN

Angelica goes up and down.

BACK TO SCENE

PAUL
(sob)

CUT TO:

INT. GARAGE-NIGHT

Paul hangs from a pole in the garage.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION-DAY

Out on the gravel ground, Angelica looks down at the stack of
envelopes in her hand.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-SMITH RESIDENCE-DAY

The sound of a blender echoes throughout the house.

Dre raises her head up.

DRE
(sniff)

Ella rushes into the living room.

ELLA
Mommy!!

She jumps into Dre's lap, hugging her.

Dre kisses her on the forehead.

DRE
How!

NICHOLAS (O.C.)
I got her -- We got here.

DRE
Thank you.

NICHOLAS
You're welcomed to stay until you
get things settled with another
apartment.

DRE
I don't know what to say.

NICHOLAS
Promise me you won't do anything
like that again.

DRE
I promise.

Nicholas looks at Ella.

NICHOLAS
Who wants **pancakes**!!

ELLA
Me!!

NICHOLAS
(wave)
Go get some!!

Ella rushes into the kitchen.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Hungry?

DRE

Starved.

He wraps his arm around her and walks her to the kitchen.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION-DAY

MOVERS #1 and #2, early 20s.

Movers #1 and #2 slowly move a couch out.

Nicholas stands up from the driver seat. He steps towards the mansion.

ANGELICA (O.C.)

What are you doing here?

NICHOLAS

What, a brother can't come see his sister?

Angelica steps towards Nicholas.

ANGELICA

You chose a stranger over me, I think we both know who's side you are on.

NICHOLAS

(point)

Hey, I saw and clearly everyone else saw what you did to that woman! The editor too!!

ANGELICA

You're blaming me for their weaknesses.

NICHOLAS

What weaknesses!! You fucked him on video and broadcasted it!!

(point)

You pushed Dre to the edge of trying to kill you!! You did all those things!! Not me!! Not mom, not Shelly, you!!!

Angelica looks at Nicholas. Her eyes watering.

ANGELICA
I would do it all over again if I
had a chance too.

Nicholas leans towards her and kisses her on the cheek.

NICHOLAS
Goodbye, Angie.

Nicholas steps away. He walks to his car.

Angelica watches the car drive away.

ANGELICA
So long.
(wave)

CUT TO:

INT. MEETING ROOM-LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Her hands clutched together; Dre sits at the end of the table.

LAWYER, early 60s.

PUBLISHER, late 50s.

SENIOR JOURNALIST, early 40s.

The Lawyer looks at the piece of paper in front of him.

LAWYER
Based on his decision, the new
editor in chief is Adrianna Lopez.

SENIOR JOURNALIST
What!

PUBLISHER
What!

Dre stands up and snatches the paper from the Lawyer's fingers.

DRE
(read)
Adrianna Lopez. Yeap. Clear as
daylight.

She tosses it into the air. Dre steps away from the table. She grabs her head in frustration.

SENIOR JOURNALIST
This has to be a mistake!

LAWYER
The decision is made. Ms. Lopez is
your editor.

Dre looks in the corner of her eye.

DRE
Don't look at me like that.
Everyone's shit stinks in this
room.

PUBLISHER
What do we print?

DRE
Start with the heiress leaving.
That's a good start.

Dre steps towards the door.

DRE (CONT'D)
If you would excuse me, I got to
pick up my kid!

Dre pushes the door open.

PUBLISHER
You heard her! Get to work!

The Senior Journalist rushes out of the meeting room.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

The passenger door opens, Ella sits down in the seat.

ELLA
Hi mommy!

DRE
Ellie baby!!

Dre kisses her on the forehead.

DRE (CONT'D)
Seatbelt!

Ella puts on the seatbelt.

DRE (CONT'D)
Thanks, baby.

Dre puts the AUTOMATIC in DRIVE.

ELLA
Can we rent movies when we get home?

DRE
Tell you what, we'll rent some after I get some work done first.

ELLA
Work sucks!!

DRE
Baby don't say that nasty word.

ELLA
Sorry.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Dre steps into the office.

Senior Journalist and Publisher sit at their desk.

DRE
Hey!

Senior Journalist looks stressed, unable to look Dre in the eyes.

DRE (CONT'D)
What?

SENIOR JOURNALIST
Santiago's not going for it!!

DRE
What else does she have to lose?
The court already got her banned from America!

PUBLISHER
Here's how she feels about you.

The Publisher shows Dre a photograph of Angelica flipping off the camera.

DRE
Be right back!

Dre turns around and walks towards the exit doors.

Ella looks at Dre.

ELLA
Where are you going mommy?

Dre kneels down.

DRE
Mommies got to go do something
really quick. I'm going to call
Uncle Nick to come pick you up,
okay?

ELLA
Okay.

Dre kisses her on the cheek.

She stands up and walks out of the office.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR-DAY

Her cell phone pressed against her ear; Dre drives with one hand on the steering wheel. The dial tone stops.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Hello?

DRE
Yeah, I'm just letting you know
that I left Ella for you to pick
up.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Why?

DRE
I'm about to go kill your sister.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
What?

DRE
Take care of Ella well I kill your
sister!!

Dre ends the call. She tosses the cell phone to the backseat.

CUT TO:

INT. CABIN-YACHT-DAY

Angelica sits on the floor of the cabin. She looks through photographs. She comes across one of her and her Uncle Barry.

BARRY (V.O.)
What are you doing in here all by
yourself?

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-SMITH RESIDENCE-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

Her hands deep in the soapy water.

A man steps past her. BARRY, 40. A police detective.
Arrogant, cocky and secretive.

Barry looks at Angelica's legs and the skirt she's wearing.

BARRY
Excuse me?

Angelica steps aside.

Barry opens the **cupboard doors** and grabs a **garbage bag**. He
closes the door and stands up.

Barry leans up close to her.

BARRY (CONT'D)
(sniff)
Is everyone asleep?

ANGELICA
Yes. Why?

Barry reaches underneath her skirt. He yanks her underwear
down.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
I'll scream!

BARRY
Scream! I don't care.

Barry unbuckles his belt and yanks his pants down.

ANGELICA
I'll tell!

BARRY
Who'll believe a little whore like
you! Huh?

Angelica's eyes water with emotion. Tears fall down her
cheek.

BARRY (CONT'D)
That's what I thought!

He presses himself against her.

ANGELICA
(pant)

BARRY
Shit!

He goes back and forth.

CUT TO:

EXT. DECK-YACHT-BACK TO PRESENT

DRE
Hey!

Angelica looks at Dre.

ANGELICA
So, you come to see me off?

DRE
Sort of.

Dre takes off her jacket.

DRE (CONT'D)
We started something we didn't get
to finish.

ANGELICA
Please, take your chips and go home
while you still can!

Dre steps towards Angelica and pushes her face.

DRE
There's no one to stop us. Come on!

Angelica steps past her.

Dre pushes her.

Angelica grabs a hold of the **railing** as she falls. She looks at Dre.

ANGELICA

Fine!

Dre raises her fist up, covering her face.

Angelica assumes a boxing position and raises her fist up.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

What? My grandfather was a boxer!

Angelica slugs Dre across the face.

Dre falls to the floor of the deck.

Angelica smiles.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Don't fuck with a Valens!!

Dre kicks her knee.

Angelica drops to her knees.

Dre kicks her in the face.

Angelica falls to her back.

Dre gets on top of her. She begins to strangle her.

DRE

I told you I was going to finish this!! And I am!!

LUCIA (O.C.)

Stop!!!

Dre looks at Lucia.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

A 4-YEAR-OLD DRE stands in front of her burning house. She sees the remains of her dead parents on fire.

CUT TO:

EXT. DECK-YACHT-BACK TO PRESENT

Dre looks at Angelica.

ANGELICA
(gag)

Dre loosens her grip.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
(cough)

Dre pulls herself up with the railing.

Lucia helps Angelica up.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)
(breath)

DRE
So long.

Angelica stands up.

Lucia pulls Angelica away to the stairs.

ANGELICA
Bye.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCK-DAY

Dre stands.

The yacht sails away.

Nicholas steps towards Dre. He looks at her. His eyes are drawn to the yacht.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-SMITH RESIDENCE-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

The bathroom door creaks open.

ANGELICA
(sob)
(cry)

Angelica sits on the tile floor of the bathroom.

A young man slowly steps into the bathroom. NICHOLAS, 20. A police cadet. Humble, kind and loyal.

He sits down on the floor next to Angelica. Nicholas wraps his arm around her.

She leans her head onto his shoulder.

NICHOLAS

I got you.

He kisses her on the head.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Remember that.

CUT TO:

EXT. DECK-YACHT-BACK TO PRESENT

Angelica looks at the dock. She smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCK-DAY

His eyes follow the yacht as it sails off into the far horizon.

NICHOLAS

Goodbye.

Nicholas turns around and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-THE LOS ANGELES SUN NEWSPAPER-DAY

Her fingers hit the keys on her keyboard.

COMPUTER SCREEN

A paragraph forms at a fast rate. It reads: I met the devil once in my life. He took the form of a woman. Truth be told, I don't know how we can have sympathy for her. Sympathy is for the little girl that cries for her parents. It starts by going home to your daughter and giving her the love you missed out on. I still had it, but my brother couldn't be there. Just a bird. A bird called Quetzal.

BACK TO SCENE

Dre closes her laptop.

A cardboard box is set next to her.

Dre opens the lid.

A colored drawing in front of her eyes. It reads: Quetzal.

She looks at the note on top. It reads: I'm sorry, Rusty.

Dre puts the lid back on. She lifts the box up.

DRE

Later!!

Dre stands up. She steps out of the office.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK-DAY

Laid out on a blanket, Dre looks through a book.

ELLA

Mom?

DRE

Yes?

ELLA

Who's Shelly?

Dre smiles.

DRE

She was my friend --

Dre's eyes wander --

DRE (CONT'D)

-- My teacher --

Her eyes water --

DRE (CONT'D)

-- My sister --

Ella sits up.

ELLA

I can be your sister mommy!

DRE
(laugh)

Dre kisses Ella on the cheek. She lifts her up.

DRE (CONT'D)
You're my girl! That's enough for
me.

DRE (V.O.)
That's just plenty.

FADE OUT:

THE END