

TARA PHALIN: SCRIPT SELECTIONS

Written by

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Based on, If Any

Address
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INT. NURSERY

FLASHBACK: A young Laura, sits in a large nursery alone. It has a large steep oak roof.

Laura wakes up from her bed to find herself alone. She whimpers. A solemn pretty face looks at her from the side of the bed. It's a young lady, kneeling with her hands under the coverlet. Laura looks at her and stops her whimper. The girl caresses Laura and lays down beside her. She draws Laura nearer and smiles. Laura falls sleep again and then quickly wakes back up.

Laura cries out. The lady fixes her eyes on Laura and then slips down under the floor.

LAURA
(crying)
Help!

The NURSE, NURSERY MAID, and HOUSEKEEPER come running in and comfort Laura. The nurses search around room, under the bed and tables.

HOUSEKEEPER
(whispers to the maid)
Lay your hand along that hollow in
the bed; someone did lie there; the
place is still warm.

The housekeeper and the two other servants remain sitting up all night

END FLASHBACK

LAURA (V.O)
I was told it was nothing but a
dream, and it could not hurt me.
But I knew the visit of the strange
woman was not a dream and I knew,
instinctively that she could in
fact hurt me.

NEXT SCENE IS FROM AROUND 7 PAGES LATER IN THE ORIGINAL
SCREENPLAY

INT. DRAWING ROOM-NIGHT

The Drawing room is long. It has four windows that overlook the moat and drawbridge and the forest. It's furnished in old carved oak and chairs cushioned with crimson velvet. The walls are draped in tapestries with gold frames. There are figures large as life and in ancient costume.

Laura, Her Father, Mademoiselle De Lafontaine and Madame Perrodon sit in there over lit candles.

LAURA

How do you like our guest? Tell me about her.

MADAME PERRODON

I like her extremely. She is, I think, the prettiest creature I ever saw; about your age, and so gentle and nice.

MADEMOISELLE

She is absolutely beautiful.

MADAME PERRODON

And such a sweet voice!

MADEMOISELLE

Did you notice the other woman in the carriage? The one who did not get out?

MADAME PERRODON

No we did not see her.

MADAME PERRODON (CONT'D)

Did you notice what an ill-looking pack of men the servants were?

FATHER

Yes. Ugly looking fellows.

MADAME PERRODON

I dare say they are worn out with too long traveling, besides looking wicked, their faces were so strangely lean and sullen. I am very curious, but dare say the young lady will tell us all about it tomorrow, if she is sufficiently recovered

FATHER

I don't think she will.

INT. HALLWAY-NIGHT

Laura watches as doctors and servants come in and out of Carmilla's room.

DOCTOR
 (speaking to a servant)
 She's sitting up, her pulse is regular. She has no injuries and the shock to her nerves had dissipated. She seems to be perfectly well

Laura overhears this conversation and smiles. She walks over to a servant.

LAURA
 Could you ask her if I may visit?

The servant peaks her head into the room, a few seconds later she walks back out.

SERVANT
 (smiling)
 She wishes for nothing more.

INT. CARMILLA'S ROOM- NIGHT

The room is covered in tapestries and frames of gold. The beside is lined with candles. Carmilla is sitting up, she is wearing a silk dressing gown that's embroidered with flowers. She is draped in a thick quilt.

Laura reaches her hand out to Carmilla, but it struck with a feeling and stops herself.

FLASHBACK
 INT. NURSERY- NIGHT

A young Laura is in bed as we see in the first scene. Carmilla's face is looking at her and then she disappears under the bed frame. Laura shrieks

INT. CARMILLA'S ROOM- NIGHT

Laura steps back for a moment. Carmilla smiles at Laura.

CARMILLA
 How wonderful! Twelve years ago, I saw your face in a dream.

LAURA

(nervously)

Wonderful indeed. Twelve years ago, in a vision or reality, I certainly saw you. I could not forget your face. It has remained before my eyes ever since.

Carmilla's smile softens. Laura grabs her hand.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I saw you-most assuredly you-as I see you now: a beautiful young lady, with golden hair and large blue eyes and lips-your lips- you, as you are.

Carmilla laughs quietly.

CARMILLA

I don't know which of should be more afraid of the other. If you were less pretty, I think I should be very much afraid of you. But being as you and I are both so young, I feel only that I have made your acquaintance twelve years ago and already have right to your intimacy.

Beat.

CARMILLA (CONT'D)

I wonder you feel as strangely drawn towards me as I do to you; I have never had a friend-shall I find one now?

Carmilla sighed and eyes widened towards Laura. Laura turns away.

LAURA

The doctor thinks...that you ought to have a maid sit up with you tonight; one of ours is waiting, and you will find her a very useful and quiet creature.

Carmilla holds Laura in her arms for a moment and whispers in her ear.

CARMILLA

Goodnight, darling, it is very hard to part with you, but good night;
(MORE)

CARMILLA (CONT'D)
tomorrow, but not early, I shall
see you again.

Carmilla sinks back into the pillow

CARMILLA (CONT'D)
Good night, Dear friend.

INT. KITCHEN- DAY

Alex's mother, AMANDA, 36, tall with dirty blonde hair, is standing by the stove boiling some water in a kettle. Alex walking into the room and stands with his back against the counter.

ALEX

Do you know Jason Tate?

Amanda turns around, visibly apprehensive.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I found your photo album.

He throws the picture down on the table.

AMANDA

(tearing up)

Alex.

ALEX

Why did you lie to me?

Beat.

AMANDA

He left my life along time ago.

She pours the water into a mug and throws in the tea bag. She is not facing Alex.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I haven't seen him since then.

ALEX

But why didn't you tell me?

AMANDA

You don't need him in your life.

She turns around and leans on the stove.

ALEX

(walking towards the door)

Maybe I don't need him in my life.
But I would have at least liked to
know his name. Or even what he
looked like.

He starts to open the door.

AMANDA
(softly)
I'm sorry.

He shuts the door.

INT. DINER-NIGHT (AROUND 5:30PM)

Casey is now out of frame.

Alex is stirring his coffee. The spoon making a noise when it hits the mug.

ALEX
So, how do you know Amanda?

JASON
(laughs nervously)
Mandy? Well How do you know her? Is she doing okay?

ALEX
She's my mother.

JASON
Oh.

Beat.

ALEX
Again, how do you know "Mandy"?

JASON
Well...We met in...uh...I think it was a History class. Yeah. We had some mutual friends in the class and started hanging out. Dated a bit when I was in my early 20s.

Jason pauses. Alex nods signaling "Go on".

JASON (CONT'D)
Hey, she's pretty young still. How old are you?

ALEX
16.

Jason face reddens.

JASON
Wow.

JASON (CONT'D)
What about your dad?

Beat.

Alex gives him a blunt stare. Alex pulls a group of pictures out of his pocket.

ALEX
Found these.

He displays them on the table. Jason sorts through them.
Alex points to Jason in one of the pictures.

ALEX (CONT'D)
You look just like me there.

Jason looks up. He is RED.

JASON
Don't even go there.

ALEX
What?

JASON
I'm not your father, Alex.

ALEX
Wha...I didn't say that.

JASON
Then why are you here? Why did you
come looking for me?

Alex takes a breath. He grabs one of the pictures and turns
it around.

ALEX
I was born July 14th 2006.

He points to the date on the photo reading "October 4th 2005"

ALEX (CONT'D)
That's around 9 months before.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD- NIGHT

Alex is on the field, he's one of the forwards. It's clear by his body language that he is not as eager to play as the rest of the team: Most everyone else is in a ready stance, stretching or hyping each other up. Alex is just standing there hopelessly.

He looks over to the crowd. They're rowdy. People are dressed in school colors and are chanting. He spots his mom. Amanda waves to him shyly. He smiles softly back.

Casey does the kick-off and gains possession. He passes it to Alex, who carelessly kicks it out in the open not even looking if he's passing to anyone on his team. The opponent gains possession.

Blake is positioned close to Alex.

BLAKE

What the hell, man?

Alex rolls his eyes.

A player on the other team shoots for the goal and luckily it is saved by the goalie. The goalie kicks it out and Alex's team regains possession.

The ball gets passed to Casey and he dribbles it closer to the goal. Alex is open so he passes it to him. Alex dribbles a bit closer and shoots but misses. His team is pissed but Alex just shrugs it off.

The ball is back out and in possession of the opponent. Alex is guarding his opposing player but only barely. The ball is wide open to Alex but he doesn't even try to go to it and lets the other team have it.

The other team runs it to the goal and scores. The rest of Alex's team is visibly angry. They begin another kick-off. Alex's team gains possession again, Alex gets passed the ball and weakly passes it to Casey.

COACH

Time Out!

The referee blows his whistle.

COACH (CONT'D)

Alex!

Alex runs over sluggishly towards coach.

COACH (CONT'D)

What the hell has gotten into you,
kid? You never play like this.

ALEX

Fuck off.

COACH

(raising his voice)

Don't speak to me like that.

ALEX

I'm sorry. I'm fine. It's really
nothing. Just a little out of it, I
guess.

COACH

Well, get out of your damn head and
show us the Alex we know.

Alex nods.

ALEX

Got it.

COACH

Now get back out there.

Alex runs back out to the field.

CASEY

You good?

ALEX

Fine.

CASEY

(sarcastically)

Good. Don't fuck this up.

Alex laughs.

The referee blows the whistle to restart. Casey starts with
possession. He passes to Blake, who then passes to Alex. Alex
goes to shoot and its saved by the goalie.

The ball is thrown back out for the opposing team's
possession. The ball makes it's way down the field. But then
BUZZ, the clock goes off. It's halftime.