

# **AFRICAN AMERICAN POWER COUPLE**

Sides for Elijah and Jasmine

INT. DAWSON HOME - DAY

JASMINE and ELIJAH are in the midst of a heated discussion.

Jasmine is trying to keep her focus on folding a basket of clothes. *She doesn't want this conversation.*

JASMINE

The problem Elijah is that you  
don't get it.

ELIJAH

What don't I get?

Jasmine locks eyes with Elijah but she does not respond.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)

Are you saying I don't understand  
the pain you went through when we  
lost the baby?

JASMINE

Not in the way that you think you  
do.

ELIJAH

I lost the baby as well.

JASMINE

Its not the same.

ELIJAH

(confused)

Its not the same because you  
carried her?

JASMINE

That's right..I lost a part of me.  
Something that was growing inside.  
You will never **begin** to grasp that  
kind of hurt.

ELIJAH

At least you were able to feel her  
inside you. You were able to  
experience her as a part of your  
being. **I was never able to touch  
her.**

JASMINE

(matter of fact)

Its not the same.

Jasmine returns to folding clothes.

ELIJAH  
(almost demanding)  
I wanna try again Jasmine.

JASMINE  
Its too soon.

ELIJAH  
It's been six months.

JASMINE  
*I'm not ready.*

ELIJAH  
We are never going to get over this  
grief if we don't replace her.

Jasmine shoots Elijah a quick look.

JASMINE  
I could never replace her. ***How dare  
you even say that?***

ELIJAH  
You know what I mean.

JASMINE  
I know what you said. And it proves  
just how different we are in our  
grief.

ELIJAH  
So what, you plan to just wallow in  
this forever???

JASMINE  
***I just need time damnit***, how many  
times do I have to say it??!

ELIJAH  
I don't want to wait. Do it for me  
Jasmine. Do something to help me  
for a change.

JASMINE  
What the hell is that supposed to  
mean?

ELIJAH  
Every since ***our*** baby died, the  
healing process has been all about  
you. Let me in on some of that  
healing. ***Help me out here.***

Jasmine becomes stone faced and serious

JASMINE

Having a baby is not just about  
you. *You do not get to put my  
mental health on a timeline.*