

SISTER, SISTER, SISTER

INT. ASHLYN HOME - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

ASHLYN, African American, 20s emerges from the bedroom in PJ's talking on her cell phone. She looks a bit worried.

ASHLYN

(on phone)

I am just worried about you Kate. There is no telling what Terra may do. We haven't tried to contact her during the five years that she was in prison. Let's hopes she gets the hint and leaves you alone...what about me? I almost seven hundred miles away from Utah..she Won't be bothering me...

Then Ashlyn tries to lighten the mood of the conversation with a small joke.

ASHLYN (CONT'D)

I am sorry I had to leave my big sister out there in the Beehive State..especially with Terra's release upon us. But I couldn't resist this career opportunity here in LA. This is my dream (a little emotional)..I Studied in school and to be offered a position here means the world to me. I finally have purpose....Anyway.(shaking The emotion off) Enough of this... When are you coming out to visit again? My CONDO needs some sisterly love in it

Ashlyn notices a fly circling around her head.

ASHLYN (CONT'D)

Oh my, I just saw a big green fly in my house. I was too lazy to take out the trash last night. Let me handle that. I'll call you later. Ok...I love you sis. You take care and keep your eyes peeled. I know you're not scared of Terra, but she has proven how off she can be..and I am not sure you are a match for that kind of crazy.Ok I love you.

Ashlyn disconnects the call. Her mind drifts of in thought.

A fly circles Ashlyns head again which knocks her out of her 'drift'. She fans the air before rushing into the kitchen. After about half a minute, Ashlyn returns holding two trash bags.

One seems heavier than the other so she sits one down and continues to head towards the front door. Few seconds pass before she returns to the living room. She then moves over to the bag she left behind. As she bends over to pick it up, she doesn't notice a YOUNG WOMAN walk into the home.

The Young Woman stops at the foot of the living room as Ashlyn retrieves the trash bag from the floor. Ashlyn turns preparing the exit the home when the young woman catches her eye.

Ashlyn is startled as she drops the bag of trash to the floor

As Ashlyn's eyes come into focus, she realizes who is standing before her. This increases her fear by a mile. She manages to utter...

ASHLYN (CONT'D)

Terra.....

Terra smiles with a sheen of evil..

TERRA

Hello...**SIS**.

Ashlyn is trying her best not to let Terra see her sweat. However it is not working...

ASHLYN

What are you doing here? How did you find..

TERRA

(interrupting)

Surely you are not going to ask how I found you? In this day of social media, AI and pay-for-records platforms? It was a cinch.

Ashlyn braces.

ASHLYN

What do you want?

Terra seems shocked by the words

TERRA

That's the greeting that you have for me? You haven't seen me or heard my voice in 5 years and you ask what I want? **That is very sisterly of you...**then again...we're not really sisters are we?

Terra moves deeper into the home. Ashlyn's fear is palpable as she struggles with a poker face.

Terra studies the room.

TERRA (CONT'D)

Wow, what a magnificent condo you have here. **You have done well.** Or should I say you have done well with my parent's money?

Ashlyn attempts to be brave.

ASHLYN

What are you doing here Terra?

TERRA

I came to visit the woman that mom and dad made my **unofficial** sister.

ASHLYN

We're not going to do this. They adopted me when I was ten years old. I **am** the child of Harry and Morgan Stanford whether you like it or not.

TERRA

Well you made my point....They adopted you when you were Ten. I came out of mom's womb. I am a descendant of dad's sperm Yet I have been left nothing. They split their fortune between you..the 'daughter' with 0 DNA and their other **real** daughter leaving me with not even scraps. Does that even sound sensible to you?

ASHLYN

It was dad's decision to cut you out. After what you did...

TERRA

(interrupting)

Do you think I believe that? I know you and my dear old sister worked on him. You convinced him to go along with the narrative against me. **I Did not kill mom**

ASHLYN

There were physical signs of strangulation around her neck.

TERRA
 (matter of fact)
She slipped down the stairs.

ASHLYN
 Then explain the marks?

TERRA
 I cant! Maybe she was bruised from the fall. The stairs in that cabin are hard like concrete. She begged dad to change them years ago.

ASHLYN
 I think forensics would know the difference between bruises from a fall over a neck choke.

Terra moves into Ashlyn...

TERRA
 (elongated; matter of fact)
 I did not...Kill.my..mother.

Ashlyn stands firm

ASHLYN
 In all honesty, I don't care what you have to say... the trial is complete, the conviction is confirmed, time has been served and mom has been buried. ***This chapter is over...***

TERRA
 This chapter is far from over. You have something that is mine and I am here to collect.

ASHLYN
 And what is that?

TERRA
 Money. Haven't you been listening to me for God sakes. Have you understood the reason why I am here?

ASHLYN
 (firm)
 I don't have any of your money.

TERRA

You have **all** of my money Ashlyn. The money that you 'inherited' from my parents is mine. Not yours..and I am here to claim exactly that.

Ashlyn manages to smile.

TERRA (CONT'D)

You find it funny?

ASHLYN

(a little confident)

I find you funny. I find you funny and pathetic.. If you think you can walk into my home uninvited and demand I give you money left to me by MY MOM and dad, then I find your delusions nothing but pathetic

TERRA

I want you to trust that this is not a delusion.

Terra takes a few steps away from Ashlyn.

TERRA (CONT'D)

Funny thing about mom and daughter's is that in the quietest and comfiest of moments, they share things. intimate things...**private things**. Like for instance the real reason behind your adoption.

Ashlyn raises her eyebrows. Terra sees the moment and loves IT.

ASHLYN

(careful)

Real reason?

TERRA

Oh don't play dumb because I won't. Apparently there was a pregnancy. **Does that sound familiar?**

ASHLYN

What does this have to do with anything?

Terra's smile widens.

TERRA

Well let me get a little more comfortable
and I'll explain the advantage.

Terra takes a seat.

TERRA (CONT'D)

You have a glass of water? My throat is
parched.

ASHLYN

Get to the point.

Terra makes a dramatic motion. An example of her feeling
that she has this chess move in the bag.

TERRA

Imagine Ashley getting a job at
WALSH/DIXOM media... one of the most high
profile media companies in the world..
One where the CEO and its members are
against abortion and teen pregnancy..and
they learn that their shiny new super
exec is a poster child for both. Talk
about a ***corporate world scandal*** of epic
proportions

ASHLYN

Are you threatening me?

TERRA

I am just reclaiming what is mine.

Terra leans forward

TERRA (CONT'D)

You have 24 HOURS TO liquidate your bank
account and present it to me in the form
of a cashier's check or I blow your
career out of the water.

Ashlyn's face drops.

Scene 2: After Terra leaves, she calls Kate and tells her
everything Kate flies in the same night to intercept
Terra's return the next day. Ashlyn and Kate have a
great and emotional reunion. The next morning, Ashlyn
goes to the store to get her sisters 'favorite meal
ingredients as they away for Terra's expected afternoon
return. While Ashlyn is gone, Terra shows up earlier than
expected and is shocked to find Kate there....

Terra locks eyes with Kate. Its almost as if she is looking at a ghost but she manages to keep her composure.

TERRA (CONT'D)

Well well well, what a surprise. What are you doing here?

KATE

I think that is a question I need to be asking you.

TERRA

(coy)

I just came to visit my **sister**. Is there anything wrong with that?

KATE

You mean you came to harass her. Ashlyn told me about your visit..and your threats.

TERRA

So she called her fake older sister and you dropped everything to be here? You zipped over 500 miles in a matter of hours. **How noble...**

KATE

It's called family.

TERRA

I am your blood and you didn't visit me one time. Yet I live less than 15 miles away from the family home.

KATE

And you know exactly why.

TERRA

No I don't know. I do know that we were close once upon a time.

KATE

Yeah well that all changed when mom died.

Terra sees an opening.

TERRA

That's right. Mom died. She wasn't strangled. She wasn't killed. **She died.**

KATE

She died at your hands.

Terra steps in to Kate

TERRA

You know me better than that.

KATE

I know the Kate from my childhood as a wonderful, kind caring human being. You didn't grow up to be that same person.

TERRA

Yes I had issues...a brief bout with drugs, the wrong crowd and all of that. But I loved mom. I loved dad... **I loved you**. I would never hurt our family like that.

KATE

You are hurting our family right now. Coming here to threaten Ashlyn. What do you call that???

TERRA

I have nothing. You two have everything and it is not right..furthermore she is not really our family...

KATE

She is more of a family right now than you are...

The comment stings Terra

KATE (CONT'D)

And with that said, I want you to walk out of that door and never contact either one of us again.

Terra is visibly angry....After A few seconds of letting it simmer, she adds....

TERRA

But I', the one with the upper hand here...