

Sides: Angela

By

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INT. RUN-DOWN HOUSE - SECONDS LATER

Nonnie tip-toes into the house.

A WOMAN in her mid thirties, dressed in a pair of sweat pants and an old shirt, steps from the adjacent room, brushing her teeth. This is Angela, Nonnie's mother. When she sees Nonnie, she shrieks and drops her toothbrush.

ANGELA  
Nonnie! What the hell?!

NONNIE  
Hi, mommy.

ANGELA  
Christ, kid, you gave me a heart  
attack! You happy?

ANGELA  
Nonnie, what are you doing here?  
does Mrs. Delaney know you're here?  
( off Nonnie's silence )  
Nonnie... If Child Services finds  
out you're seeing me, I'll get in  
trouble. Do you want me to get in  
trouble?

As Nonnie sinks into the floor, Angela notices the grocery bags at Nonnie's feet.

ANGELA  
Are those for me? Well, sit down.  
I'll take care it.

Nonnie's world ends at Angela's disinterest, and Angela doesn't notice, turning her back for the kitchen.

ANGELA O.S.  
Look, you didn't need to shop for  
me. Things are different now. I'm  
living at home again, and I'm fine.  
The doctors say I'm much better.  
Recovering.

Nonnie eyes several empty pill bottles on the coffee table. She picks one up and peruses the label.

Angela steps back into the room.

ANGELA  
What are you doing?

Nonnie straightens. Angela picks up the empty bottle.

( CONTINUED )

ANGELA

These are *prescription*. Didn't I just say I was better?

Nonnie plucks up her courage.

NONNIE

Mom, do you think I can stay with you?

Angela checks the clock.

ANGELA

I have a meeting in half an hour.

NONNIE

I made something for you.

ANGELA

Nonnie, I don't have time. Get your things together.

NONNIE

Mommy?

ANGELA

I can bring you as far as the station, but you'll have to take a bus home from there.

She reaches into her bag, getting her car keys.

NONNIE

Mom, if I stay, I promise I won't be any trouble. I can take care of myself.

ANGELA

(sharply)

Nonnie! Why do you have to do this? Why do you have to put so much pressure on me? All you think about is yourself!

NONNIE

I drew something for you!

ANGELA

We have to leave. Now. Put your shoes back on.