

GIRLS UNWANTED

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SCENE 1

A halfway house in the inner city. Nothing fancy, or new. The living room and part of the kitchen. There is an old dining table just outside the kitchen. Hanna is on the couch with a bag of frozen peas on her head. She is looking disapprovingly at Max who is standing at the entrance to the living room.

HANNA
You looking for someone?

MAX
Yeah...

She waits.

HANNA
Is it someone who has a name?

MAX
Yeah. Kathy. I mean... Kat.

HANNA
I'm Kat.

MAX
Really? No, I mean this Kat.

He takes a small photo out of his pocket. Hands it to her.

MAX (CONT'D)
So... is that the other Kat.

HANNA
There is no other Kat. I was just messing with you.

MAX
Why?

HANNA
Because I felt like it? This is a mug shot.

MAX
Yeah I found this social worker who knows a cop, and he--

2.

HANNA

What do you want with her?
Are you a friend?

MAX

No. Look, is she here or not?

HANNA

Yeah. She's up in her room.

MAX

So can you ask her to come down?

HANNA

Sure. As soon as you tell me who
you are.

MAX

It's private.

HANNA

What is?

MAX

Who I am. What I want. It's all
private. So can you just go get
her.

HANNA

Maybe. If you stop being so pushy.

MAX

What?

HANNA

You're being too aggressive.

MAX

Yeah well I think you're being too
aggressive.

HANNA

(standing quickly)

What?

MAX

No, I didn't mean... Okay. Sorry.
Could you *please* just go get her
for me?

HANNA

That's better. Yeah. That was okay.

She jumps up. Goes to hallway.

HANNA (CONT'D)

Kat! Get down here. You've got a visitor!!

(looks at Max)

It might take her awhile. She's having a little trouble walking.

MAX

What's wrong with her?

HANNA

We had a little bitch to bitch. She smashed my head against the wall, and I kicked her in the cooch.

(off his look)

You know...

(gestures to her groin)

The pink, the poontang, the muff, the gash, the--

MAX

Yeah okay I got it.

HANNA

Good.

(gets up)

Have to get these peas back in the freezer for awhile so...

She heads towards the kitchen.

HANNA (CONT'D)

You want a beverage of some kind?

MAX

No I'm okay.

Max just stands there, looking around.

Kat comes in, a slight limp. Looks at Max.

KAT

You looking for me?

MAX

Yeah...

4.

KAT
Do I know you? You look familiar.

MAX
I do?

KAT
A little, yeah. Have we hooked up?
I mean I mighta been high, and I
can't always remember who--

MAX
No I'm not someone you-- We've
never met.

KAT
Okay. So whatya want?

MAX
Yeah. Well I was talking to Miss
Able and she--

KAT
Miss Able?

MAX
One of your social workers. I was
talking to her about our situation
and she--

KAT
We've got a situation?

MAX
Yeah. We do. And she said it might
be good for you if I made contact.
And that's what I wanted to do
anyway so--

KAT
Dude, what the fuck are you talking
about?

MAX
(smiles)
I'm your brother.

Kat just looks at him. Hanna sticks her head out from the kitchen.

5.

HANNA
What was that he just said?

KAT
He said he's...
(looks hard at Max)
My brother.

HANNA
No shit. You told everyone you were
given up at birth.
(to Max)
I *thought* she might have been
lying. She lies a lot.

KAT
Go away, Hanna.

Hanna ignores her.

HANNA
(to Max)
Unless you meant you're a foster
brother.

KAT
Yeah...
(to Max)
I knew I recognized you from
somewhere. You were at Nicki's
house on Delaware, right. That was
like ten years ago.

MAX
No...

KAT
Earlier?

MAX
No. I'm not one of your foster
brothers. I'm like your... real
brother. We have the same parents.

KAT
(just looks at him)
I don't have any parents.

MAX
Yeah. You do. We both do. And
they're the same people.

HANNA
What's your name?
(off Kat's look)
I thought someone should ask.

MAX
(to Kat)
My names's Max.

HANNA
Max. And you're really her brother?

MAX
Yeah...

HANNA
How about that. So who's the one
that's *really* all alone in the
world now, eh? Me! Just me!

Hanna heads back into the kitchen.

KAT
(to Max)
So... did they give you up too?

MAX
No. They... kept me.

KAT
They kept you. Jesus. Why?

HANNA
(sticks her head out)
Because he's a boy, you retard.

MAX
No it wasn't that.
(to Kat)
They just... got back together.
After they let you go, they got
together again and they--

KAT
Had you.

MAX
Yeah...

KAT
And they kept you.

MAX

Well they were a little older. And they were ready to start a family, so--

KAT

Start a family.

MAX

Yeah...

HANNA

(sticks her head out)

And she couldn't be part of that family for some reason?

KAT

(to Max)

What *she* said.

MAX

You'd been adopted, and they couldn't find out where you--

KAT

Adopted, yeah. That didn't work out by the way. I left that happy home when I was twelve.

MAX

Yeah. They found that out. I mean that you'd run away. But no one knew where to.

KAT

Yeah I made sure of that. If they find you, they sometimes send you back to where you ran away from.

HANNA

(out of the kitchen)

And there was no way she was going back to those *awful* people. They only adopted her so they'd have someone to clean their toilets. That's her story anyway. I think it's just another one of her lies.

KAT

(to Max)

It's true. Their toilets, their floors. Their whole fucking house.

MAX

Jeez.

KAT

Yeah "Jeez." So they tried to find me but they... what, just gave up after awhile?

MAX

Well the thing is, Mum has some problems. Depression. It can get pretty bad, so dealing with that kinda took over everything for them.

KAT

For *them*. But not for you. I mean you kept looking.

MAX

Since I was twelve, yeah.

KAT

You've been trying to find me for--

MAX

For five years. Off and on. I mean I had to go to school, right.

KAT

Sure. But here you are. And... What?

MAX

You mean what *now*? Like what do I want to happen?

KAT

Yeah. You got something in mind?

MAX

I just wanted to meet you. And then maybe take it from there.

KAT

Take it where?

MAX
Well that's--

KAT
What's your name?

MAX
Max.

KAT
Yeah I got that part. Your whole name.

MAX
Harvey. Max Harvey

KAT
Harvey's a first name.

MAX
(smiles)
Except when it isn't, I guess.

KAT
Right. So are you the only one?
(off his look)
The only kid they had after me?

MAX
No. I had a younger sister. Leanne.
She died of leukemia.

KAT
Leukemia.

MAX
Yeah it's a kind of--

KAT
I know what fuck it fucking is,
man. When did that happen?

MAX
She was eleven. She was a great
kid. You would have liked her.

KAT
You think so.

MAX

Yeah everyone liked her. We miss her a lot. And that's why my... our mum is--

KAT

Depressed?

MAX

Right.

KAT

So is that why you're really here? You think I'd be a good replacement for her or something.

MAX

No. Well maybe... in a way. I know it would mean a lot if I could bring you together with our parents. But mostly I thought we could get to know each other and then--

KAT

Sure. Let's do that.

MAX

Sorry?

KAT

Let's get to know each other. Here's my life story. You know, just to get us started. I was given up at birth. I was adopted. I was molested. I ran away.

MAX

What?

KAT

I ran away.

MAX

No. Before that...

KAT

Before that, I was molested.

MAX
Molested. In the same place where
they made you do all that cleaning?

HANNA
(from kitchen)
A little hard to believe, isn't it.

KAT
(to Max)
Wait until you hear *her* story.
She's an escaped princess from a
real castle...
(taps the side of her head
with her finger, makes a
wacko expression)

Max looks at Hanna. Nods.

KAT (CONT'D)
So about my life, should I keep
going or have you heard enough?

HANNA
(from kitchen)
I have!

Hanna steps out of the kitchen with a sandwich she has made.

HANNA (CONT'D)
Unless you're going to start
telling the truth. I'd hang around
for that.

KAT
Eat me.

HANNA
(leaving)
That's never gonna happen, girl.

Hanna is gone. Kat and Max are just looking at each other.

KAT
Why are you looking at me like
that?

MAX
I'm just waiting. You know, for you
to tell me the rest of your story.
I mean unless you don't want--

KAT

I ran away and lived on the street for almost a year. I was "rescued," and put in foster care. Five different families. None of them worked out. I wound up on the street again. Got seriously into drugs. Stole shit. Got arrested. Did ten months in detention. Got out. More time on the street. More drugs. More stealing shit. More time inside. But with a rougher crowd. Got beat up. Got out and got put in here. Any questions?

MAX

What about school?

KAT

I went sometimes.

MAX

Just sometimes?

KAT

Yeah, but I was still doing okay. You know, good enough to pass anyway. Then one day my gym teacher got the idea that a little verbal abuse might motivate me more. She was right. It motivated me to break her face.

MAX

Break her face...

KAT

Her jaw. I'd already had a bunch of fights with other kids, so after the thing with the teacher they decided I needed to be put in a special place for kids who have O.D.D. That's... Oppositional Defiant Disorder.

MAX

Never heard of it.

KAT

You only hear about it if they think you've got it.

(MORE)

KAT (CONT'D)

And they were pretty sure *I* did, so they put me in a little room in the basement with two other potential serial killers and a special needs teacher, where we spent all day learning how to be "patient."

MAX

All day, all year?

KAT

Until I fucked off for good.
(looks at him)
Okay go ahead.

MAX

What?

KAT

It's your turn.

MAX

Oh. Well I'm--

KAT

Normal. Right.

MAX

Not totally. But-- So are you still...?

KAT

Violent? Yeah I still get a little worked up sometimes.

HANNA

(entering)
Sometimes like every second day.

Hanna heads back into the kitchen.

KAT

Shouldn't you be in your room fingering yourself right now?
(to Max)
What are their names? The parents.

MAX

Julia and Tom.

KAT

Julia and Tom Harvey. Okay. So what are they like?

MAX

What do you mean?

KAT

I mean do they keep their hands off you? Is there food in the fridge? Is the house heated? Do you actually live in a house or just in some box in a field.

MAX

No. Yeah. We live in a small house. There's food. All that's okay, but...

KAT

What?

MAX

Well like I told ya, Mum's sick. She hears things.

KAT

You said she's depressed.

MAX

She's depressed, *and* she hears things.

KAT

And what about *Tom* Harvey? Does he hear things too?

MAX

No. But he's been in jail. Twice.

KAT

For what?

MAX

Both times for fraud. Second time was the worst. Because that's when Leanne got sick, and me and mum had to deal with that all on our own. So it was kinda--

KAT

Wow, man. You really lucked out with this family thing, eh. Maybe I shouldn't be so bitter about being given up. Okay, you gotta go now. I need to think about this.

MAX

Sure. But--

KAT

No. Just go. Come back tomorrow. Or maybe next week is better. Okay?

MAX

What? Next week?

KAT

Yeah... if you can. If you still want to.

MAX

Yeah. Sure that'd be...
(starts out, stops)
Aren't you supervised here. Miss Able told me this a halfway house.

KAT

Yeah but half way to where is the question.

MAX

And you're on your own?

KAT

No. We've got Maddy. She's our... guardian. Any more questions?

MAX

No...
(he starts out)
No...

He leaves.

HANNA

(leaves kitchen munching
on a pickle)
She called awhile ago. Maddy.
She wanted us to be prepared.

KAT

For what?

HANNA

She's bringing Ash back.

KAT

Yeah? That's great.

HANNA

Sure. As long as she's on her meds.
No way I'm dealing with any more of
her crazy shit.

(gesturing to door)

He seems nice.

KAT

So what?

HANNA

Well if you're gonna have a brother
it's better if it's someone who's
kinda normal. My brother's a--

KAT

Here we go.

HANNA

He's creep and a bully.

KAT

Right.

HANNA

Hey. I could show you the scars
I've got from what he did to me.

KAT

Go ahead.

HANNA

I will.

KAT

When?

HANNA

When I feel like it.

KAT

Which means never, right.

17.

HANNA
I've got scars, Kat.

KAT
Really? Like this one?

She lifts her t-shirt to reveal a long scar on her abdomen.

HANNA
Gimme a break. That's from getting
your appendix out or something.

KAT
Something like a knife with a six-
inch blade.

HANNA
(looks at it)
No. That's an appendix scar.

Hanna leaves.

KAT
Idiot.

HANNA
(off)
Slut.

Blackout

SCENE 2

Maddy (early 30s) and Ash, 17 (sullen and in a hoodie) are in the living room.

MADDY
(yelling upstairs)
Okay, you guys. I need you downstairs!

KAT
(off)
I'm busy!

HANNA
(off)
So am I!

MADDY
I don't care! Get down here now!
(to Ash)
You okay? You look a little... Ash?

ASH
What?

MADDY
What's wrong with you?

ASH
Can I go to my room?

MADDY
Yeah as soon as we all have a little--

Kat enters.

KAT
(to Ash)
Hey, Babe. I missed you.
(hugs her)
How are ya, man?
(no response)
Ash?

ASH
What?

Hanna enters. Looks at Ash.

HANNA

(to Maddy)

What's wrong with her? Is she doped up?

MADDY

I think she just needs to lie down.

HANNA

Isn't that all she's been doing for the last month?

(to Ash)

That hospital keep you on a treadmill or something?

MADDY

What are you talking about?

HANNA

Well I don't know what the therapy is for someone like her. Could be anything.

KAT

Anything except a fucking treadmill.

(to Maddy)

What's happening?

MADDY

We're having a meeting. There's stuff we need to talk about.

HANNA

Like what?

MADDY

Well first off, there's a lot of work around here that's not getting done.

HANNA

(off Kat)

By *her*, you mean.

KAT

I do my share.

HANNA

Your "share" is whatever's done when you feel like stopping. The bathroom hasn't been cleaned in a month.

KAT

I did it last week.

MADDY

Yeah? Well you did a lousy job. Plus there's all that garbage on the back porch.

KAT

(off Hanna)

That's her "task".

HANNA

I never agreed to that. It was supposed to be up to Ash. I mean before she...

MADDY

Right. Ash... now that you're back, maybe you can...

(no response)

Hey. I'm talking to you, okay.

ASH

(looks around)

Where's Victor?

MADDY

He's not here right now.

KAT

We think he mighta quit.

ASH

Why?

HANNA

Because of you probably.

MADDY

We don't know that.

HANNA

She bit him. She bit him on the fucking' wrist, and the man quit.

ASH

No. I didn't bite anyone. I'm not a dog. You think I'm some kind of dog?!

KAT

He upset you, and you bit him. Big deal. The dude's a fucking pussy.

HANNA

He was worried she gave him Hep C.

KAT

What the hell are you talking about?

HANNA

Come on. No one knows what she's up to when she disappears. What she takes. Who she fucks.

MADDY

Do you remember doing that, honey?

ASH

Fucking someone?

MADDY

No. Biting Victor.

ASH

I told you no.

MADDY

But are you sure?

ASH

No not now. I was but... now I'm---

MADDY

Confused. You're confused about it, and that's probably because you'd stopped taking your medication at the time, and--

KAT

(to Ash)

You can't remember.

ASH

Yeah, maybe that's it. Did I bite anyone else? Did I bite you, Hanna?

HANNA

Are you kidding? I see that freaky look in your eyes, I don't go anywhere near you.

MADDY

Okay, that's enough.

HANNA

I'm just saying she sometimes looks like a vampire. And not a normal one either. More like a vampire/zombie cross.

MADDY

I said that's enough!

KAT

(to Hanna)

Yeah shut up.

MADDY

(to Ash)

It wasn't because you bit him. Victor just needed a break.

ASH

Oh. So who's in charge?

MADDY

I am. For awhile, anyway.

HANNA

No that's no good. You don't have enough experience. I mean you're only here to do your community service, right.

KAT

Who told you that?

HANNA

Victor. She and her ex husband were car thieves.

KAT
(to Maddy)
That true?

MADDY
No. He was just messing with her.

HANNA
I believed him.

KAT
I bet he told you a lot of stuff
you believed. I bet he told you
that you were special.

MADDY
(to Hanna)
Did he?

HANNA
I don't know what you're talking
about. I'm just saying some of us
have serious problems, and we need
to have a person in charge who
wasn't a--

KAT
(to Maddy)
She means her. She thinks she's
actually the only one here who has
"serious problems."

HANNA
No. I know Ash is a total mess. But
all you have to do is stop
sneaking out at night looking for
cocks to suck.

KAT
Oh. That's my cure, is it?

HANNA
Well it might give you a little
self respect. And then you can get
the hell out of here and leave the
rest of us to our healing process.

KAT
Jesus, man. You're too much. Your
"healing process?"

MADDY

She's not doing anything to get in the way of that, Hanna. If you want, you and I could talk alone more often.

HANNA

Didn't we just establish that you're not qualified?

KAT

She has a degree in social work. Just like Victor does.

HANNA

(to Hanna)

More to the point, ten years ago I was just out of Juvie. I was an addict, a thief, and a total fuck up.

KAT

See? She couldn't be more qualified. Well maybe she was never a stalker like you were, Princess. At least not one who tried to kill somebody.

HANNA

Knock it off with the princess stuff, okay.

KAT

(Maddy)

She's okay with being called a stalker for some reason. But she hates Princess.

(to Hanna)

It's just a nickname. You know, like slut.

ASH

Or retard.

MADDY

Nobody here calls you retard.

ASH

(sad laugh)

Not to my face.

KAT

I never do.

HANNA

And I only do it when you make me mad.

KAT

And how does she do that?

HANNA

By doing something retarded.

MADDY

Okay, enough! Let's all just--

HANNA

Like giving our food to the raccoons.

KAT

I don't mind that.

(to Ash)

But maybe you should stop feeding the rats.

ASH

Why? You don't think they get hungry?

HANNA

They're rats! Look just stop giving our food to anything, okay. Rats. Raccoons. Skunks.

MADDY

(to Ash)

Skunks? You feed skunks?

ASH

Just one.

HANNA

Yeah. I saw her doing it.

(to Ash)

Feeding that stupid thing out of your hand. Suppose you get sprayed and bring that smell into the house.

ASH

It's a pet. It would never--

MADDY

What do you mean it's a pet, Ash?

HANNA

Who gives a flying fuck what she means!? I'm serious, Ash! If I see you giving our food out to any kind of freakin' animal again, I'm gonna get really upset.

ASH

Why?

HANNA

Did you hear that? Why. Jesus...
(to Ash)
Are you a fucking idiot?

MADDY

Okay. No more of that. No matter how heated the situation gets, we knock it off with the insults, okay.

HANNA

Even on Twitter?

MADDY

You're not allowed on Twitter.

KAT

Since when?

MADDY

Since forever.

KAT

Oh. I guess I forgot.

HANNA

She goes on it all the time to make fun of me to her foster friends.

MADDY

How do you know that?

HANNA

I follow her.

ASH
Into the computer room?

HANNA
Jesus... No...
(to Maddy)
I follow her on Twitter.

KAT
And that's the only reason I tweet
about her.

HANNA
You mean to piss me off.

KAT
Yeah.

HANNA
You're sick, Kat.

Ash staggers a bit, rubs her head.

KAT
Whoa. What's wrong, babe?

ASH
I need to take a pill.

MADDY
(off her watch)
Not for another two hours.

ASH
I don't mean my meds. I think I'm
getting... a migraine.

MADDY
Since when do you get migraines?

ASH
Since I started to smell things.

MADDY
What?

ASH
You know, things that happened to
me after I was taken.

MADDY

So like memories. You're smelling your memories?

ASH

Yeah. And just seeing them was bad, but smelling everything too... when that started I got these migraine things and... I need those pills. They gave me some in the hospital. And I thought I could get more from Victor, but--

KAT

Victor gave you pills.

ASH

His were stronger, but he'd only give me one if I begged him.

KAT

(to Ash)
You had to beg him?

ASH

Maybe that's just what it felt like.

(to Maddy)
Can I have one of yours?

MADDY

I don't have any migraine pills.

ASH

So whatya do when you get one?

MADDY

Not everyone gets migraines, Ash.

ASH

They don't?
(rubs her temples
furiously)
Oh. This... really hurts.

HANNA

(to Kat)
Why not give her something from your stash?

MADDY

Hanna!

HANNA

Hanna, what?! You don't think she has shit hidden somewhere in this place.

ASH

(another sharp pain)
Please.

She looks at Kat

KAT

I might have something in my coat that I forgot to get rid of.
(leaving)
It's in the hall.

HANNA

The crap she gets away with in this place.

MADDY

You think I should clamp down on her, eh.

HANNA

Yeah I do. I mean mostly for her own good.

Kat returns.

KAT

(handing Ash a pill)
Here.

HANNA

Just happened to have that in your pocket, eh.

MADDY

(to Kat)
What is it.

Ash swallows the pill.

KAT

What's it matter? It'll handle her pain. And it was definitely my last one.

Ash is stretching out on the couch.

HANNA

Yeah sure.
(to Maddy)
I want her punished.

MADDY

(smiles at Kat)
She means for your own good.
(to Hanna)
I'll deal with her.

HANNA

I want her punished!

MADDY

I said I'd deal with her!

HANNA

Yeah but you won't. You'll talk to her. And that'll be it. If I break the rules I get punished. She hides drugs all over this place. She hides liquor. She even sneaks guys in here for sex sometimes. And that's definitely not on. That's a really big rule, right! I've passed up a lot of opportunities for some action because of that rule.

KAT

Except with Victor?

MADDY

What?

HANNA

Victor and I were close. So what?

MADDY

How close?

HANNA

Like friends. That's all.

MADDY

Hanna?

HANNA

That's *all!!* Leave me alone for chrissake!!

ASH

Stop! Please!! My head is...

Hanna sits in a corner, Arms crossed.

KAT

(to Ash)

You'll feel better in a minute. Promise.

ASH

Yeah but what about later.

KAT

I'll get you more somehow.

MADDY

No you won't. I'll call the hospital.

ASH

Yeah, they gave me some when they let me out. But I... lost them. Where was I before?

KAT

Before what? The hospital?

ASH

No after that.

(to Maddy)

Where was I when they found me and called you?

MADDY

In a ravine.

KAT

Jesus. What the fuck were you--

ASH

The ravine. Yeah. People there always have pills. Can we go there and ask for some?

MADDY

We're not going to the friggin' ravine, Ash. I'll call the hospital like I said!

Maddy's phone goes off.

MADDY (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Hi ... What is it? ... He's what...
Oh Christ. When? ... Well what do they think happened? ... Really? I mean-- Yeah they're all here...
Why not ... No. I think they should know ... Yeah. Definitely.

She disconnects.

KAT

Who was that?

MADDY

Will Muncie. He's the guy in charge of our section at the Ministry.

KAT

Yeah, so what's--

MADDY

Do you remember a few weeks ago when we had that talk about how you should all try to deal with... unexpected things?

ASH

Was I here?

KAT

No...

MADDY

Victor was talking about coping strategies for things you might not be prepared to--

ASH

Where was I? I mean where was I when I wasn't here?

KAT
You mean besides the hospital or
the ravine.

ASH
Yeah...

HANNA
(standing)
How the hell are we supposed to
know that. You could have been
anywhere.

ASH
No not anywhere. Just somewhere.

HANNA
Jesus...
(to Maddy)
What's going on?

KAT
(to Maddy)
What did he tell you?

MADDY
Okay. But try to keep what was said
that day in mind because-

KAT
Ah for fucksake, Maddy!

MADDY
(looks at them all)
Victor's dead.

KAT
Dead.

MADDY
Yes.

HANNA
(chuckles)
Come on. Seriously?

MADDY
Yes, Hanna. Seriously. You know,
you really need to get control of
what comes out of your mouth!
(MORE)

34.

MADDY (CONT'D)

And when a person is telling you something that's obviously pretty upsetting, you should just be quiet and fucking listen! Okay!?

HANNA

Whoa. Calm down, woman.

MADDY

(approaching her)

What?!

HANNA

I meant... Sorry.

KAT

(to Maddy)

He just... died? He just all of a sudden--

MADDY

They found him in an alley.

KAT

They found him in an alley... dead. So he, what...?

HANNA

Just went into an alley and...?

ASH

He was attacked.

MADDY

How do you know that?

ASH

Just a guess.

MADDY

A guess.

ASH

Yeah.

They all look at her.

Blackout

SCENE 3

Ash and Kat are in the kitchen, chopping vegetables.

ASH

It was just a guess. People get killed in alleys all the time.

KAT

It happens, yeah.

ASH

That's all I was saying. I don't think Maddy believed me though.

KAT

Why wouldn't she?

ASH

Because I come from a family that let an eleven year old girl go hitch hiking on her own. People who do that, there's no way they can be trusted.

KAT

So you were hitch hiking when you were-

ASH

Eleven, yeah.

KAT

And did anything... like happen?

ASH

Yeah I told you. I was on my way to town. And two guys in a truck stopped and-- I told you.

KAT

No you didn't. They raped you?

ASH

Two guys, yeah.

KAT
I didn't know that. You never told me that. You only told me about the time when you got snatched.

ASH
Really?

KAT
Yeah.

ASH
Oh. Maybe because that was worse. I got away from the first guys. The other guys killed me.

KAT
What?

ASH
Well I'm kinda dead, right.

KAT
No. No. You're just--

ASH
They took me, put me in that basement, and I died there. Just like all those other girls.

KAT
Except those girls actually *did* die. And you escaped.

ASH
Not really. How old were you when that happened to you?

KAT
I was never kidnapped and put in a cage.

ASH
No. But you were--

KAT
Fourteen. Almost fourteen.

Maddy comes into the living room.

MADDY

Get in here. We need to talk. Come on. Hurry up.

Kat leaves the kitchen and approaches Maddy.

KAT

What's up? You okay?

Ash joins them.

MADDY

No. I'm not. Someone I knew pretty well just got fucking murdered.

KAT

Yeah. I guess it's been awhile since that happened to someone you knew.

MADDY

What? No. I never knew anyone you got murdered.

KAT

Really? I had two friends who did. One got stabbed by a pimp. Wasn't even *her* pimp. And the other one got run over by a cop car. That was just weird.

ASH

I knew a lot of girls who got killed.

KAT

(to Maddy)

The means the ones who were found in that field.

ASH

And before that there was Cassie. She was with a man in one of the rooms upstairs. She broke his vodka bottle on the wall, cut his throat, and then cut her own. That was good. It was good that she took him with her.

(to Maddy)

So what's up?

MADDY
(a beat to recover)
The police want to talk to you.

ASH
Just me?

MADDY
No. All of you. Me too.
(to Ash)
Go wake Hanna up, okay.

Ash nods and hurries off.

MADDY (CONT'D)
We have to keep an eye on her,
okay.

KAT
Sure. Like always.

MADDY
No she's gotten worse.

KAT
Maybe. So the cops... this is about
Victor.

MADDY
They have some questions for us.

KAT
What kind of questions?

MADDY
I don't know.

KAT
No you gotta give me an example. I
need to get prepared.

MADDY
To do what? Lie? Just try to relax
until we get there, okay.

KAT
We're actually going to the cop
shop. I don't think I can handle
that.

MADDY
It'll be okay.

KAT
It's never been okay before.

MADDY
Yeah well you're not the same
person you were.

KAT
Yes I am. I mean I'm not doing *all*
the same stupid shit I used to. But
I still have trouble talking to
cops. Anytime they've ever been in
my face, I--

MADDY
You what? Panicked? Confessed when
you didn't mean to?

KAT
Well not exactly, but--

MADDY
Did you kill him?

KAT
What?

MADDY
Did you kill Victor?

KAT
No.

MADDY
Okay so just try to remember that
before you open your mouth.

Ash comes back in.

ASH
Her door's locked. I knocked and
yelled a little, but she didn't--

MADDY
I'll get her.

KAT
How?

MADDY
I've got a key.

KAT
Just to her room?

MADDY
No. To all of them. I thought you
would have figured that out.

She leaves.

KAT
Why would she have keys to all our
rooms?

ASH
Maybe for emergencies...

KAT
Emergencies. You mean like a...

ASH
Like a fire, yeah.

Maddy comes in.

KAT
What's going on?

MADDY
You tell *me*.

She is followed closely by Max and Hanna. Max has just finished getting dressed. Hanna is wrapped in a large blanket.

KAT
(off them both)
What the fuck is this?

MADDY
Hanna says this young man is your
brother.

MAX
I am.

KAT
(to Max)
Jesus. What were you doing with--

MADDY

Since when do you have a brother?

KAT

Since yesterday maybe.

MAX

No. It was yesterday.

Maddy's cell goes off. She steps away to answer it.

KAT

I meant maybe I have a brother.

(to Hanna)

Are you so hard up you'll bone anyone? He's just a kid.

MAX

It's no biggy. I do it a lot.

KAT

Yeah? And do you usually do it with freak shows like her?

HANNA

(to Max)

I told you she'd get nasty about it.

(to Kat)

What's it to you anyway. You don't even know him. And if you'd been awake to say hi when he got here, I wouldn't have had to entertain him.

KAT

(to Max)

How was she? Did she move at all, or just lie there and let you worship her?

HANNA

You were out cruising again, weren't you

(to Max)

Ask her how many guys came on her face last night.

(to Kat)

Whore.

KAT

Yes. You are.

Maddy steps back in.

MADDY

Okay knock it off. That was the police making sure we're coming.
(to Hanna)
Go finish getting dressed. They want to talk to us about Victor.

HANNA

So why can't they come here?

MADDY

Because I don't want the neighbours watching the police come into this house anymore.

HANNA

(to Ash)
That was your fault.
(to Max)
She tried to burn us all alive once.

ASH

(to Max)
I had problems. But I'm a little better now.

KAT

She means it was an accident.

ASH

(to Max)
I forgot there were other people in the house. I was supposed to be the only one who--

HANNA

Got burned to a crisp?

ASH

Yeah...
(puts out her hand to Max)
Ash.

MAX

Max.

ASH

And you're her actual brother?

MAX

Yeah.

ASH

(to Kat)

How cool is that, eh.

KAT

Yeah. Effing wow.

ASH

Think I better put something clean on.

MADDY

Good plan. And maybe lose a few of the piercings. They're cops, honey. Some of them are--

KAT

Assholes.

MADDY

She means they see certain things and they judge. Lose whatever you can without harming yourself.

HANNA

Yeah don't just yank the friggin' thing out of your nose.

ASH

That's funny.

(to Kat)

She says funny things sometimes.

Ash leaves.

HANNA

I don't like the way she said that. She's way freakier than she used to be.

Hanna leaves.

MADDY

I should probably go hurry them up.

Maddy leaves.

Kat looks at Max.

KAT

So did you have fun up there?

MAX

Yeah. She laughed a few times, and that was a little--

KAT

Weird?

MAX

Every time I... did something she'd laugh and say "Well that was a surprise" I asked her if she was okay. And she said, "Yeah, just surprised." It was kinda strange. But basically, it was nice. I like her.

KAT

Oh good. So... this isn't next week like I suggested.

MAX

No. But...

(he takes a note out of his pocket)

I wanted to give you this.

(hands it to her)

It's from our dad. He wants you to call him.

KAT

Call him. Not go see him. Just call him.

MAX

To start with, yeah. Like he says in the note. He thinks we should go slow.

KAT

Slow. Sure. I guess I thought he'd be excited to see me, but--

MAX

Well he got pretty worked up when I told him I'd found you.

KAT

Worked up.

MAX

He cried. You know, like a lot.
But then... Well basically he
doesn't know how mum would handle
it.

KAT

You mean handle *me*.

MAX

Handle *knowing* about you. That
you're alive, and that you're--

KAT

A low life criminal.

MAX

Both those things, I guess. Well
not a low life. Just a--

KAT

Criminal.

MAX

Yeah. But not even that anymore.
Right?

KAT

Right. Unless...

MAX

Unless shit happens...

KAT

And it usually does so--

MAX

Yeah but in case it doesn't. Or it
does but you can handle a certain
amount of shit now... do you think
you might do that? Call him?

KAT

Probably not.

MAX

Right. So... probably not. That
could actually mean maybe, couldn't
it.

KAT
Yeah. I guess so, but-

MAX
So how've you been?

KAT
Since yesterday?

MAX
Yeah. I mean Hanna told me about
that social worker guy getting
killed.

KAT
Yeah. That happened.

MAX
Right. And now you're off to talk
to the cops about it. So...

KAT
So... what?

MAX
Do you have any idea who did it?

KAT
Wasn't me if that's what you're
worried about.

MAX
Who says I'm worried.

KAT
You should probably be a little
worried. Just in case.

MAX
Just in case what?

KAT
In case I'm lying.

Maddy comes in.

MADDY
(to Kat)
You ready?

KAT

Sure.

MADDY

(yelling off)

Hanna! You coming!?

HANNA

(off)

Hold on!

MADDY

(to Max)

So can you wait for us?

KAT

Why would he want to do that?

MADDY

So we can have a talk.

KAT

About what?

MADDY

About you. What else?

Hanna appears in a very nice outfit.

HANNA

Okay. Let's go.

They all start out.

MADDY

That's a pretty dress, Hanna.

HANNA

Thanks. I was saving it for a special occasion.

KAT

And a visit to a police station qualifies, eh. Weirdo.

Ash appears with fewer piercings. And she is wearing a clean t-shirt.

ASH

Better?

48.

MADDY
Yeah it's fine.
(to Max)
Make yourself at home.

The women leave.

Max looks around.

MAX
Sure...

He sits. Looks around. Stands. Sits again.

MAX (CONT'D)
Right...

Blackout

SCENE 4

Max is gone.

We hear Maddy and Kat coming in the front door.

KAT
Hey! Stop pushing me.

MADDY
Get in the house.

KAT
No I gotta go find her!

MADDY
You're not going anywhere. Just get in!

KAT
No!

MADDY
I mean it!

Maddy is pushing Kat into the living room.

KAT
You don't get it! Someone's gotta go look for her.

MADDY
The police are doing that.

KAT
Yeah. And that's great, isn't it. Dumb-ass bullies!

Maddy enters.

MADDY
Okay. Calm down.

KAT
Did you see the smirk on that one cop's face. The rotten motherfucker! Ash started to cry and he-- I wanted to break a chair over the stupid prick's head.

Hanna comes in.

HANNA

You scared the shit out of that Uber driver.

KAT

Like I give a shit.

HANNA

(to Maddy)

He wanted to know if it was safe for me to be in here with her.

KAT

After what you pulled in front of those cops, probably not.

(to Maddy)

Ash is out there somewhere alone now, and she's gonna hurt herself!

MADDY

No she's not.

KAT

Yes she fucking is! When she's upset like this, she hears them call her.

MADDY

What are you talking about?

KAT

She hears the voices of those girls she left behind asking her to join them.

HANNA

Join them where? She knows they're dead, right. I mean those freaks shot them all when the cops were closing in. She knows that, doesn't she.

KAT

Yeah, Hanna. She does.

HANNA

Oh, so join them means--

MADDY

So hearing their voices, you think that's why she'll kill herself.

KAT

Because she thinks it was her fault that they're dead.

HANNA

Which it kinda was. I mean she's who told the police about that farmhouse. So that's why she's upset. It's guilt.

KAT

Okay. But it might also be because accused of murder and chased out of a police station by a couple of loud mouthed outta control cops!

HANNA

They weren't outta control.

KAT

Shut up.

HANNA

They were just doing their jobs.

KAT

I told you to shut your mouth, you dopey bitch! You keep talking and I'm gonna put my fist through your face!

HANNA

Fuck you! I can talk as much as I want, and you're not gonna stop--

Kat rushes her and is about to pound on her. Maddy intervenes and grabs Kat from behind.

MADDY

Kat. Get off her!

KAT

(to Hanna)

I warned you, didn't I. But you can't ever just shut the fuck up!!

MADDY

Kat! Knock it off!!

Maddy with a very large effort manages to pull Kat away.

MADDY (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ! I am so sick of the
crap between the two of you!

KAT

Look I know how she felt.

HANNA

You know shit about how I feel.

KAT

I was talking about Ash, you dumb
cunt!

(to Maddy)

I know what it's like when cops
focus on you like that. And it was
all because of the garbage this
fool was telling them about her!

Maddy's phone buzzes. She takes it into the kitchen.

HANNA

It was the truth! Ash is dangerous.

KAT

Just to herself.

HANNA

Oh yeah, right. What about the
fire? *And* she hit me once.

KAT

Everyone you know musta hit you at
least once. You told me Victor hit
you for mouthing off to him.

HANNA

It was just a slap. And so what?

KAT

So maybe *you* killed him!

HANNA

Ash killed him. She basically
admitted it.

KAT

No she didn't. She said she'd had a blackout.

HANNA

While she was with Victor.

KAT

While she was *looking* for Victor.

HANNA

Well put two and two together and you can assume she found him. The cops did.

KAT

After you went on about her sometimes being "outta control."

HANNA

I should have withheld evidence?

KAT

You should have kept everything you *thought* you knew inside your ridiculous brain. Just do that from now on, okay. Just stay in bed all day sucking on Gummy Bears or something.

HANNA

I've got low blood sugar!

Maddy returns. Putting away her phone.

KAT

Low blood sugar. Right. Here we go...

HANNA

Low blood sugar, deep anxiety and very low self esteem because of all the neglect I've had to suffer for most of my life. Even when I was first born. None of the nurses would come near me!

KAT

You remember that, do you?

HANNA

My parents told me about it. They thought it was funny. I told you. They're horrible peop--

KAT

(to Maddy)

Help me out here, will ya.

MADDY

Look, Hanna. No one thinks you don't have serious problems--

HANNA

(off Kat)

Except her.

MADDY

Well she doesn't know everything about your history. But that stuff you told the police about Ash, it was like you were trying hard to *make* them think it was her who killed Victor.

HANNA

I was just pointing them in a direction.

MADDY

A very specific direction.

KAT

And if Ash does anything to herself--

HANNA

It'll be because that's what she was always going to do. Look, I'm sorry about all the things she went through. Being a sex slave, that's really ugly. But if she's totally damaged then--

KAT

Then what? We should just let her rot in jail!?

HANNA

(to Maddy)

Who was that on the phone?

KAT
Was it the cops?

MADDY
No.

HANNA
Was it Ash?

MADDY
No. Look it's not--

HANNA
So who was it? Had to be someone.

MADDY
It was just a friend.

HANNA
You don't have any friends.

MADDY
Fuck off.

HANNA
Hey. You can't talk to me like that.

MADDY
Why not?

HANNA
Because you're not allowed. Because of your position here. Even if it is temporary.

MADDY
Right. I forgot. But fuck off anyway.

Max comes in with two bags of groceries. They look at him.

MAX
While I was waiting I got a little hungry, but there wasn't much in the kitchen so--

MADDY
You went shopping for us?

MAX

Well you were gone all night, so I thought when you got back I could make you breakfast. How did it go with the cops?

KAT

It was lovely.

HANNA

Ash ran away.

MAX

So... where is she now?

HANNA

We don't know.

KAT

(to Max)

Yeah. Do that.

MAX

Do what?

KAT

Make breakfast. I mean that's the only reason you're to here, right...

MAX

Yeah. Sure. Okay...

He starts into kitchen. Stops.

MAX (CONT'D)

About that call to Dad. It might be too complicated to get rolling on that right now.

KAT

Whatever.

HANNA

(to Max)

How long are you going to be staying anyway?

KAT

Why, you hoping to get another shot at him?

HANNA

No. I'm just wondering how come he can be away from home this long?

MAX

My parents think I'm at one of my cousins' place.

KAT

You've got cousins. Wow. There's a whole bunch of you in that family, eh. I thought Tom and Julia were on their own

MADDY

Who are they?

MAX

Our parents... I'll get breakfast going.

Max goes into the kitchen.

MADDY

What is it that he wants from you, Kat?

KAT

Probably nothing I can give him.

HANNA

He's lonely.
(off Kat's look)
He told me when we were upstairs. After his little sister died his parents stopped talking...

KAT

To him.

HANNA

Yeah. And each other. Sounds pretty bleak there. He thinks he's not enough.

MADDY

What's that mean, not enough?

HANNA

Not enough to help his mother. He thinks she just needs her daughter back.

KAT

(to Maddy)

He means the one who died.

MADDY

Or maybe he means the one who's still alive. Look you need to talk all this through with him. When you're allowed to leave here and spend more time with him, you can-

KAT

Whatya mean, when I'm "allowed". I've done my time. I can leave whenever I want.

MADDY

No. Sorry. I told the police I'd be responsible for you until--

KAT

Until when?

MADDY

Victor was killed. They don't know who did it. So...

KAT

They think it might be me. I mean if it wasn't Ash.

HANNA

Well you'd be next on my list for sure. If they think it was someone who had a problem with him, that'd be you, wouldn't it.

KAT

But not you.

HANNA

I never got into a fist fight with the man like you did.

KAT

No you just sent him threatening emails.

HANNA

There's no proof that was me.

KAT

It wouldn't be the first time you'd-

HANNA

All that happened when I was someone else.

KAT

We were all someone else, Hanna.

HANNA

Except for you. You were probably always the nightmare you are now.

MADDY

Shut up. Both of you. You can't go anywhere either, Hanna. They want you both staying put.

HANNA

That's okay by me. But how are you going to stop her from sneaking out every night?

MADDY

I'm going to ask her not to.

HANNA

Oh. Good plan.

KAT

(to Maddy)

No. I'll stop. I thought you were okay with it.

MADDY

It was what you needed to do for awhile.

HANNA

You mean screw half the city?

KAT

(to Maddy)

I don't know why it makes her happy to think that.

(to Hanna)

I walk, Hanna. *That's* what I do.

Maddy gets another call. She leaves.

HANNA

You walk. You just walk around.

KAT

It's a habit. When I was on the street, walking felt safer than sleeping.

HANNA

Okay. Yeah I get that.

KAT

Oh well good for you then.

HANNA

And you never get laid.

KAT

Only when I meet someone who--

HANNA

Who has a dick.

KAT

Not necessarily. And seriously, what the hell 's it to you anyway. It's not my fault you don't get any action.

HANNA

I've had my share.

KAT

Who with?

HANNA

With a lot of girls who've come through.

KAT

Name one. Come on. Just one and I'll shut up.

HANNA

Okay. Cara.

KAT

Cara. She was the blind chic,
right.

HANNA

Partially blind.

KAT

You mean blind *enough*.

HANNA

Oh go fuck yourself.

KAT

Sure. You wanna watch?

Maddy comes back in.

KAT (CONT'D)

(to Maddy)

So Ash and me are the only ones on
the cops' list.

(off Hanna)

What about *her*?

MADDY

No one's told me she's in the clear
either.

HANNA

They haven't?

KAT

And what about all the other girls
who've been here that Victor mighta
pissed off?

MAX

(steps out of kitchen)

Five minutes. Maybe someone can set
the table.

They look at each other.

MADDY

A reasonable request.

Kat and Hanna get to the task.

KAT
Who was on the phone that time?

MADDY
Muncie.
(off her look)
Will Muncie? My boss? It was him
the last time too.

She is just looking at them.

KAT
What's wrong?

MADDY
The police have been looking into
all of us

HANNA
All of us. You mean you too?

KAT
(to Maddy)
They found out you had a record.

MADDY
Yeah. But Will knew that. What he
didn't know is that I'm currently
seeing a psychiatrist.

HANNA
You are?

MADDY
Yes, Hanna. I am.

KAT
And he's got a problem with you
doing that?

MADDY
He wants me to tell him *why* I'm
doing it. And I'm wondering why
can't I be allowed to have issues
just like anyone else.

KAT
You can.
(to Hanna)
Right?

HANNA

Sure. As long as her issues don't get in the way of my issues.

MADDY

I bet half the social workers in this city are in some kind of therapy. I guess I was supposed to leave my "troubled" past behind and become a completely new person. I'll see if he needs any help in there.

She goes into kitchen.

HANNA

I'm not happy that she's in therapy.

KAT

She's probably not happy that you're in her *life*. Why shouldn't she look for help. The memories of all the bad things someone's been through don't just fade away, you know.

HANNA

Maybe that's why you're so messed up and dangerous? Your memories haven't faded. Why are you smiling? It could be the truth.

KAT

Okay. But the truth about you is a lot scarier.

HANNA

Sure it is.

KAT

Yeah these problems you say you had with your family, that's just smoke. You're actually just a fucking psycho.

Hanna continues putting down the plates

KAT (CONT'D)

(laying out cutlery)

You didn't wind up in the system because your parents ignored you. When you were in Juvie, a friend of mine was in there with you.

HANNA

Yeah, so what?

KAT

There was a lot of talk in there about you, girl.

HANNA

Well I guess they thought I was sort of special.

KAT

Yeah. A violent female stalker who'd just tried to kill her best friend... that definitely made you special.

HANNA

Yeah yeah I know. Those kinds of stalkers are usually men. So those bitches in there tried to make it a bigger deal than it actually was. But--

KAT

Then there's that thing you had with Victor.

HANNA

It wasn't... a thing.

Kat is closing in.

KAT

Sure it was. Until he dumped you. If the cops find out about that, you become suspect number one.

HANNA

No way.

KAT

Come on, with what you did to that sweet little girlfriend of yours.
(MORE)

65.

KAT (CONT'D)

Trying to crush her against a garage door with the family's Range Rover. That was ugly Hanna. That was some demented shit. And I think the cops should hear more about it.

Hanna suddenly picks up a fork from the table. Turns on Kat with it.

KAT (CONT'D)

Really? A fork?

HANNA

Get outta my face or this goes in your fucking eye.

KAT

Chill, Hon. I'm not gonna say anything.

(smiles)

Not if you stop.

HANNA

Stop what?

KAT

Stop trying to put what happened to Victor on Ash. She's been through enough, don't ya think.

(closer)

Don't you!?

HANNA

Leave me alone, okay.

They continue to set the table.

Max and Maddy bring out the breakfast.

MAX

Scrambled eggs and toast. It's all I really know how to do.

KAT

Looks good.

They all sit around the table except Hanna.

MADDY

Hanna?

HANNA
I'm not hungry.

She leaves.

KAT
I'll have her share.

MADDY
I heard all that. Threatening her
isn't going to help anyone.

KAT
You think I should just move on to
torture then?

Kat starts to eat. Toast first. Then some eggs.

Blackout

SCENE 5

Night

Max is on the couch, dozing. Ash comes in from outside, quietly. Max stirs, sits up.

ASH
Hi.

MAX
Hi.

ASH
Are they all sleeping?

MAX
I think so.

ASH
I just came for food.

She heads into kitchen.

MAX
I did some shopping, so there's
stuff in the fridge.

ASH
(from kitchen)
You went shopping for them.

MAX
I was trying to be helpful.

ASH
(from kitchen)
So they'd let you stay. Good plan.

She comes out of the kitchen with a jar of pickles.

ASH (CONT'D)
(eating a pickle)
You got trouble at home?

MAX
Well not like the kind you're in.

ASH
I'm in the shit.

MAX
Sounds like, yeah. Did you kill
that man?

ASH
I had to. He was trying to stop me
from escaping. He caught up to me
in that field, but I had a weapon
on me.

MAX
What?

ASH
Broken glass. I got the idea from
Jackie. That's how she-- Don't tell
anyone. I don't think they've even
found his body yet.

(off his look)

Oh you mean Victor. Could have
killed him too. I can't remember.
That would have been harder. He
wasn't allowed to live here, so I
would've had to track him down. The
basement. Does that sound like a
good idea? I could hide down there
until...

MAX
Until what? Have you got a plan?

ASH
No. No plans. Tomorrow could be
different. If I remember something,
then maybe I could plan something.
Did you buy cheese? I could sure
use some cheese.

MAX
Okay...

He starts towards kitchen.

MAX (CONT'D)
Ash? Can I ask you something. Why
are you even here?

ASH
I told you. I came for food.

MAX
No I mean what is it you did wrong?

ASH
Besides killing that guy in the field and maybe Victor?

MAX
Yeah... like originally.

ASH
Oh. I set fire to my parents' house.

MAX
Really? Were you trying to kill them?

ASH
For sure. They were stupid people. They had it coming, but they got out alive. After that I tried to kill myself the same way.
(shrugs)
Another failure obviously. Cheese?

MAX
Yeah.

He goes into the kitchen

ASH
Nothing soft. Cheddar! Did you get something strong like that?!

MAX
(sticks his head out)
Shh. You'll wake them up...
(listens)
Too late.

Someone is coming down.

ASH
(to herself)
No. Not good...

She runs into kitchen...

Kat comes in. Looking around.

Max comes out of the kitchen.

KAT

What's going on?. I heard someone.

MAX

That was me.

KAT

What? Talking to yourself?

MAX

I guess so. I was looking through the fridge... wondering what I could make for dinner. I mean if that's okay. I'm a guy, right. And I know guys aren't supposed to be living here.

KAT

You're living here now?

MAX

No. But you know what I mean. I'm a--

KAT

You're a guy, yeah. You know what? No one seems to care. They must think you're harmless.

MAX

I am.

KAT

Right. So go ahead. Plan dinner. I'll just...

She stretches out on the couch.

MAX

You're not going back to sleep?

KAT

I wasn't asleep. I was just lying in bed. Might as well do that here.

MAX

You have trouble sleeping, eh?
Me too. I mean I did. After I
started high school.

KAT

Too much pressure?

MAX

Too much Oxi.

KAT

Ah fuck me.
(sits up fast)
What the... You think I need to
hear that shit?
(stands)
Hi, I'm your brother, and guess
what, I'm a fucking junkie. Jesus
Christ!

MAX

No it's--

KAT

Go the fuck away. I can't deal with
that!

MAX

No look, calm down, okay. I
stopped.

KAT

Yeah sure you did.

MAX

No. Honest. I stopped awhile ago.
And... I only started because it
all got to be too much.

KAT

It always starts because it gets to
be too much

MAX

Yeah but Leanne dying, Dad in
prison, mum getting sick. Come on,
cut me some slack...

KAT

Yeah. Okay. I get that. That's definitely too much. But you definitely quit?

MAX

Yeah...

KAT

Good...

She sits. He sits next to her

MAX

So... how about you? What was your "too much?"

KAT

Nothing.

MAX

Come on. There must have--

KAT

Too much nothing.
(looks at him)
Nothing to look forward to. Nothing I could see in the future that was any better than the past.

MAX

Okay... And now?

KAT

And now it could actually be worse out there. When I leave here I'm might starve to death.

MAX

(sitting next to her)
Not if you get a job.

KAT

(shakes her head)
Me and jobs, man.

MAX

You don't think you can get one?

KAT

Getting one's possible. Keeping one's the problem.

(off his look)

It's hard to go from nobody caring about you to people always boss you around.

MAX

Yeah. Sure, But--

KAT

How come you don't want me to phone "Dad" all of a sudden. You think he might just want me to fuck off and leave them alone?

MAX

No. He probably just needs more time to figure things out.

KAT

That sounds like a load of crap. Are we gonna have a relationship based on crap, Max.

MAX

He's not over losing Leanne, and he's having a really tough time dealing with Mum's problems. The thing is, he's kind of weak. And I'm worried he'll do something stupid that puts him in prison again.

KAT

Because Of me?

MAX

Because that's what he does when he's confused. And you being in the picture confuses him.

KAT

Sure. Whatever. Look it's gonna be hard enough for me going forward. Going... back might give me more garbage to deal with. I gotta think about this.

(sits up)

I need to hit the street.

She hurries out.

Ash comes out of the kitchen, eating cheddar cheese.

ASH

It's not always good when she heads out there to think. Sometimes she just *does* things that make it worse.

MAX

I've probably already made it worse.

ASH

Maybe. But at least you're here. She's never had anyone before.

Pointing to the blanket on the couch.

ASH (CONT'D)

I think I'll need that.

She takes it.

ASH (CONT'D)

The floor down there is probably pretty cold.

MAX

You're going to sleep on the basement floor?

ASH

Won't be the first time.

(off his look)

Not this basement. I'm not going to tell you about it because it'd only make you feel really sorry for me. And I don't need anymore of that in my life.

She heads into the basement.

Blackout

SCENE 6

Hanna is at the table. In a bathrobe. Her hair wet. Max is pouring her cereal.

HANNA

What are you now? Our butler?

MAX

Just trying to help out while I'm here.

HANNA

And how long is that gonna be?

MAX

Until I'm asked to leave, I guess.

HANNA

So bringing Kat into the mix, that stirred things up at home, right. I'd pushing the idea. She won't fit in. She doesn't fit in anywhere.

MAX

That's not all her fault though, right.

HANNA

If you say so.

MAX

Well whatever's wrong with you, is that all your fault? I mean you're here, aren't you? And you were in Juvie, so you must have done something wrong.

HANNA

Maybe I was innocent. Did you ever consider that?

MAX

Were you?

HANNA

I gave my affection to the wrong person.

MAX

That's it?

HANNA

No that's not "it!". I thought she cared about me. But she didn't. Not in the way I needed her to. And that deeply disappointed me and made me very very angry. So... technically what I did, or tried to do, to her was against the law. But really on a human level, considering how often I was left alone by my parents, it was totally understandable.

MAX

I wish my parents would leave me alone more.

HANNA

Okay I wasn't actually finished talking about myself. But sure... your parents. Go ahead.

MAX

It's just that they rely on me too much. I know it's been hard for them, and I try to help... but I'm still basically a kid, right.

HANNA

Well at least they're in the same city as you are. Mine did most of their living in other countries. And I was never allowed to complain about it. "Do you like this lifestyle our business is providing for you or not?" "If the answer is yes, try to suck it up and make some friends for chrissake." And have they visited me here? Not even once. Okay I told them not to. I told them I'd kill myself if they did, but even so...

(looks at him)

By the way, where'd you sleep last night?

MAX

On the couch.

HANNA

Okay, so that feels like rejection. Was it? Were you rejecting me by sleeping down here?

Max heads into kitchen.

HANNA (CONT'D)

Where are you going? I was just asking a simple question.

MAX

I'm gonna make you some toast.

HANNA

Well that's different. As long as you're not avoiding the issue. Lots of butter. Not margarine. And marmalade. Okay? Marmalade!

MAX

(off)
Got it.

HANNA

Where's everyone else?

MAX

(off)
Out. Kat left when it was still dark. And Maddy went to see the police.

HANNA

About Ash?

MAX

(off)
Dunno.

HANNA

Maybe they found her.

MAX

(off)
Maybe.

HANNA

Well if they didn't, I think she should just turn herself in.

(MORE)

78.

HANNA (CONT'D)

With her background they'll definitely go easy on her.

MAX

(out of kitchen)

How can they go easy on someone they think is a murderer?

HANNA

What she went through was the worst. And not even with the same people. She was sold twice.

MAX

Sold?

HANNA

That's the rumour. What about my toast?

MAX

Yeah...

He heads back into kitchen.

MAX (CONT'D)

(off)

But she might not have done it. You know, killed what's-his-name. I don't think she really believes she did.

HANNA

You've been talking to her?

Ash comes in. Wrapped in blanket. Shivering. Dirty. Messed up.

ASH

Yeah. He has.

HANNA

Jesus. Where you been?

ASH

Basement.

HANNA

All this time?

ASH
No. Just last night.

Max brings out Hanna's toast.

MAX
(to Ash)
Are you okay?

ASH
Could I get a coffee?

MAX
Sure.

He heads back into kitchen. Ash sits at the table.

ASH
(to Hanna)
This is cool. It's like we're in a
restaurant.

HANNA
Maybe in your fucked up head it is.
Maybe next you'll be thinking we're
having a picnic by the lake or
something.

ASH
That's funny.
(to Max)
She can be very funny sometimes.

MAX
Yeah. It takes a little getting
used to but--

HANNA
(to Ash)
What's up with all the running and
hiding?

ASH
It felt like what I should do.

HANNA
Well it's not helping anyone. Until
they can be sure it was you who
bashed his head in, I might still
be a suspect. Kat is for sure.

ASH
Okay. But I don't think I should
lie about it.

HANNA
So you're saying you didn't kill
the man.

ASH
I don't know.

MAX
(bringing in a coffee)
So it'd be a lie to say she did.

HANNA
So what's a fucking lie under these
circumstances. I mean what are they
going to do to her anyway. She'll
be sent back to the hospital for a
few years and then... whatever.

MAX
What's that mean? Whatever?

HANNA
Well that's what's going to happen
to her no matter what. A lot of
whatevers and who the fuck knows.

MAX
Okay but--

HANNA
Stay out of it. We're trying to get
this thing sorted out.

MAX
I understand, but--

HANNA
(standing)
I mean it. Butt the fuck out!

ASH
(to Max)
It's okay. She's just scared.
(to Hanna)
I'll think about it. Okay?

MAX

Think about what? Confessing to something without knowing if you really did it?

ASH

But I can remember hating him a lot. So there's a good chance I did.

HANNA

Just what I've been saying. Here. Have some of my toast.

MAX

(to Ash)

I'll make you some eggs if you want.

ASH

Thanks...

He smiles, goes back into the kitchen.

HANNA

Me too.

(no response.)

Did you hear me?! Eggs for me too!

MAX

(off)

Sure!

HANNA

(looks at Ash)

You had a rough night down there, eh. Maddy says there are rats in that basement.

ASH

I like rats.

HANNA

Yeah I forgot.

Kat comes in. She also looks pretty rough.

KAT

(taking in Ash)

Hey. What the--

HANNA
She spent the night in the
basement.

KAT
(to Ash)
Why?

HANNA
Because she's on the run, why else.
How did you spend your night? Bent
over a park bench, taking it in the
ass?

KAT
Not now, Creepy Girl.

HANNA
I'm just wondering why you look so--

KAT
That means shut the fuck up, okay!
Jesus, Ash. The cops were just--

ASH
They scared me.

KAT
(hugging her)
Okay, but they were just asking
questions.

HANNA
Questions she couldn't answer.
Questions that were maybe leading
to the truth.

KAT
Which is?

HANNA
You know what it is.

KAT
(turning to her)
No I don't. And neither do you.
Why? Just tell me why she'd wanna
kill the guy?

ASH
Because I hated him?

HANNA

Yeah. And because you're not right
in your freakin' head.

MAX

(coming in)

I know someone who isn't right in
her head. And she's never going to
kill anyone. Except maybe herself.

HANNA

Who's that.

KAT

His mother.

HANNA

You mean *your* mother. Jesus. If
she's in bad shape now, wait until
she has to start dealing with you.

MAX

No I think it'll help.

ASH

It helped me.

HANNA

What did?

ASH

What he said about his mother.
Because I don't want to hurt anyone
most of the time either. I just
have these other times when I can't
figure out where I am or where I
might *still* be. And that maybe I
should do something to protect
myself. And that makes me...

HANNA

(quietly to Max)

Really really dangerous.

ASH

He was on me a lot to forget about
the situation I was in.

KAT

You mean Victor.

ASH

He was telling me all the time that if I'd just be stronger, things would be okay.

KAT

That's what he thought about all of us. That we were weak. It was like we disgusted him or something.

HANNA

Not me. He liked me.

KAT

He wanted to fuck you. Just like he wanted to fuck me.

ASH

And me. I remember that.

KAT

(to Hanna)

Only difference is, you let him. And we didn't.

ASH

That's probably why I bit him. He was always grabbing me.

KAT

Me too. Grabbing my tits, my ass. Shoving his hand down my pants. It was pathetic. I felt sorry for him at first. I mean he was pretty old, right. Then no, fuck that. We were "under his supervision" and none of us in great shape... But he didn't see us as anything except targets.

HANNA

He was lonely.

KAT

What?

HANNA

He'd get carried away. That's all. Just because he wanted to have sex with us didn't mean he didn't like us. And he was very tender with me.

KAT

Tender. Okay, you're definitely the most messed up person I've ever met in my whole fucking life.

ASH

Including me?

KAT

You're different. You were--

HANNA

(suddenly)

He liked me! That's why he did it with me.

(off Max)

It's the same reason he had for doing it with me. He liked me. Even though he's gonna deny it now.

MAX

No I still kinda like you. You just scare me a little.

HANNA

I scare you. But you're willing to have...

(off Kat)

... this violent freak in your family? She tried to crack my skull open a month ago. And she does shit like that all the time.

(to Kat)

Tell him. Tell him how you knocked out two of Victor's teeth. And what crap you'll do to his family eventually.

(to Max)

By the way, fuck you with that I "scare" you bullshit.

Hanna leaves the room.

KAT

(to Ash)

It doesn't matter. I'm not going anywhere near his family.

MAX

She means not right now.

KAT
I mean not ever.

ASH
Not even if you've got nowhere else
to live?

KAT
No. Not even then.

MAX
Okay, then I better stay with you.
Because you're going to need
someone to help you.

KAT
Help me how? Look never mind. Just
go home. I'm leaving here in a
little while anyway.

MAX
Yeah. And I'm coming with you.

Hanna comes in, wiping her eyes with a damp cloth.

HANNA
To where?

KAT
Shut up... Hey, what's this? You
been crying?

HANNA
Who cares?
(to Max)
She has no idea where she'll wind
up.
(to Kat)
Do you?

KAT
No. I don't.

HANNA
Well there you go.

Hanna goes into the kitchen.

MAX

(to Kat)

There's no way I can just say
goodbye to you now.

ASH

Yeah it's too sad. Leaving people
behind is the worst thing there is.
Even if they're shit people like my
parents. And you need some kind of
family.

KAT

I can take you. You're some kind of
family.

Hanna comes out of the kitchen, opening a can of peaches.

HANNA

But she'll be in jail.

KAT

Look just be quiet, okay. I'm
asking you nicely.

Hanna is fishing the peach slices out of the can with her
fingers.

HANNA

Either in jail or a mental
hospital.

ASH

She told you to be quiet!

HANNA

Or grabbed by some other psychos
and--

ASH

Hey!! That's not funny, okay.

(up fast)

So shut the fuck up, you know-
nothing-cunt!

Ash pulls a switchblade and flicks it open.

HANNA

(standing and backing
away)

Ah, what the...

KAT

Ash.

ASH

Tell her she needs to keep her mouth closed.

KAT

Okay, but please--

ASH

Just tell her!

HANNA

It's okay. I hear you. Back off, okay. I'm really scared.

ASH

Are you?

HANNA

Yes...

ASH

I'm sorry... But I can't take any of your shit right now. Unless it's funny. And that wasn't funny.

(points to her head)

Right now you're just another voice in here. And I don't need it, okay!

HANNA

Yeah. Okay...

ASH

(crying)

What's going on anyway? I can't help those girls. They're all dead. So why are they still asking me to--

(to Kat)

What's going on with me?

KAT

Maybe you're thinking you should have been and killed and thrown away like garbage too. Is that maybe it?

ASH

Maybe, yeah.

KAT

But why?

ASH

Why not? Nowhere is safe. That road wasn't safe. That park wasn't safe. Not even in the middle of the day. Nobody saw what was happening. Arm around my neck. Pushed into a van, and no one saw...

(off knife)

That's why I need this.

KAT

Yeah... Where'd you get that anyway?

ASH

Same place I get everything I need. In the ravine. Drugs. Weapons like this.

KAT

You don't need that, babe.

ASH

Sure I do. Because it could happen again, and no one would notice. So I'm scared.

KAT

I know.

ASH

Yeah. But...
(off Hanna)
Does *she*?

HANNA

I do now.

ASH

That's good. So keep quiet, okay, and let me think about leaving this place with my friends here.

HANNA

Okay...

ASH
(sitting)
Okay. So I'll just think about
that. And then make a decision.

KAT
All right. Can you get rid of the
knife though.

HANNA
Because we're not going to hurt
you.

KAT
And you're going to stop saying
things that aren't funny.

HANNA
Definitely.

ASH
Then no problem.

Ash pockets the knife.

KAT
I think it's better if you give it
to me.

ASH
No. I can't do that.

KAT
Ash.

ASH
I can't... do... that!!
(to Hanna)
Don't worry. I'm not mad at you
anymore.

HANNA
Oh, good.

Hanna sits.

Maddy comes in.

MADDY

Hi, Ash.
(a weak smile)
Welcome home.

ASH

(almost a whisper)
Thanks...

MADDY

What's been going on? You look a little ragged.

HANNA

She slept in the basement. But I didn't know that at the time.

KAT

You mean or you would have turned her in.

HANNA

For her own good, sure. Am I the only one who gets how serious this situation is?

MADDY

I've got a fair idea. The police have a person who saw someone in the alley behind Victor's house that night. They were passing out your photos in the neighbourhood and that person--

KAT

Recognized one of us?

MADDY

I think we should talk about how we're going to handle this.

HANNA

What's that mean? Handle it?

MADDY

Well we know quite a lot about each other, don't we? Maybe we know enough to show each other some special concern because of all we've been through.

(MORE)

MADDY (CONT'D)

And we definitely know this is not a normal situation we're in.

(a glance at Ash)

We can't deal with problems the way most people, especially the police, would. Because we know the consequences could be severe. Maybe deserved. Maybe not entirely.

(another glance at Ash)

But definitely more damaging to one of us... than it would be to most others. So what I'm saying is... we need to talk about that a bit. We need to see if there's anything we can do to make those consequences less severe.

She sits at the table,

MADDY (CONT'D)

Max. Can you fix us a little snack?

KAT

A snack. We're going to have a snack.

MADDY

Food calms people and helps them think more clearly.

KAT

I'd rather get high.

MADDY

Too bad. Max?

MAX

(heads into kitchen)
Coming right up.

MADDY

(to Hanna)
How about you go help him.

HANNA

Why?

MADDY

Just do it.

Hanna shrugs, goes into the kitchen

Maddy looks at Kat then beckons Ash to sit next to her.

MADDY (CONT'D)
Come over here.

ASH
Oh...
(to herself)
This is going to be bad.
(to Kat)
I'm going to get locked up again,
aren't I.

Ash sits.

Kat sits beside her.

KAT
(hugs her)
I won't let them hurt you.
(crying)
I won't... ever... let them hurt
you...

Blackout

SCENE 7

Kat and Max on the couch.

MAX

When I was a little kid I wanted to be a cop.

KAT

Yeah so did I.

MAX

Really?

KAT

I liked the way they took control of a situation. Bad people were taken away, and everyone else could get on with their lives. Then later... I was the person they were coming to take away. So that was different. That was a war I was in, and the cops always won. Because I couldn't get what was going on inside me under control. Still can't sometimes.

MAX

And that's anger, right.

KAT

Maddy's says it's fear. And it comes from having no support. She calls it support. I call it not having a better life... with something or someone in it that's gonna be there no matter how bad it gets.

MAX

Like me.

KAT

Someone who wants to help make it just okay even.

MAX

Like I do.

KAT

Someone who'd have a hard time giving up on me.

MAX

I'll never do that. Promise.

KAT

Okay. If you say so.

(a gentle punch on his arm)

Maddy told me I'd find someone like that one day.

MAX

Not someone. Me. Except I found you. But that thing about fear sounds right. So Maddy's good at this. Helping you figure things out, I mean.

KAT

Sometimes.

MAX

What about Victor? Did he ever help like that?

KAT

(thinks)

I think he must have wanted to at the beginning. I mean why get into that work if helping people isn't what you wanna do. No matter how tired or disappointed you get. And when someone's supposed to help you and then acts like he doesn't really give a shit, you're gonna have a very big problem with him, right. I did. And so did Ash. He thought she was basically just a mental case, and she knew that. But when he started to get... personal, that was just too fucking much.

(looks at Max)

I think sometime, maybe when... your mother's a little better, I'd like to meet--

MAX

Mum's not gonna get better. Not without you there.

KAT

No that's just some idea you've got in your head, but it's not--

MAX

Losing Leanne and not having you there... not ever having had you there, is a very big sadness she's got in her that won't go away. It's just too...

KAT

Don't cry, man. I can't--

MAX

No no it's okay. I was just... Anyway we've gotta give Dad some time to just suck it up. We can move around or stay here. Whatever you want. Then in a little while we let him meet you, and see how much you look like Mum and--

KAT

I do? I look like her?

MAX

Oh yeah. And when he sees that and gets to know you like I already do, then--

KAT

And how's that? How do you know me?

MAX

Well... I guess I know you well enough to love you.

Kat just looks at him. He takes her hand.

KAT

Jesus...

MAX

Don't cry, man.

KAT
(is she?)
Me? Cry? No worries there...

Hanna comes in. Sits next to them.

HANNA
They're leaving.

KAT
Right now?

HANNA
Yeah... What's wrong with you two?

MAX
Nothing...

KAT
We're fine.

Maddy comes in..

MADDY
All right. I'm just waiting for her
to finish getting dressed

KAT
Okay but--

MADDY
I'll take care of her.

KAT
Yeah... because someone *thinking*
that they saw her doesn't mean they
actually did.

MADDY
I know...

KAT
And don't leave her alone with
them. Ever. A couple of huge cops
hovering over her... I've been
there. You'll say almost anything
to get them to back off.

MADDY
Got it. I better go hurry her up.

Maddy heads back upstairs

KAT

(to Max)

Maybe you should go have that talk with your dad now. Tell him we're gonna back off the big *reunion* for awhile. Give him a chance to get his head around the idea.

HANNA

What idea?

KAT

The idea of me.

HANNA

The idea of you. Who the hell could ever get their head around that?

(to Max)

And you could use a shower.

MAX

Right. So...

He grabs his jacket.

MAX (CONT'D)

See ya soon.

KAT

Yeah...

He hugs her. Leaves.

HANNA

So it's not such an easy thing inserting yourself into that family.

KAT

I really don't want to talk about it.

HANNA

Sure. You know, you really have to learn to open up. Even a little would be an improvement. You were right about him needing a shower though. I was gonna have to mention it eventually.

Kat just looks at her.

KAT

We can't let Ash take the blame for this.

HANNA

What are you talking about?

KAT

I'm talking about what Maddy said. The special situation we're in. The special circumstances... for Ash.

HANNA

Which the police and the courts will take into consideration.

KAT

But not enough. There won't be enough "consideration" to help Ash in any real way. If they don't put her in prison she'll wind up a mental ward forever. How's that gonna be okay.

HANNA

But she killed him. She was seen.

KAT

Not actually killing him she wasn't. I could make them think it was someone else.

HANNA

Who?

Kat just looks at her. Hard.

Slowly Hanna gets it.

HANNA (CONT'D)

You fucker!

KAT

Well it makes sense. Look how Victor treated you. And you have a history of lashing out when you get thrown aside.

HANNA

That happened once. Just once.

KAT

No you told me you were just as mad at Victor as you were with that girl you tried to crush with your Daddy's car.

HANNA

No I didn't.

KAT

We had a long conversation about it.

HANNA

No. We did not! And I didn't try to crush her. I just pinned her against the garage so she'd have to stay put and listen to me

KAT

No you told me you meant to kill her. That was a big part of the conversation you say we didn't have. And telling the cops about that conversation might be enough to get them to--

HANNA

You're fucked up, aren't you. You're on something.

KAT

If you say so.

HANNA

What are you doing?

KAT

You mean what am I gonna do? I'm gonna tell the police what actually happened.

HANNA

Oh come on. They're not going to--

KAT

Relax. I was just messing with you. Were you scared?
(MORE)

101.

KAT (CONT'D)

You were, weren't you? So try to
imagine how Ash feels!

Hanna just looks at her.

Maddy comes in unsteadily. Covered in blood.

KAT (CONT'D)

What the--

HANNA

Jesus...

KAT

What did she do?!

She tries to rush past Maddy, but Maddy grabs her.

KAT (CONT'D)

Let me go.

MADDY

No...

KAT

Let me go!

MADDY

Kat! She's gone.

KAT

No!!

Kat frees herself and run upstairs.

Maddy sits, in a daze.

HANNA

Are you sure.

(off Maddy's empty look)

Are you sure she's...

MADDY

She cut her throat. I called the
ambulance just in case... but
yeah... She's dead.

A loud piercing cry from Kat above.

Blackout

SCENE 8

Later

Maddy, Kat and Hanna sitting quietly

KAT
Maybe this is better.

They look at her.

KAT (CONT'D)
They would have had to put her away
somewhere. Hospital. Psyche ward.
Maybe even jail.

MADDY
It would never have been jail.

KAT
Doesn't matter. Wherever it was,
she would have just faded away.
Putting her in a mental ward. That
would have been like putting her on
a shelf somewhere.

HANNA
She's right.

MADDY
Hanna, don't.

HANNA
But she's right. You think I like
admitting she's right? They did
that to me when I broke down. They
just put me in a room and drugged
me.

KAT
(to Maddy)
They would have never been sure
about Ash. She would have always
been watched. At least here with us
she had moments when she was just
getting on with it.

HANNA

Feeding rodents. Sharing her food with them. And thinking about killing someone.

KAT

No way.
(to Maddy)
You think that? That she planned it?

MADDY

No. Something happened between them. Maybe Victor said something or did something...

KAT

She has to have a funeral.

MADDY

I know that.

HANNA

And you need to let her family know.

KAT

No. She wouldn't want them there.

MADDY

But I think I'm obligated to let them--

KAT

She wouldn't fucking want them there, okay!

MADDY

(exhales)

Okay... Okay... I'm probably going to get fired anyway.

HANNA

They can't do that. I need you.

MADDY

What?

HANNA

I need you.

MADDY

You do?

HANNA

Well I need somebody. And I'm getting used to you, so...

KAT

She's right. They can't fire you just because you're seeing a shrink.

MADDY

A shrink who warned the police that I might be about to harm someone.

HANNA

Harm who?

KAT

Victor.

(to Maddy)

Why? What was he doing to you?

MADDY

Nothing. It's what I was sure he was doing to all of you. I had a hard time believing it at first because when I came here myself just out of detention, Victor was an okay guy. Helpful. Kind. So that's what can happen? You can just... lose respect for people who really need your help. They become just bad girls to you. Bad girls who'd done a lot of bad stupid things without ever considering the consequences. Bad worthless girls. Well worthless except for the pleasure they can offer. I told Muncie what I thought he was up to. He said he didn't believe it. But really, it was just too much for him to deal with. So I started thinking about putting an end to it myself.

KAT

You mean putting an end to Victor.

MADDY

(smiles)

It was just a passing thought at first. Something that pops into your head then goes away. Except it didn't. Not ever. So I started talking to my therapist about it. And I guess I talked about it in a way that made him believe I might actually do it.

KAT

So he reported you.

MADDY

When I was your age I did a lot of messed up shit when I needed to get high. Never killed anyone, but I'm pretty sure I could have. The fact that I was even considering it now was pretty... intense.

(to Kat)

I think you should spend some time with that family you just found out about?

HANNA

I think she should stay right where she is. You can tell your superiors that she still needs a lot of supervision.

KAT

You want me to stay?

HANNA

Well I'm used to you.

(off Maddy)

Like I'm used to her. You're people who are... here. We're together. Like all the time. And I'm okay with Max visiting when he wants. I mean without any expectations on my part.

(to Maddy)

Plus you should *fight* to stay with us. Because why not? You didn't actually kill him. You just talked about it. I mean we all *want* to kill someone sometimes.

(off Kat)

(MORE)

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HANNA (CONT'D)

We want to kill each other maybe
three or four times a day.

(to Kat)

Right?

KAT

At least.

Maddy looks at them. Almost smiles.

THE END