

Moirai
01x02
Punishment

written by
Erica Bergonzi

+39 3463196255
ericabergonzi90@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

A man sits on the couch. He yawns, relaxed, and turns on the TV. Then there's a thud at the window; he looks, but sees nothing unusual.

When he looks back at the TV, Victoria is standing behind the couch. Before he realises it, she stabs him in the heart. The stab wound disappears; the shears turn to dust. Victoria blows the dust away. She steps away from the dead body as a woman enters the living room.

WOMAN

Babe, is everything alright.

The man doesn't answer. Instead, the woman sees Victoria standing next to him. She freezes in shock, her eyes wide.

VICTORIA

I don't want to hurt you.

She raises her hands to show the woman she only has good intentions. The woman slowly takes a few steps back; her voice is shaky.

WOMAN

Who are you and what do you want from us?

VICTORIA

Nothing.

Victoria takes a few steps toward the woman, her hands still raised.

WOMAN

Don't move.

Victoria freezes. The woman looks around the room and spots a heavy vase on one of the shelves. Victoria notices it.

VICTORIA

I wouldn't do it if I were you.

The woman doesn't listen. She grabs the vase and swings it.

Victoria ducks; the vase crashes against the wall, shattering into pieces.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Stop! Please—

The woman rushes toward the door, panicking. Victoria reaches out, just trying to stop her.

The woman twists free, trips on the rug, falls backward and hits her head on the table. A dull crack. Silence.

Victoria stands frozen. She's human again, staring at the lifeless body.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Shit... shit, shit, shit.

She paces the room, trembling. She has to think quickly. She walks into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

She scans the room; her pace is fast and nervous. She has to come up with something. There's only one thing she can do right now: she turns on the gas and runs out of the house as fast as she can.

EXT. STREET - EVENING

Victoria walks down the street trying to act casual when there's a huge explosion. The blast lights up the night sky. She hides in a dark alley, breathing hard, her face lit by the distant flames.

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT ONE

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - JOEY'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Joey and Will lie in bed making out, the music covering their heavy breaths and moans.

WILL
Joey Kensington, I am totally in
love with you.

Joey chuckles, then kisses him fondly.

JOEY
You say that every time you want me
to stop thinking.

WILL
Does it work.

JOEY
Maybe. Sometimes.

Will grins, rolling onto his back.

WILL
You're such a liar.

JOEY
You love that about me.

WILL
I really do.

They both laugh. Joey sits up and grabs the bag of chips from the nightstand.

JOEY
You want.

WILL
In bed, you're a monster.

JOEY
You literally eat pizza in the
shower.

WILL
That was one time.

Joey throws a chip at him. Will catches it in his mouth, proud.

JOEY
Okay, that was actually impressive.

WILL
Thank you. Years of training.

They both fall into easy laughter, the kind that only happens when everything feels safe.

After a moment, Joey looks at him, quieter now.

JOEY
You know... I kind of like this. Us.
The quiet.

WILL
Yeah.

JOEY
Yeah. Feels like we get to breathe
for once.

WILL
Then let's not ruin it by talking
too much.

He pulls Joey closer. Joey smiles, resting his head on Will's chest.

JOEY
You know that's physically
impossible for you, right.

WILL
Shh. I'm manifesting silence.

JOEY
Good luck with that.

They laugh again, soft and warm, fading into the music.

EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

The night is silent. Street lamps cast their pale light over the road.

A woman stands by the doorway, almost blending into the dark. It's Ellie.

Victoria walks casually down the street, a hoodie pulled over her head. Finally, she reaches home. As she walks along the alley, Ellie steps in front of her.

ELLIE

Victoria.

Victoria stops. She already knows why Ellie is here. She bites her lip.

VICTORIA

Crap.

ELLIE

I hate to do this, but you know... rules.

Victoria nods.

VICTORIA

Yeah. Of course. Rules.

Ellie turns and walks inside. Victoria follows her, silent, right behind.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

Audrey wanders nervously around the room. She bites her fingernails.

Ellie and Victoria walk inside. As soon as they step in, Audrey looks at Ellie. Ellie nods.

AUDREY

In her room. I'll be right there.

Victoria looks at her sister, confused. She tilts her head.

VICTORIA

You knew.

AUDREY

Of course, Victoria. You know how it works.

VICTORIA

You could've texted me, you know.

Audrey scoffs.

AUDREY

And tell you what, exactly.

Ellie clears her throat.

ELLIE

Sorry to interrupt, girls, but
now's not a good time. Clock's
ticking.

AUDREY

Right. Sorry. Take her to her room,
I'll get Joey.

ELLIE

Thanks.

Ellie gently takes Victoria by the arm and leads her down the hallway. Victoria walks slowly; she knows what's coming. She keeps her eyes down, watching her own feet.

INT/EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - JOEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Audrey bangs at the door repeatedly. Her knocking is urgent.

AUDREY

I need to talk to you, Joey.

The banging starts again.

Inside, Will and Joey are making out when they hear Audrey at the door. They pull apart, startled, and look at each other.

JOEY

Ignore her. She'll stop eventually.

Will, almost breathless, nods. Joey leans in to kiss him again—

AUDREY (V.O.)

Uncle Tony just had a car accident.

Joey freezes instantly, eyes widening slightly. She presses her lips together, holding her breath, a small, tense pause. She knows immediately what's happening.

JOEY

(Mouthing)

Crap.

Will looks at him, confused.

WILL

What. Right now.

JOEY

Yes, Will. Right now. I'll make it
up to you, but you need to leave.

Joey pulls him up from the bed.

JOEY (CONT'D)
Hurry.

WILL
I'm doing my best.

Will stares at him, speechless, then grabs his backpack as fast as he can. Joey gives him a quick kiss on the lips, opens the door, and pushes Will out of the room.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - OUTSIDE JOEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Audrey stands by the door, arms crossed.

Will looks at her, a little intimidated. He lowers his gaze.

WILL
Good evening, Audrey.

AUDREY
Hi, Will.

WILL
I'm sorry for your uncle.

AUDREY
Thanks.

Will turns to Joey.

WILL
Catch you later.

JOEY
Sure.

WILL
Bye.

AUDREY
Bye, Will.

Will heads down the corridor and leaves the house, closing the door behind him.

BEAT.

Audrey and Joey start walking down the corridor, their pace fast.

JOEY

What happened. What's so urgent.

AUDREY

Your sister. She's fucked up this time.

Joey looks at her, confused.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - VICTORIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victoria sits on the bed, her head between her hands. She knows she's screwed.

Ellie stands before her, lips pressed into a flat line, motionless, unreadable.

Audrey and Joey enter and take position beside Ellie.

When they all stand in front of her, Victoria looks them straight in the eyes.

VICTORIA

Let's cut to the chase, will you.

ELLIE

You broke our number one rule tonight, Atropos.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

As the guardian of justice and order, I have to make sure you don't break the rules.

VICTORIA

I'm sorry, I had no idea she was there.

Ellie silences her with a raised hand.

ELLIE

What happened tonight is unacceptable. A mortal died because of your arrogance and inaccuracy.

VICTORIA

Wow, so that's your way of thanking me for all these years of service? Thank you very much.

ELLIE

Still, you have the right to a fair trial. You have the right to defend yourself.

VICTORIA

I didn't kill the woman, she fell. After I transformed. I had no idea she was home.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

For what it's worth, I'm sorry. I really am. I didn't want to kill her.

ELLIE

We are not supposed to show our true nature to anyone.

VICTORIA

I know.

ELLIE

And it was not her time to die.

VICTORIA

I had no other choice.

ELLIE

But she's dead. You know we don't like mistakes.

Victoria takes a deep breath, straightens up.

VICTORIA

I've murdered millions and never complained, and you know it.

Victoria stares at them, deadly serious.

Ellie ignores her, turns and walks out of the room.

Audrey and Joey remain still, watching their sister.

BEAT.

Ellie returns, holding a glass of clear liquid. She sets it on the table.

ELLIE

We've heard your story. And we find you guilty of murdering an innocent soul.

She takes a pair of golden shears from her pocket, steps closer, and cuts Victoria's palm.

VICTORIA

Ouch.

A few drops of blood fall into the glass, the liquid turns purple.

ELLIE

Drink it.

She hands the glass to Victoria.

VICTORIA

Really.

ELLIE

Drink.

Victoria glares at her, shaking her head. Then she looks one last time at her sisters.

VICTORIA

Fine.

She drinks the purple liquid to the last drop.

VICTORIA CONT'D

Now what.

ELLIE

Now we wait. You know punishment is never the same twice.

Ellie steps back beside Joey and Audrey.

The four of them wait in silence.

VICTORIA

I don't think it's working, you know.

Ellie doesn't answer.

BEAT.

Victoria's pupils vanish, her eyes turn pure white. She begins to choke, gasping for air.

She collapses on the bed, still gasping.

Joey moves to help her, but Audrey stops her with a firm hand.

AUDREY

Don't.

BLACK SCREEN

A faint echo of Victoria's gasp.

INT. PALACE - ROOM - NIGHT

It's the same palace Victoria visited the last time she sought help from Ellie.

Neither Victoria nor Ellie look any older; the only differences are their hairstyles and clothes.

Ellie, Victoria, and several other patrons sit around a grand table filled with every kind of food.

Victoria's attention is immediately drawn to a waitress who serves her a glass of champagne.

She leans closer to Ellie.

VICTORIA

(whispering)

Who's she.

Victoria watches the girl as she moves away. The girl smiles at her.

ELLIE

Alex.

Victoria keeps her eyes on Alex as she moves gracefully across the room.

She picks up a bottle of champagne from the table and stands.

VICTORIA

Excuse me, ladies.

She walks toward Alex.

BEAT.

Alex turns around, sensing Victoria's eyes on her.

INT. PALACE - ROOM - NIGHT

Victoria takes Alex by the hand, the other still holding the bottle of champagne.

The room is cozy and quiet. It's just the two of them.

Victoria sits at the table and places the bottle of champagne in the center.

Alex sits next to her. Victoria pours two glasses and hands one to Alex.

They clink glasses.

VICTORIA
Hi, Alex. I'm Victoria.

ALEX
I know who you are.

Alex takes another sip of champagne. She sets the glass down and stares at Victoria.

ALEX (CONT'D)
I'm not afraid of you.

Alex chuckles. Victoria tilts her head slightly and smiles.

VICTORIA
How do you—.

ALEX
I have my ways.

Alex leans closer to Victoria and kisses her. Victoria kisses her back.

The air is electric, two magnets that can't pull apart.

VICTORIA
Wow.

ALEX
Yeah. Wow.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Snow falls gently outside the window. Christmas songs play softly on the radio.

A huge Christmas tree stands in the middle of the room while

Victoria and Alex decorate it together.

VICTORIA
Last one. It's all yours.

She picks a Christmas ornament from one of the boxes and hands it to Alex.

ALEX
You sure.

Victoria nods. Alex hangs the ornament, then they both step back and admire their masterpiece.

VICTORIA
I love it. It's perfect.

Alex glances at the tree, then at Victoria.

ALEX
Yeah, it's not that bad.

VICTORIA
You can't be serious, it's awesome.

Alex smirks.

ALEX
You're not that bad either, you know.

Alex takes Victoria's hand and kisses it.

Victoria smiles and pulls her into a hug.

VICTORIA
I love you.

ALEX
I love you too.

Alex whispers in her ear.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(Whispering)
Then why don't we go to your room
and make some real magic.

Victoria laughs, takes Alex's hand, and they run off toward the bedroom.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY
It's Alex's birthday.

Alex, Joey, and Audrey sit around the table while Victoria stands beside her girlfriend.

VICTORIA
Close your eyes.

Alex smiles and obeys.

ALEX
I won't peek, promise.

Victoria kneels down in front of her.

VICTORIA
Okay. You can look now.

Alex opens her eyes, a shiny diamond ring sparkles in front of her.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Alex Randall, will you marry me.

Alex bursts into tears. Even Audrey and Joey are touched.

ALEX
Yes! Yes!

Victoria rises from the floor and Alex throws her arms around her, kissing her.

ALEX CONT'D
You're totally crazy.

Victoria laughs softly and holds her tight.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Joey, Audrey, and Victoria sit on the couch.
The three of them look shaken, touched, scared, and upset.

Victoria holds a card in her hand. She keeps looking from the card to her sisters, torn.

VICTORIA
I can't do it. I'm not going to do it.

Tears stream down her face as she shakes her head.

VICTORIA CONT'D
It's a mistake. There must be a way to change it.

AUDREY

You know there are no mistakes.

VICTORIA

I'm not going to do it.

She abruptly rises from the couch.

AUDREY

Victoria, wait.

Joey and Audrey exchange a worried glance.

JOEY

What are we going to do.

But it's too late. She's already gone, leaving behind the card on the couch.

On the card, written in elegant handwriting:

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - VICTORIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victoria and Alex lie in bed, wrapped in each other's arms. Victoria looks at Alex, her eyes filled with tears.

ALEX

What's going on.

VICTORIA

I love you.

ALEX

Victoria... do it.

VICTORIA

What are you talking about.

They both sit up.

ALEX

I told you. I know who you are. I'm not afraid of you.

Alex takes Victoria's hands.

ALEX CONT'D

I know you have to kill me. Do it.

VICTORIA

I can't.

ALEX

Victoria, you have to.

ALEX CONT'D
You gave me the best years of my
life. It's okay.

VICTORIA
No... no, no.

ALEX
Do it.

Victoria is devastated. She only shakes her head, unable to speak.

Alex moves closer, straddling her. She cups Victoria's face in both hands.

ALEX CONT'D
Babe, look at me.

She kisses Victoria deeply, a kiss full of love and farewell.

ALEX CONT'D (CONT'D)
I love you.

Alex reaches under the pillow and takes out the golden shears.

With the same hand holding the shears, she guides Victoria's hand to her chest over her heart.
A faint gasp.

Alex dies in Victoria's arms.

Victoria breaks down, holding her close.

VICTORIA
Alex... please. Wake up. Please.

But it's useless. The room falls silent.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - VICTORIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victoria wakes up, gasping. The punishment is over.

Joey hands her a glass of water. Victoria drinks.

AUDREY
Are you alright.

VICTORIA
I'm fine.

AUDREY
What happened.

Victoria ignores her. She rises from the bed and leaves the room.

Audrey looks at Ellie, arms crossed.

ELLIE
It was Alex.

ELLIE (CONT'D)
The punishment was reliving her
past with her.

AUDREY
Holy shit.

ELLIE
It was a pleasure, ladies.

JOEY
I wish I could say the same.

Ellie grabs her coat and leaves the room.

EXT. GARDEN - NIGHT

Victoria sits on the cold ground, tears streaking her face.
A half-empty bottle of vodka rests in her hands.

She takes a long swig, then lets her head fall forward, body
trembling with quiet, unbearable grief.

INT. PALACE - NIGHT
The palace is silent, vast.

The echo of Ellie's heels resounds through the corridor like
a metronome slow, deliberate, cold.

She enters the main hall.
The long table where she once sat with Victoria and the
others is now empty. The candles are burned down to thin
threads of wax.

She removes her coat and lays it carefully on the back of a
chair, her movements precise, ritualistic.

Ellie crosses to the window.
Snow drifts lazily against the glass.
In the reflection, her face looks older not in years, but in
fatigue. The kind that settles in the bones.

She picks up a silver chalice from the table, looks at it for a moment, then sets it down again.

She turns away from the window, heading down the corridor lined with portraits of the past.
Each one watches her, a thousand faces that never age.

She disappears into the darkness at the end of the hall.

Only the faint echo of her steps remains, like a heartbeat fading into silence.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
The living room is dimly lit.

Audrey stands by the window, arms folded, a blanket draped over her shoulders.

Joey sits on the arm of the couch, restless, sipping something from a mug.

Audrey looks at Victoria through the window.

JOEY
She's been out there for hours.

AUDREY
I know.

Joey sets down the mug, glances again toward the garden.

JOEY
We should do something.

Audrey doesn't answer right away.
She keeps staring at Victoria through the window.

AUDREY
We've done enough.

Joey looks at her, uncertain, but doesn't argue.

AUDREY CONT'D
She'll find her way.

Joey reaches for Audrey's hand.

They both look out of the window.

EXT. CITY STREETS - NIGHT
The lamps cast golden halos on the wet pavement.

Kate walks slowly, scarf pulled tight, a bag of books pressed to her chest.

She looks at the decorated shop windows, smiling mannequins, fake snow, warm lights, then keeps walking.

INT. KATE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kate opens the door.

The apartment greets her with its usual stillness. Everything is tidy, untouched, the kind of order that only loneliness maintains.

She sets the books on the table, removes her coat, and rubs her cold hands together.
The clock ticks loudly in the silence.

She puts a kettle on, then walks to the window and looks outside. Kate stares for a while, not thinking of anything. Just breathing.

She pulls the curtains closed, lights a small candle, and sits at her desk.

She opens a book but doesn't read. Her eyes stay still on the page.

She closes the book, sits in silence.
The flame trembles, then steadies.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

It's a sunny day; sunlight streams through the window. A few hours have passed since Victoria's punishment.

Audrey and Joey sit at the table, having breakfast in silence. They don't speak, what happened yesterday weighs heavily on all of them.

Victoria walks in, her eyes baggy, still in yesterday's clothes. She ignores her sisters, grabs a cup from the shelf, and sits next to Joey.

JOEY

Morning.

AUDREY

Hey.

Victoria ignores them.

JOEY

I'm sorry about yesterday.

Victoria nods slightly.

JOEY (CONT'D)

How are you feeling.

VICTORIA

Everything's fine.

AUDREY

Are you sure. Because... you stink.
Like, a lot.

Victoria scoffs.

VICTORIA

Sorry, didn't have time to shower.
I was busy trying to forget
reliving my girlfriend's death. But
thanks for your support.

Victoria abruptly gets up from the table.

AUDREY

Victoria, wait.

Joey gently places her hand on Victoria's arm to stop her.

VICTORIA

Now what. I'm not really in the mood.

AUDREY

I was thinking... Why don't we have dinner together tonight? Just the three of us. Quality sister time.

VICTORIA

Sorry, can't.

Audrey raises her eyebrows, takes a deep breath, trying not to start a fight. She looks at Joey.

JOEY

Yeah, me neither. I can't.

AUDREY

Where are you going.

JOEY

A party.

AUDREY

You never mentioned it.

JOEY

Well, I am now.

AUDREY

I thought we talked about it before.

JOEY

Things change, you know.

Audrey looks at Victoria.

AUDREY

You're just going to stand there and say nothing.

Victoria looks at Joey.

VICTORIA

Go. Have fun.

Joey stands, hugs Victoria.

JOEY

You're the best, thanks.

Victoria hugs her back.

VICTORIA
Crap, almost forgot...

She hits her forehead with her hand, smirking.

VICTORIA CONT'D
Our sister is having an affair with
Frank.

Joey looks at Audrey.

JOEY
Frank... who the—

Then Joey realizes who Frank is and looks at Audrey, mouth open in shock and disgust.

JOEY (CONT'D)
But he's so... human!

Audrey abruptly grabs her coffee cup and stands.

AUDREY
So what. I love him. We're in love.

She walks straight to Victoria, pointing a finger at her.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
I don't know what you're up to, but
it's not working.

VICTORIA
I think it is, actually.

Joey looks at her sister, sensing the tension between them.
She sniffs the air, glances at Victoria.

JOEY
You really should take a shower,
you know.

AUDREY
Joey's right. You really should.

Victoria kisses Joey on the forehead.

VICTORIA
I guess you're right.

Victoria leaves.

BEAT.

Joey looks at her sister.

JOEY
Frank... Why him? Out of all the
people in the world... Why him?

AUDREY
I don't have to justify my feelings
to you or your sister. He's a good
boy. You'll love him.

Joey raises an eyebrow, suspicious.

JOEY
I doubt it. Whatever. I have to go
now.

Joey leaves the room, leaving Audrey standing alone in the
middle of the kitchen.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - JOEY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Joey walks into her room, eyes sparkling with energy. She
grabs her phone from the desk and quickly types a message to
Will.

TEXT ON PHONE

A bright smile spreads across her face. She jumps onto the
bed, bouncing slightly and laughing with excitement.

After a moment, she hops off and heads to her closet. She
opens it decisively and starts rummaging through her clothes.

She pulls out a pair of leather pants, checks herself in the
mirror, but shakes her head and tosses them onto the floor.

Then she grabs a pair of striped jeans. She slips them on and
struts as if on a catwalk, exaggerating the sway of her
shoulders and hips.

She stops in front of the mirror, tilts her head slightly,
smiles confidently, and winks at her own reflection.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

Victoria tosses the towel onto the floor. She grabs a clean
white shirt from the counter and brings it to her face.

She inhales, it smells of fresh laundry, comforting and
crisp.

She slips it on, buttoning it halfway, then glances at herself in the mirror, a fleeting moment of quiet before she walks out of the room.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - AUDREY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Audrey stands by her bed, folding clothes into neat piles. A knock on the door.

JOEY

May I.

Audrey turns. Her eyes land on Joey's striped jeans, she rolls her eyes.

AUDREY

Where are you going.

JOEY

Told you a party.

AUDREY

Is Will going to be there.

JOEY

Yeah.

Audrey eyes her suspiciously.

AUDREY

Are you and Will... you know.

JOEY

That's none of your business.

Audrey sighs, softening a little.

AUDREY

Sorry. Probably not my lucky day today. I'm just saying... Be careful, okay.

JOEY

Are you. You and "normal boy".

AUDREY

I'm not answering that. Anyway, Frank is anything but ordinary.

Joey covers her ears dramatically.

JOEY

I should really go now.

Audrey chuckles.

AUDREY
You really should.

She leans in and kisses Joey's forehead.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
Have fun.

JOEY
You too.

Joey closes the door behind her and leaves.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - AUDREY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Audrey is still folding clothes when there's a knock on the door.

AUDREY
What did you forget this time?

The door opens, but it's Victoria, not Joey.

AUDREY CONT'D
Oh. It's you.

VICTORIA
Wrong sister.

Victoria stands by the door.

AUDREY
I didn't mean that.

Victoria casually dismisses her.

VICTORIA
I'm going out. Don't wait for me.

AUDREY
Do you have the cards.

VICTORIA
Yes.

She pats the pocket of her trousers.

AUDREY
Good.

VICTORIA

Bye.

Victoria turns, ready to leave.

AUDREY

Since when do you decide for her.

Victoria stops.

VICTORIA

Let her have some fun. She's been through a lot lately.

AUDREY

She's sixteen.

Victoria bursts out laughing.

VICTORIA

Stop pretending she's sixteen.

Victoria takes a step forward.

VICTORIA CONT'D

You just like being in control, deciding everything, pretending everything's fine.

She takes a deep breath.

VICTORIA CONT'D (CONT'D)

We're just three demons pretending to have a normal life.

Audrey crosses her arms.

AUDREY

We've all been through a lot.

VICTORIA

Oh yeah. Tell me. You have a nice job, a nice man. You have everything you could ever ask for.

AUDREY

I just tried my best to fit in here.

VICTORIA

It's curious, you're the only one who never lost anything.

AUDREY

So what.

VICTORIA

She just lost her friend. Let her have fun for once in her life. Is that too much to ask.

AUDREY

Are you talking about her, or yourself.

Victoria tilts her head.

AUDREY CONT'D

I know you've been through a lot. I can't even imagine how you feel. But you can't punish me forever, and most of all, you can't punish yourself forever.

Audrey walks closer to her sister, gently caressing Victoria's cheek.

Victoria presses her lips into a flat line.

VICTORIA

Have a good day.

Victoria leaves the room. Audrey goes back to folding clothes.

AUDREY

(to herself)

You too.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Will leans against an old wall. When he spots Joey, his face lights up.

Joey quickens her pace and hugs him tight.

JOEY

Hi, love.

WILL

Hi. You look incredible.

JOEY

You said that last time.

WILL

Yeah, and I was right then too.

She smiles, nudging him lightly with her shoulder.

They start walking down the street together, the sun bright above them.

WILL (CONT'D)

So... how's your uncle, Tony, right.

Joey glances at him, a little caught off guard, then laughs softly.

JOEY

Oh, right. Uncle Tony.
He's... fine now. Thanks for asking.

WILL

Good. You scared the hell out of me yesterday. You kicked me out so fast, I thought he was dying.

JOEY

Yeah, well... he's the dramatic type.
Runs in the family.

WILL

I can tell.

JOEY

Hey.

She gives him a playful shove. He grins.

WILL

I'm kidding. Mostly.

They walk past a park, the leaves golden and crisp under their feet.

A group of kids plays soccer in the distance; their laughter echoes faintly.

WILL (CONT'D)

So, party tonight, huh.

JOEY

Yep. Big night.

WILL

You sure you're in the mood.
You seemed a little... off lately.

Joey looks at him, her expression softening for a moment.

JOEY
I'm fine. Just... It's complicated.

WILL
You want to talk about it.

JOEY
Nope.

He smiles, accepting that without pushing.

WILL
Fair enough.

They stop near the park's fountain.

Joey sits on the stone edge, her reflection rippling in the water.

WILL (CONT'D)
You really do look amazing,
though. Like, unfairly amazing.

JOEY
You really need new compliments.

WILL
You'd still roll your eyes at those
too.

JOEY
Probably.

He leans in, brushing her cheek with a kiss light, quick, but full of warmth.

INT. KATE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kate sits on the couch, a cup of coffee in her hands. She hears a thud from the street.

She sets the cup down, rises, and walks to the window. She pulls the curtains aside.

EXT. KATE'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - DAY

Through the window, Kate spots Victoria leaving a house. Her pace is casual, normal. Kate doesn't know yet what Victoria just did.

INT. KATE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kate watches Victoria go. She knows there's no real date tonight, yet the thought of a non-date with her and seeing Victoria leave like that stings.

KATE

I knew it.

Disappointed at herself and at Victoria, she walks back to the couch and sits.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

A quiet room. Sunlight filters through the curtains.

An elderly woman lies in bed, motionless. Her chest does not rise.

A faint stillness fills the room.

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY / TIME LAPSE TO EVENING

Joey and Will stroll down the crowded streets, side by side, laughing and talking quietly.

The sun slowly shifts. Shadows lengthen across the pavement.

A bakery closes its shutters. A cat jumps from the windowsill as the streets become quieter.

The sky deepens to soft orange and gold. Streetlamps click on one by one. Traffic lights glow red, then green, then yellow. Neon signs flicker to life.

Joey and Will's hands intertwined, swinging gently. Their shadows stretch long and merge as the sun sinks lower.

Finally, they pause in front of a warmly lit bar. The sun has almost set, casting a golden-orange glow across the street. Joey smiles at Will. He smiles back.

JOEY

Ready for tonight.

WILL

Absolutely.

They laugh, blending into the evening crowd.

INT. TEXTILE COMPANY - EVENING

The room is dim, shadows stretching along the walls.

Victoria/Atropos sits alone, her chair at the center of a circle of faintly glowing threads, each one representing a life.

As she inhales slowly, her body begins to shift: her eyes glow white, her skin seems to shimmer, and her features sharpen subtly, like a mask forming over her mortal face. This is the transformation she and her sisters undergo whenever they enter this sacred space.

Golden shears appear in her hands, gleaming under the low, flickering light. She lifts them deliberately, then cuts a single thread. It snaps with a faint, resonant sound, echoing in the quiet room.

She picks up a card from the small pile before her, crumples it slowly, and lets it drop to the floor. The card flutters and lands among the scattered remnants of others.

VICTORIA

I'm sorry.

She leans back in the chair, the glow in her eyes fading slightly, leaving her posture tense, sorrowful. The threads around her sway lightly, as if responding to the weight of her action. The room feels both empty and charged, a silent testament to the lives she has altered.

EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - EVENING

Frank straightens his clothes and smooths his hair, holding a bouquet of flowers in one hand. He takes a deep breath, his fingers tightening slightly around the stems, then knocks on the door.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - EVENING

Audrey opens the door almost instantly. The sight of him makes her smile light up her face, a small flutter in her chest.

FRANK

Hi.

AUDREY

Hey.

Frank steps a little closer, offering the bouquet.

FRANK

These are for you.

Audrey leans in, inhaling the scent of the flowers. A few petals brush against her fingers.

AUDREY

Thanks... they're beautiful.

She lingers for a heartbeat, holding the bouquet close to her chest. Then she steps aside, motioning for him to follow her into the kitchen.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

Frank lingers by the door, looking around the room.

Audrey grabs a vase from one of the shelves and places the flowers. Then she opens a bottle of red wine and pours it into two glasses.

FRANK

I think it's the first time I'm here as your official date.

AUDREY

It is.

Audrey holds the glasses of wine and walks towards Frank. She hands one to him. They clink glasses.

FRANK

Where are your sisters.

AUDREY

Joey's at a party. Victoria... no idea.

AUDREY CONT'D

Good news: we have the house just to ourselves.

Audrey smirks, a playful sparkle in her eyes.

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - EVENING

Joey and Will arrive hand in hand at the party. A group of friends is already waiting for them. The place is alive, people are dancing, laughing, drinking, kissing. The air is thick with music and flashing lights.

Joey heads to a nearby table where a boy is pouring drinks. She grabs two glasses and returns to Will.

They clink glasses.

JOEY

Cheers.

WILL

Cheers.

Joey downs her drink in one go.

Everyone, Will included, stares at her in disbelief.

She quickly realizes she might've overdone it for a sixteen-year-old.

What they don't know is that she's a thousand-year-old Moirai.

JOEY

What.

Joey bursts out laughing.

JOEY (CONT'D)

Guys, my sister owns a pub. Come on.

Will wraps an arm around her shoulders, grinning proudly.

WILL

That's my girl.

He takes a sip of his drink, and the others follow, laughing and cheering as the music swells around them.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

Kate sits at a table set for one.

Across the room, Victoria checks her watch, exactly 8 o'clock.

She walks in, spots Kate in the middle of the restaurant, already eating. The table is clearly set for one.

VICTORIA

(To herself)

Great.

Victoria walks through the room and takes the table just behind Kate's.

They sit back to back.

Kate smirks, takes a sip of wine.

KATE

I thought you weren't coming.

VICTORIA

I thought you said eight o'clock.

KATE

I was hungry. Thought I'd start early.

Victoria shrugs.

VICTORIA

No problem. After all, you said it wasn't a date.

(beat)

I was just in the neighborhood.

KATE

Oh, I think you mean doing a neighbor.

Victoria turns slightly to glance over her shoulder. Kate does the same. Their eyes meet for a split second.

VICTORIA

What are you talking about?

KATE

I saw you this afternoon, leaving my neighbor's house.

Victoria laughs.

KATE (CONT'D)

It's not funny. And if you think I'm going to have sex with you, you're wrong.

Victoria leans in a little, voice lower.

VICTORIA

Mrs. Baldwin is not exactly my type.
She ordered a cashmere jumper. I delivered it.

Kate tilts her head, unconvinced.

KATE

Oh. So you weren't at the Swedish girl's house.

VICTORIA
I don't even know her.

Kate bites her lip, embarrassed, and takes a long sip of wine, realizing she might have just made a fool of herself.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING
The lights are dim.
On TV, screams and shouts echo through the room.

Frank and Audrey sit cuddled up on the couch.

AUDREY
I had no idea you had a soft spot
for horror movies.

She covers her face with her hands.

FRANK
They help me relax.

AUDREY
You what.

As the scene on screen grows even scarier, she hides her face in the crook of Frank's neck.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
Just tell me when it's over.

Frank laughs.

FRANK
Oh man, I can't believe it.

AUDREY
Don't laugh at me.

She peeks at the TV through his neck, then hides again.

Frank pauses the movie.

FRANK
You're the bravest girl I know, and
you're scared of this.

AUDREY
Look at it! It's terrifying.

Frank bursts out laughing again.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
You're not funny.

FRANK
I love you.

Audrey pouts.

AUDREY
Love you too.

Frank hugs her tighter and presses play.

FRANK
Come on, it's almost over.

AUDREY
Good lord.

She squeezes his hand tightly.

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - EVENING
Music blasts. Lights flicker.

Joey and Will dance close, lost in the crowd.

WILL
Having fun.

JOEY
Yeah, I am. You.

WILL
I'm not complaining.

Their eyes meet for a moment, something sparks.

JOEY
Wanna get out of here.

WILL
Yes, please.

Will grabs Joey's hand. They push through the crowd, heading for the exit.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

Now Victoria and Kate sit face to face. The restaurant is empty, the other customers have gone. The only sound is the soft hum of background music.

VICTORIA
I live with my two sisters.

KATE
Must be nice. I'm an only child.

VICTORIA
Sometimes the house can be messy
and very loud... but yeah, I guess
it's nice.

KATE
Do you get along with them?

VICTORIA
Uhm, difficult question.

KATE
I'm sorry, you don't have to answer
if you don't want to.

VICTORIA
No, it's fine.
(a beat)
Audrey's the eldest one, she's,
uhm, boring most of the time.

Kate smiles.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
The little one is Joey, she's a
real troublemaker.

They share a quiet laugh. The waiter approaches their table.

WAITER
Excuse me, ladies, but we're
closing.

They both look around and realize they're the only customers
left. They exchange a small, amused glance.

KATE
Wow.

VICTORIA
I think we should go.

KATE
Definitely.

They both stand, still smiling.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The movie ends. Audrey turns off the TV.

AUDREY

That was the best horror movie I've ever seen.

Frank chuckles.

FRANK

Love, you watched the beginning and the end.

AUDREY

I watched the most important parts and it was very nice.

Frank shakes his head, smiling. For a moment, they just look into each other's eyes. Then Frank leans in and kisses her, deep and warm, until he gently pulls her onto his lap.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Take me to my room.

Frank nods. He rises, lifting her in his arms, and carries her toward the bedroom.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

After being kicked out of the restaurant, Victoria and Kate stand outside, talking. They're close.

VICTORIA

This is the first time I've ever been kicked out of a restaurant.

Kate covers her face, embarrassed.

KATE

Same.

KATE CONT'D

We should do it more often.

VICTORIA

Another date.

Kate smirks.

KATE

No, getting kicked out of restaurants.

VICTORIA

Right. Sorry.

They get even closer, lips almost brushing. A pause. They smile, looking at each other.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

So... do you want to get out of here—

Before Kate can answer, a voice interrupts.

JOEY O.S.

Victoria!

They freeze. Both turn toward the voice, Joey stands there with Will. Victoria's mouth falls open. She takes a few steps back.

VICTORIA

Joey, what are you doing here?

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - AUDREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is cozy. There's a soft light coming from the lamp on the bedside table.

Audrey and Frank are in bed; they just had sex. Frank's hands trace Audrey's tattoos along her body.

FRANK

If this happens when we watch
horror, I swear I—

Audrey turns to look at him.

AUDREY

I will kill you if we watch another
horror movie.

Frank pins his elbow on the mattress.

FRANK

How come you and your sisters want
to kill me so much these days.

Audrey raises her eyebrows.

AUDREY

What do you mean

FRANK

Victoria. She told me if I make you
suffer, she'll kill me.

Audrey heaves a sigh.

AUDREY

Now at least I know she cares about
me.

FRANK

By threatening me.

AUDREY

Yeah. But don't worry, she's not
going to hurt you.

FRANK

If you say so.

AUDREY

I'm sure.

Audrey gently caresses Frank's face.

BEAT.

FRANK

Is everything alright with your sisters?

Audrey scoffs.

AUDREY

Since when do my sisters and I get along? You know they can be a pain in the ass.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

They've been through a lot lately, and I think they've mistaken me for their punching bag.

FRANK

That's because you have a heart of gold.

Audrey bites her lip.

AUDREY

You really think so

Frank nods.

FRANK

Of course I do, honey. You're always the supportive one. You always help them. And you care for them, you really love them.

FRANK (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Sometimes people just take you for granted.

Audrey smiles softly.

AUDREY

You're my favourite human being.

Audrey gently kisses him.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

VICTORIA

Joey, what are you doing here?

Victoria looks at Joey and Will.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
I thought you were going to a party.

Joey shrugs.

JOEY
I changed my mind.

Joey then looks at Kate, her eyebrows raised suspiciously.

JOEY (CONT'D)
Who's she?

Victoria looks at her sister, then at Kate. She smiles politely.

VICTORIA
Katherine, this is my sister Joey and he's Will.

KATE
Hi.

Joey nods, eyeing Kate from head to toe.

Will smiles politely.

WILL
Hey, how's it going?

BEAT.

JOEY
Are you guys having sex tonight?

VICTORIA / KATE
Yes. / No.

Joey senses the embarrassment between them.

JOEY
Okay... we should go.

Joey steps closer to Victoria and hugs her, then hugs Kate — even though she's never met her before. Kate freezes for a moment, then awkwardly hugs her back.

When they pull apart, Joey takes Will's hand. They start walking away, but Joey suddenly stops.

JOEY (CONT'D)
I told Audrey I'm staying at
Jenna's.

Victoria scoffs.

VICTORIA
Go, before I change my mind.

JOEY
You're the best sister in the
world. Have fun. Bye!

Joey and Will walk away.

Victoria and Kate look at each other; Victoria smiles,
embarrassed.

KATE
She's the troublemaker, right.

VICTORIA
Right.

Victoria closes the gap between them, taking Kate's hand.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
So... where were we.

Kate gently pulls away and places a hand on Victoria's chest
to stop her.

KATE
I had a great time, but I don't
think this is going to work between
us.

VICTORIA
Why. I thought we were doing just
fine.

Kate looks around before meeting Victoria's eyes, deciding to
be honest.

KATE
Victoria, you change girls like you
change your underwear. I'm not that
kind of girl.

Victoria touches Kate's hand on her chest.

VICTORIA
I don't want to hurt you.

KATE
But you will eventually. And I
don't want to suffer anymore.
So, thanks for the lovely night,
but it's not going to happen again.

VICTORIA
I get it.
But I feel good with you, and every
time you look me in the eyes,
you're not afraid of me.

Victoria glances down at Kate's body.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Also... you have great boobs.

Kate chuckles.

KATE
Did that line work on someone else?

VICTORIA
No idea. I've never told anyone
before.

Kate looks at her with a playful smirk.

KATE
What game are you playing?

VICTORIA
I'm not playing any games.

They look into each other's eyes. Victoria leans in to kiss her, but Kate pulls away.

Victoria tilts her head slightly, then nods, understanding.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Okay. I get it.
Take care.

Victoria turns to leave when Kate stops her.

KATE
Wait.

Kate cups Victoria's face, traces her lips with her thumb, then kisses her.

A small smile spreads on both their faces.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - AUDREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Frank and Audrey lie asleep.

A faint thud echoes in the distance.

They wake up. Frank checks the time on his phone.

FRANK

Crap.

Audrey stretches and snuggles closer to him.

AUDREY

What happened.

FRANK

We fell asleep.

He sits up in bed.

FRANK (CONT'D)

I should go home.

Audrey stops him, resting a hand on his chest.

AUDREY

Stay. I don't want you to go.

He looks at her, surprised.

FRANK

Are you sure?

AUDREY

I am.

FRANK

What about your sisters?

AUDREY

We'll figure it out tomorrow morning.

She gently pulls him back down on the bed.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

But right now, I just want you to stay here with me.

Audrey playfully kisses Frank, first on the lips, then on the nose, then on the forehead.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Will and Joey walk hand in hand as they reach Will's house.

WILL
I had no idea your sister was
dating the girl from the library.

JOEY
Me neither.
Victoria's so secretive about her
life, sometimes I think she's a
spy.

Will chuckles.

WILL
Do you think she's going to tell
your sister she saw us?

JOEY
Nah, don't worry about it. Our
secret is safe with her.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Kate and Victoria pull apart from the kiss.

KATE
It's getting late. I should go
home.

They hold hands.

VICTORIA
Can I walk you home?

Kate smiles, then nods.

KATE
Yes. I'd love that.

They walk away together.

EXT. WILL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Joey and Will stand in front of his house.

Will takes Joey's hand.

WILL

Do you want to come inside?

Joey shakes her head.

JOEY

Sorry, next time. My head's killing me.

WILL

You could've told me, love. I would've brought you home.

JOEY

Don't worry, I'll be fine.

WILL

Okay. But text me when you get home.

JOEY

Promise.

They share a quick kiss. Joey turns and walks away.

EXT. EMPTY STREET - NIGHT

Joey walks slowly, hands stuffed in her pockets. The street is quiet, dimly lit, and empty. She keeps glancing over her shoulder, expecting something—anything—to appear.

Her breaths are uneven. She stops at a street corner, leans against a lamppost, and closes her eyes.

JOEY

(whispering)

Okay... just... breathe...

She inhales sharply, exhales too quickly. Her chest tightens. Her hands start shaking.

Her mind flashes through the past few days: —her best friend, gone. —the punishment Victoria endured. —the constant juggling of normal life and the weight of their hidden reality.

JOEY (CONT'D)

(whispering)

I can't... I can't...

A car passes. Headlights sweep over her. She flinches, heart racing.

She grips a nearby fence, trying to steady herself. Her vision blurs. Her knees wobble.

She stumbles forward, pulls out her phone, her fingers trembling as she scrolls through contacts.

She hesitates, then lowers her arm — unable to call.

INTERCUT - JOEY / VICTORIA & KATE - PHONE CONVERSATION

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Victoria and Kate walk side by side, still smiling from earlier.

The night air is calm, quiet. Kate's hand brushes Victoria's as they walk.

KATE

You know, I haven't laughed like that in ages.

VICTORIA

Good. You needed it.

Victoria's phone buzzes. She looks at the screen — Joey.

Her expression changes instantly. She answers.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Hey, Joey? What's going on?

CUT TO — JOEY, PALE, BREATHING HARD, HER VOICE TREMBLING.

JOEY

Vic... I can't... Please come get me.

Victoria stops walking. Kate notices immediately.

KATE

What is it?

VICTORIA

(into phone)

Where are you?

JOEY

By Will's... please... hurry.

Victoria's eyes widen. She exchanges a look with Kate, worry flickers between them.

VICTORIA
I'm on my way. Stay where you are.

She hangs up, still tense.

KATE
What happened?

VICTORIA
It's Joey. She's not okay.

KATE
Do you want me to come with you?

VICTORIA
Yes, please.

Without another word, they start running down the street together, their footsteps echoing in the quiet night.

EXT. EMPTY STREET - NIGHT

Joey sits on the curb, phone still in her hand, her breath coming in ragged bursts.

She wipes her tears with the back of her sleeve, but they keep coming.
The world feels too quiet.

A dog barks somewhere in the distance, it echoes like thunder in her ears.

She hugs her knees tighter to her chest.

JOEY
Come on, Vic... please...

She looks up and down the street. No sign of anyone.

Her phone glows faintly beside her, screen dimming, until it locks.

She presses the home button just to see the light again, just to feel less alone.

Her hands shake. She checks the time.
Only four minutes have passed. It feels like hours.
A cold breeze brushes her hair across her face.

She flinches, glancing around, imagining footsteps that aren't there.

Her breathing picks up again.

She digs her fingers into the fabric of her jeans, grounding herself.

Her lips tremble as she mutters to herself.

Her voice breaks. She buries her face between her knees.

A soft sob escapes, muffled by her arms.

She looks up again. Her eyes are glassy and red.

The hum of electricity fills the silence.

A pair of headlights appears at the end of the street.

She straightens immediately, hope flashing in her eyes, but the car passes without stopping.

Her chest tightens again. She presses her palms to her ribs, as if trying to hold herself together.

She starts whispering numbers under her breath.

JOEY (CONT'D)
One... two... three... four...

She's trembling, counting to calm herself.

Her breaths grow slower, steadier, for a moment.

Then a sound footsteps, far away.

She looks up sharply, squinting through the haze of tears.

The footsteps get louder.

Her heart skips.

She stands, still unsteady, wiping her face quickly.

A shadow moves at the far end of the street: two figures, walking fast.

Joey blinks through her tears, the world blurry but familiar now.

She takes one hesitant step forward, just as Victoria's voice breaks the silence.

VICTORIA O.S.

Joey!

Victoria runs up to Joey, her face tight with worry.

Kate follows close behind, her pace slowing as she takes in the sight – Joey trembling, eyes wide and wet.

VICTORIA

Joey! Hey–hey, it's me.

Joey takes a step back, her breathing ragged, unable to form words.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

It's okay, it's okay. Look at me.
I'm here, Joey, I'm here.

She reaches out slowly, like she's approaching a frightened animal. Joey hesitates, then collapses into her sister's arms, sobbing uncontrollably.

Victoria wraps her arms around her, holding her tight against her chest.

JOEY

(crying, gasping)
I–I couldn't breathe... it just–
everything felt wrong, Vic–

VICTORIA

Shh... I know. I know.
You're safe now, okay? Just breathe
with me.

She strokes Joey's hair, guiding her breathing.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

In... and out...
Come on, you can do it.

Joey tries to follow, her body still trembling. Her breaths are uneven at first, then gradually begin to slow.

Kate stands a few feet away, watching silently, unsure if she should move closer, but feeling every ounce of the moment's weight.

KATE

(softly)
Is she okay?

Victoria glances at her over Joey's shoulder, her expression weary but grateful.

VICTORIA
She will be. Just give her a
minute.

Joey grips Victoria's sleeve tightly, as if letting go would
make her crumble again.

JOEY
(weakly)
I don't know what's happening to
me.

VICTORIA
You've just had too much on your
plate lately.

Victoria brushes a tear from her sister's cheek.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Hey, remember what I told you when
you were little?

Joey shakes her head faintly, still clinging to her.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
That the world won't stop spinning
just because we fall.
But if we hold on to each other, it
slows down a little.

Joey lets out a shaky laugh through her tears.

JOEY
You really said that?

VICTORIA
Maybe. Or maybe I just made it up
right now.

They both laugh softly, the tension easing.

Kate finally steps closer, smiling tenderly.

KATE
You two are something else.

Victoria looks from Kate to Joey, the three of them standing
together now under the soft streetlight.

VICTORIA
How about we get something to eat?
There's that all-night diner near the bridge.

Joey wipes her face with her sleeve, trying to smile.

JOEY
You're buying.

VICTORIA
Fine. But I'm choosing dessert.

Kate chuckles.

KATE
Deal.

Victoria drapes an arm over Joey's shoulders, Kate walking beside them as they head off down the quiet street, three figures moving slowly into the glow of the city lights.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

The three of them walk inside. It's late, and there aren't many patrons left.

They sit in a booth. Victoria sits close to Joey, while Kate sits across from Victoria.

For a moment, no one speaks. Joey fidgets with her finger on the table.

VICTORIA
Feeling any better?

JOEY
I... just give me a minute and I'll be fine.

Victoria gently squeezes Joey's arm.

The waitress approaches them.

WAITRESS
Ladies, what can I get you?

VICTORIA
Coffee's fine, thanks.

KATE
Tea.

JOEY
Hot chocolate.

The waitress nods and walks back behind the counter.

BEAT.

The waitress returns with their orders.

Joey hugs the cup of hot chocolate with both hands.

JOEY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry I ruined your date.

Kate casually waves her off.

KATE
Don't worry about it.

VICTORIA
There's nothing to worry about.
Plus, it wasn't a real date, right?

Kate smiles.

KATE
Correct.

Kate takes Victoria's hand on the table.

KATE (CONT'D)
According to my standards, your
sister here is a little bit of a
player, so it wasn't a date at all.

Joey looks at Victoria.

JOEY
See? I told you. She's right.

Victoria rolls her eyes.

Joey turns to Kate.

JOEY (CONT'D)
My sister and I keep telling her
she's gross.

VICTORIA
Joey, I think that's enough for
now.

KATE
Not at all. Please, do tell.

Victoria smirks.

VICTORIA
Please. Then I'll tell Kate how
brave you were in junior school.

Joey's eyes widen.

JOEY
You're not funny.

Victoria relaxes in the booth.

EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - STREET - NIGHT

The three girls stand in front of the house. Victoria and
Kate glance at each other casually, then look around.

Joey clears her throat.

JOEY
I'll wait inside.

VICTORIA
I'll be right there.

Joey moves closer to Kate. They hug.

JOEY
Thank you for tonight.

KATE
No problem.

Joey smiles at Kate, then walks past Victoria.

JOEY
(mouthing)
I like her.

Victoria smiles as she waves her off.

Victoria and Kate face each other.

VICTORIA
Sorry about my sister. She can be a
lot.

KATE
She's great, actually.

VICTORIA
So, uhm... I guess that's it for
tonight.

KATE
I guess... yeah.

VICTORIA
Will I see you again?

Kate leans in a little.

KATE
Maybe.
Have a good night, Victoria.

Kate gives her a quick kiss on the lips before leaving.

Victoria watches her walk away, smiling.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT
The room is dark.

Victoria closes the door behind her, a bright smile on her face. She leans against the door, touching her lips.

Suddenly, the lights turn on.

JOEY
She's the best.

Victoria jumps, startled.

VICTORIA
Jesus, Joey, you scared me.

JOEY
Sorry.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - AUDREY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Audrey and Frank are asleep. They're woken by voices coming from the entryway.

FRANK
What was that?

AUDREY
No idea.

They both get out of bed, grab t-shirts from the floor, and head out of the room.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

Audrey and Frank reach the entryway, where they find Victoria and Joey.

AUDREY
What's going on?

INT. KATE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kate changes into her sleepwear, then removes her makeup.

She climbs into bed, settles against the pillows, and closes her eyes, a soft smile forming as she thinks about the night.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

AUDREY
What's going on?

JOEY
Victoria's girlfriend is the best.
I love her.

VICTORIA
Joey! She's not my girlfriend.

JOEY
Sure. Keep telling yourself that.

AUDREY
Can we discuss it tomorrow over
coffee?

JOEY
Sure.

VICTORIA
Sure. Have a good night.

Joey and Victoria walk away, completely ignoring Frank's presence.

Frank and Audrey exchange a look.

FRANK
Do you think they ignored me on
purpose?

Audrey shakes her head.

AUDREY

Ignore them.

She leads him back into the bedroom.

INT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - VICTORIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victoria walks into the room. Joey follows closely behind, stopping by the door.

Victoria tosses her clothes on the floor and changes into something more comfortable. Then she turns to her sister.

VICTORIA

What are you doing here, exactly?

JOEY

Can I sleep here?

VICTORIA

Nope.

Joey shrugs, grabs one of Victoria's T-shirts from the wardrobe, and climbs into her bed anyway. Victoria sighs but gets into bed beside her.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Do you want to talk about what happened earlier?

JOEY

Not really.

VICTORIA

You know you can talk to me about anything.

JOEY

I know.

VICTORIA

Love you.

Victoria gently kisses Joey's forehead.

JOEY

Love you too.

Victoria turns off the light.

END OF ACT THREE

EPILOGUE

INT. TRAILER - NIGHT

The trailer is dead silent.

Victoria steps inside, the golden shears in her hand, faintly glowing like something alive.

The couple inside barely has time to react.

A whisper of metal.

A gasp cut short.
Darkness.

When the scene settles, the bodies lie on the floor.
Completely intact. Peaceful, even.

As if they simply... stopped.

Victoria stands over them, breathing steady.

The golden shears in her hand pulse once—then fracture.

The cracks run like veins of light before the entire thing collapses into golden dust, drifting through her fingers, vanishing into the stale air.

Victoria watches the last spark fade.

She steps out without looking back.

EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A tall, unmoving shape stands near the treeline, just beyond the reach of the porch lights.

Watching the house.

Studying it.

The shape tilts its head slightly, like listening to something only it can hear.
Footsteps.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Victoria walks home, her expression unreadable, the moonlight carving sharp lines across her face. There is no guilt—only purpose.

EXT. MOIRAI'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The dark figure retreats a half-step deeper into shadow as Victoria approaches.

It breathes in slowly, savoring the moment.

Waiting.

Victoria steps into the yard, unaware.

A faint creak of leaves behind her-too soft to notice.

The figure stands still as stone, the darkness clinging to it unnaturally.

Victoria unlocks the door and slips inside.

A beat.

The figure leans forward slightly, just enough to reveal the glint of an eye catching what little light the night offers.
Not human.
Not warm.

A cold, slow smile grows across its hidden face.
Then darkness swallows it whole.

THE END