TRACK GIRLS

"GONE AREA"

Episode 103

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FADE IN:

"A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense."

Proverbs 19:11

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - GYM - DAY (1)

SUPER: One Month Ago

Coach Barbra Johnson sits quietly. Focused studiously. In walks, Sasha. She confidently approaches.

SASHA

Hello. So, are you our new head coach?

COACH BARBRA

Yes, I am. I'm Coach Barbra Johnson.

They shake hands.

SASHA

Nice to meet you.

COACH BARBRA

Pleasure. Please, have a seat.

SASHA

Ok, thank you.

Sasha and Coach sit.

COACH BARBRA

Okay miss Sasha. You are quite an exceptional athlete.

SASHA

Thank you coach.

Coach reads a sheet of PAPER.

COACH BARBRA

A top ten athlete in the nation in several events. You managed to qualify for indoor and outdoor nationals last year. You hold the school record in the multis. The fact is, you have some serious speed.

SASHA

That's right.

COACH BARBRA

What are your plans for this upcoming season?

SASHA

I want to take a break from the multis and focus more on speed.

COACH BARBRA

You want to get faster?

SASHA

Yes, coach. I think training for the multis is slowing down my speed progression.

COACH BARBRA

I understand. But you're actually extremely talented at the multis. If you focus more on your weaker events in the pent and heptathlon, you could possibly win nationals this year.

SASHA

You think I could win?

COACH BARBRA

I've very confident that you would do very well. --I train to win.

SASHA

But coach, no one really knows multieventers. I think the sprinters seem to get all the glory.

COACH BARBRA

You want to be put on some kind of a pedestal?

SASHA

Isn't that what everyone wants?

COACH BARBRA

I want us to win a championship this season. Honestly, I don't care what your events are, as long as we have enough points to win.

SASHA

I don't get a say in the events I do?

COACH BARBRA

We can talk about your goals, but ultimately, I will make decisions that will position us to win. That's my job.

SASHA

You will help me, right?

COACH BARBRA

Yes I will.

And one more thing. I know you are starting to take on a more leadership role on this team. I'm going to need that throughout this year. Especially since I'm recruiting one of the top talents in the nation. It will help us win the championship.

SASHA

You see what I mean, now?

COACH BARBRA

Excuse me?

SASHA

(attitude)

This new chick seems to be getting all the shine, and she ain't even here yet.

I tell you I want to focus more on sprinting, and it seems like you got a new baby on the way.

COACH BARBRA

Wait a minute Sasha ...

Sasha abruptly stands up.

SASHA

It's cool though, I get it.

(rolls-eyes)

Coach.

Sasha turns around and walks out.

COACH BARBRA

Sasha! -Sasha!

Coach shakes her head.

TITLE CARD:

"Track Girls"

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INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - WEIGHT ROOM - DAY (2)
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Sunlight fills the large room. Metal racks, irons weights cover the padded floors. Light motivation music plays in the background.

Kendra holds the bar.

Down.

Up.

Down.

Up.

Down. Tasha supports.

TASHA

Come on girl. Three more.

Kendra pushes-

Up.

Down.

Up.

Down.

Up.

Sasha stares from a distance.

KENDRA

Urgh!

Racks the bar.

TASHA

Great job. You made that look easy. Let me see what I can do.

Tasha switch places with Kendra. Tasha sits on the bench, pushes on the bar. It doesn't budge.

TASHA

Whoa! That's too heavy for me. Let's take the tens off.

Aw. Come on. At least try.

TASHA

Nope. I know my limits. I would rather do it right than to hurt myself. Okurrr.

Tasha grabs the ten pound weight off the left side of the bar. Kendra takes the ten pound off the other.

Tasha, on the bench, the bar floats above her face. She takes a deep breath. Reaches up and wraps her fingers around the bar.

She slowly lifts the bar off the rack. Brings the bar close to her chest and pushes up.

Repeats four more times.

TASHA

Oh! Yeah girl. That was just right for me.

KENDRA

Good job. You ready for another set?

TASHA

Sure...

Sasha approach.

SASHA

Nah, I think y'all done here.

Bye.

TASHA

Sasha? Really? Why do you always-

KENDRA

(to Tasha)

She's right Tasha. Come on, we have some work to do over there anyways.

(to Sasha)

You have a good work-out.

Kendra turns and walks away. Tasha follows. Kendra's face disgruntled, eyes roll.

KENDRA (V.O.)

Yeah. I didn't kill Sasha. Why not? Mama talked some sense into me. After that stunt she pulled on the track, I was going to freak'n kill her. My big sister Tasha held me back though. Kept me from doing something stupid. But, if it wasn't for God, I would have buried her six feet under. But, I'm trying to turn over a new leaf.

That wasn't always the case ...

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - KENDRA'S DORM ROOM - DAY (3)

Kendra storms in through the front door. Tasha dashes in behind.

TASHA

Calm down Kendra!

Kendra stops, turns around. Approaches Tasha personal space.

KENDRA

(angry)

Leave me alone Tasha. I'm going to kill that bitch!

TASHA

You have to calm down Kendra.

Kendra wipes her face.

KENDRA

You shouldn't have held me back. You don't through no nasty piss on nobody.

TASHA

I agree with you Kendra. She does need to get punished, but she's never going to stop testing you.

Kendra sits down, drops her face into her hands. Cries.

TASHA (CONT'D)

It doesn't matter what you do to her. For some reason, she is out to get you.

Look, just talk to someone. Maybe call your mom and see if she can help you calm down and sort this out. Okay girl? Don't let it end this way. I'll be in my room if you need me.

Tasha walks away. Kendra holds her head down for a moment. Kendra gets up and goes into her bathroom.

A beat.

Kendra comes out the bathroom and settles down on her bed. Picks up her PHONE.

"CALLING MOM" Debbie Fields appears on screen.

DEBBIE

Hey baby girl. How you doing?

KENDRA

(sad)

Hey mama.

Kendra sighs.

DEBBIE

Aw baby. Is everything ok?

KENDRA

No, it's not. I had no idea college what like this.

DEBBIE

Tell me what happened, baby.

(breaks down, angry)

This girl on our track team keeps pushing my buttons, mama. She is the devil in disguise. I want to kill her right now!

DEBBIE

What did she do to you?

KENDRA

Coach sent my roommate and I to meet this girl, Sasha. Sasha is Alicia's cousin. You know, the one who passed. She tries to blame me for everything.

DEBBIE

Why would she do that? Toni told me she needed a break, but didn't have anything to do with her death.

KENDRA

I know mama. But this girl just keep pushing my buttons.

DEBBIE

Did you tell Coach Johnson about it?

KENDRA

No.

DEBBIE

Maybe you should. She could probably help.

KENDRA

But that's not all she did.

So today at practice, she pretends to apologize. I thought she had a "come to Jesus moment" right? So, I forgave her. Then she takes a bottle, which I thought was a sports drink, and she throws it in my face!

DEBBIE

Oh, my God.

KENDRA

I want to kill her mama. --I think some got in my mouth, too.

DEBBIE

Well, what was it?

KENDRA

Some nasty urine.

DEBBIE

Oh my God! Lord help me Jesus!

KENDRA

My roommate Tasha saw the devil in me. Luckily, she held me back with all her strength. I can't think about anything except for killing her right now.

DEBBIE

My God, Kendra. Do you understand what is happening?

KENDRA

Next time I see her, she is going to die.

DEBBIE

No, No, No. I'm talking about taking a different approach. Something that will help you stay on the right track.

Taking this to God.

(real sad, teary)

I don't know. I'm so angry right now. I don't feel God in me right now.

DEBBIE

I understand baby. Anger is an emotion that can blind you from the truth. The bible says, "Thou shall not kill."

It's evil. You cannot overcome evil with evil. The cycle will continue if you both operate with evil intentions. That's what the devil wants. The only way to overcome evil is with Good. God is good. So what you have to do Kendra, is find a way to avoid making her an enemy.

KENDRA

(emotional)

I'm so angry though. How do I do that?

Debbie picks up her HOLY BIBLE.

DEBBIE

In Romans chapter twelve verse twenty through twenty-one reads: "...if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head." Verse twentyone "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

KENDRA

Oh, ok. --That's kind of deep.

DEBBIE

So, Kendra. Just by being kind to her will confuse her. Once she realizes that she doesn't have the power to manipulate you, she'll stop. Don't let her win. Walk with the power of God. You think you can try to do that? Kendra sighs. Puts her hand on her forehead.

KENDRA

I don't know mama. I'm still a little pissed.

DEBBIE

You have to try Kendra. Nothing is impossible with God.

KENDRA

I'll try mama.

DEBBIE

Good. Just put God first and your plans will succeed. I love you baby.

KENDRA

I love you too mama. Thank you so much. I'll talk to you later.

DEBBIE

Ok baby. Talk to you soon.

Kendra puts the phone down. Lies back, looks up at the ceiling. A beat. She sits up, walks out the room.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - TASHA'S ROOM - DAY (4)

Small light cracks through the window. Tasha sits on the bed. Reading. Quiet, peaceful ambiance.

Kendra approaches the closed door.

KNOCK. KNOCK.

TASHA

Yes.

KENDRA

Hey Tasha. You got a second?

TASHA

It's open.

Kendra cracks open the door.

TASHA

Look, I don't want any negative energy in here. Have you cooled off?

KENDRA

(remorseful)

Yeah, my bad. That's why I'm here.

TASHA

Ok, come on in.

Kendra walks through, sits down on the bed.

KENDRA

I'm really sorry for how I treated you earlier. You didn't deserve that.

God, I was so angry.

TASHA

Yeah, your eyes turned devilish red. You scared the ba-jeezus out of me.

KENDRA

I'm sorry. Will you forgive me?

Kendra lifts her arms toward Tasha, moves in close for a hug.

TASHA

Yes, I forgive you. And thank you. I really appreciate your apology.

You strong as the she-hulk too girl.

Tasha laughs. Kendra smiles.

I did talk to my mom and that really helped me calm down. I know what I have to do moving forward.

TASHA

Ok, that's good to hear.

KENDRA

I'm going to try and let God handle it from here on.

(pause, comedically)

If I can't, you might need to hold me back again.

They laugh.

TASHA

I will if I have to.

But we need to stay focused on winning that championship. We need you.

KENDRA

Yes. You're right. Focused.

JUMP BACK TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - WEIGHT ROOM - DAY (5)

Kendra, sits on the workout machine. Sasha eyes beam back over at Kendra.

SASHA

Every time I see that girl she just irks my nerves. I can't stand her.

GINA

She seems to be in a good mood this morning. I'm surprised she didn't clap back at you. I would still be pissed at your ass.

SASHA

(attitude)

We'll, it didn't happen to you did it? Don't nobody care how you would feel. Ugh.

They put weights on the bar.

GINA

Uh, you need to chill out girl. You coming at me kind of strong.

SASHA

Well, don't say dumb shit.

GINA

It's not dumb. What the hell crawled up your butt this morning?

Sasha caught off guard, cracks a tiny smile.

SASHA

What? ... crawled up my butt?

GINA

I just made one comment and you're acting like you got something stuck up your ass.

SASHA

Oh. My bad. Nah, I'm good. You right though. I did expect her to be pissed off. I mean, that was the point.

Sasha begins the weight lifting reps.

GINA

Well, she's taking the high road.

SASHA

Please don't let that girl fool you. You know she's still pissed.

GINA

Well, what you going do then?

SASHA

I don't know yet. I'll figure something out. She doesn't belong on this team.

GINA

You know coach is not going to like you messing with her golden child.

They switch places. Gina exercises.

SASHA

I'm not worried about coach.

GINA

You do know you can get kicked off the team too, right?

SASHA

Girl, shut up and finish this workout. I have too much to do today.

GINA

That thing must have crawled back up your ass.

Sasha laughs as she spots Gina's reps.

SASHA

Would you leave my ass alone.

GINA

I'm just trying to help you out girl. With your stank, ugly attitude.

SASHA

Well, you're just going to have to live with it then.

GINA

Whatever.

CORA DRAKOS (19), Caucasian, female, attractive foreign student, athletic, bright smile, suddenly approaches.

CORA

Hey Sasha. Gina.

Sasha, What are you doing with our new teammate?

SASHA

Cora please.

Sasha rolls her eyes.

CORA

I mean, you are really putting a damper on our team party here.

SASHA

I don't care.

CORA

Can I be honest about something?

SASHA

Oh God. I don't think I want to hear this.

CORA

You really shouldn't of tossed that drink in her face at practice. I mean, I would have been pissed. You should be *skullface emoji* right now.

SASHA

I don't care how you would feel.

CORA

O.M.G. --What crawled up your butt today?

SASHA

Seriously?

Gina looks down with a smirk laugh. Cora smiles.

CORA

What?

OVER TO:

On the other end, Tasha and Kendra work out.

TASHA

Yeah, Sasha is at it again. But I'm proud that you took the upper road this time.

KENDRA

I told you, I have to let God handle it.

Kendra exercises.

TASHA

(playful)

You know you like my she-ro now, right?

KENDRA

(laughs)

Girl, stop playing.

TASHA

No, really. I like this energy. You can be my roommate next year if you keep this up.

KENDRA

(sarcastically)

Oh really? You'd let me stay with you?

TASHA

Of course. You have shown some real growth in a short period of time. You will definitely help me become a better person. Kendra finishes her reps. She gets up.

KENDRA

Well, I'm glad I can help you help me.

Tasha switches places with Kendra and begins the exercise.

TASHA

So, I'm really sorry about us being late for training.

KENDRA

Don't worry about it. It was my fault too.

Tasha struggles.

TASHA

Oh, girl. This is heavy.

KENDRA

Do you remember what happened the night before? You were acting kind of funny.

TASHA

I remember having a bunch of fun and waking up late. That's it.

KENDRA

Well, I had to literally carry you through the door. You couldn't even stand up or walk straight.

TASHA

My legs just gave out from all that dancing.

KENDRA

(doubt)

Right. Dancing.

TASHA

Um hm. That's what it was.

Tasha continues to exercise.

KENDRA

Okay. Whatever you say. But I'm going to be extremely focused on winning.

Tasha finishes slowly.

TASHA

Whew. Girl that thing has some weight on it. You might be a little strong for me.

Tasha gets up.

KENDRA

We can work on your strength.

TASHA

Oh, I see what you did there. Your head has gotten a little swollen since I called you my she-ro. Didn't' it?

KENDRA

Nope. Not at all. I can help you and you help me. Isn't that the deal?

TASHA

I mean, you're not wrong.

KENDRA

You know I'm right. If you want to get faster, you must get stronger too.

TASHA

(facetiously)

Yes, old wise one.

KENDRA

Girl, bye.

Kendra and Tasha clean up the workout station.

Two track girls approach, NATALIE BOONE (20), female, African-American, slim, pretty, athletic, and MELISSA ROCKFORT (20), female, African-American, pretty, athletic.

NATALIE

My girl Tasha. What's up?

Natalie hugs Tasha.

TASHA

Hey Natalie. Great to see you girl.

NATALIE

Yeah girl, we definitely need to catch up. We have a lot to talk about.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Of course. But this is my new training partner, Melissa. Melissa this is my girl, Tasha.

TASHA

Hey Melissa. Nice to meet you.

MELISSA

Hello Tasha. Nice to meet you too.

NATALIE

And how is the great Kendra Fields? Everything been going ok?

KENDRA

No. Not really, but I can manage.

NATALIE

Ok. I respect that.

Melissa looks at Kendra.

MELISSA

Hey Kendra, nice to meet you.

Hi, Melissa.

NATALIE

This is Melissa's first year here. She's a ju-co transfer. Very, very smart. She's going to go to medical-school.

TASHA

We do need more doctors. Young, black, female doctors.

KENDRA

I'm sorry, but what is a ju-co?

TASHA

Junior college. Some athletes go to junior college before going to a four year University like this one.

MELISSA

Yeah, my grades out of high-school were not on point, so I had to hit the reset button and get my life together. If you know what I mean.

KENDRA

Right on, I get it. I'm just trying to make it to the Olympics.

MELISSA

You're definitely closer than I am. I was nowhere near as good as you are.

KENDRA

Dreams take hard work.

NATALIE

Yeah, we all have to work hard in the classroom and on the track. Coach wants to really win that championship. So buckle your seatbelts. Y'all ready?

I'm ready.

TASHA

I'm ready too.

NATALIE

Melissa, how about you?

MELISSA

I'm ready, but I'm not superstars like the rest of you.

TASHA

You're here for a reason. We have to win together. So, keep your head up.

MELISSA

Right on. I appreciate that.

NATALIE

Okay y'all, we have to go finish this workout. How about you meet us for lunch today?

TASHA

Yeah, that sounds good.

KENDRA

Sure.

NATALIE

Great. We'll see you later on then.

KENDRA

Bye girls. Bye.

Melissa and Natalie walk away.

TASHA

TASHA

Isn't she great. I love Natalie. That's my girl.

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Is she your bestie or something?

TASHA

I'd like to think so.

KENDRA

I hope you know or that sounds creepy.

Kendra laughs out loud.

TASHA

Oh my God, Kendra. Shut up. I'm through with you.

KENDRA

Let's finish up and get out of here.

Tasha and Kendra complete workout. They exit.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CAMPUS AERIAL VIEW - DAY (6)

Trees. Sunlight shines over the beautiful campus. Students walking to and from classes. Students sit in grass; others walking, conversing.

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CAMPUS FOOD COURT - DAY (7)

Tables scattered. Bright room with long hallways.

Tasha, holding her BACKPACK, stands by the exit door; head buried in her phone. Kendra enters.

KENDRA

Oh my God Tasha. It feels like I've been walking around all day long. My legs are killing me.

TASHA

You'll be alright girl. Let's go. The girls should be over there.

That sound good. You know I'm hungry.

TASHA

There you go again.

KENDRA

What? You're not hungry?

TASHA

I am a little. I just don't eat as much as you do.

KENDRA

Ok. Whatever you don't eat, I'll eat it. I don't care what it is. --Wait a minute, I take that back.

TASHA

What, you don't like my taste in food?

KENDRA

I don't know. You kind of eat like a rabbit.

TASHA

There's nothing wrong with eating healthy.

KENDRA

You're right, but if I eat healthy, I become even more hungry.

They laugh.

TASHA

There's Natalie and the girls. Come on.

Natalie, Cora, along with KATY STAR (18), Caucasian, female, pretty, short, bright smile, surround a table. Natalie waves her hand.

Tasha waves. They approach.

NATALIE

Hey you two, come grab a seat.

Kendra and Tasha sit.

TASHA

What's up girl? You good?

NATALIE

I'm good. No worries here.

Hey Kendra. Meet Cora and Katy. Cora, Katy, this is Kendra and Katy this is Tasha.

KENDRA

Hey.

CORA

Hey you guys.

TASHA

Hey girl.

KATY

Hi Kendra! Hi Tasha.

Kendra, you are such an amazing athlete. I hope I can be half as good as you.

Can I have your autograph?

CORA

O.M.G, are you serious right now Katy?

TASHA

You know we're on the same team, right?

Cora and Tasha laughs.

KATY

What? --she's amazing.

TASHA

That's true.

KATY

Well, never mind. Since you guys are making such a big deal about it.

KENDRA

Don't worry, I'll give it to you later if you really want it.

Katy blushes.

KATY

Ok cool. Thank you.

CORA

(to Kendra)

How are you doing so far?

KENDRA

Feels like I've been running around campus all day. But I'm good. What about you?

CORA

I'm doing great. Thank you.

•••

Sasha suddenly appears.

SASHA

(firmly, semi-loud)

So... What's up floosies!?

All turn awkwardly silent. Eyes bounce off one another. Tasha looks at Kendra. Sasha slowly walks around.

KENDRA

(to Tasha and Natalie)

What's happening right now?

Silence.

SASHA

I can't believe this. I am very disappointed in all of you. After everything I've done for you.

Why y'all sitting here with this trick?

NATALIE

Hey Sasha, it's all good. We're just hanging out as a team. You can join us if you like.

SASHA

(to Natalie)

I'm sorry, but -hell no.

Natalie pauses.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Exactly. So shut your mouth.

Kendra gets up, approaches Sasha.

KENDRA

Hey listen. I'm sorry we started off on the wrong foot.

SASHA

Did it look like I was talking to you?

Sasha gives the cold shoulder.

KENDRA

Sasha? I'm really trying to turn things around here.

She looks back at Kendra.

SASHA

Then why don't you just "turn around" and get out of my face. This is MY team.

Kendra looks at Tasha.

KENDRA

I tried. I'm going to grab something to eat.

Kendra begins to walk off. Sasha rolls her eyes.

SASHA

Bye bitch.

Kendra stops in her tracks for a moment. Eyes close with prayer hands. Tasha's eyes open wide, takes a deep breath in. Kendra looks back halfway, then continues walking.

Tasha exhales. Cora's eyebrows raise. Natalie shakes her head. Tasha follows after Kendra.

NATALIE

Why are you doing this?

CORA

Yeah, I thought you would have let this go by now.

SASHA

(to Natalie & Cora)

Y'all need to shut up. I know what's going on here. You want me out.

NATALIE

That's not true.

CORA

Of course not.

SASHA

We will be better off without her. She is going to cause problems for us. We need her off this team.

NATALIE

She's a great talent, we're going to need her to win.

SASHA

So, you don't support me?

They look at Sasha with blank stares.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Oh -- okay, I got you.

(under breath)

I guess I'll have to take care of this myself.

Sasha walks off.

Natalie shakes her head.

KATY

Oh my God. I mean what's her deal?

NATALIE

She mad.

KATY

Mad at what? What did Kendra do?

NATALIE

I think it's pretty much envy. Jealously. Everyone on the team knows how good Kendra is. I mean she dang near broke most of the high school national records. Sasha is used to being the center of attention, but as you can see, Kendra threatens all of that.

KATY

Oh, so Sasha thinks she's going to steal her shine?

NATALIE

It's hard to argue with facts. Some people just hate the truth.

CORA

You have some deep analytical skills.

NATALIE

That's just my two cents. Plus, I love psychology and sociology. I study human behavior.

Tasha and Kendra arrive.

NATALIE

Kendra, are you ok?

KENDRA

You see what I have to deal with?

TASHA

Where did Sasha go?

NATALIE

She left upset.

KENDRA

All I know is, I did my best.

TASHA

I'm so glad you didn't react to her. Lord, I didn't think I would have been able to get up fast enough to stop you.

They all laugh.

NATALIE

You would've had to jump over some tables. Maybe you should think about hurdling.

TASHA

I tried hurdling in high school, dang near bust my face all up into pieces.

Tasha cracks up.

CORA

Hurdling is fun.

NATALIE

Only if you're good at it.

KENDRA

I never tried to hurdle. I didn't see the point. That's an accident waiting to happen.

NATALIE

All I can say to you Kendra, is that you're going to have to hurdle Sasha for a while, she's not going to make life easy for you any time soon.

KENDRA

Just like I told Tasha, I'm going to let Jesus take the wheel.

KATY

Just keep your head up. I hope it dies down at some point.

TASHA

I don't know about that.

NATALIE

Time heals all wounds.

CORA

Just stay positive. Don't let her throw you off your game.

I won't. I'm still going to be a champion.

TASHA

Okurrr.

NATALIE

You need to let that go Tasha.

TASHA

(playfully innocent)

What?

NATALIE

That reality t.v. you seem to get that from.

TASHA

(playfully rolls eyes)

An-ti-ways.

Katy, Cora and Kendra laughs.

TASHA (CONT'D)

I'm going to help her make it to her dream. She's going to be like FloJo.

NATALIE

FloJo was all that and a bag of chips. She was a fast fashion-diva.

TASHA

She made sprinting look good.

NATALIE

FloJo represents an idea. She's done things in track that no woman has done. Not even-

(interrupts)

Um nope. Don't say her name.

NATALIE

What?

TASHA

What you talking about?

KENDRA

I already know where you going with that. Just don't say her name.

KATY

Who are you talking about?

KENDRA

I'm not going to say her name.

CORA

Oh, it's that serious for you.

KENDRA

Very.

TASHA

What's the last name?

NATALIE

Oh, I know who it is. Marion Jones?

KENDRA

(comedically, squinted eyes)

You bish.

Tasha laughs hysterically.

KENDRA (CONT'D)

Why did you say that?

NATALIE

(attitude)

It doesn't matter. She's not you either.

Tasha raises her eyebrows.

CORA

(gazes playfully at Nat)

You are so deep.

KENDRA

Yeah, I guess that's true. She used to be my role model.

NATALIE

One thing I know, is you can't control another human being on this earth. So, try not to let things you can't control get to you.

KENDRA

How old are you?

NATALIE

Not that old.

TASHA

She's an old soul.

KENDRA

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(playfully)
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You that old huh?

They laugh.

NATALIE

When I graduate, I'll be moving on to better things.

KENDRA

That's cool. What about track?

NATALIE

I have to face the fact that I'm not good enough to make it to the Olympics. I mean, I'm ok, but that's not going to cut it. I need to be able to run at least fifty point to have any kind of hope for the future. I can barely break fifty three right now.

CORA

Don't be so hard on yourself.

NATALIE

Facts are facts. If something miraculous happens this year, then we'll see.

KENDRA

Maybe you need a better strategy? Coach can probably help you. Tell her what you want to run and she'll probably help to get you there.

NATALIE

I didn't even think about that. I just kind of mentally gave up.

Thanks Kendra, I'll do that.

Tasha gets up and gathers her things.

TASHA

Alright guys. Kendra you about ready? We have practice in a couple of hours. I need to stop somewhere on the way back.

KENDRA

Yeah, cool. I'm all done. Let's roll.

Kendra grabs her things.

CORA

We'll see you two at practice.

NATALIE

Yeah, we'll talk to you later.

KENDRA

See ya.

TASHA

Alright then, bye.

Tasha and Kendra walk off.

NATALIE

Bye.

CORA

Bye.

You ready?

NATALIE

Yeah.

KATY

Come on, let get out of here.

NATALIE

Let's go.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIV - LIBRARY - EVENING (8)

Tasha and Kendra slowly walk down the sidewalk close to the library, wearing school BACKPACKS.

TASHA

Oh girl, we put the work in today at practice. How are you feeling Kendra?

KENDRA

I feel good. I love training.

TASHA

Coach is already trying to break me down.

KENDRA

It was not all that bad today.

TASHA

Yes it was. I almost pulled a hamstring - -doing sit-ups.

Kendra laughs.

KENDRA

You're being real dramatic right now.

TASHA

We'll see if you say it's "not that bad" in a few months.

KENDRA

I don't care how bad it gets. Whatever it takes.

TASHA

I will hold you to that.

Come on, let's go over here and relax for a minute.

KENDRA

Alright cool.

Tasha and Kendra walk over and sit. A beat.

TASHA

Alright Kendra, think about which class you need the most help in.

KENDRA

Why?

TASHA

They have tutors for just about every subject you can think of.

KENDRA

Ok cool. I think I'm good now, I know I might need some help in math. That is not my favorite subject.

TASHA

You and me both. I might be able to help you a little, but you better get a tutor so I don't lead you into a ditch.

Kendra and Tasha laugh.

Sasha walks across the yard towards study hall. She walks up to Kendra and pushes the back of her head as she passes by.

SASHA

Trick.

Kendra's head thrusts forward.

KENDRA

What the hell?!

Tasha jumps up and holds Kendra back.

TASHA

Hold up Kendra!

Kendra eyes Sasha as she continues walking. Flips the bird without looking back.

KENDRA

She's going to get it. She just pushed the back of my head!

TASHA

I'm sorry Kendra. Just take a deep breath and have a seat. Chill out for a bit.

KENDRA

Man, whatever. God!

Kendra sits back down, puts her face into her hands.

Sasha and Gina continues to walk towards the building.

GINA

I can't believe you keep messing with that girl.

SASHA

So.

GINA

Whatever. Anyways, I have work I need to do get a jump on.

SASHA

Why?

GINA

Well, unlike you, us poor folk have to make sure I get a degree so I can find a job.

SASHA

Girl, you know you can work for me. I'm going to need an assistant at some point. My life is just too busy to manage.

GINA

I am not going to work for your crazy butt. Bad enough we have to be roommates.

SASHA

It will be fine, I'll pay you minimum wage.

Sasha laughs. Gina rolls her eyes.

GINA

Whatever.

Sasha looks back one last time and sees Jeff approach Tasha and Kendra.

SASHA

Oh, this is interesting ...

She looks on.

CUT TO:

Jeff approaches.

JEFF

Hey ladies. How are y'all doing?

TASHA

Hey Jeff. We good.

Kendra keeps her head down.

JEFF

Is she ok?

TASHA

No. Sasha started trouble as soon as we got here. She's a little hot right now.

JEFF

Don't worry about her Kendra, she's just probably jealous of you.

Jeff sits. Kendra slowly looks up.

KENDRA

I'm sorry, she put me in a bad mood. It's all good though. What are you up to?

JEFF

You know, trying to make sure I stay on top of my classes. So if y'all need any help with anything, let me know.

So, what's your major Kendra?

KENDRA

I haven't declared yet.

JEFF

Oh, for real? You're not sure what you're going to do after track, huh?

KENDRA

It's hard for me to think of anything beyond track. Track is my life.

JEFF

What if it doesn't work out? What if you don't make it to the Olympic?

TASHA

Okay Jeff, hold on a second. Seems like you're taking a trip to negative town. We do not want to go with you.

JEFF

Okay, okay. My bad. I'm just saying, it's good to have a backup plan.

KENDRA

Now you're starting to sound like my mom.

JEFF

Oh no. I don't want to do that. I'll back off.

So, you just don't believe in plan B huh? You are just that good aren't you?

KENDRA

I know this.

They laugh.

CUT TO:

Sasha continues to stare over at Kendra.

SASHA

Okay, I know how to get rid of her ass.

GINA

Can you just leave them alone? They just talking.

GINA

What, you like him or something? He's a scrub compared to your beau.

SASHA

What? No. Are you sick?

GINA

So what you talking about then?

SASHA

I'm talking about doing something that will make her want to quit.

You just have to be creative about what you spread in people's ears.

GINA

What you going to do

SASHA

You are slow for someone in the fast lane.

GINA

Whatever. This could come back to haunt you.

SASHA

Or... I will haunt you in your sleep if you don't shut up.

Sasha pulls out her phone. Initiates a text message. SUPER:

To Brian: Hey babe.

To Sasha: WU talk to me.

To Brian: A new girl on our team has gone area.

To Sasha: WTF is that?

To Brian: Spread the word. Initials KF

To Sasha: don't make sense but I got you.

Sasha walks into the LIBRARY.

BACK TO:

Jeff continues to talk with Kendra and Tasha, he looks at his phone.

JEFF

Alright ladies, I need to go catch up with the fellas. I holla at y'all later.

TASHA

Cool. See you later.

KENDRA

Bye.

Jeff gets up and walks to the library.

TASHA

Girl, you going to be okay? We have to push through this together.

KENDRA

I'm really getting sick of dealing with her.

TASHA

Just keep doing what you're doing. Stay on the high road and eventually it will end. Keep the faith.

KENDRA

I'll try. Come on let's go inside. The sun continues to set. [TIME - LAPSE] SUPER: 2.5 Hours Later

Tasha and Kendra exit the building and begin walking down the sidewalk. Jeff comes out moments later, he pulls out his phone, stares.

SUPER:

Rick: bruh, I just got some info on your track girl Jeff: what u talking bout Rick: it's going around the new girl KF has gone area Jeff: I don't get it Rick: I thought so too but that's what it is

Jeff: aight I'll holla

JEFF

What, are you serious? Let me see.

Jeff looks around sees Tasha and Kendra in the distance.

Jeff approach from behind.

JEFF

Hey! Hey, hold up a sec.

Tasha and Kendra turns around. Jeff, catches his breath.

TASHA

Hey, what's up. Everything ok?

JEFF

Nah, let me catch my breath real quick tho.

You know I don't like rumors, but I just got some information about a new track girl. KF to be exact.

KENDRA

What? I know you're not taking about me.

TASHA

Wait a minute. You're about to change up our vibe real quick.

JEFF

I don't like getting involved with stuff like this, but you guys are cool and should know what's going on.

TASHA

Maybe we shouldn't. You know, positive vibes...?

KENDRA

Nah, I want to know. What is it?

JEFF

It kind of doesn't make any sense.

KENDRA

Show me.

Jeff pulls out his PHONE, shows Kendra.

KENDRA

This makes zero sense. A new girl has gone... Area?

Kendra face becomes disgruntled.

TASHA

What? Read that again, it's probably cryptic. A little faster.

KENDRA

A new girl has gone-area.

Jeff looks at Tasha.

TASHA

Oh shoot...

JEFF

Damn. I didn't even see that.

KENDRA

What?

TASHA

has gone area? Gone-area. --Gonorrhea.

KENDRA

This says I have --Gonorrhea. Oh hell no.

Kendra's face is disgruntled, steps forward. Tasha and Jeff eyes open wide. She looks at the building.

KENDRA (V.O.)

This is low. Before I overreact, I have to think. Who would stoop down this low to start a rumor about me? Only one person I can think of. I thought apologizing would set her straight. Obviously, I was wrong. She has it out for me and that's not going to change.

I tried to turn over a new leaf. Obviously, it's not working. So, I'll give her exactly what she wants. Time to go to, war.

FADE OUT

THE END

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