TRACK GIRLS

"SCHOOL DAZE"

Episode 108

Written By Will Jones



Dallas, TX contact@jones2kmedia.com

Last update: 8/12/2022

FADE IN:

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint...

Isaiah 40:31

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - AERIAL VIEW - MORNING (1)

A multitude of buildings on campus. The sun slowly rises above the horizon, through the clouds in the distant background.

EXT. WILLIAM UNIV - TRACK CAMPUS - MORNING (2)

SUPER: 6:45 AM

A car pulls into a parking spot. Coach Johnson opens the door, exits the vehicle.

Footsteps begin to move away from the car. Coach Johnson glances around at the empty parking lot. She walks towards the building. Eyes focused.

Coach Johnson enters through the building doors.

CUT TO:

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

Subtle sunlight emits through the window. Kendra, lies asleep under the covers. The CELL PHONE ALARM sounds off. "7:00 AM" appears on the screen.

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

Kendra throws the covers back, reaches over, grabs the CELL PHONE. Turns off the alarm. She sits up. Grabs her head.

KENDRA (V.O.)

Last night was unusual. I learned a lot. I have a whole new respect for Coach Johnson. She'll do anything to protect her girls. Did she take it too far? Maybe. I'm not the one to judge. She's all or nothing. I mean, look at the pregnancy rumor. She tested everybody. I don't even know if that's legal, but she's not playing any games.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - COACH'S OFFICE - MORNING (4)

...as Kendra shares her thoughts ...

Coach Johnson enters trough the office door entrance. She walks to her desk.

Sits down, grabs a PENCIL and a SHEET OF PAPER. She places them on the DESK. She pulls out two LATEX GLOVES and puts them on both HANDS.

Leans over, picks up the LARGE BAG, puts it on her DESK. Opens. She pulls out each TEST BAG one by one making notes.

KENDRA (V.O. CONT'D)

But, pulling a gun on Brian? Who else would have done that? ...or anything for that matter. We have no idea what could of eventually happened to Sasha. Coach must have experienced something similar in her past. This is about life or death. I hope Sasha appreciates what she did as much as I do. But I won't ever really know. Sasha always surprises me. Maybe this will brings us closer. Time will tell. But so will her actions.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - SASHA'S DORM ROOM - MORNING (5)

...as Kendra continues sharing her thoughts ...

Sasha, sadly stares out the window, tightly squeezing her pillow. A beat.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIVERITY - COACH'S OFFICE - MORNING (6)

Coach continues pulling out and looking at each TEST BAG. Keeps taking notes per BAG.

KENDRA (V.O. CONT'D)

Funny thing is, I think this might be a good starting point for everyone to get on the same page. I have hope for the future of our team. My dreams haven't changed, but I do expect to go through a few challenges every now and then. It is a part of life. Sometimes it gets difficult. I have to trust God to see me through. No matter how tuff the challenges become, the Lord will renew my strength.

For others, He works in mysterious ways.

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - TASHA'S DORM ROOM - MORNING (7)

...Kendra continues.

Tasha, sits up, grabs her phone. Check messages. Laughs out loud a few times. A beat.

She gets out the bed. Walks into the bathroom, looks into the mirror, smiles, fixes her hair and begins her daily hygienic routine.

CUT TO:

```
INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - GINA'S DORM ROOM - MORNING (8)
```

Gina, walks into the bathroom. Stops, looks into the mirror. Stares. She begins her hygienic routine.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CAMPUS - MORNING (9)

Coach Johnson continues looking at each BAG and jotting down notes on the SHEET OF PAPER. She looks at a BAG with the name CORA. A NEGATIVE HORIZONTAL LINE is shown on the TEST.

COACH BARBRA

Well I'll be damned. I sure wasn't expecting this.

Coach, shakes her head, puts the TEST BAG into the pile. She picks up her PHONE. Initiates a message...

To Cora: Good Morning. You can start practice today.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CORA'S DORM ROOM - MORNING (10)

A CELL PHONE sits on the bed covers. A MESSAGE appears from Coach. The PHONE buzzes and makes the ALERT sound.

BZZZ. BZZZ.

Cora, lying in the bed on her side, reaches around and grabs the PHONE. She reads the message.

Her mouth drops. She tosses the covers off of her and quickly sits up with a smile. Throws her hands into the air.

CORA

Yes! Woot woot!

She jumps up and down on the bed. Runs out the door.

CUT TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - KATY'S ROOM - MORNING (11)

Room door closed. Slight light enters the windows. Katy, sleeping in her bed.

Cora bursts into the door and jumps on top of Katy. Katy quickly awakens, grabs her heart.

KATY

Oh my God! You scared me half to death.

Cora bounces her up and down on the bed. A super bright smile fills her face.

CORA Katy. O.M.G! KATY What? What is it? I was sleeping you know. CORA

You will not believe what just happened.

KATY

Let me guess. You won the lottery?

CORA

What? No.

Look at this.

Cora puts the PHONE SCREEN to Katy's face.

KATY

Oh... Interesting. Looks like you got the result you were hoping for.

CORA

I know right.

KATY

Okay. Well, congratulations. --Can I go back to sleep now?

CORA

Why do you have to be such a party pooper?

KATY

You ruined MY sleep. You owe me.

CORA

Okay, okay. Go back to sleep. Sorry to wake you. --You have to admit, it was for a good cause. Right?

KATY

Sure.

Cora gets up from the bed, dances towards the door.

CORA

(singing, repeats)

I'm back! I'm back on the track! Yea!

Cora closes the door. (Continues loudly singing)

Katy lies back down in the bed. Annoyingly covers her head with the pillow. Sits up.

KATY

(happily)

Oh my God, please stop singing!

TITLE CARD:

"Track Girls"

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - KENDRA'S DORM - MORNING (12)

Calm. Well-lit living area. Sunshine enters through the blinds of the window. Tasha, casually dressed, sits quietly at the island in the kitchen area.

Kendra enters from her room.

TASHA

Good morning, FloJo.

KENDRA

Come on Tasha, not FloJo.

Kendra grabs a BOX OF CEREAL off the refrigerator, a bowl, sets them down on the island. Grabs some MILK out the FRIDGE. Fills the BOWL with both.

TASHA

Okay, my bad. It was just a joke. I thought you would laugh with me.

KENDRA

I know. But it's just not me.

TASHA

Right, I got you. What are you eating though?

Kendra sits next to Tasha.

KENDRA

Cereal? You want some?

TASHA

No thanks. I'm good. What kind of knockoff cereal is that?

She takes a bite.

KENDRA

[CEREAL NAME]. Girl this stuff is good.

TASHA

It does not look good. You sure you know what you're eating?

KENDRA

Hey, this costs ninety-nine cents. If it tastes good, then it's all good.

TASHA

You need to consider what you eat. Cheap, doesn't always mean healthy.

KENDRA

(comedically, imitates Tasha)

But it does help you save. Okurrr.

Kendra raises her hand for a hi-five. Tasha doesn't respond.

TASHA

Was that supposed to be me?

Kendra laughs.

KENDRA

I don't know. I just thought it was funny.

(serious)

You see how it feels?

Kendra stares. Tasha laughs.

TASHA

Okay. You got me.

They both laugh. Kendra continues eating.

TASHA (CONT'D)

You see girl, this is my kind of energy. I'm glad we can play like this. I hope this can spread to the rest of the team.

KENDRA

You and me both.

TASHA

Did you sleep okay last night?

KENDRA

I was up for a little bit. I fell asleep not too long after. I was thinking about what she said to him.

TASHA

Oh yeah, I have never had a coach go to that level before.

KENDRA

Me either.

TASHA

She was definitely saying some real stuff last night. Had me deep thinking like, damn.

KENDRA

I pray that Sasha can learn something from that situation.

TASHA

Based on how she reacted last night, I'm not sure she has.

KENDRA

Well, that's what worries me.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. WU - BRIAN'S DORM PARKING LOT - NIGHT (13)

Coach Johnson and the GIRLS walk towards the parking lot. Coach, in the lead, Sasha approaches and jumps in front of her. Stops her abruptly.

Kendra, Tasha stand back.

SASHA

Coach! Why did you do that to my man? COACH BARBRA

Why did I do that? --I did that for you.

SASHA

He's never going to hook back up with me.

COACH BARBRA

Good.

SASHA

We are a power couple.

COACH BARBRA

Excuse me, Sasha. I don't have time for this.

Coach tries to continue walking past Sasha. She blocks.

SASHA

All I'm saying is you didn't have to hit him like that.

COACH BARBRA

Oh, yes I did. You don't understand Sasha. You cannot be with a man that puts his hands on you. If he's beating you now, he's killing you later.

SASHA

No he won't. You just want me to fail. I need a man like him. He needs me on his arm. He's not all bad.

COACH BARBRA

So, you trying to be a trophy wife?

SASHA

Well...

COACH BARBRA

Oh, Sasha. A man that puts his hands on you is only concerned with himself. What do you think he's going to do with you if he doesn't make it to the pros?

SASHA

He IS going to make it!

COACH BARBRA

What if he gets hurt? What if it's so bad, he can't play anymore?

Sasha remains quiet. Coach approaches.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

You have to think Sasha.

My little sister never made it to thirty. She was with a man that continued to beat her until she was murdered. Don't think for once that I won't pull that trigger to save your life! If I could go back to save my little sister, I would...

Kendra, Tasha and Sasha eye each other, eyes fill with an ounce of tears as coach covers her eyes with her head down.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

(to all the girls)

Look, I want the best for all of you. I'm not only your track coach. Everything that happens in your lives is just as important. A man like that does not change. It takes an act of God. Everything that happened here tonight is to help you. All I ask is that you keep this between us. No one needs to know. No one. You all with me?

Kendra and Tasha respond.

KENDRA/TASHA

Yes coach.

Coach turns to Sasha.

COACH BARBRA

Sasha? You with me?

SASHA

Yeah, I hear you.

COACH BARBRA

Okay then. Ladies, let me take you home.

Coach gathers herself. The girls get into the car.

BACK TO:

INT. WILLIAMS UNIV - KENDRA/TASHA'S DORM - MORNING (14)

Kendra stares into the air. Tasha looks on.

TASHA

Well, Sasha is going to do what Sasha is going to do. She needs to just find her a man that will treat her right; and leave those football players alone.

KENDRA

I hope she would leave me alone too.

TASHA

Only time will tell on that one. She just doesn't like you.

KENDRA

That's obvious.

TASHA

Maybe you should let her beat you in a couple of races. Then she might let up a little.

KENDRA

Not happening.

TASHA

Don't you want her to feel better.

KENDRA

I don't lose on purpose. Ever.

TASHA

Right. Which is exactly the problem. She wants everyone to worship her. Envy who she is. She thinks she's the Beyonce of track and field.

Kendra laughs.

KENDRA

Oh, good one.

TASHA

It's probably unfair of me to say, since Beyonce isn't a track star.

KENDRA

That's true, cause I'll dust Beyonce.

TASHA

I bet you would to. You wouldn't let Bey win a race?

KENDRA

Nope.

TASHA

Okurrr.

KENDRA

I don't care who you are. If you're on the track with me, you're eating dust.

TASHA

Well, one day, you'll get your chance to become friends. It has to happen.

KENDRA

Whatever. If it's meant to be, it will be.

A beat. Tasha's phone starts buzzing on the island. She picks it up, reads a new message.

TASHA

Girl. Cora is over here going crazy. Like she just won the lottery or something.

KENDRA

What you mean?

TASHA

She talking about: "I'm free! I can't wait to see everyone at practice today."

...I mean really?

KENDRA

Why she so happy this early in the morning?

TASHA

She probably passed that pregnancy test. I saw coach throw her out.

Kendra raises an eyebrow.

TASHA (CONT'D)

Yeah, I pay attention.

Coach kicked that girl off the team. You know you thought the same thing. She was acting like she had morning sickness.

KENDRA

I need to stop judging people.

TASHA

Just go with the facts as they present themselves. --But this is good energy. I'm of fan of that you know.

Kendra finished her last few spoons of cereal.

TASHA (CONT'D)

Don't hurt yourself girl. You have enough time.

KENDRA

I'm sorry, this is the best part. You know, when it gets a little soggy...

TASHA

Um, no...

Alright girl, I'm going to go get ready for class. You'll be ready to go in about twenty minutes?

KENDRA

Yep. Got to knock out one more bowl first.

Tasha stands up.

TASHA

Okay, see you in a little bit.

Tasha walks off to her room. Kendra fills her BOWL with more KNOCK-OFF CEREAL.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIV - TRACK CAMPUS - DAY (15)

A random campus building stands tall as the clouds pass over. Students sitting, walking and talking, scattered throughout the area from the sidewalks to the grass. Studious. Carrying books and backpacks.

[DAY TIMELAPSE]

The light from the sun breaks through the clouds. TRACK GIRLS scattered across the field. Running shoes, workout clothes, sitting, talking, ready to begin.

Cora, cartwheels all over the field. Katy watches.

CORA (V.O.)

O.M.G! I finally back on the track. I just knew I wasn't pregnant. Smiley-face! There was just no way. L.O.L. I mean, com'on --I know better than that. Let's have some fun. Heart-eye emoji!

Tasha and Kendra enter from a distance. They walk together to the field.

TASHA

How was class today girl?

KENDRA

It felt like a long day today. Wasn't too bad through. How about you?

TASHA

It was good. I was distracted most of the time. I found myself watching funny video clips.

KENDRA

You sure that was a good idea?

TASHA

I was a little bored. Some of my professors have the kind of voice that can really put me to sleep.

KENDRA

That's true. I feel that way my math professor. I'm going to bring a pillow to class next time.

They laugh.

TASHA

You might want to pay attention in there, math is not your best subject.

KENDRA

You might have a point.

Sasha nearby, wearing large SUNGLASSES. Kendra and Tasha approach. Tasha waves.

TASHA

Hey Sasha!

KENDRA

Hey.

Sasha looks. Kendra waves too...

TASHA

(to Sasha)

Sasha. --Oh, so you not going to speak?

Kendra shakes her head. Tasha and Kendra continue on.

Coach Barbra enters the track stadium. She quickly makes her way to the field.

She pulls out her WHISTLE.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

COACH BARBRA

Alright ladies, gather around.

The TRACK GIRLS walk over to Coach.

A beat.

COACH BARBRA

Okay. How's everyone doing today? TRACK GIRLS have slow, mix responses.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Well. I'm glad to see you all made it out today. Now, let's get through the first order of business. First, thank you all for participating in the testing the other day...

Natalie leans over to Tasha.

NATALIE

It wasn't like we had a choice.

TASHA

I know right ...

Natalie laughs.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

As a result, we've had some changes to the team. If you haven't noticed, we lost a few team members. But the show must go on.

The TRACK GIRLS whisper quietly to each other. Tasha boldly, raises her hand, then speaks up...

TASHA

Um, coach! Just like that?

COACH BARBRA

Just like that.

TASHA

You didn't try to help them or anything?

COACH BARBRA

I provided my expectations in the first team meeting. So, here we are.

Questions?

Natalie leans into Tasha.

NATALIE

Wow. Coach is not playing.

KENDRA

Truth.

The TRACK GIRLS look around at each other.

Silence.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Alright then. Let's warm up.

The TRACK GIRLS start jogging their warm-up lap.

The sun continues to shine bright. TRACK GIRLS line up at the start line. Coach Barbra stands off to the side holding the whistle.

COACH BARBRA

First group, ready!?

WHISTLE BLOWS!

A group, in two lines, move forward and back thirty meters performing the exercises below.

HIGH KNEES

BUTT KICKS

FRANKENSTEIN

COACH BARBRA

Get some water. Meet me on the line in five minutes.

The TRACK GIRLS walk and pick up their WATER BOTTLES and take a few gulps.

They approach the starting line.

COACH BARBRA

Here we go ladies. We're doing fourhundred breakdowns today.

The GIRLS sigh and complain.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Settle down.

So, it will be four, three, two and one hundred meters. Times will be an easy sixty-five, forty-five, thirty, and fifteen. Nice and relaxed.

You MUST hit your times. Very important. One minute rest. Three minutes between sets. Everyone good?

The TRACK GIRLS nod as they move around, stretching, arm swings, neck rotations, jumping... getting ready.

COACH BARBRA

Let's go. On the line. Waterfall start please. Everyone all together.

Coach picks up the WHISTLE, holds the STOPWATCH with her finger on the button.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

Coach pushes the START BUTTON with her thumb.

All the GIRLS take off running. They blaze around the curve at faster than suggested speed.

COACH BARBRA

Stay relaxed!

They pass track points ...

one hundred meters ...

two hundred meters ...

three hundred meters ...

They cross the finish line ...

COACH BARBRA

Sixty-eight. Sixty-nine... You have to pick it up ladies. Let's make the time.

After they cross the line, each girl bends over gasping for air.

COACH BARBRA

Thirty seconds! Let's stay up tall! Keep moving.

Most TRACK GIRLS work their way to standing up.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Fifteen seconds! Let's get back on the line ladies. Three hundred meters! I want you all crossing the line in forty seconds. Let's get it!

Ready!?

The GIRLS step up to the line. Lean over in the start position.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

The GIRLS take off sprinting around the curve.

They pass track points ...

one hundred meters ...

two hundred meters ...

COACH BARBRA

Forty-two, forty-three...

They cross the three hundred finish line ...

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Great job ladies! You made your time! Walk down quickly for the next run!

Fifty seconds!

The TRACK GIRLS stand up, walk quickly to the four-hundred meter finish.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Twenty seconds!

The GIRLS approach.

COACH BARBRA

Okay, two-hundred meters this time. Let hit the thirty second mark. Rest at the finish, then run the last one hundred meters back up the back stretch.

Five seconds. Back on the line!

They line up in ready position.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

The GIRLS take off sprinting around the curve, striding their way across the finish line.

COACH BARBRA

Thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four...

Come on ladies! Too slow!

The TRACK GIRLS bend over, hands on their knees. Gasps for air. A beat.

COACH BARBRA

Ten seconds!

On the line! Let's go. One hundred meters! Ready!?

The TRACK GIRLS line up.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

They sprint down the track, each one battling for the front.

COACH BARBRA

Seventeen, eighteen, nineteen... That was slow!

The GIRLS run past the finish line. ALL collapse onto the ground.

Coach walks over. She looks at them as they gasp for air.

COACH BARBRA

Five minutes! Then we start the next set.

We'll have to pick up ladies, that was unacceptable.

Coach walks away from the GIRLS and slowly goes over to the starting line.

Tasha pops up on her hands and knees. Kendra sits up, elbows on her knees.

TASHA

Oh my God. This workout is no joke.

KENDRA

We have to push a little harder so we can make these times.

Kendra stands up, walks over to Tasha, pulls her up by the arm.

Sasha, sitting up, has on SHADES, looks around at everyone. She gets up and walks over to the starting line.

The rest of the TRACK GIRLS slowly get up and make their way over.

At the finish line ...

Coach stands there holding her WHISTLE.

COACH BARBRA

Okay ladies! Second set! On the line! Four-hundred meters!

Ready?!

Sasha looks around at the GIRLS. Kendra looks back at her.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

The GIRLS sprint. Sasha takes out in front.

A beat.

[repeat start]

They cross the finish. (x 3 each section of track)

COACH BARBRA

Horrible!

No!

Too slow!

Ridiculous!

Oh my God!

Terrible!

Coach looks at her STOPWATCH.

[Repeat x4]

COACH BARBRA

Take a break, get a drink.

The GIRLS go and grab their SPORTS BOTTLS drinks.

Coach puts her head down and shakes her head. The girls all fall out onto the track. Some TRACK GIRLS moan in pain.

Coach looks on. She begins to walk around looking at each of them in their spots on the ground.

Kendra lies on her back looking at the sky.

Tasha on her side, coughing.

Sasha on her back, still wearing the shades.

Cora throws up in the grass.

Katy is up drinking from her WATER BOTTLE.

Natalie sits, breathing hard.

A beat.

Coach walks over to the center field.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

COACH BARBRA

Ladies! Gather around.

Thee TRACK GIRLS get up, walk over and surround coach.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

So team, I have good news and bad news.

Ok. The good news is, you all survived the workout. Nobody died.

Bad news is, you all looked terrible. I mean horrific. Until you all get it right, we're going to run this workout every day until you hit all your times.

The TRACK GIRLS look at coach confused and distraught.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - TRACK CAMPUS - DAY (16)

SUPER: Five Weeks Later

The sun continues to shine bright. The TRACK GIRLS stand on the field --ready to run. Sasha, no shades, face restored to normal.

Coach stands by holding her stopwatch.

COACH BARBRA

On the line! Let's go. Last set. Four hundred meters! Ready!?

The GIRLS line up waterfall start. Standing in start position, leaning over, head down, eyes focused.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

All the GIRLS take off running from the start. They blaze around the curve at a fast pace. They circle the track, relaxed.

COACH BARBRA

Sixty-one, sixty-two ...

They all cross the line. Each continues to stand slowing their breathing, walking upright.

Coach looks at her STOPWATCH with a smile.

A beat.

COACH BARBRA

Three hundred ...

Two hundred ...

One hundred

WHISTLE BLOWS!

They complete the three, two and one hundred meters, up tall, relax run style through each set.

COACH BARBRA

Yes. They did it.

The TRACK GIRLS collapse onto the track after the last one hundred meters. Scattered. They catch their breath.

A beat.

The TRACK GIRLS slowly get up and walk over to coach.

WHISTLE BLOWS!

COACH BARBRA

Bring it in ladies!

Great job ladies! I'm proud of you for finally completing this workout. It only took you --five weeks to do it. But you look better and much stronger.

We've put in a lot of work over the last five weeks. I'm glad that we are able to get past that simple workout. But we are far, far away from reaching our championship status.

So, as we move forward over the next few weeks, we know the Thanksgiving break is coming up. We must be aggressive with the training and weight lifting. Once the season starts, we need to be ready to perform.

The TRACK GIRLS look around at each other.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

In a few weeks, we're going to be testing strength and speed. I know you'll have midterms for your classes, so training will be little less involved then. Stay focused and make sure you're taking care of classwork. Make sure you use study time wisely and get help from the tutors as well. Your body will need lots of rest.

Any questions?

The TRACK GIRLS silently shake their head.

COACH BARBRA (CONT'D)

Okay. Have a good night I will see you all in the morning. Dismissed.

Coach exits. TRACK GIRLS prepare to leave the field. Natalie approach Kendra and Tasha.

NATALIE

Hey ladies. Great job today.

TASHA/KENDRA

Thank you.

NATALIE

This team is really started to come together. I think we've made some progress.

TASHA

Yeah, our energy is almost in sync.

The other TRACK GIRLS start to walk off, Sasha included.

Tasha, Kendra and Natalie wave them off.

TASHA

Bye ladies!

They all wave back except for Sasha. Sasha looks back for a second and continues on.

TASHA

Oh no she didn't. You see, ALMOST in sync.

KENDRA

She's been acting like that for weeks. I like the silent treatment.

TASHA

That doesn't help Kendra.

NATALIE

Did something happen? She's been acting like this for the last five weeks.

TASHA

I don't now girl. Hopefully she talks to us one day.

NATALIE

I guess time will tell. Ready?

Tasha/Kendra agree. The GIRLS start walking.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

What's for dinner tonight?

TASHA

Hey girl. We don't know yet.

KENDRA

What you trying to eat?

NATALIE

I don't know. Just hungry.

KENDRA

I definitely need to make sure I get to *Study Time*. I need some help with my math class.

NATALIE

Oh girl, don't worry, we got you.

TASHA

We can grab something real quick. Go home, shower, then head to the library.

KENDRA

Sounds good. I am hungry too.

NATALIE

Yeah, it's been a long hard day.

TASHA

I know a good HEALTHY place we can go to. It's in *Williamsville* though. You guys good to go down there?

NATALIE

Please don't tell me we're walking. You going to have to carry me Tash.

TASHA

I would if I could.

NATALIE

Yeah right.

KENDRA

She probably would. She has a good heart.

TASHA

Oh, well thank you girl. Keep 'em coming.

NATALIE

Something is wrong with you.

They laugh.

TASHA

You know I'm all about the good energy.

KENDRA

She sure is. We can make it.

TASHA

Yeah, it's not that far of a walk. Shouldn't be too bad.

NATALIE

Alright girl, come on. Let's go.

They exit the track stadium.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CAMPUS - EVENING (19)

The setting sun shines bright over the Williams University campus. Light emits from the building windows.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIV - CAMPUS - EVENING (20)

Kendra, Tasha and Natalie walk towards study hall.

NATALIE

Tasha, that food was pretty good. As long as I've been here, I never eaten at that place.

TASHA

I thought you might like it.

KENDRA

Yeah, I'm still hungry too. I might need a snack or something to help me make it tonight.

TASHA

There's a place here where you can get some snacks.

KENDRA

Where?

TASHA

I'll show you where it is. Let's grab a spot first.

They find a place to sit.

NATALIE

My feet are killing me.

KENDRA

My legs are sore. I don't think I will be getting up anytime soon.

NATALIE

Yep. I'm staying right here for the next couple of hours. --Unless a fire or something breaks out. Then I'm out.

They laugh.

KENDRA

Girl, you crazy.

TASHA

Alright, I'm going to show Kendra where the snacks are. We'll be right back. Did you two want anything?

NATALIE

Bring me a foot massager.

Kendra laughs.

TASHA

Girl, I'm with you.

NATALIE

I'm good. Unless they have some chicken wings. Then get me a twelve piece.

KENDRA

Oh, that sounds good!

They crack up laughing.

TASHA

You two are too much.

NATALIE

Girl I'm good. Be here when you get back.

TASHA

Alright y'all. See you in a few.

Kendra and Tasha walk away. A beat.

Cora and Katy approach. Cora quickly wraps her arms around Natalie from behind.

CORA

Hey girl!

Natalie frighten, jumps.

NATALIE

Oh my God! What's wrong with you? Girl you know I get frightened easily.

CORA

O.M.G. I knew I would get you.

NATALIE

What's up Cora?

(to Katy)

Hey Katy.

CORA

Hey you guys.

KATY

Hey.

Katy waves and smiles. They both have a seat.

NATALIE

So, what you doing around here? Terrorizing everyone?

CORA

(sweet voice)

No.

Natalie laughs.

CORA (CONT'D)

We just came to see what's going on with you guys. What were y'all talking about?

NATALIE

Just catching up. Talking about coach and her unorthodox ways of training.

CORA

Don't you just love her.

Please use words we all understand.

NATALIE

I am not dumbing myself down for anyone. You'll need to get out the mustard.

CORA

W.T.F?

Katy looks over.

KATY

Sorry, mustard?

CORA

We don't know what that means.

NATALIE

Get out the mustard and Ketchup.

Cora and Katy stare, eyebrows raised.

NATALIE

You know Ketchup. Catch-up.

CORA

000h. L.O.L.

Cora and Katy laughs.

KATY

 ${\tt I}^{\,\prime}{\tt m}$ glad you told me. I would have never figured that out.

NATALIE

Cora, you know those acronyms are only for digital messages, right?

CORA

(Olive voice, fast blink)

Whatever do you mean?

They all laugh at Cora.

NATALIE

If you want to L.O.L, all you have to do is the action. Laugh out loud.

CORA

```
(pumps eyebrows)
```

You're right, but it's way more fun this way.

NATALIE

Whatever girl.

CORA

Hey, where's T and K?

KATY

Yeah, where's Kendra?

CORA

Were they sitting here with you?

NATALIE

Yeah, they just went down to grab a few snacks.

Tasha and Kendra appear from a distance.

KATY

(excitedly)

Hey, there's Kendra.

Natalie side eyes Katy.

KATY

What? She's awesome.

NATALIE

Okay. I see you.

Tasha and Kendra arrive.

CORA

Hey girl!

TASHA

Hey y'all.

KENDRA

Hey.

KATY

Hi Kendra! Hey Tasha.

TASHA

So what's happening around here?

KENDRA

Yeah, what did we miss?

CORA

Just chatting about coach and all this training.

...and Natalie has been giving everyone a teaching lesson.

TASHA

She is the "Wise One."

CORA

She's telling me to let my actions speak for themselves. I mean... O.M.G.

Cora's makes an awkwardly funny face. They all laugh.

KENDRA

Girl you crazy.

NATALIE

You just be you Cora. I definitely don't want to change who you are.

CORA

That's what I've been trying to tell you.

NATALIE

I get it.

KENDRA

So, who's going to help me with my math class?

TASHA

We got you girl.

KATY

Midterms?

KENDRA

Midterms.

NATALIE

It's that time of the year. We have to make sure our grades are on point.

TASHA

That's right. After the break, it's going to be very difficult to work out of a hole.

KENDRA

Hey Cora, Katy? You guys going to study with us?

CORA

Y.E.S.

KATY

Sure. I would love to.

NATALIE

Okay, cool.

A beat.

Sasha approach from a distance, wearing SUNGLASSES.

SASHA

How's all my lovely teammates doing? ...but not you?

Sasha points at Kendra. Kendra rolls her eyes.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Looks like you guys are working hard. Getting ready for midterms I assume?

NATALIE

That's right.

You are welcome to join if you need some help.

SASHA

No thank you.

NATALIE

Ok, cool.

SASHA

I just wanted to see if you all wanted to come with me, on my private jet of course, to Jamaica for the break.

TASHA

Here we go ...

SASHA

I want to take you all, except her, to Jamaica. Don't you want to spend the break like a baller? It's going to be lots of fun.

NATALIE

But why you dissing Kendra?

KENDRA

Oh, I'm good. You don't have to worry about me. Y'all have fun with *The Grinch* that Stole Christmas.

KATY

(laughs out loud)

They all stop and look at her. She straightens up.

SASHA

Okay, okay, you can come. Just stop begging.

KENDRA

No thank you.

SASHA

No trolls allowed anyway.

Let me know when you're ready to live the fabulous life.

Sasha walks off.

KENDRA

Is she serious? Are you guys trying to go with her?

NATALIE

I'm not.

CORA

I'm not going anywhere.

KATY

I'll go if Kendra goes.

Natalie rolls her eyes at Katy. The girls laugh.

TASHA

I've never been to Jamaica. I'm going to have to check my schedule. That does sound fun. Okurrr.

NATALIE

Whatever.

Alright ladies, let's go in here and study.

They gather their things and make their way towards the building.

EXT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - AERIAL VIEW - DAY (21)

Campus buildings. Clouds slowly fly by. The sun rises over the horizon.

INT. WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - CAMPUS - DAY (22)

Sasha briskly walks towards Coach.

SASHA

Coach!

Coach busy, slowly turns around. Sasha takes the ENVELOPE and throws it at her.

COACH

Excuse me! You need to show some respect.

Sasha picks up the ENVELOPE. Hands it to Coach.

SASHA

Sorry. But coach! What the heck is this?

COACH

What is it?

SASHA

Nine thousand dollars!

COACH

What?

Coach opens and pulls out a LETTER. She reads.

SASHA

I don't get bills.

COACH

Don't your parents pay your tuition?

SASHA

What? I'm on a full scholarship.

COACH

No. You're not.

SASHA

No!

COACH

You're on fifty percent. I thought you knew that ...?

SASHA

I'm not a scrub coach.

COACH

No, you're not. But I think this is a conversation you should have with your parents. Maybe things have changed for you.

SASHA

What?

COACH

We had to reduce several scholarships in order to make room for new talent.

Sasha face drops.

SASHA

I know you not talking about that new bitch, Kendra.

COACH

Watch your language. We sent letters out over the summer. Your parents said it would be taken care of.

SASHA

I'm a better athlete than her.

COACH

Talk to your parents and then come back to see me.

SASHA

You better put me on whatever scholarship you gave your new --step-daughter. This is bullshit.

Sasha turns around and storms out. Coach looks on.

FADE OUT