

ACT ONE

3 EXT. AERIAL HOUSTON - DAY 3

The sun blares over the busy streets of Houston, Texas.

4 EXT. HOUSTON STREET 4

Cars sit bumper to bumper on the street, but all is well in the city.

5 EXT. SIDEWALK NEAR SPADE CREATIVE WRITING AGENCY 5

Michelle, dressed in a pinstriped business suit with her briefcase and coffee in one hand and her phone in the other, struts through a small group of random people casually walking along the sidewalk next to the Spade Creative Writing Agency where she is a minority owner and author. She's chatting with her sister Eve.

EVE (V.O.)

So how's your first day back so far?

MICHELLE

Girl I haven't even made it in yet.

EVE (V.O.)

What?!

MICHELLE

But I'm still determined to have a good day today. I'm excited actually.

6 INT. MRS. HALL'S BATHROOM 6

EVE (30's) dressed in a nursing outfit, sits on her knees next to the tub in her client, Mary's (60's), house. Mary sits in the tub visibly upset. Her body sways a bit in the water as Eve bathes her back. Eve looks to her phone seated on a towel nearby.

EVE

Oh yeah? What for?

INTERCUT - SIDEWALK NEAR SPADE CREATIVE WRITING AGENCY/MAMA HALL'S BATHROOM

MICHELLE

Blake's interview airs today. He credits me for my work on our latest book "Freedom Voices" on live television! I can't wait for everyone to see it.

EVE

(Shocked)

Hmmm...So, the ghost won't be a ghost anymore?

MICHELLE

Yes and you know what that means right...

EVE

What?

Michelle stops near the entrance of the Spade Creative Writing Agency headquarters, a tall black building.

MICHELLE

More money, more gigs, and finally... respect. I'm so amped about this sis!

Eve shakes her head and continues bathing her Mary's back.

EVE

Oh I'd be amped too. You've only been asking the man for credit and an opportunity for authorship for years now. I think you'd be even happier without that boy of a husband you've got. Credit, luxury living, money or not I still say leave his ass.

MICHELLE

C'mon sis. He's done a lot of wrong, I get it, but I love him, and to me, him simply acknowledging me for writing this latest successful book makes me happy. So just be happy for me please?

EVE

I'd be happy when you leave that devil.

MICHELLE

Me too, but I can't, so get over it, and stop callin him a devil, it's weird.

EVE

Yes you can leave, you just don't want to.

MICHELLE

Correct...

TAMARA (30's) dressed in a corporate dress and consumed within her phone conversation bursts out the front doors, catching Michelle's attention.

TAMARA

Those cons are only looking out for themselves! They don't care about any of us and I'll die trying to prove it.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Hey sis... I gotta call you back...K, bye.

Michelle hangs up the phone and joyfully walks toward Tamara.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Tam...

Michelle expects Tamara to be happy to see her, but she's everything but happy. Tamara cuts her neck and eyes to Michelle. Her chest expands as she inhales deep and locks her eyes onto Michelle.

TAMARA

Great (beat) it's you.

MICHELLE

Hey how's it going -- how you been?

TAMARA

Seriously?! Like you don't know?

Now Michelle gets serious -- confused she cocks her head to the side.

MICHELLE

Know what? Today's my first day back and --

Tamara gets in Michelle's face.