

FEBRUARY

"Rose"

Scene #1

INT. ROSE'S DORM ROOM - EVENING

The ROAR of a blow-dryer as Rose dries her hair in front of a mirror, dressed in a black skirt and a black bra.

She clicks off the hair-dryer and places it flat on the desk next to a lit cigarette in an ashtray, smoke curling up from the tip and gathering thickly in the glare of a desk lamp.

HEAVY METAL plays low on her little dusty boombox, the blown speaker HISSING a little.

In the mirror, Rose can see Kat over her shoulder, watching as she picks up a hairbrush, and runs it through her hair.

~~START-~~

ROSE

You know I'm not babysitting you tonight, right, freshman?

Kat watches the rhythm of the hairbrush, her eyes tired.

KAT

(long pause)

Mr. Gordon said you're supposed to stay with me.

ROSE

And what's he going to do? Bust me for not being at school over vacation?

KAT

Mr. Gordon said --

ROSE

"Mr. Gordon said. Mr. Gordon said". Jesus. What are you, a freaking recording?

KAT

(long pause)

Where are you going?

ROSE

Me? Nowhere.

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Rose turns and nods to her bed where the covers have been pulled up over a pile of laundry, simulating a body.

ROSE (CONT'D)

The Sisters ask anything you just tell them I don't feel well so I'm staying in bed.

Rose narrows her eyes, speaking in a sensationalized whisper.

ROSE (CONT'D)

You know about them, right?

KAT

Know what?

ROSE

You know those are wigs, right? You know they have no hair on their bodies. No hair anywhere. And I bet you think it's like some crazy lesbo thing, huh?

(then)

Check out their eyebrows next time. Totally fake. Their real ones...?

She passes the lit cigarette in front of her eyes, making a HISSING noise between her teeth.

ROSE (CONT'D)

... burned right off.

KAT

That's not true.

ROSE

You never heard about Jen Pearlstein's sister? Graduated like three years ago?

(she leans in)

She walked in on them one night...

(pauses for effect)

... *worshiping the devil.*

Kat breathes quietly for a long moment.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Yeah. And the crazy thing was that *she* was the one who had to go to a mental hospital. Could still be there for all I know.

Rose smiles and turns back to the mirror, picking up right where she left off, tousling her hair.

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ROSE (CONT'D)
It was like a whole thing.

KAT
Who told you that?

ROSE
You kidding? Everybody knows that.

Rose gives herself a last look, pursing her lips as if for a soft kiss.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Just don't come into my room.
(then)
And don't touch any of my shit.

But Kat isn't listening anymore, her gaze drifting over to Rose's cigarette, following the brume of smoke as it curls up into the corner of the ceiling where it dissolves into air.

- END

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