

FEMALE YOUTH SCENES
(SET-UPS FOR COUCH, KITCHEN & TOASTS)

by
Del Shores

COUCH SCENES

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

THERAPY SCENES: The following are scenes that take place in a therapist's office. Some are comedic, some are dramatic.

An UNSEEN THERAPIST listens to her/his patients.

CASEY hears voices, she suffers from schizophrenia. The voices tell her to harm people she loves.

CASEY

... can you hear them?

(looks around)

Sometimes there's more than one,
but right now, it's just Tara. She
tells me what to do and if I don't -

-

(scared)

No! I won't! Stop saying that! I
can't do that! No, Tara, please
don't make me. Not again. NO!
NO! I can't. Not my baby brother.
I don't want to hurt him. Mom gets
so mad. Please, no, Tara --

CUT TO:

GRACE is a foster child in the system. She's wounded and vulnerable.

GRACE

(tears about to flow)

... but I liked the Millers. Why
do I have to...? I just don't
understand. Every night Mrs.
Miller would brush my hair, one
hundred times and kiss me good
night. What did I do wrong?

(now crying)

What did I do wrong?

(then realizing)

They're not really going to keep
Bobby and not me, are they?

(panicked)

Are they? Please, no, please don't
let --

She breaks down, can't continue.

CUT TO:

DELANEY is already in tears.

DELANEY

(quietly)

I didn't want to, but he... he told me that if I didn't there are plenty of girls that would and... I liked him. So, I closed my eyes and... just let him. And it hurt...at first, but I just blocked everything out and started singing in my head... this Sara McLaughlin song, "I will remember you, will you remember me?" My mom always listens to that song and it's, you know... soothing... And then it was over and I thought, you got what you wanted and I've messed up and now he'll dump me and just move on, because he's a player. Everybody warned me, but... I like him but.. That's exactly what he did. And he started ignoring my texts... and me at school --

(pause)

And I'm late. I've never been late before. And I'm so scared.

CUT TO:

RACHEL slides her hand through her hair and shows the UNSEEN THERAPIST.

RACHEL

Look, it's falling out. They told me that it probably... that most likely, it wouldn't fall out, that I would lose my hair. And now...

(tears up)

... it's just such a reminder, you know. I sometimes fall asleep, this really deep sleep, and when I wake up, I don't know if it's the drugs -- or cancer. But I can't wake up like I used to and I'm kinda awake, but not really and my mind floats to this pool of water under a waterfall in Hawaii that I went to with my parents on vacation when I was like eight or nine. And I'm laughing and happy again...

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)

then, I start waking up and I realize that I'm really sick because I see the hair on my pillow -- and I'm just so scared.

CUT TO:

TEANNA is an angry, upset, cutter. She sits with her arms crossed, long sleeves, with extreme attitude..

TEANNA

Then why don't you ask her what she does to make me like this!? You think I want to be the screwed up girl, the one that everybody at school points at and laughs and calls "Scar Girl" --

(almost pleading)

I just want to feel. Anything. And I can't feel. Mom... Mother... always says, "you're the pretty girl". But I don't feel pretty... ever... I just feel invisible. So, why don't you ask my mother what she did to make me feel nothing?

(softly)

I just want to feel.

CUT TO:

CHLOE is confessing to her therapist.

CHLOE

So, I found out that he... Devin... hooked up with my former best friend Andi at this party... last week! Everybody saw them together and I was home with the flu, okay? So, I thought, like, okay you asked for it. So I took some lighter fluid and matches and right in the middle of gym class, I snuck out and nobody even knew, and I set his locker on fire --

(laughs)

... and get this, his favorite hoodie, the Abercrombie one that I gave him for Christmas was in there. I went behind the gym, hid the lighter fluid in the trash bin under a pile of leaves and then went back in and ran laps and nobody ever even knew I was gone! Genius alibi!

(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)
 (off therapist look;
 intense, disturbing)
 He cheated on me and he deserved
 it! Don't act like I did something
 wrong!
 (beat)
 You don't have to report this, do
 you?

CUT TO:

WESLEE is speaking quietly, tentative, doesn't want to be here.

WESLEE
 ... and my Dad made me come here
 because he said that I'm not
 dealing with my grief, but...
 what's the right way to deal with
 grief. My sister just cries all
 the time and he thinks... he thinks
 that's the right way, that's
 appropriate. But I can't cry. My
 mother died and I loved her so
 much, but... I can't cry and I
 can't tell my Dad why I can't cry.
 (trying hard not to cry)
 See, I made a promise. She asked
 me... she said, "Be strong for your
 Daddy and your little sister.
 Don't cry because, I need you to be
 strong for them." And I loved my
 Mom so much and I just can't break
 that promise.

CUT TO:

KELLY'S mom is back in rehab and she is blaming herself.

KELLY
 ... we had this great visit,
 finally, Dad let me see her, and
 she told me... she told me, "you're
 the reason I stay sober. You're
 the reason I stay alive." And it
 was like... for the first time, she
 was being a Mom. She paid for
 pizza and bought me an outfit...
 but... she two days later she
 called me slurring and said she had
 taken cold medicine when I
 confronted her. She thinks I'm
 stupid, like after all these years,
 she can fool me.
 (MORE)

KELLY (CONT'D)

(tears)

So, now she's back... in rehab,
again. And I was wondering, why I
wasn't enough for her... enough for
her to stay sober.

(pause)

And sometimes, I have nightmares
that she kills herself... and I
wasn't enough... just wasn't
enough.

CUT TO:

MADDY, upset, pours out her heart.

MADDY

Look, I don't want to be that girl,
you know? The screw up. The mental
case. Every since I was a kid...
it's just that... so, please, stop
the voices, stop all the chatter...
the shit in my head, okay?

(tears in eyes)

I need you to fix me. Please.

INT. LIVING ROOM/FAMILY ROOM - DAY

JENNY, in sweats and t-shirt, eats ice cream and is watching
"Love Story"; she is crying.

JENNY

Oh no! Don't die! Cure her,
damnit! Cancer is so... mean.

She picks up her cell phone and talks.

JENNY (CONT'D)

(through tears)

Deana? When I said I wanted you to
recommend a old movie that was a
love story, I meant a happy love
story! And that title -- "Love
Story" is just so wrong! It's
deceptive is what it is! Love
story makes you think it's happy...
and this is beyond sad! It needs to
be called, oh I don't know,
"College Cancer" or something. And
here's another thing, "love means
never having to say your sorry"?
Really? What if you step on his toe
or bleach his favorite shirt?

(MORE)

JENNY (CONT'D)

And what about, well, like that time Will farted during sex... sorry is the right thing to say! I gotta go, she's about to die.

She hangs up and starts crying again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - ANY TIME

ALLEE, very upset teen who lost her Dad prays, close to tears.

ALLEE

Dear God. I am just really upset at you and I know I'm not supposed to be. But how could you take my Daddy away from me? He was such a good person and was always good to people and he was such a great Dad. And the preacher said that it was your will, but I... I just don't know how you could be such a loving God and leave me so sad and without my Dad.

(tears start flowing)

And... and... Mom said... that maybe he was so good that you needed him more than us, but I just don't know how that is possible. So, I'm kinda mad at you and I don't know how not to be.

She picks up a picture of her dad and holds it close.

ALLEE (CONT'D)

I miss you, Daddy. So much.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CARRIE is praying.

CARRIE

Hello, God. It's me again. Carrie Spencer. From Arkadelphia, Arkansas. How was your day? Mine was pretty good. I went fishing with my Grandpa. I hated touching the worms and we didn't catch anything, but it was kinda fun. I know you're real busy with, you know, all the problems of the world, but I just want to say --

(MORE)

CARRIE (CONT'D)

(with tears)

... I miss my Mommy and I was just hopin' you could make her well and get her out of rehab and this time it would last, so she can take care of me again. Okay, that's all. Amen.

KITCHEN SCENES

(NOTE: Although set in the kitchen, many of these scenes can be shot in the living room if that accommodates your reel needs best)

INT KITCHEN - DAY

KINDALL is on the phone, not happy.

KINDALL

Oh no, she did not! She did not!

Oh no, she did not!!!

(pause)

Okay, listen to me, because you're her best friend and you're my third... No fourth best friend.

(pause)

Claire, Macy and Rachel... then you! Yes, Rachel over you because she loaned me her Louis Vuitton purse for my grandmama's funeral. One of the saddest days of my life and she came through for me, Becca. Sorry. So, I temporarily bumped her up, okay? Two weeks... no three... then you'll be number three again, but only if you tell that little, lyin' crazy, boy-stealin' biach Leanna Minton that I am done with her. Done! I am done! She knew I had a crush on Taylor Parker and you do not move in on my man

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

EMMA is trying to reason with her Mom (OFF CAMERA) after being grounded for lying.

EMMA

I did not ask to be born, Mother -- so why do you get to tell me what to do when I had no choice in even being here? And I know I was a mistake.

(MORE)

EMMA (CONT'D)

How do you think that makes me feel every time you say to someone, "Oh look, here's our little mistake!"? So since you made one, why do I get punished because I made one too.

Am I your punishment, huh?

(then begging)

Please, please don't ground me and let me go to Jen's party. PLEASE.

I promise I'll never lie again!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

OLIVIA is on the phone with her friend, eating grapes while she talks.

OLIVIA

Okay, this is the truth and I'm not bragging, but I know, okay? I know how good I am and I'm just going to say it. I'm the best actress in that entire school and if they give that bitch my role... oh God, I hate her. She's so fake and I'm real -- in life and in my acting -- and if she gets cast over me, it would be like casting Miley Cyrus over Natalie Portman. I'm just saying --

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

KAYLIE is on the phone with a girlfriend, opening a Glad container.

KAYLIE

... yeah, I made him his favorite cupcake and put a heart on the top, it's so cute... oh, my God, I forgot to tell you, Tea Jacobson was wearing skinny jeans with her big ol' muffin top hanging over them today and she bent over and you could see total butt crack, so gross --

She opens the Glad container and screams!

KAYLIE (CONT'D)

AHHH, someone at the cupcake and left like one bite! I'll call you back!

(calling)

Mom!

(MORE)

KAYLIE (CONT'D)

(bursts into tears)

Somebody, and I'm sure it was Tommy, ate the cupcake I made for Jared's birthday, his favorite cupcake... MOTHER!!!! GET DOWN HER NOW because my life just officially ended!!!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

KATY, an unreasonable teen, is going off at her mother because she had a bad cheer leading practice.

KATY

I'm quitting and don't even try to stop me, although you're probably jumping up and down inside! My mind's made up. Can you believe they told me that I needed to "work" on the routines or I wouldn't cheer in the first game and they're all just big fat cows this year who are jealous of me! There is no way that Marisa Brooks is going to stand on my back! She massive! You never wanted me to cheer for anybody else anyway --
 (imitating her mom)
 "I'd rather you cheer for yourself!"
 (bursting into tears)
 So you win, Mother and you've never supported me in anything I've ever wanted to be in life!

She rushes off!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

KRISSY is on the phone, letting her boyfriend have it.

KRISSY

No... no... no! You listen to me, Chad! It is SO over! I saw, okay? Your facebook, that's what. I saw what you wrote her. No, no, not on your wall, in your messages! Yeah, uh-huh, that's right!

(pause)

Because I guessed your password, you douche bag! You had to sign on using my name for your password and then cheat on me with her!

(gets emotional)

(MORE)

KRISSY (CONT'D)

It's over. For good this time.
Goodbye, Chad. Goodbye forever!

She hangs up and cries.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

BRITTANY is on the phone.

BRITTANY

(laughing)

Okay, yeah, so I have to just focus on the singing part because I know I can nail the acting part. I mean, you tell me if I'm, like, okay, brilliant.

(acting)

"Now you listen to me and you listen good, because I'm going to only say this once. Don't dis my country!"

(back to his friend)

Huh? Huh? Pretty much genius, right? Okay, truth. They said to sing something patriotic, so do you think "America The Beautiful" is this a good song for me? Okay, sure.

(singing, very off key)

"Oh beautiful, for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain -- "

(upset)

Oh shut up! I do not sound like a dog howling!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

DREW is on the phone with a friend, 15, a handful.

DREW

Okay, yeah, did you see what she was wearing?

(yelling)

Mother! Are you going to make my snack or what?

(back to phone)

She had way too much make up on and that hideous outfit... has all that money and goes out of the house wearing that? I mean, if she owns a full length mirror, she is not using it! And those greens do NOT match!

(MORE)

DREW (CONT'D)

I mean, Anne Hathaway "Devil Wears Prada" - first thirty minutes - just sayin'. And all she does is talk about people. She is so mean! I hate people that gossip, don't you?

(yells)

Mother! My snack is not going to make itself!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

CAROLINE stands in the kitchen, talking to her Mom, upset, on the verge of a meltdown.

CAROLINE

... you said I could do anything I wanted, Mom. Anything. Anything? Really? Because I wanted to be cheerleader and I didn't make it. Again. My last chance. Maybe you should have said, "Caroline, you can be anything in life -- except a cheerleader!" "Go for it. Try out! Believe it! Achieve it! Well, guess what Mother -- ?

(softer chokes up)

I'm not that girl. I'm not like you were. Not that perfect, skinny, popular girl -- and I know that disappoints you, but I never will be. I'm just... me. So I've got to figure out a way to be okay with that and not disappointing you.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MACY, a teenager, is on the phone, angry.

MACY

No, no... you listen to me, Claire. You may think that you can sit on a pedestal, all high mighty, but when it's all over... when we're like, you know... dead... I will be remembered for my, like, always being willing to give and give and love and be a good person who like treats others like I want to be treated! What will you be remembered for, Clare? Huh? Tell me! Being mean, that's what!

(chokes up)

(MORE)

MACY (CONT'D)

I thought we were friends. Besties.
(then screams)
You stole my boyfriend and I hate
you!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

MORGAN, a rebellious teen with attitude, is stuffing a bottle of wine, a corkscrew, two expensive wine glasses and some random items of clothing into her big purse. She is on the phone with her best friend Alley.

MORGAN

Okay, I stole a bottle of wine from his stash and my Dad is passed out in his Lazy-Boy, where he'll sleep 'til forever. You can't wake him up if you try so he will never even know I'm gone.

(excited)

We're gonna get drunk and hook up with hot guys!

DAD (O.S.)

Morgan, who are you talking to?

MORGAN

Oh, no! Gotta go.

She frantically tries and hides the evidence.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

KAYLIE is on the phone with her friend, opening a Glad container.

KAYLIE

... it was the best birthday party ever! We got these really cool party gifts, a bag just filled with everything about hair. Even hair extensions!

(pause)

And we all got to pick a beautiful Sprinkles cupcake to take home. I got a chocolate coconut one, my favorite, and am just about to eat it --

She opens the Glad container and screams!

KAYLIE (CONT'D)

AHHH, someone ate the cupcake and left like one bite! I'll call you back!

(calling)

Mom!

(hysterical)

Somebody, and I'm sure it was Tommy, ate the special Sprinkles cupcake I got at McKenna's birthday party... MOTHER!!!! GET DOWN HER NOW because my life just officially ended!!!

INT. KITCEHN - DAY

LINDY (around 6) rushes in screaming --

LINDY

Help! Mom! HELP!

She looks around and realizes nobody is chasing her. She crawls up on the counter, out of breath, grabs the phone and dials.

LINDY (CONT'D)

Hello, yes, 9-1-1, oh thank you! I need to report a crime. Yes, yes, this is an emergency! See, my life is constantly in danger because my brother is a criminal!

(listens)

Umm, he's eight and I'm six and he steals and he lies and he is stalking me right now and I saw this episode of C.S.I. when my parents were at the movies and my baby sitter Ally was talking to her stupid boyfriend and stalking is a felony and that guy on C.S.I. went to jail! And Justin is stalking me right now and every day and I'm scared because I don't see him anywhere and I know he's hiding... wait, wait, please don't hang up! You have to arrest him!

(hangs up, yells)

Mom! Justin is stalking me again!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Emily is on the phone, a little nervous.

EMILY

Oh, hi. My name is Emily Williams and I'm the next big singing pop star and Clive Davis needs to know about me and sign me to a record deal.

(listens)

Oh, well, it was really easy. I got his number, well, like, see all you have to do is know how to use google. I'm smart too! Please, please, please let me talk to Clive Davis! I'd need to audition for him on the phone since I'm too young still for American Idol and I live really far away.

(listens)

No, wait, please, wait!! What if I sang for you, and if you think I'm like, amazing and the next Beyonce, then --

(panics)

No, don't hang up!
Emily breaks into to song, killing it.

Emily breaks into to song, killing it.

TOAST SCENES (FUNERAL)

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

LEEANNA (Rebellious, edgy granddaughter of the deceased.
(Late teens/20's) clicks her glass and looks around the room.

LEEANNA

Hey, relatives and all you other people that I don't know. My name is Leeanna Rollins, my Dad is Harry Rollins and he said I had to say something nice about my dead grandmother --

(very pretentious voice)

Victoria LeRoy Rollins.

(pause)

I'm thinking, I'm thinking. You all know it's hard to say anything nice about that old bag. She was freakin' mean! Oh, okay, I thought of something. She always had really great painted toenails. And by they way, funerals suck! So boring!

(MORE)

LEEANNA (CONT'D)

I mean, when I die, please have, like, you know a good band or something. DO NOT hire Justin Bieber, what douche. Ughhh! I'm thinking Fall Out Boy. So dad, when I off myself, which is what I'm about to do if we can't leave this miserable, what the hell is this, anyway? A funeral party. Just hire Fall Out Boy. And I'd appreciate it if most of you did NOT come because I really can't stand any of you -- except drunk Aunt Myrtle. She's cool.

(toasts)

Cheers.

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

KASSANDRA (granddaughter of the deceased who is also a compulsive liar. Late teens/20's) clinks her glass, looks around the room.

KASSANDRA

I was Victoria LeRoy Rollins' least favorite granddaughter. She was ashamed of me. Why? Because I was "homely". That's what she called me. Not to my face. But I heard her talking to you, Aunt Lou, once on the phone, and she said, "What are we going to do about Cassandra? She's so... homely. I'm embarrassed to take her out in public and she's too young for plastic surgery."

(pause)

Yeah, wow. So, that's my memory of Nana. The perfect grandmother who was ashamed of her imperfect granddaughter. So, no, I am NOT here to mourn her death.

(toasts)

I'm here to celebrate it!

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

LIZZIE (The sweet innocent, pure granddaughter of the deceased. Teen.) is talking to her mother, MAXINE.

MAXINE

I need you to calm down, young lady!

LIZZIE

(crying, hysterical)

Don't tell me to calm down, Mother!
I told you I didn't want to see a
dead corpse and you made me look
at a very dead Nana and now I'm
going to have nightmares for the
rest of my life! Thank you,
Mother! Thank you so so much!

(softer)

I just wanted to remember her not
in a coffin, reading to me...
teaching me to bake cupcakes, to
love Jesus... not dead in a coffin!
But you never listen to me! EVER!

She storms off!

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

NEELY (half-black granddaughter of the deceased who has a
mouth. Late teens - 30), Sharyn's sister, James's youngest
daughter clinks her glass.

NEELY

Hey white kinfolks of mine!

Everybody looks up and AD-LIBS.

NEELY (CONT'D)

(laughs)

Shit, I bet there hasn't been this
many black folks in this house
since Abraham Lincoln freed the
slaves!

(stares around)

So, y'all are my blood, huh?

(shakes her head)

What a bunch of pathetic, unhappy
bitches and assholes.

Gasps all around.

NEELY (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, that's what I said. See,
my sister has the class. My Dad
has class, but I take after my
Mama's side of the family. You all!
I can be a bitch too just like all
of you Rollins in this room.

(raises her glass)

So here's to all my white uptight,
ridiculous relatives.

(MORE)

NEELY (CONT'D)
 May you rot in hell! Oh yeah,
 that's what I said!
 (to James)
 Sorry, Daddy.

INT. GRANDMOTHER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

JULIE, cute and sweet teen, is crying, talking to her mother.
 Her mother was the hairdresser of the deceased.

JULIE
 (upset, some tears)
 Taylor... She said... she's just
 mean... I hate her! And she said
 that I wasn't popular enough... and
 too poor to be... cheerleader! I
 mean, she didn't say I was too
 poor, but that's what she meant!
 Do you know how much I want this?
 How much I... I need this, Mom. And
 I'm really good, but... Why do you
 keep telling me I can be anything I
 want in life? I can't even be a
 cheerleader. I mean, did you
 really want to just do other
 people's hair your whole life? Is
 that what you wanted?

TOAST SCENES (DIVORCE PARTY)

INT. DINING ROOM - UPSCALE HOME - NIGHT

JAMIE, the divorcee's troubled, oldest daughter, rises. She's
 been sneaking wine all night long, which causes mixed
 emotions.

JAMIE
 (too loud)
 Hello, hello! I'd like to make a
 toast to my parents' stupid
 divorce!
 (pause, looks around)
 Okay, mom said I could have a glass
 of wine tonight and I've had three,
 so, sorry, but...
 (starts laughing)
 ... I think I'm drunk!

MAGGIE (O.S.)
 Jamie --

JAMIE

Shh, shh, shh, Mom. I need to say this and it's good I'm drunk because nobody is saying it, okay? You were really mean to Dad! Everybody is acting like it was his fault for leaving you for Misty, that stripper who he said was an accountant, but he met her over at The Lodge because you drove him out of the house with all your constant nagging. Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah! I'd leave you too if I could!

(now upset, maybe tears)

And I'm going to miss my Daddy and...

(then yelling)

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

She sinks to her chair and toasts.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

That's all. Cheers.

INT. DINING ROOM - UPSCALE HOME - NIGHT

JENNY, the divorcee's perky, sweet daughter, stands and gives a toast.

LINDY

(way too happy)

Hey everybody, I have a toast too!

(toasts)

To my parents divorce! Isn't it cool? Wow, everybody said, "Oh you're going to need therapy. You're going to be so sad. Divorce is so hard on teens." No way! It's the best! First my stupid dad is so guilt-ridden because he cheated on my Mom with a stripper, who he claimed was an accountant! Like, really? That slut thought she could pull that off! She couldn't even add up the dollar bills guys stuff in her G-string. And Mom just shops when she gets stressed, so all we do is shop and I got so much new crap! Thanks Mom!

(toasts)

To strippers, shopping and your parents divorce!

INT. DINING ROOM - UPSCALE HOME - NIGHT

OLIVIA, cute, but angry at alcoholic mom, the divorcee's niece, stands and taps her glass.

OLIVIA

I didn't know I was supposed to give a toast, so I've been on my iPhone, you know, like googling "divorce", so, okay, anyway, here's my toast. Since Aunt Maggie has been so upset, I thought some divorce jokes would be funny, right? You know, lighten this kinda weird, sad dinner up.

(reads from her iPhone)

"Love is like a bird. When you least expect it, it craps in your face."

(pause, off the silent response)

Um, I had that happen once. At the beach.

(then)

Okay, how about this?

(reads from iPhone)

Love thy neighbor but make sure her husband's away first."

(pause, off the silence, realizes)

Oh, right, Uncle Walter left you for that stripper. My bad.

(toasts)

Um, well, cheers.