

MAREE & CHRISSY

MAREE

So. Did she mention talking with my mom? Before she went home?

CHRISSY (Shakes her head.)

Not that I remember.

MAREE

Would she have? I mean, if it was important?

CHRISSY

She didn't report in to me. Your ma called pretty regular. Wadn't something she'd tell me. Why?

MAREE

Um. Mom called me that, that day, late afternoon, I guess. She was worried. More than normal. She wanted. She asked me to. Call Donee. Thought she was. Bad.

CHRISSY

And you didn't?

MAREE

No. (She turns away. Emotional.) I didn't.

CHRISSY

So now it's all on your big shoulders?

MAREE (Wiping her eyes.)

What?

CHRISSY

You think 'cause you didn't call she decided to do it?

MAREE

Well, it looks like—

CHRISSY

Makes you pretty damn important.

MAREE

Huh?

CHRISSY

Big sister don't make that call and it all falls apart? Hell. Get a grip. You two talked what? Two, three times a year?

MAREE

But what—

CHRISSY

Sorry to be the one to drop this on 'ya, Maree, but you weren't that important to her.

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MAREE

Why would you—

CHRISSY

I saw her everyday. Every single day. I was here when she flushed outta' school. She told me most everything, hell I was gonna' marry her. And you think your one stinkin' missed chance to call her pushed her over the edge?

MAREE

Why would you say all this?

CHRISSY

'Cause it's true. And you're the one came out here askin' me, 'member? So I'm tellin' you. For once.

MAREE (Getting up off the ball.)

Think it's time for me to—

CHRISSY

Maybe you are more like your mom. Idn't she the one refuses to listen to facts?

MAREE

Uh, ugh. Stop right there. You don't have the right—

CHRISSY

Just repeatin' what Donee said. After all, I went to 'em, both of 'em after I found that prescription pad thing. Went over to your house. Even took one a' the pages. I begged 'em to call the cops, turn her in. They wouldn't do it. Your dad didn't say nothin', a course, but it was your mom who thanked me—real nice, right through that shit eatin' smile a' hers, then asked me to leave, polite as pie.

MAREE

Oh, God. They didn't tell me.

CHRISSY

I waited a' couple a' weeks. Nothing. Her still taking 'em, no police, no change, nothing. So I told her I knew. Told her she had to check herself into one a' them places. She said never again. Wouldn't do it.

MAREE

That's why you broke it off.

CHRISSY

Damn straight. I told her she could still work here for awhile, but marry her? Ugh, uh, no way.