

INT. BRYSON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SASHA (16), petite with a messy bun and cocoa brown skin, staggers down the stairs at a party.

Blood drips down her fit legs.

INT. BRYSON'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

She pushes her way through the crowd and grabs a Chef's knife from the block.

INT. BRYSON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sasha stands over BRYSON (16), a slender basketball jock.

SASHA

This is what happens when you don't understand that no means no!

She shakes and raises the knife.

BRYSON

What the hell! Have you lost your mind?

Bryson grips his side. Blood pours through his fingers.

SASHA

Hell yeah, I stabbed you! Did you really think that the no meant yes?

Bryson reaches for his cell phone.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I hope you're calling the cops and telling them how you just raped me!

BRYSON

You know you wanted it. Why would you come up to my room with me if you didn't want to get down?

SASHA

You said that you wanted to show me something. I never imagined that something was in your pants.

The knife falls from Sasha's hand to the floor.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Even though I repeatedly said no, you still forced yourself on me.

Tears rush down her face.

BRYSON

Come on girl, everyone at school said
that your no's mean yes.

SASHA

Well, the rumors aren't true.

INT. BRYSON'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

THREE POLICE OFFICERS burst through the door.

EMTs lift Bryson onto a stretcher.

The cops take Sasha into custody.

BEGIN MONTAGE

-An officer questions the people at the party.

-The officer jots down all the information.

BACK TO SCENE

SUPER: A MONTH LATER

INT. SOUTHSIDE COUNSELING CENTER - OFFICE - DAY

Sasha talks about her release with her THERAPIST, an
average weight woman with braids.

THERAPIST

Ms. Pierce, you have satisfied the terms
of your suspension and you are free to
return to your school. You need to keep
your grades up, and most importantly,
stay out of trouble. You are on probation
and I will be checking on your progress.

SASHA

Yes, understood. Thank you so much.

EXT. MAYNARD WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Sasha steps off the city bus in front of the school.

She glares at Bryson as he walks through the front door.

Sasha pauses at the doors of the school and walks in.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Sasha squares her shoulders and walks to her locker in the middle of the half-empty hallway.

Students laugh and whisper.

Sasha stands at her locker and looks at WINSTON (16), a scrawny tenth-grader, who always manages to appear at her side and overhears her every word.

SASHA

Everybody acts like this was all my fault. Like I was asking to be raped.

Bryson comes down the hallway and gives high-fives to some of the students.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Winston, this school must have put this incident in Bryson's file.

Sasha sees MS. COLE (35), a petite, large eyed woman behind her desk.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Sasha takes a seat.

MS. COLE

Sasha, it's good to see you back. What can I do for you?

SASHA

I can't believe that I got suspended and Bryson got nothing for raping me.

Sasha leans on the desk and rolls her eyes.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Is there anything going on with Bryson?

MS. COLE

I'm not sure what you mean. There's nothing going on with him.

SASHA

Really? Nothing? Alright, thanks.

Sasha hops up, smiles and leaves the office.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Ms. Cole leaves her office. The door stands open.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Sasha sneaks into the office.

She grabs Bryson's file and rushes out the door.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

Sasha thumbs through his file.

She shows Winston a name in the file.

SASHA

I knew someone saw something. But, who is this Noah?

WINSTON

That's the guy that plays on the team with Bryson. I always wondered how he got on the team. He's super short.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GYMNASIUM - DAY

Sasha enters the gym while the team leaves practice.

SASHA

Hey!

NOAH (16), bushy eyebrows, and the smallest player on the team.

He looks over at Sasha.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Were you at Bryson's party a month ago?

NOAH

Yeah, I was there. How did you know that I was at the party?

SASHA

I just know. I need you to help me.

NOAH

Bruh, I am not trying to get involved in this.

(MORE)

NOAH (CONT'D)

I talked to the police I thought confidentially. I can't betray the team. Bryson would kill me if I said anything.

SASHA

The team? Really the team? What about what he did to me?

Sasha steps in Noah's space.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I really need you to help me prove that he raped me.

Noah fidgets.

NOAH

I know that you need...I'll lose my place on the team. I gotta go.

Noah lets out a sigh.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Sasha walks to her locker.

Two cheerleaders stand by her locker. EBONIE (17), and LASHAY (17), both thin, full lips, and long-weaved hair.

EBONIE

(whispers)

I can't believe she had the nerve to come back to school after what she did to Bryson. Bryson is taking us to state.

LASHAY

(whispers)

She is just a liar that was trying to get some attention. You know there was that rumor about her getting around.

Sasha's head whips around sharply.

SASHA

If you have something to say, then say it to my face. And just to let you know I don't have to explain why I'm back here. Bryson, ain't no victim.

Sasha walks away.

EBONIE AND LASHAY
(in unison)

SLUT!

Sasha turns. She punches Ebonie in the mouth.

Sasha pummels her until she falls.

A husky SECURITY GUARD rounds the corner with Ms. Cole.
They pull Sasha off Ebonie.

The Security Guard drags Sasha into the office.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - COUNSELOR'S OFFICE -DAY

Sasha slumps in the chair and rolls her eyes.

MS. COLE

Sasha! What was that? What was going
through your head? This is your first day
back at school.

Sasha props herself on her desk.

SASHA

Those girls called me a slut. So I hit
the closest one.

MS. COLE

You should have come to me for help. But,
due to the conditions of your probation,
I have to expel you.

Sasha lets out a sigh.

SASHA

Help? Whatever. Do what you got to do.
Nobody cares about what happened to me.
Not the cops, my mom, the counseling
center, and definitely not y'all.

Sasha slams her hand on the desk.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Y'all just let him continue to go to
school here and play basketball like
nothing happened.

MS. COLE

Sasha, there wasn't enough evidence as
you already know to charge him. It was
your word against his. I am so sorry to
see you end up like this.

SASHA

If it was my word against his, then he should've been suspended too.

Ms. Cole reaches for Sasha's hand.

MS. COLE

The security guard will escort you out.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Sasha walks through a sea of students.

Noah emerges in front of the crowd.

Sasha makes eye contact with Noah.

SASHA

You're why this is happening! You can't hide from this Noah. You coward.

Noah stands frozen.

SASHA (CONT'D)

(yells)

I get expelled, and he can rape me and get away with it because he's on the basketball team. When are tryouts if that's all it takes to be innocent?

EXT. SOUTHSIDE COUNSELING CENTER - DAY

Sasha cries and walks into the center.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - COUNSELOR'S OFFICE -DAY

Noah takes a seat.

NOAH

I need to tell you what really happened at the party.

MS. COLE

I'm listening.

NOAH

Well, Bryson bragged in the locker room about how he was going to get Sasha.

(MORE)

NOAH (CONT'D)

He said that she kept turning him down, and Bryson is usually a guy that gets what he wants. He said that he would get her by any means necessary.

MS. COLE

What does that mean?

NOAH

Exactly what it sounds like. When we went as a team to the hospital to visit him, he said she got what she deserved and she wanted it. I did hear Sasha screaming "NO" at the top of her lungs when I came out of the bathroom at his house.

Ms. Cole jots down all of the information.

MS. COLE

Thank you, Noah, for telling me this. Why did it take you so long to come forward?

NOAH

I saw how hurt Sasha was when she was taken out of here.

MS. COLE

I am sure that Sasha appreciates it. She has had a tough time with this.

She opens up Sasha's file.

MS. COLE (CONT'D)

And no worries about the team. I will make sure that there is no retaliation.

Noah leaves out.

Ms. Cole picks up the phone and dials.

SASHA

Hello?

MS. COLE

Sasha, it's Ms. Cole from Maynard Williams High.

SASHA

Oh hi. Why are you calling me?

MS. COLE

New evidence has been brought to my attention. Can you meet me in my office on Friday at 11 am?

SASHA

That's awesome. Okay, I'll be there.

A FEW DAYS LATER...

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - GYMNASIUM

The police walk through the gymnasium during basketball practice and approach Bryson.

OFFICER

Bryson Johnson, you are under arrest for the rape of Sasha Pierce. You have the right to remain silent...

BRYSON

(struggles)

No! She's a slut. That slut wanted it! Let me go!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Students stare at Bryson in cuffs.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Sasha steps off the bus in time to see Bryson brought out in handcuffs.

Students stare at Sasha.

BRYSON

Bitch! You did this to me. First, you stab me, and then you get me arrested. You know you wanted it. They should've locked you up for the rest of your life for trying to kill me.

Bryson lunges at Sasha.

SASHA

You took everything from me and now I'm taking it back. You are done being the victim and the basketball hero.

The crowd of students whisper and stare at Sasha as Bryson sits in the squad car.

ONLOOKERS

(whisper in unison)

Wow! She was telling the truth. He did rape her.

SASHA

Justice has been served.

Sasha makes eye contact with Noah. They exchange a smile and a nod.

She walks back into the school with Ms. Cole.