"For Me, For You"

by

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Pages: 3+

Characters: 1 woman, 1 teen girl

Tanya, 30's

Tabitha, 14

Synopsis: Tabitha breaks her curfew and is confronted by her caretaker and cousin, Tanya.

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TANYA, lay sleeping on the couch. The TV is on in the background. TABITHA, her younger cousin, comes in and tries to sneak past Tanya. On her way she knocks over something and it wakes Tanya up.

Tabitha cringes.

TANYA
Thought you would get away with it didn’t you?

Tabitha tries to look innocent.

TABITHA
Get away with what?

TANYA
It’s 2:30 in the morning. You should be in bed sleeping.

TABITHA
I’m on my way right now.

TANYA
Don’t give me that! Where were you?

TABITHA
It’s none of your business.

Tanya points to an empty chair.

TANYA
Sit down!

TABITHA
You can’t tell me what to do!

TANYA
As long as you are staying here I can. Now sit!

Tabitha ignores the order.

TABITHA
Well then I won’t stay here anymore. I’ll grab my things and be out of your hair.

TANYA
Why are you doing this? Look, I’m sorry I’m such a burden, but right now I don’t think you really have much of a choice.

(continues...
TABITHA
Yeah well, anything is better than here.

TANYA
Oh really? Where do you think you would go?

TABITHA
I don’t care. Anywhere but here.

TANYA
Do you really think it’s that easy? You are a minor. You leave here and you will end up in foster care. You think I have strict rules? Good luck trying to get away with anything there.

TABITHA
Well then I will go stay with a friend.

TANYA
If you leave here, I’ll call social services.

TABITHA
That’s not fair! I hate you!

Tabitha starts to storm away.

TANYA
Tabitha! Come here!
(pause)
Please?

TABITHA
Why should I? What are you going to call social services if I don’t?

TANYA
Please.

Tabitha walks back. Tanya motions to the chair next to her. Tabitha sits.

TANYA
We have to figure something out. I know I’m not the ideal guardian for you, but I am trying. I promised your mom I would take care of you. I am doing the best that I can. What else do you want me to do?
Tabitha, Volume 1: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

Tabitha
Well for starters, you can lift the stupid curfew.

Tanya almost laughs to herself.

Tanya
I can’t do that.

Tabitha
See, there is no talking to you!

Tanya reaches out and grabs Tabitha’s arm.

Tanya
Before you go storming off, there is something I need to show you.

She gets up and walks over to a drawer. She pulls out an envelope. On it is Tabitha’s name next to Tanya’s.

She opens up the envelope and pulls out a letter. She sits down next to Tabitha.

Tabitha
What’s that?

Tanya
It was for me for you.

Tabitha
What does that mean?

Tanya
It means your mom left it for me before she died. It’s a list of rules that I’m supposed to follow for you.

Tabitha
What kind of rules?

Tanya
Well for starters, your curfew times all the way til you turn 18.

(beat)
And a letter I am supposed to read to you once you turn 16.

Tabitha perks up at the sound of the letter. Tanya just shakes her head.

Tanya
I’m not supposed to read it til you are 16.

(continued)
TABITHA
Please? It’s from my mom.

Tanya gives in.

TANYA
Okay, just promise me one thing. You will calm down a bit with the whole sneaking out thing?

TABITHA
Fine. Now what does it say?

Tanya opens up the letter. She begins to read as we...

FADE TO BLACK.