

INT. DAWN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY.

ROBERT, 40, creative, kind, but weak and TRACY, 36, misguided, superficial, and self-indulgent, stand by the coffee maker.

Tracy wears a silk robe, slippers, and hair wrap, but her face is perfectly made up. Robert dons worn flannel pajamas and corduroy slippers.

ROBERT

Have you had the conversation yet?

TRACY

We'll talk about this later. You know you're crabby until you get that first cup of coffee in you.

She walks up to him and puts her arms around his waist. She smiles and kisses him.

Robert's attention is momentarily diverted, but he remembers himself quickly.

ROBERT

Look, all I'm saying is that you said you'd talk to Dawn about it. I'm not sure you realize how serious things are.

TRACY

You don't have to tell me. I've had to put off my dream of having my own Simone Cosmetics franchise for too long. I'm meant to be more than a beauty consultant.

ROBERT

It's not always about you, Tracy. Just talk to her.

Dawn enters the kitchen before Robert finishes.

DAWN

What does she have to talk to me about?

Robert pours himself a cup of coffee; Tracy straightens her robe. Dawn gives them an exaggerated look while she pours cereal into a bowl.

TRACY

Oh, Robert just needs to use your car this week because his was towed.

DAWN

That can't be what you guys were talking about.

TRACY

Well, it is.

DAWN

Then why were you—

TRACY

Look, Robert needs your car. End of story.

Dawn plops into a chair and swishes her spoon around in her cereal.

DAWN

I need my car, Mom.

TRACY

I wasn't asking, Dawn.

DAWN

(to Tracy)

Well you'll have to drive me to church before school.

TRACY

Why don't you just skip it today.

DAWN

Mom, I can't. I have to meet with Reverend Thomas.

TRACY

Well, I'm a mess. I can't go anywhere right now. Plus I have all those new orders to get out.

Dawn rolls her eyes. Robert walks over to the table.

ROBERT

I can take you on my way out; you shouldn't have to miss it.

DAWN

Fine.

ROBERT

I'll go get dressed.

Robert leaves the room.

TRACY

See, it works out for everybody, and  
I'll see you at your game tonight.

DAWN

Make sure you're not late. Remember the  
scholarship committee will be there and  
they want to meet you.

TRACY

I'm so proud of you. I love the way  
people look when they hear my baby girl  
is up for something great.

Tracy walks over to Dawn and affectionately touches her  
face. Dawn almost smiles.

TRACY (CONT'D)

You know Sweetie, you could look really  
pretty with the right make-up.

Dawn's smile evaporates. Tracy goes to her purse and pulls  
out a lipstick sample. She puts some on Dawn then puts the  
tube back in her purse. She looks at Dawn, pleased.

TRACY (CONT'D)

Oh, look at the time.

Tracy kisses Dawn on the cheek then leaves the room. Once  
her back is turned, Dawn uses the back of her hand to wipe  
away the lipstick.

Dawn goes over to Tracy's purse and takes the lipstick out,  
puts it in he pocket.