

TRAPPED AT HOME

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. MORRISON HOUSE - JAMIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

A typical pre-teen girl's room with posters of hot young stars/musicians on the walls and a desktop computer on a desk.

JAMIE MORRISON (12) packs a suitcase with clothing, and a backpack with her tablet, and chargers for it and a phone. Her mom, RACHAEL MORRISON (38) refolds every clothing article that Jamie carelessly tosses into the bag.

RACHAEL

Remind me to give you a lesson on packing when you get back.

Jamie grabs a shirt from her closet and tosses it to the suitcase so she can search for another.

JAMIE

Why does it even matter as long as everything fits?

RACHAEL

I guess you're okay with wrinkled clothes.

Jamie selects a pretty dress and holds it up to herself.

JAMIE

I should probably take this in case I meet a cute boy while I'm there.

Jamie tosses the dress to the suitcase. Rachael snatches it midair and folds it nicely.

RACHAEL

Don't let your dad hear you talking about boys. He'll make you stay home.

Rachael closes the suitcase and picks it up.

JAMIE

What he doesn't know won't hurt him.

Rachael gives Jamie a playful look that she returns. They leave the room.

EXT. MORRISON HOUSE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

The house is somewhat secluded in a nice area of homes. Trees and shrubbery make the house impossible to see from both sides. A small opening to the front allows for the driveway only. The long circular driveway leads to a nice house with a 2-car garage.

An SUV parks in the driveway. PAUL MORRISON (40) gets out and opens the lift-gate. Rachael and Jamie join him.

JAMIE

Dad!

Jamie hugs Paul.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

I can't wait to see the lake again.

PAUL

What about Grandma and Grandpa?

JAMIE

That's cool, too.

PAUL

You're not forgetting anything, are you?

JAMIE

Nope.

Rachael hands the suitcase to Paul. He loads it into the SUV.

PAUL

(to Jamie)

Got your phone?

Jamie's face lights up in shock. She races back to the house. Paul closes the lift-gate and faces Rachael.

RACHAEL

Make her wear sunscreen when she's outside.

PAUL

She doesn't like putting it on.

RACHAEL

I don't care, Paul. She's the child and you're supposed to be the adult. Make her do it.

PAUL
Same old Rachael. Always in
control.

Rachael's face tenses.

RACHAEL
What's that supposed to mean?

PAUL
You already ruined our marriage.
Don't ruin your relationship with
Jamie, too.

RACHAEL
How dare you. You're the one who
went off and cheated.

PAUL
That's because our bedroom felt
like the North Pole.

Jamie stands to the side, phone in her hand, listening with
dislike.

RACHAEL
It takes two to make a bedroom
cold.

Jamie walks over.

JAMIE
Why do you two always have to do
this?

RACHAEL
Our relationship is... complicated.

JAMIE
Algebra is complicated. You two are
ridiculous.

Jamie heads for the rear passenger door, passing by Rachael.

RACHAEL
Hey, not even a good-bye?

Jamie reluctantly returns to Rachael and gives her a very
brief hug, more focused on her phone than her mom.

JAMIE
Bye.

Jamie puts her backpack into the rear seat and sits up front. Her parents watch.

PAUL
It's a phase.

Paul checks his watch.

PAUL (CONT'D)
We'd better get going. I'll drop her off on Sunday when we get back.

RACHAEL
Have her text me when you get there.

Paul gets in behind the wheel. He drives the car around the circle and out of the driveway.

Rachael hugs herself as she watches the car disappear from sight. She returns to the house.

INT. MORRISON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A gas fireplace is to the side. In her robe and slippers, Rachael is curled up on the couch with her laptop and a hot cup of tea. She works on a novel.

She pauses to take a sip of her hot tea. An incoming text pops up on her screen from Keri. "Want to have lunch tomorrow?"

Rachael grins to herself as she responds, "Sure. Where?"

Keri answers, "How about Grendals?"

Rachael types, "Sounds good. Is 12:30 okay?"

Keri responds, "Perfect. See you there."

Rachael closes her text window. She takes a sip of her tea and returns to work on the novel. A Skype call rings on her screen. It's Jamie calling. Rachael takes the call with a smile. Jamie appears on the screen.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
Are you busy?

RACHAEL
Just working on my novel.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
You're not gonna give it a sappy ending like the last one, are you?

RACHAEL
I'm not there yet.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
Do something different, like kill
your protagonist. People will talk.

Rachael laughs.

RACHAEL
I'll think about it. How was the
drive?

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
Boring. And Dad stopped at this
little dive for dinner. They were
out of everything I wanted. I had
to eat grilled cheese.

RACHAEL
Poor baby.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
Grandma says hi. I think she kind
of misses you.

RACHAEL
I miss her, too.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
I guess I'd better get to bed.
We're going out on the boat in the
morning.

RACHAEL
Wear...

RACHAEL AND JAMIE
... sunscreen.

JAMIE (ON SCREEN)
I know, Mom. Good night.

RACHAEL
Good night.

Jamie ends the call. Rachael sits back sadly and sighs.

INT. GRENDALS - DAY

A nice little restaurant. KERI EVANS (38), blonde, sits at a
booth, looking the menu over. Another lies on the table.
Rachael arrives and slides into the seat across from Keri.