

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

Written by

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EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

TINA, 38, walks with TWO FEMALE COLLEAGUES. She looks young for her age, well dressed, professional yet casual. She displays an expression on her face reeking of a monotonous, boring lifestyle.

MALE STUDENT runs from behind Tina and grabs her arm.

MALE STUDENT
Hey Ashley, did you get the
homework for-

Tina turns around and the student is taken aback.

MALE STUDENT (CONT'D)
Oh, wow, I'm so sorry. You look
like someone else. My bad...

The male student turns and walks away, slightly embarrassed. Tina shakes it off and returns to her conversation.

TINA
(speaking to colleagues)
Yeah, I haven't heard anything
either. I figure they'll fax us the
information eventually regardless,
but -

FIVE DITSY FEMALE STUDENTS come running up to her screaming her name. Imagine your stereotypical blonde sorority girls.

GIRLS (TOGETHER)
Tina!!! Oh my GOD, it has been
forever! How are you???

TINA
I'm sorry, who are you?

GIRL #1
Oh my god, Tina, you don't remember
us?!
(to Tina's colleagues)
Somebody can't hold their tequila,
am I right!?!?

Tina grabs her colleagues and makes a break for it.

TINA
Well, that was weird...

COLLEAGUE #1
What was that all about?

COLLEAGUE #2
Yeah, Tina, what are you some
secret party animal?

Tina nervously laughs at their questions. She chimes in
before they can make another joke.

TINA
Just ignore them... College kids
say the darndest things.

CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S OFFICE - DAY

Tina flips through stacks of student wait list forms. Her
phone rings.

TINA
Hello?

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

MAX
Hi mom.

MAX, 18, college freshman. Pretty, like her mother. She is in
her peak, crazy college years, very unlike her boring, high
strung mom.

INT. TINA'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

TINA
So how are things? How's your
father?

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

MAX
It's been a little weird. He goes
out a lot. Acts more like a college
kid than I do.

INT. TINA'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Tina looks off into the distance, completely zoned out of the
conversation. Her eyes widen and she begins to look queasy.

TINA
Yeah... crazy, huh?

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

MAX
Well that's not really why I
called. Can I come over sometime
today, I need-

INT. TINA'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Tina begins to turn green with nausea.

TINA
Yeah that's fine, I have to go.

Tina hangs up the phone and runs into the bathroom. She vomits into the toilet, just barely making it. She looks up, her face in complete shock, mouth gaping open and eyes wide.

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Tina sits at the bar alone, drink in hand, as mascara runs down her face. Her hair is disheveled and her suit is awry. The five girls from the morning come over to her, concerned.

GIRL #1
(drunkenly)
Hey, what's wrong with you?

TINA
It's just been a long day, I'm
fine...

GIRL #2
You know what you could use? A
tequila shot!

GIRLS
Oh my god, yes!!

TINA
No, no I'm okay, I-

Before Tina can argue, the girls are shoving tequila shots down her throat. They are visibly becoming more and more drunk.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The girls and Tina stumble down the street, toward campus and university housing. The girls pull Tina quickly up a driveway and into the front door of an absolute rager.

INT. COLLEGE PARTY - NIGHT

Tina is belligerent, stumbling around the party like a drunken teenager.

She is drinking straight from a handle of vodka, when she bumps into AARON, early 20s college student. He is tall, cute, and charming.

They awkwardly begin to kiss, like only two drunken college kids can, as Aaron stumbles, pulling Tina into a bedroom.

FLASH CUT TO:

PRESENT DAY - INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Tina wipes her mouth, then places her whole head in the palms of her hands. She wipes her eyes and face repeatedly in disbelief.

She finally realizes what she's done.

TINA
Oh. My. God.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S HOME BATHROOM - DAY

Tina stands next the sink, looking into the mirror at her own reflection, pregnancy test in hand.

TINA
This can't be happening.

She is zoned out in a daze until she hears the doorbell ring. She places the processing pregnancy test on the counter above the sink.

Tina walks out of the bathroom and to the front door.

EXT. TINA'S HOME - DAY

Max stands at the door anxiously rocking back and forth. She glances back to her car, A PERSON visible in the passenger seat. She sends a reassuring thumbs up in their direction.

The door opens. It's Tina.

MAX

Hey mom.

TINA

(flustered)

Uh, hi. What's up?

MAX

Can I come in?

TINA

Umm yes of course, I'm sorry. It's just been a crazy day...

MAX

Trust me, I get it.

Max walks through the door, Tina closing it behind her. Tina takes her daughter's coat and hangs it on the rack as they walk into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

They sit down, staring at each other in complete silence. This silence continues for a few moments more.

TINA

So, how's school going? I haven't seen you around campus much.

MAX

It's been fine, I guess. Can I get some water?

TINA

Yes, of course, give me one second.

Tina leaves the room and walks toward the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Tina grabs a glass from the cupboard and turns on the sink. She lets the water run for a minute checking the temperature with her finger to make sure it's cool enough.

She fills the glass and chugs it immediately. She wipes her forehead and fills the glass a second time.

She turns off the faucet and walks back into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Max is sitting with her head in her hands, rubbing her temples as her mother walks in with the glass of water.

Max takes the glass, sips it, and places it on the table as her mother sits down.

MAX

Thanks. So... how are you?

TINA

Oh, let's not talk about me. How's your dad been? And your classes, how about those?

MAX

I didn't really come to talk about dad... but he's good. Like I said, he goes out a lot. It's a little weird for someone as old as he is, but -

TINA

Okay, he's not that old. He and I are the same age and I'm not that old.

Tina pauses for a moment and starts to think. She starts rapidly mumbling to herself.

TINA (CONT'D)

Oh my god, I'm old, I'm too old.

MAX

Sorry, you're not that old! Jesus, mom. You've got me freaking out more than I have to be right now...

Tina begins to zone out again, her eyes darting back and forth with her racing thoughts. She looks down at her watch realizing the pregnancy test must be processed by now.

Tina snaps out of her daze as Max tries to get her attention.

MAX (CONT'D)

Hello? Mom? Are you even listening to me? This is important, I -

TINA
(not listening)
Yeah, I know, I just need to check
something. I'll be right back...

Tina stands up and begins to walk out of the room toward the bathroom.

MAX
Mom, no! I need to tell you
something!

Max stands up as Tina pauses and turns back to face her.

MAX (CONT'D)
Mom, I'm pregnant.

Tina forgets everything as she processes what her daughter just said.

TINA
You're what?

MAX
Look, I know this isn't ideal, but
Aaron is a great guy and he says
he'll support me and I know he'll
make an amazing father and -

TINA
Aaron - who's Aaron? What are you
saying?

MAX
Aaron, he's my boyfriend, he's the
sweetest and most amazing guy, I
swear. He's outside in the car, if
you'll just let me get him we can
sit down and talk about this.

Tina looks as though she's about to pass out. She stands in front of her daughter with a blank expression across her face.

MAX (CONT'D)
Just stay right here, okay? I'm
going to go get him and we can
talk. It's all going to be fine.

Max pushes past her mother and out the front door. Tina moves like a zombie toward the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Tina walks into the bathroom with her head down. She walks over to the sink and turns on the faucet as she looks into the mirror.

TINA

How can this be happening?

She splashes some cool water onto her face and rests her elbows on the edge of the sink as she comes face to face with the pregnancy test she'd taken earlier.

The sound of the front door opening and closing echoes as Tina reaches for the test.

MAX

Mom! Mom, where are you?

TINA

I'll - I'll be right out!

She pulls the test closer and looks down at her hand to see a small pink plus sign.

Tina drops her arm to her side, test limp in hand as her jaw gapes open. She musters one single word from her mouth.

TINA (CONT'D)

No.

She begins to walk, dragging her feet, toward the living room. Her head is down staring at the floor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tina enters the living room, head still down. Max is standing with Aaron, a blast from the past, as he and Tina look up at each other, making eye contact.

MAX

Mom, this is Aaron. We've been dating for about a month now. He's the sweetest man, mom. I swear to you.

Tina shakes her head in agreement, unable to speak because of shock and disbelief.

MAX (CONT'D)

Aaron, this is my mom, -

AARON

Tina.

MAX

Yeah, do you know each other?

AARON

I, uh, I -

Tina zones back into the conversation.

TINA

My office, he's probably been to my office. Yeah, Aaron, I work at the university, that's probably where you've seen me before.

Aaron looks down at his feet in discomfort.

MAX

Mom what's going on? Why are you two being so weird.

AARON

It's nothing, maybe we should go.

TINA

Yeah, I need some time to process all of this...

Tina realizes the pregnancy test is still in her hand as she glances down at it, trying to hide it behind her back.

Max looks down and notices the same thing.

MAX

What is that? Mom! What is that?

Tina looks back at Aaron.

MAX (CONT'D)

Is that what I think it is? Say something!

Max turns to Aaron and shoves him.

MAX (CONT'D)

Did you know about this? Is this how you know her?

Tina stands expressionless as she remembers exactly what happened that one crazy night.

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. COLLEGE PARTY - NIGHT

Tina and Aaron stumble, hand in hand, into a bedroom. Aaron closes the door behind them as the two fall onto the bed in a drunken heap.

The two are rapidly undressing each other, as we turn and see the condom fall onto the floor, untouched and unopened.

FLASH CUT TO:

PRESENT DAY - INT. LIVING ROOM

Tina stares blankly ahead, ears ringing, not hearing Max as she yells at Aaron.

Max's voice starts to pierce through the ringing silence.

MAX

MOM!

Tina snaps back to reality.

MAX (CONT'D)

What's going on? Please tell me that's not what I think it is in your hand.

Tina looks up at Aaron, who stands like a dog with his tail between his legs.

AARON

Look, Max, I can explain -

MAX

Nobody asked you!

Aaron sheepishly backs into the corner, leaning against the wall.

TINA

Look, it was a while ago. I'm assuming you two weren't together -

AARON

We weren't. I -

MAX

Aaron, SHUT UP!

Max looks back at her mother, nodding for her to continue.

TINA

It was one night, you weren't even on campus yet. It was right after your father and I finalized the divorce. I just wanted to let loose and forget about it.

MAX

"Let loose" is clearly an understatement -

TINA

Look, I made a mistake. These girls took me to this party, which is where I met Aaron...

Tina gestures in Aaron's direction. He lifts his head for a moment to try and exchange a glance with Max. She stares back. If looks could kill, Aaron would be dead.

MAX

So you slept with my boyfriend?

TINA

He wasn't your boyfriend at the time.

This completely sets Max off. Her words are like broken glass.

MAX

You're shitting me?! You're a HOE!
What are you, like, FORTY?! And
YOU.

Max turns to face Aaron. She shoves her pointed finger into his chest with every word she says.

MAX (CONT'D)

She's my MOM! What is wrong with you?

AARON

But I hadn't even met you yet -

MAX

SHE'S A COUGAR!

Tina is shocked at the words coming from her daughter's mouth.

MAX (CONT'D)

Get out.

AARON

But, Max-

MAX

I said, GET OUT!

Aaron rubs his head and fiddles around for the keys in his jacket pocket.

MAX (CONT'D)

NOW!

Max gives Aaron a shove as he exits out the front door.

AARON

So... I'll call you later?

With a look of disgust, Max slams the door in Aaron's face. She turns back to her mother, who's now sitting on the couch.

MAX

So, what does it say?

Max motions toward the pregnancy test still in Tina's hand. Tina fiddles with it, pushing it between her fingers for a few seconds before responding.

TINA

It's positive... But it's the only one I've taken.

They both look at each other uncomfortably. It lasts a few moments before Tina breaks the silence.

TINA (CONT'D)

When did you find out about, umm, your situation exactly?

MAX

Well, I don't know exactly... My period was late, so I took one of those dollar pregnancy tests from the corner store. You know the one's where it's like one stripe is pregnant, two stripes is not pregnant? Yeah, one of those.

TINA

One stripe, huh? I've got the plus and minus ones.

Tina raises the test up to acknowledge what she's talking about. They both look around, trying to avoid the uncomfortable eye contact with each other.

MAX

You have any more of those?

She motions to the test, still in Tina's hand. Tina looks down at it, and finally places it on the table between them.

TINA

Uh, yeah. A few more in the bathroom.

MAX

You know, we should probably both take one just to be sure. You never know, right?

Tina looks up, making eye contact with Max for the first time. She nods her head in agreement.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. TINA'S HOME BATHROOM - DAY

They both sit on the lid of the toilet, staring across the bathroom floor. The two pregnancy tests lay parallel to their position on the lip of the sink. Max whistles to break the silence.

MAX

So, this is weird, right? It's not just me. This is so weird...

TINA

Yeah, pretty weird.

Tina glances down at her hands, licks her lips, and nods her head. She corrects herself.

TINA (CONT'D)

VERY weird.

The phone rings from the other room. Tina jolts up.

TINA (CONT'D)

I should probably go get that.

MAX

Oh yeah, no, totally. I'll wait here.

They both uncomfortably smile at each other as Tina leaves the room.

Max taps her foot on the hard tile floor for a few seconds. She glances down at her watch and knows the tests have definitely processed.

MAX (CONT'D)
(yelling)
Hey, mom! They're ready!

Tina's voice is heard from the other room.

TINA
Yeah, hold on, I'll be right there.

Max stands up and folds her arms. She paces for a moment before finally picking up the test. She flips it over to see the huge minus sign.

She exhales a huge sigh of relief as a smile spreads across her face.

MAX
Mom! You're never going to believe
it!

Max begins to exit the bathroom, realizing she forgot the other test still sitting on the sink. She reaches down and grabs it with her free hand.

Tina runs over to the door of the bathroom, stopping face to face with her daughter.

TINA
What is it? Good news?

Max stares blankly at her mother's pregnancy test. A big pink plus sign stares back at her.

TINA (CONT'D)
Honey, what is it?

Tina looks down at the two tests in Max's hands. She looks back up as they make eye contact.

Max stares at her mother, mouth gaping open and eyes wide. She glances quickly down at the test and back up at Tina.

MAX
Fuck.

FADE TO BLACK.