

SAMPLE - UNDER THE SURFACE

Written by

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INT. DINER - MIDDAY

Sapph walks into a diner and takes a seat at an empty table. She hangs her face in her hands as a WAITRESS, 20, straight black hair and very pretty, approaches her.

WAITRESS
What can I get you?

SAPPH
Coffee. Lots and lots of coffee.

WAITRESS
Rough day huh?

SAPPH
Like you wouldn't believe.

Sapph looks up and is shocked when she sees the waitress.

It's EVELYN, who is also taken aback when she sees that it's Sapph.

EVELYN
Sapphire! Hi. It's been a while.

Sapph forces a smile.

SAPPH
Hi Evelyn.

Something suddenly dawns on Evelyn.

EVELYN
Oh my God, your dad's funeral was today. I'm so sorry for your loss.

SAPPH
Thanks.

EVELYN
You really weren't kidding about that rough day.

SAPPH
Nope. Wish I was.

EVELYN
I'll bring out a pot of coffee and a piece of pie on me.

SAPPH
I'm good with just the coffee.

EVELYN
You sure? It's the best pie you'll
ever have. I'm very happy to-

SAPPH
I don't need your pity Evelyn!

Evelyn looks down at the ground, guilty.

EVELYN
Look Sapphire, I-

SAPPH
Don't care. Can you just get me my
coffee?

EVELYN
Look, I know you're pissed at me,
but I can explain.

Sapph doesn't respond.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
I get off in 15 minutes. Please let
me explain everything.

SAPPH
Fine. Not like this day could get
any worse.

EVELYN
Thank you. I'll be right back with
your coffee.

Evelyn hurries off to the kitchen.

EXT. DINER PARKING LOT - MIDDAY

Evelyn and Sapph lean against the brick wall. Sapph crosses
her arms and looks at her expectantly.

EVELYN
Okay, let me just say I am so sorry
about everything that happened with
me and Luke.

SAPPH
Just get to the point.

EVELYN
Luke told me that you guys were
over. If I had known I would have
never gone out with him.

Sapph scoffs.

SAPPH

C'mon. You couldn't've been that naive.

EVELYN

I swear. You guys just seemed so distant all of a sudden. You got really quiet. I just assumed that was because you guys broke up... I didn't know a lot of people to tell me otherwise and I didn't question him. I really am sorry.

Sapph nods.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

If it makes you feel any better I ended things after like four dates. Turns out he was talking to three other girls online.

SAPPH

Yeah. Actually, that does make me feel better.

Sapph and Evelyn laugh.

EVELYN

Luke is an ass.

SAPPH

Yes he is. Y'know his parents think that I was the problem.

EVELYN

You're kidding.

Sapph shakes her head.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

What a jerk.

Evelyn then reaches into her pocket and pulls out a flask.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

You seem like you need something a little stronger than coffee?

SAPPH

You've been holding out on me.

Sapph takes the flask and takes a sip, then hands it back to Evelyn.

EVELYN

So, what are you doing here?

SAPPH

What do you mean?

EVELYN

Don't people normally spend time
with their families during a
funeral?

Sapph doesn't answer.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Yeah, I get it. My family's pretty
unbearable too.

SAPPH

How do you deal with them?

Evelyn takes a swig from the flask.

EVELYN

I moved out. Found myself an
apartment. You?

SAPPH

Went to college. It kinda became my
sanctuary. This is my first time
coming back in over a year.

EVELYN

I would kill to get out of here.
Maybe get a degree in something.

SAPPH

Why don't you?

EVELYN

Can't afford it. I barely make rent
with this shit job. Tips aren't
even any good. People here are
cheap bastards.

Sapph looks concerned. Her phone suddenly pings. She checks
it and sees several missed calls and texts from both Patty
and Mackenzie.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Duty calls. Good luck.

Evelyn offers her the flask again. Sapph considers it.

SAPPH
Tempting, but I better not, but
thanks.

EVELYN
Anytime.

Sapph walks off.