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Title:

"TBD"

Logline:

ASHLEY, a loving mother of a smart, beautiful daughter, is faced with a situation where she has to ask her herself, at what cost are you willing to pay in order to keep your daughter's father in her baby girl's life. Ashley has already decided it's worth the verbal and physical abuse she accepts from her daughter's father. But, one day Ashley realizes she's no longer the one paying the price for this ideal situation she believes benefits her daughter. Instead it's her daughter who's now waking up every morning with the physical effects of the abuse Ashley is accepting.

Characters:

ASHLEY - loving mother of a daughter, naive, she only wants the physical abuse from her daughter's father to end and have a healthy co-parenting relationship with her daughter's father

NICK - loving father of a daughter, abusive towards the mother of his child, he developed a lot of aggression towards her for no reason other than feeling dominant; physically and financially

NICKIA - beautiful, smart young girl, the daughter of both Ashley and Nick. She's mommy's baby but daddy's baby girl, her and her father have a very healthy and loving relationship. In her eyes her parents are still perfect around one another.

TASIA - best friend of Ashley who've grown up together and have been through it all. Tasia has been trying to get Ashley away from Nick since the abuse started but Ashley took too long to listen. So now, Tasia just supports her and make sure she's ok as Ashley continue to build a co-parenting relationship with Nick.

Synopsis:

Short film / PSA on domestic violence

ASHLEY, a loving mother of a smart, beautiful daughter who has the most amazing relationship with her father despite the two now being seperated. With Ashley and NICK, who's the father of her daughter, doing an amazing job at co-parenting, Ashley is faced with a threat she's been looking to escape for years now.

Growing up Ashley and Nick was able to maintain a great relationship for 5 years before having their first child NICKIA. Nick was so excited about having a baby they both decided to name their daughter after him. Just before Ashley had Nickia, Nick started bringing in a lot of money from working a good job and hustling on the side. But, by the time Nickia turned two years old, Nick's attitude towards Ashley had changed, he started verbally abusing her. As the money came in so did the different experiences for Nick, like drugs, more partying, more women. By the time Nickia turned four, he began physically abusing Ashley.

When Nick decides to move on, he promises not to hit her anymore and to continue to take care of them so that Nickia will still have that positive male role model in her life. He leaves them with the nice house so that Nickia can keep a roof over her head, attend a good school and remain close to him. Unfortunately for Ashley, that meant he would still remain close to her as well. Ashley is now faced with a harsh decision in her life. She's no longer working the hours or job she once was so money for her is not the same. The relationship with Nick and Nickia couldn't be better. Nick's has even kept his promise of not hitting her again. That's until the day he realizes his feelings for Ashley has returned. Nick comes over to drop Nickia off to Ashley after a daddy, daughter day out. When he enters Ashley ends her call abruptly when he enters the house causing him to become emotional and he snaps back into the monster he once was.

With Ashley not wanting to go back to the violent infested community with her daughter and remove her from her father's life, she feels committed to the situation as a way to better her daughter's life. But, at what cost is Ashley willing to pay for this lifestyle? If she feel like she's strong enough to withstand this abuse, what happens when it's not her who has to be strong but her daughter? I guess that's something she would have to witness for herself to really find out if keeping Nick in Nickia's life is really beneficial as she think it is.

Now that Nick is back abusing Ashley, Nickia is now at an age where she can speak on things that grabs her attention. This mean Ashley has to either hide from her daughter after the abuse or do one hell of a job with hiding her bruises from Nickia. Nick doesn't let that bother him because the more Ashley has to hide from Nickia the more Nick get to have his daughter with him. Mysteriously, one day after Ashley is abused by Nick, she wakes up to find no bruises or sign of physical abuse. Instead, she wakes Nickia up only to see she has bruises all over her body while in minor pain. Not knowing what happened Ashley rushes her to the hospital to find no answers.

After another night of physical abuse and the next morning, the same results, This time Ashley notices that Nickia has the bruises in the same area she had been suffering from the hits she has been enduring from Nick. So, now that she has to watch her daughter pay for the pain she accepts, she asks herself the same question she asked before, at what cost is she willing to pay in order to keep Nick in Nickia's life?

With Ashley now having to watch what she has been accepting for so long is not only affecting her but her daughter as well. Now that Nick sees the abuse he's putting on his daughter he loves so much, the guilt he feels in himself is unbearable. Here it is he would do anything to protect his baby girl from anyone, especially a man. Yett, he's the man she need protection from as a result of verbally and physically abusing the most important women is his daughter life.

Locations:

Ashley House

Living Room

Mother's Bedroom

Daughter's Bedroom

Kitchen

Outside

Front House