

The Silence Between Us

By

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ACT I

Scene 1

A dimly lit park, late at night. EK and AJ are sitting on a bench.

EK

Halloween is still two weeks away. Is it just me or does it feel like this town starts their celebrations earlier and earlier every year.

AJ does not respond.

EK

Eleven years. Eleven halloweens. Eleven years of friendship. Can you believe it?

Still no response.

EK

Feels like forever.

Silence.

EK

(smiles sadly)

Remember that time we showed up for that audition for Uptown girl in rented clothes just as the casting director was packing to go? We lied we were in an accident and you tried to smudge your makeup for the added effect.

EK laughs.

EK

We used to dream about being the first big stars to come out of this town but we were wrong. The only star this place ever produced is Stella, and her claim to fame was a toothpaste commercial. Gosh we hated that girl. Fake bitch. She went to France once and suddenly developed finesse.

EK pauses. She is reflective.

EK

I saw her the other day and she has changed a lot. She is a Church girl now. People don't change. They only become more of what they are. So, now she is a church bitch.

EK laughs manically, and then silence.

(CONTINUED)

EK

(to AJ)

That's it? That's how you want to play it? You are going to pretend like I don't exist, like I'm not sorry? Like I haven't spent three years- three halloweens- begging for your forgiveness?

*AJ remains silent, and that really infuriates EK.
EK rises.*

EK

You did this. We had a good, peaceful friendship, but you chose to become just like all the bitches we hated.

(cries)

I trusted you but you betrayed me. You pretended to be sweet as pie, but every time I turned around you cut me deep. There was a time I was everyone's favorite. I was the one the boys looked for and longed to talk with. And then, you changed everything. You pretended to be my friend and stole my life from me. You stole my friends, stole my boyfriend and even stole my mother. You became the standard measurement for what a daughter should be like.

AJ is still unresponsive. EK glares at her.

EK

(quieter now, her voice breaking)

But I won, didn't I? I got rid of you. I'm the one still standing, AJ. I'm the one who survived... except... I didn't, did I?

EK sits back down, her anger turning into something more broken. She pulls her knees up to her chest, wrapping her arms around them as she rocks back and forth.

EK

I'm losing my mind without you. Every year I come here, and I talk to you. I beg you to forgive me. But you never do. You never say a word.

EK glances at AJ, her eyes wide with desperation, hoping for any sign of response. But there is nothing

EK

I didn't mean to kill you. It was an accident, AJ. I swear. That night... it was supposed to be just us. One last Halloween before college. But then you told you had applied to Yale. Yale was my dream. You hated the Ivy Leagues. You called them elitist but then you decided to take that away from me too because you could. I was tired of you taking and taking from me.

(CONTINUED)

Silence

EK

I didn't mean to kill you. That's why I come back here,
to this place where it happened.

(cries)

Maybe this is how it is supposed to be. You there and
me here. I made it to Yale. That wouldn't have happened
if you were here, would it?

(stifles a tear)

Maybe this is how it is supposed to be.

THE END