

THRESHOLD

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INT. - LIVING ROOM - DAY

CAROL ,36, unpacks her things in her new home. Her cell phone RINGS, it's her sister PRECIOUS, 25,. Carol answers the phone as she unpacks an open box.

CAROL

Hello, you've reached Carol, but I can't come to the --

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Ha ha, very funny. Hey Big Sis, hows it going?

CAROL

Everything's fine girl, I'm just getting settled.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

I sent you a little home warming gift it should be arriving soon.

CAROL

Girl, you shouldn't have.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

I cant have you all alone in Los Santos without protection. So, I sent you daddies old Saturday night special, had it cleaned up real good for ya too.

CAROL

You know how I feel about guns girl, I cant stand the sight of em. I'm sending that old P.O.S right back to you, Air express.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Please don't do that, I know how you feel, but I worry about you and it makes me feel better knowing you got something to protect yourself with.

CAROL

Girl whatever, I'll be okay, but I gotta go. I love you sis.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Okay, I love you too, be safe.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - DAY

A DELIVERY MAN, 25, approaches the door with a small package. He RINGS the doorbell.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Carol looks out the peephole then she opens the door.

DELIVERY MAN
Package for Carol Johnson.

CAROL
That's me.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - DAY

Carol signs for the package. She reaches to retrieve the box.

The Delivery guy holds tightly to the package for an odd moment. He stares into her eye's, then lightly releases the box.

DELIVERY MAN
I'm sorry Ma'm, my mind must have
wondered off into space. Have a
nice day.

CAROL
No problem, you have a nice day as
well.

Carol stands at her threshold. She watches as the man walks away. She turns and walks back into her home. She SLAMS the door and turns the LOCK.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME

Carol places the box on a table. She looks down at the box. She walks away, but turns back. She picks up the package then opens it. She takes a card out the box. She reads the card.

INSERT. CARD -

" WISHING YOU SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS
ON YOUR JOURNEY, NEVER FORGET WHAT
DADDY TAUGHT US. ALWAYS PROTECT
YOUR THRESHOLD."

Carol drops the card. She picks up the gun and caress's it. She places it back. She walks over to the open box.

She pulls out a picture of a young male. She begins to weep. She puts the gun inside the bigger box. Then she tapes it shut.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carol sits on the side of her bed crying. The picture is her lap. She kisses the picture, then throws it in to the WALL. The GLASS shatters. It hits the floor.

CAROL

Damn you Rome, You said that you
would never leave me.

EXT. BACK PORCH - NIGHT

A MASKED MAN 20's lurks. He peeps into the windows.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

Carol lies in bed asleep. A BUMP in the night awakens her. She rises from bed. She slides into her slippers. Carol cuts on the light switch.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME

Carol creeps softly. She investigates her door. The door is secure. She picks up the box with the gun and rips it open. She pulls the gun from the smaller box. She stares at the gun.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carol lies in bed. She places the gun on the dresser next to her bed. She turns off her lamp. She falls back asleep. She SLEEPS. GLASS BREAKS. Carol wakes up. She pulls the lamp cord. Nothing happens. Carol picks up the gun.

I/E. BACK PORCH - NIGHT

The window is broken and the door is open. A trail of footprints lead up to the door. A footprint marks the door.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

Carol stumbles in the dark waving the pistol. She pulls her phone out of her robe. The phone is dead.

CAROL

Whoever you are, you better get the hell outta here. I called the cops, they're on the way.

Carol creeps in the dark. She spins around looking for the intruder. She reaches the open door. She turns to run. She is met by a figure in the dark. The stalker grabs her gun. A SHOT is fired. The MASKED MAN punches Carol. She blacks out.

I/E. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Carol comes to. The MASKED MAN carries her over his shoulder. Her hands are bound. Carol grabs the threshold and fights for freedom. SIRENS approach. Carol kicks the villain. They both fall down. She kicks him again. He is dazed. He stumbles as he runs away.

I/E - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Carol pulls herself to her feet. The gun lies on the ground. She stands at the threshold waiting for police. A squad car pulls up. Carol falls to her knees.

CAROL

Help me, please help me.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Carol walks in the door. Her eyes are bruised. Her space is less cluttered and unpacked. She LOCKS the deadbolts and secures a barricade. She HITS the keys on her security system's key pad. Her phone RINGS. She answers.

CAROL

Hello.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Girl, what you doing? I been calling you all morning.

CAROL

I was out running errands, and anyway, who died and made you my mother?

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Don't growl at me for being concerned. You know I gotta check in on you.

CAROL

You know I appreciate you. But, I appreciate you more if you turn it down a tad. You starting to sound like your Mama.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

Oh, see now you doing too much, I will talk to you later on Honey.

CAROL

Catch ya later hater. I love.

PRECIOUS (V.O.)

I love you too Sis. Bye- bye.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Carol brushes her teeth in the mirror. She spits. She wipes her face then applies some cream to her bruises. She stares at herself in the mirror.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carol enters. She sits on the bed. The news is on the T.V. The NEWS ANCHOR 39 reports.

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O.)

LS police are still on the hunt for a Masked man who has attacked several women in the Rolling Heights area. Police say be on the look at for any suspicious person's in you community. We'll keep you updated as information...

Carol shuts off the television. She sits the remote on the nightstand. There is the picture of Rome and next to that her pistol rest. Carol picks up the picture and gives it a kiss. She turns off her lamp.