

SHATTERED

(Scene sample from full screenplay)

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Filmed and completed 2007
Screener available

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INT. BAR - DAY - SAME

HEATHER slams the door shut and locks the SLIDE BOLT.

She falls to the floor and it hits her. She breaks down, holding her body tightly and pulling down her skirt.

The sound of a key in the front door is followed by the sound of laughter as REGINA, CLAIRE and NIKKI come in.

Regina notices Heather first.

REGINA

Heather!

The other girls turn and see Heather at the foot of the Storage Room Door in tears, shaking. They rush to her.

She grabs onto Regina and the other girls see close up what has happened to her. Her face smeared with blood.

NIKKI

Jesus Christ. Claire lock the door.

Claire, who has also begun to cry, does it as if she's on auto pilot.

Regina holds Heather in her arms looking up to Nikki with a serious "what the fuck happened" face. Heather grabs onto Regina.

REGINA

Shh. We're here baby. Is anything broken? Nikki call an ambulance.

Heather grabs Nikki's arm

HEATHER

No. Don't.

NIKKI

Okay. We won't. Can you tell us what happened?

Claire returns. They crowd around her in front of the Storage Room door.

CLAIRE

You're safe now.

BAM!

The girls scream and fall away from the door as something hits it from inside as hard as it can!

NIKKI
What the fuck!?

Heather tries to crawl away from the door, hysterical.
Regina grabs her and holds her close, next to the bar.

NIKKI
She locked him inside.

CLAIRE
Who? What are you talking about?

BAM! BAM!

NIKKI
Well somebody's in there and she's
fucked up. I don't know Claire, two
plus two?

CLAIRE
Don't yell at me. I was only
saying.

BAM!

HEATHER
It's him.

They crowd around her.

HEATHER
I came in to clean up. I thought I
locked the door.

BAM!

HEATHER
He came in and he hit me and,
then...he wouldn't stop.

NIKKI
Mother. Fucker!

Nikki starts to get up.

BAM! BAM!

REGINA
What the hell are you doing?

NIKKI
I'm gonna kill that piece of shit.

REGINA

With what, a lemon wedge? First things first. He isn't going anywhere.

Nikki calms slightly. Then silence.

They all wait for the next door-slam. It doesn't come.

CLAIRE

Why did he stop?

HEATHER

He fell and hit his head pretty hard.

NIKKI

Good.

REGINA

Well now that we can hear ourselves think. Maybe we can get to the bottom of all this.

NIKKI

(to Heather)
Did he rape you?

REGINA

Nikki!

CLAIRE

Whoa.

NIKKI

It's important.

CLAIRE

Do you really think this is the right time to talk about that?

Heather breaks in.

HEATHER

No.

NIKKI

No?

HEATHER

Not, really...I got away before he could...

REGINA

Now hold on Honey. Just because he didn't, get to... Jesus Nikki look what you've started.

NIKKI

What? I asked a real question.

CLAIRE

Does it really matter?

NIKKI

You're right. Look at her face. I don't need a play by play to tell me that fucker in there did this and was probably going to do worse if she didn't get away.

CLAIRE

I can't believe you're talking like this when we should be helping Heather.

NIKKI

I am helping her.

REGINA

Shut up! That's it. Everybody stop talking.

(to Heather)

Your nose is bleeding. Are you hurt anywhere else?

HEATHER

My cheek feels like it's on fire.

CLAIRE

I'll get you some ice.

REGINA

There, see. That's what we need. Everybody needs to just calm down.

NIKKI

So now what?

REGINA

Claire. Take Heather in and clean her up. Nikki and I will call the police.

NIKKI

Whoa. Hold up. That's your plan.
Call the police?

REGINA

What about that is a problem?

NIKKI

Apparently you haven't thought this
through?

REGINA

And you have?

NIKKI

I know we can't call the cops.

CLAIRE

Why not?

NIKKI

Well let me just lay out a *best*
case scenario for you. Scumfuck in
there knocks Heather around but
doesn't rape her. So it's a case of
his word against hers. She's in
court for the next two years, it's
in all the papers. Every private
part of her life will be an open
book. Now, none of us are saints,
except maybe Claire, but let's not
bullshit. Heather got around.

CLAIRE

How can you say that? She was just
attacked.

NIKKI

I'm dealing with reality here
Claire. They'll say, maybe she
liked it rough.

CLAIRE

I still don't see why we shouldn't
call the police?

REGINA

Yeah. What does all this have to do
with anything?

NIKKI

C'mon guys! If we call the cops we go to court, we go to court it's on TV and in the papers and win or lose, we can kiss this place goodbye, because who's going to want to go "to the bar where that girl was raped"?

Silence.

CLAIRE

But that can't, that doesn't matter.

NIKKI

Oh really. Heather's life is ruined, our "dream" dies before it even gets a chance to live and all that motherfucker gets is community service. Is that what you want?

REGINA

No. I get it okay. But do we really have a choice?

NIKKI

All I know is if we call the cops we lose everything with no guarantee he won't walk. Let's just stop for a minute and give ourselves time to think.

They are at a standstill. Claire breaks the silence.

CLAIRE

I'm going to take her in and clean her up.

Claire takes Heather and heads for the BATHROOM.

Regina stands and Nikki walks behind the bar and pours her and Regina a SHOT. They down it as if it were water. Nikki slams another.

REGINA

Look. I hear what you're saying. I watch Lifetime. I've seen the after school specials. We've worked too hard, Heather included, to lose it all for this lowlife.

(MORE)

REGINA (cont'd)

But pull back the Chuck Bronson routine a little around her okay. She's spooked as it is.

NIKKI

I'd love to but we have a major situation on our hands. Remember. People are gonna start showing up in few hours. I'm sorry if I'm being harsh but we don't have a lot of time.

CUT TO: