

SC 2

\*\*\*\*\*NEW SCENE\*\*\*\*\*

OMARI AND HOPE GET READY FOR BED. OMARI IS UPSET.

Start →

OMARI

So you can interfere but I can't?

HOPE

You were ignoring all the signs. You just cared about not having to pay alimony anymore.

OMARI

First of all, it wasn't just the alimony. I cared about not paying two house notes too.

HOPE

That's why you couldn't see what I saw. The rolling of the eyes, the resentment masquerading as sarcasm, the condescending "jokes," the uneven power dynamics because she worked for him -- all of it points to future contempt, which is the number one predictor of divorce. That comes from years of counseling other couples, and from two hours of me and my ex trying to build a CD rack from Ikea.

OMARI

So you convinced them to break up?

4/12

HOPE

No, I simply said I think they have a lot to work out before they commit to something as big as marriage.

OMARI

(MAKING A POINT) If you're so concerned, why not tell them to read my book? It's all about relationships. Or why not tell Henry to come to the men's conference I'm hosting? It's gonna focus on relationships too.

HOPE

(UNSURE NOISE)

OMARI

What?

HOPE

Nothing.

OMARI

Oh, I see what's going on here.

HOPE

(UNCOMFORTABLE) I don't know what you're talking about.

HE POINTS TO THE COPY OF HIS MANUSCRIPT ON HER NIGHTSTAND.

OMARI

I notice you still haven't read my book.

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5/R

HOPE

I will.

OMARI

You didn't read the previous draft either.

HOPE

I haven't had any free time.

OMARI

You had time to read Michelle Obama's book.

HOPE

Hey! I told you when I married you to make room for Michelle in this relationship.

OMARI

I don't think you wanted to read mine.

HOPE

What are you talking about?

OMARI

I've just been sensing something. Something you're not telling me.

HOPE

There's nothing to tell.

OMARI

Something's bothering you.

HOPE

Nope, I'm good.

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6/12

OMARI

You sure there's nothing you're...  
jealous of?

HOPE

Jealous?

OMARI

At dinner, you kept pointing out how  
they approached me to do a book.

HOPE

My dad wrote over a dozen books. I'm  
used to it.

OMARI

This is different. Your dad's a famous  
pastor. You and I are equals, so it  
must bother you that they approached  
me.

HOPE

That's ridiculous.

OMARI

Well if you're not jealous, why  
wouldn't you read my book? Why didn't  
you want me to give advice to Nikkina?

HOPE

(BLURTS OUT) Because I know more about  
relationships than you!

HOPE IMMEDIATELY REGRETS SAYING IT, BUT IT'S TOO LATE.

HOPE (CONT'D)

Omari, I--

OMARI

Don't worry about reading it now.

HE PICKS UP THE MANUSCRIPT AND MOVES IT TO HIS SIDE.

OMARI (CONT'D)

(CALLS OUT) Alexa, play a playlist for  
hurt feelings.

THE SPEAKER STARTS TO PLAY SAD MUSIC. HOPE SHAKES HER HEAD.

CUT TO:

*End*