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Humanities- 3/4

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**Sunshine in The Shadows**

**Prologue**

*Desk, 2 office chairs and potted plant are brought on stage. Office like environment. Alejandra is sitting at desk, waiting, keeps looking at clock impatiently then Cade walks in and she turns with a smile. Cade is emotionless but courteous. When Cade walks in Alejandra stands.*

**Alejandra:** It’s great to meet you, my name’s Alejandra, you are (*looks down at some file’s on desk and says unsure)* Cade right? (*Gesture’s for a handshake*)

**Cade:** Yup, that’s me (*shake’s hand*)

**Alejandra:** Please take a seat (*gesture’s toward chair, she also sit’s down*, *Cade walks over and sit’s down*) so I’m sure no one has really told you what you're here for. I am your social worker. I’m going to help you kind of get back up on your feet and rehabilitate your life since now you are out of prison.

**Cade:** Oh okay.

**Alejandra:** So where do you live right now?

**Cade:** What does that have to do with fixing my life? (*Said in sarcastic snappy tone*)

**Alejandra:** I need to know about you and where you are at right now so that I know what next steps we need to take to get you further. With all do respect, Cade, I’m only here to help you and if you refuse to cooperate and help me help you I'm afraid this is not going to work.

**Cade:** Okay, you're right, I'm sorry *(his voice shows hesitation and embarrassment*) I live in a... it’s kind of a foster home for people just coming out of prison. Since I don’t have a job, I can't afford to have my own place.

**Alejandra:** Perfect! That’s our first step. We need to find you a job. (*Begins rustling through papers on desk then suddenly stops and makes a ‘thinking’ face*) You know, I know a guy who owns a diner just down the block. I could ask him to give you a job, you’d probably have to start as a dishwasher, is that okay? I know its not the ideal job, but its a start.

**Cade:** Yeah that’d be great. Thanks. (*Cade hesitates and starts to talk in a slow, low voice)* Uhh, do you know, what I.. did?

**Alejandra:** I don't like to look through my clients files. It just doesn’t sound right to me. I don’t ever want my client to feel like I'm scared of them or I don't want to help them anymore because I know

what they did so I just don't cross that line. So to answer your question, no I don’t.

**Cade:** Oh, okay. (*A sign of relief shows through his posture*)

**Alejandra:** So I’ll go ahead and talk to the owner of the diner tonight and see if I can set up an interview, come to office tomorrow same time, except tomorrow please be on time. (*She grins a smile*)

*Cade shakes his head and leans over the desk to shake her hand as the lights go down.*

**Parados**

(Atë (Ay-tee) is known as the Greek goddess of evil, misfortune, obsession, guilt, infatuation, and mischief. Tykhe was the goddess of fortune, chance, providence and fate. She was usually honoured in a more favourable light as Eutykhia, goddess of good fortune, luck, success and prosperity.)

*Atë (Ay-tee) walks in from stage right and Tykhe from stage left. They meet at center stage and lights come up. Lights focused on both of them.* (*They are kind of arguing back and forth*)

**Tykhe:** A man just coming out of prison.

Locked away in his saddening days.

Although the shadows seem to have overcame

He reached the sunlight, refreshing his skin with every ray.

He has come out of his misery and mistakes with

His social worker, Alejandra, and new found best friend.

**Ate:** However his past is too powerful to oversee.

 His heart will flow with guilt and misery once again.

 Like the springs flowers too quickly withered away.

**Tykhe:** Don't mind her negativity she is the goddess of all that is evil.

 Cade’s past is Ate’s enjoyment (*gestures towards Ate*)

 But his present is mine, he is good-hearted now.

 He has a steady job, a contrite heart and Alejandra by his side guiding him to the pool of

success and fortune.

**Ate:** Don’t listen to Tykhe (*looking annoyed and sarcastic*) queen of positivity and happiness!

Hate and discrimination is what his heart suffers from.

Friendship is what he wished for, but is that really what he got?

Much time has past already.

Cade is no longer under Alejandras wing.

**Tykhe:** He may not be her client anymore but they’re are still friends.

 Alejandra still cares about Cade like the bee’s care about the honey in the sweet flowers that

flow through the wind on a summers day.

Why do you have to make everything sound like a terrifying dream Ate?

 Cade is reborn, a flower in bloom.

 (*Said in a positive, happy mood*) Just watch, what he can do.

*Lights go down, Ate and Tykhe leave stage. Ate walking off stage left and Tykhe walking off stage right.*

**Scene 1**

*Diner scene set up. 2 (3 if possible) dining tables and 6 chairs brought on stage, ketchup bottles and condiments on the middle of the tables. Lights come up and the owner of the diner, Charlie, is cleaning a table with a towel. Has on apron. Alejandra walks in stage left towards Charlie.*

**Alejandra:** Charlie! Just the man I wanted to see (*points at him with a smile on her face*).

**Charlie:** (*Turns to see whos speaking once he sees its Alejandra he stops what he's doing*) Hey!(*walks towards her and hugs her*) I haven't seen you in a while.

**Alejandra:** I know I’ve missed your amazing crisscut fries too much, I had to stop by! (*Both Alejandra and Charlie laugh*)

**Charlie:** Those are still your favorite huh? (*smiles*) How are you doing?

**Alejandra:** I’m doing good, I’m at a good spot right now (*smiles*)

**Charlie:** (*serious*) How’s your dad?

**Alejandra:** He’s doing better. Still in a lot of pain, but definitely not as bad as he was before. He can manage to take himself to the bathroom now and walk around the kitchen but thats about it. I bring him food and stay with him so he doesn't get too lonely and bored.

**Charlie:** Oh thats good, I’m glad to hear! So what can I get ya? Some crisscut fries I’m guessing?

**Alejandra:** Actually, I came here to ask you how Cade is doing?

**Charlie:** Oh, he’s doing great! He actually was promoted to a server a couple days ago. He’s a hard-worker, always on time, has great customer service, I’d say he’s one of my best employees. I’m very happy to have him here!

**Alejandra:** Aww that’s great to hear! I’m so happy for him! We still talk on the phone and stuff but he’s not my client anymore so I haven’t been asking him about how work and all that has been going so I’m happy to hear that. (*Cade walks in stage right with apron on and water in hand)*

**Charlie:** Ohp, there he is. How about you sit down and I’ll get you some crisscut fries on the house. Cade will get you a drink.

**Alejandra:** That sounds great Charlie. Thank you! (*Alejandra sits at nearest table, Cade walks to table with water*)

**Cade:** What can I get you to drink Ms. Alejandra? (*Smiles with charm*)

**Alejandra:** I’m fine with water, Mr. Cade (*sarcastically in a sweet way and they both laugh*)

**Cade:** Well no one else is here, so you mind if I have a seat with you?

**Alejandra:** No not all. (*Cade sits at other chair at table)* How are you? Charlie told me you’re doing great here.

**Cade:** (*Chuckles*) Yeah I like it here. I got another job too, couldn't afford my apartment with only one job.

**Alejandra:** You got your apartment now? Thats great!

**Cade:** Yeah (*smiles*) uhmm, I have a question for you.

**Alejandra:** Yeah, anything.

**Cade:** Would it be completely inappropriate if I... asked you on a... date? (*looks hesitant*)

**Alejandra:** (*Smiles*) Not at all, I’d love to!

**Charlie:** (*Charlie walks in with plate of crisscut fries*) One order of crisscut fries for the lovely Alejandra.

*Cade and Alejandra laugh* *and lights go down.*

**Chorus 1**

*Atë walks in from stage right and Tykhe from stage left. They meet at center stage and lights come up. Lights focused on both of them.*

**Tykhe:** Time has flown by like the wind.

 Alejandra and Cade have been hand in hand since.

 Their hearts beating together as one.

**Ate:** Though Cade and Alejandra are in love,

 There is more news in store...

 Alejandras father is not in good state.

He was in the hospital, still in pain.

The reason for his agony, he won’t tell.

It kills Alejandra to know he is suffering.

**Tykhe:** She takes care of him and comforts him.

 Alejandra’s wishes she knew who or what caused this pain so she could wish it away.

 Her father is her pride. Her will. Her hero.

**Ate:** He raised her all alone. Made a living, made a home.

 Kept her warm when she got cold or

Protected her when saw a monster under her bed.

**Tykhe:** Her father is her inspiration. Her safety blanket. The person she runs to when she feels alone.

**Ate:** She loves him and would never let harm come his way.

 When Alejandra finds out what it was that put her father in

 This darkest stage, she will never forgive.

*Lights go down, Ate and Tykhe leave stage. Ate walking off stage left and Tykhe walking off stage right.*

**Scene 2**

*Couch, chair, rug and coffee table (mini table) brought on stage. Alejandra’s father is on the couch with a cover. Alejandra walks in stage left with soup in a bowl with spoon and water. Sets Bowl and water on coffee table and walks up to her dad.*

**Alejandra:** Hey Dad, how are you feeling today?

**Father:** Good, a lot better than yesterday, but my body still aches.

**Alejandra:** Oh thats good, I brought you some caldo from el mercado.

**Father:** Oh thank you! My favorite. (*Sits up to eat soup, Alejandra hands it to him and he begins to eat while Alejandra sits on chair)* You hungry mija? There’s a lot in here.

**Alejandra:** No I’m fine thank you I already ate, Dad.

**Father:** How was work today?

**Alejandra:** Fine. (*Pause of silence, Alejandra looks anxious then finally speaks like shes been holding the words inside her)* Why haven’t you told me what happened?

**Father:** What do you mean?

**Alejandra:** You know what I mean! Why you are hurt? What happened? Why you don’t want to tell me?

**Father:** (*frustrated*)Alejandra, dejalo! We’ve already been over this! You don’t need to know!

**Alejandra:** Why?! Why don’t I need to know? You’re the only family I have and I don't need to know? I show up to the hospital and my Dad is near dead and he won’t even tell me what happened?! Oh I suppose you just landed in the hospital right? Nothing happened?

**Father:** YA, YA NO QUIERO OIR MAS! It was terrible what happened to me, okay. I don't ever want you to think of me in the way that I got put into that hospital. It will hurt you more than it hurt me

and it will only add flames to the fire. Just, its done with okay, no mas, let it go.

**Alejandra:** (*Alejandra walks over and sits next to her dad, her dad hugs her and she sits there in his arms, she talks in a calm voice)* I just want to make it all better, you know, make whoever or whatever did this to you pay.

**Father:** I know Mija, I know. But we need to learn to just let it go, it will all come back to them somehow... Do you remember when you were little and I used to tell you that the stars were fairies that lived in the sky that could grant you wishes so you’d run outside and jump to the sky screaming (*waving hands in the air*) I want a purple bike, I want a pony! (*Father laughs*)

**Alejandra:** (*smiles*) Yes! And the neighbors thought I was crazy! (*Both laugh*) ... Dad I need to tell you something.

**Father:** Okay que es?

**Alejandra:** Uhmm I’ve been meaning to tell you... I’m dating... a past client.

**Father:** So he was in... jail?

**Alejandra:** Yes, but hes a great man I promise you.

**Father:** Okay I trust your judgement. He asked you to be his girlfriend today?

**Alejandra:** Uhh no... we’ve been dating for about ten and a half months already.

**Father:** (*throws his hands in the air*) Uyyy, when exactly did you plan on telling me, the wedding day?

**Alejandra:** (*laughs*) No, I’m sorry I should have told you sooner. He’s a great guy, I think you’re gonna like him. I’ll invite him over next week.

**Father:** Okay, I’ll make sure to comb my hair that day.

**Alejandra:** Yes please! (*laughs*) Well I gotta go Dad. I’ll see if I can stop by tomorrow.

(*Hugs her dad and lights go down*)

**Chorus 2**

*Atë walks in from stage right and Tykhe from stage left. They meet at center stage and lights come up. Lights focused on both of them.*

**Ate:** Alejandra is angered with her father because he won't confess what causes him this suffering.

**Tykhe:** But he does this to protect.

 He does not want her to envision him in that way.

 He does not want her heart to grow cold or bitter

because of her discovering of what happened.

A wise decision made by Javier that she will be thankful for later.

**Ate:** Why wouldn’t Alejandra’s heart grow cold?

 The world is a terrible place filled with terrible things

 And right when you don't expect it your world falls apart.

 Right when you think you’ve got the puzzle of your life finally put together in your hands

(*puts hands together like holding something*)

It shatters (*throws hands down like dropping what’s in hands*) right in front of you.

**Tykhe:** Alejandra does not deserve such.

 With Javier and Cade by her side she sprouts a lotus flower

 That will live an eternity.

**Ate:** Though Javier doesn’t say it,

 It hurts to see his daughter go.

**Tykhe:** At the same time he is happy,

 Thinking this could be the man of her dreams.

 The one who could take care of her when he is not able to.

**Ate:** Its never a dad's dream to watch his daughter grow.

How can Javier trust this man if he has not met him or even know his name yet?

 3 days have passed since she last spoken to her father.

 She hopes to tell Cade soon about meeting her father.

 Anxiously she thinks, will her father not approve of Cade? Will Cade hate her father?

 Or is Alejandra worried about the wrong thing?

*Lights go down, Ate and Tykhe leave stage. Ate walking off stage left and Tykhe walking off stage right.*

**Scene 3**

*Desk, 2 office chairs and potted plant are brought on stage. Office like environment. Alejandra is sitting at desk looking at paperwork with a pen and highlighter. Connie walks in with files in her hand and walks towards Alejandra. When Alejandra notices Connie she looks up.*

**Alejandra:** Hey Connie! How you doing?

**Connie:** I'm good (*keeps a serious composure*).

**Alejandra:** Are you okay? You look like you’ve seen a ghost (*smiles at her own joke but Connie stays serious*)

**Connie:** Alejandra, you need to read this file (*Connie keeps a straight face handing the files to Alejandra but she does not grab them*)

**Alejandra:** No I’ve already told you I don’t do that.

**Connie:** No Alejandra you really need to (*insisting by shoving files at her but Alejandra shoves them away*)

**Alejandra:** You know my policy. I don’t read any clients past records. A policy you as a social worker should start going by too because then this kind of stuff happens. Everyone wants to start gossiping about these poor--- (*Connie interrupts her)*

**Connie:** Alejandra! Listen to me! You NEED to read this file! (*face stern*)

**Alejandra:** (*takes the file from Connie and looks at the name on the front*) But... this is Cade’s file? (*angry*) If this is about us dating, were aloud to, he’s not my client anymore. Are people in the office saying stuff because he’s my past client? What are you doing this for?

**Connie:** This isn’t about that at all, stop being ridiculous Alejandra. Nobody cares about that. Just, I'm telling you, read the file. You need to. (*Connie walks off leaving Alejandra alone in her office*)

*Alejandra sits there for a second and just stares at the file sitting on her desk then she opens it. As she reads silently a voice reads aloud (her inner head voice reading it to herself is what we hear)*

**Inner Voice:** Cade Davis Reed charged for assault injury, as well as battery and found guilty. Will face jail time and a criminal record. Victim of assault, Javier Morales. Cade charged for beating Javier on the street, repeatedly kicking and punching him, as he knew and had the knowledge he could not fight back. Violating the law with the knowledge of the law. (*Alejandra gasps to read her dads name she turns page face flushed with anger*) Photographs of scene when Javier Morales was found on the floor. (*Alejandra so angry and sad ,almost to tears, shuts the file and runs out with them in hand)*

*Lights go down, everything is cleared off stage, couch brought on stage with clothes on the couch. Lights come back up. Cade is sitting on couch, eating yogurt looking at a magazine. Alejandra storms in records by her side, not that noticeable to Cade.*

**Cade:** Oh hey! I wish I knew you were coming I would’ve cleaned up. I’m just eating a quick snack before I got back to the diner... (*Alejandras face is almost in tears*)... Whats wrong? Come here? (*he pats the couch implying her to sit next to him*)

**Alejandra:** (*stands there and waits for a second trying to keep her composure, from crying*) What is this? (*Waves records in front of his face, on the verge of crying from sadness and anger*)

**Cade:** Those are my... files? (*he puts his yogurt down and gets up to stand in front of her*) I thought you weren’t going to read those.

**Alejandra:** Yeah, well, I did.

**Cade:** What? Now you hate me because of what I did?

**Alejandra:** (*throws files to the floors, almost screaming*) Cade! You beat my father! I saw the pictures and everything! (*cries, if possible for actor, show the emotion*)

**Cade:** (*face goes soft, feels guilty*) Oh my god... I’m so sorry I didn't know he was... (*reaches out to hug her but she throws him off)*

**Alejandra:** Don’t! I can’t I can’t I can't! (*shaking head* *then looks up*) I can’t Cade I’m sorry.

**Cade:** (*sad*) No Alejandra please no don’t do this, I love you.

**Alejandra:** (*sad*)I love you too, I really do.. but I can’t Im sorry. You don’t understand. This is so hard for me because I do truly love you, I dreamed about us getting married someday and being together forever, but Cade, thats my Dad! You.. nearly killed.. my dad. It would never work and knowing that I just don't think I could be with you anymore. (*Cade grabs her hand*)

**Cade:** (*whispers, sad*) Please, don't go.

**Alejandra:** I love you Cade. (*Pulls hand away from him slowly and walks out*)

*Cade grabs the clothes on the couch and throws it to the ground in anger then collapses to the floor, emotional breakdown. Lights go down and everything is removed off stage.*

**Chorus 3**

*Atë walks in from stage right and Tykhe from stage left. They meet at center stage and lights come up. Lights focused on both of them.*

**Tykhe:** Cade’s heart that was once filled with joy and happiness is now but a coal.

His love walking out the door with the realization that

what caused the pain her fathers been enduring that she

resented was standing right in front of her the whole time.

She loves Cade, but also loves her father.

She could never bring herself to date the man who nearly tore her father to shreds.

**Ate:** I remember it like it was yesterday.

 Just moving into the new town of Spokane, Washington.

 He knew a friend from high school who lived in town. Milo.

 Alone with no companionships he reached out to Milo for friendship.

 He thought drowning his loneliness in a bottle of alcohol would impress

his friends but it made him feel worse.

 He thought plummeting into the world of drugs would heal the scars.

 When he found no healing there, he thought harming innocent people

would get his “homies” to accept him, but he only ended up becoming

a reflection of what he never wanted to become.

**Tykhe:** Cade yearned for acceptance.

 He molded himself into a picture that his friends would like,

but he knew was an ugly canvas.

Because of this his world has fallen apart.

Does Cade still have a chance to redeem

himself and earn Alejandra’s love back?