

BRUISES- A Short Screenplay

Written By
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Fade In:

1. EXT. NIGHT CLUB CAR PARK NIGHT

TRINITY and KALE are making love IN KALE's car. R&B music plays in the background.

At 6'2", Kale has the torso of an athlete, sporting chiseled biceps and six-pack abs.

Trinity, a beautiful girl with a striking physique wraps her lean arms around Kale, breathing deeply onto his neck. The couple has raunchy sex, leaving them both exhausted.

2. INT. NIGHT CLUB LATER

Trinity and her girlfriends CELENA and JAZZ nappy head 'sistas' are in a nightclub- smoking cigarettes and drinking booze. Soca music (Machel Montano) is blasting in the background.

Trinity smiles to herself and texts Kale, "i ♥ u".

She periodically checks her phone to see if he responds. The girls are in a heated conversation. Kerwin Dubois' 'Too Real' plays in the background. Trinity seems distracted. She gulps down a bottle of Carib beer.

CELENA

Are you kidding me? Machel Montano is hotter than Kerwin Dubois any day.

JAZZ

How in the world? Ok..why? Eplain.

CELENA

Why? I don't know why! (Laughs) He just is!

JAZZ

You must admit, Kerwin has that romantic, dreamy look in his eyes though!

CELENA

Dreamy? Ha! Machel has a fine ass! Trinity, what say you? Kerwin or Machel?

TRINITY

Dunno. You know me, I'm not too keen on men with a whole lot of hair. I kinda like my guys, just like my horses. They have to be

(MORE)

TRINITY (CONT'D)

well groomed before I take them
for a ride.

(Trinity takes a drink from her
glass. Celena and Jazz erupt in
laughter. Trinity forces a smile)

CELENA

Well how about that! As for me? I
like my man a bit rougher than
German toilet paper.

(More laughter)

Trinity checks her phone; there is no response from Kale.
She checks the time- it's 12:16 am- she is agitated, and
motions to her friends that they should leave the nightclub.

TRINITY

I'm getting bored now.
(She yawns and takes a sip
from Celena's beer)
We should go.

Trinity gets up and stumbles out of the night club. All
three girls get into Celena's black Wrangler Jeep parked
outside and they drive off.

3. INT. TRINITY'S HOME LATER

Trinity arrives home under the influence of alcohol. She
stumbles into the house, causing a racket. Her mother
DAVINA, a medium built woman in her early 40s of Black /
Kalinago Indian ethnicity, is in the kitchen clearing up and
doing the dishes. Davina is upset.

DAVINA

Where are you coming from at this
hour? Do you know how late it is?

TRINITY

Who cares?

DAVINA

Who do you think you are? As long
as you live in this house, under
my roof, I have a right to know
where you are, and who you're with
when you stay out late ...
especially on a school night

Trinity glares at her mother.

DAVINA (CONT'D)
It's your father's birthday. How
could you forget?

Trinity looks around and sees birthday decorations, two wine glasses on the table, a bottle of wine and a sliced birthday cake with two saucers on the side.

 TRINITY
(Trinity's speech is
slurred)
What. The. Fuck. Woman! What in
the world is wrong with you?
Don't you get it? He's kicked the
fuckingbucket! He's not coming
back!

 DAVINA
How can you be so rude?

 TRINITY
How can YOU be such a hypocrite?

Trinity spits in her mother's face. Davina cowers and wipes the spit off her face with the palm of her hand.

Enraged, Trinity stumbles towards the dining table and yanks off the table cloth, breaking the bottle of wine, glasses, and saucers, and ruining the cake in the process.

 TRINITY
There! That'll teach you!

Davina reacts instantly by rushing to salvage the remains of the cake splattered on the floor. Trinity stands over her mother and yells at her some more.

 TRINITY (CONT'D)
You're such a sad, sad, woman! I
pity you!

Trinity kicks Davina in the stomach and punches her in the face. Davina attempts to defend herself, but she is overpowered by Trinity.

 DAVINA
Please, Trinity. Stop! That's
enough. Stop!

Trinity punches her mother some more. She trips and falls over, cutting the underside of her right forearm on some broken glass. She furiously storms out of the room.

4. INT. BATHROOM LATER

Davina turns on the light in the bathroom and stares at her reflection in the mirror. Her face is badly bruised. She washes herself in the face basin, revealing cuts on her hands from the broken glass. Blood from her cuts washes away. She sighs and switches the light off.

CUT TO:

5. INT. SHOWER NIGHT

A tearful Trinity takes a shower. She wipes her tears with the back of her hands. The water hits her head and falls on her face, merging with her tears- she carefully washes her face.

Blood from her cuts are washed away, running past her feet and disappears into the shower drain.

6. INT. DINING TABLE NEXT MORNING

Next morning Trinity and Davina are sitting at the breakfast table. Trinity looks a mess. Her hair is unkempt and she has bags under her eyes. She takes pain relievers and gulps down a glass of water. She then rubs her temples and slouches in her chair.

Davina has a sad look in her eyes as she removes her apron. She has a black eye, a burst lip and cuts and bruises on her hands. She stares at the table. A full Creole breakfast is laid out. There is an awkward silence which is interrupted by a cat purring in the background.

The dining area and kitchen are spotless. Everything seems to be in place including a stack of cookbooks on one end of the kitchen counter. The only thing that seems imperfect is a dripping tap at the kitchen sink.

Davina serves herself some toast, eggs and codfish and picks at her food. She then pours herself a cup of coffee.

Trinity feeds the cat some milk.

DAVINA

Are you going to have anything to eat?

Trinity ignores her, responding to whatsapp messages on her mobile phone. Davina toys with her wedding ring and stares silently at Trinity. She clears her throat.

DAVINA (CONT'D)

You should eat, Trinity.

Trinity continues to text on her mobile phone, not making eye contact with her mother.

TRINITY
Since when do you care?

DAVINA
What do you mean, since when?

TRINITY
You don't really give a shit, do you? You don't care about me. All you do is obsess over him!

She shoves her plate away from her, spilling a pot of hot tea on her mother in the process. Davina screams in horror and quickly runs to the kitchen sink to run cold tap water over her burnt wrist. Meanwhile Trinity yanks herself off the table, spilling milk all over the table cloth. she storms off.

DAVINA
Trinity! I've had enough of your rudeness and your behaviour. How dare you!

TRINITY
And what are you gonna do about it?!

Trinity slams her bedroom door shut. Davina stares in her direction. Her eyes fill up with tears.

7. INT. TRINITY'S BEDROOM LATER

Trinity throws herself on her bed and cries deeply into her pillow. She rolls over abruptly, grabs her phone and calls KALE. His phone rings until his voicemail comes on.

KALE (ON PHONE)
"Leave a message...suckeeeeeer!"

Trinity throws the phone across the bed in frustration.

CUT TO:

8. INT. DAVINA'S BEDROOM LATER

Davina is getting herself dressed for work. She sits at her vanity table applying make-up. She rubs concealer on her face and arms to cover her bruises.

She stands, puts on a pair of sunglasses, makes the sign of the cross and leaves home for work.

CUT TO:

9. INT. TRINITY'S BEDROOM LATER

Trinity sends Kale a text message: "Hey baby. She's gone. Come over".

Trinity rolls a joint and pulls out a box from underneath her bed with several photos of her father, SEBI.

She takes a long drag of her joint. She relaxes and flips through a series of photographs.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Various photos are seen:

Sebi teaching her how to ride a bicycle. Sebi brushing her hair. Sebi helping her cut her cake on her third birthday. Sebi carrying her on her way to preschool. Sebi plays with her dolls. Trinity hugging Sebi, her little arms wrapped around his broad shoulders. She burrows her face in the crook of his neck and inhales deeply, taking in the scent of his cologne.

CUT BACK TO:

10. TRINITY'S BEDROOM LATER

TRINITY'S daze is broken as her mobile phone rings. She takes a huge draw on the joint and leaps across the bed to fetch her phone. It's KALE.

KALE

Hey Trin. I'm here.

TRINITY

Cool stuff. Just a sec.

Trinity quickly stuffs the photos back into the box and shoves it under the bed. She dabs some perfume behind her ears, applies some strawberry lipgloss and dashes outside to meet Kale.

11. OUTSIDE TRINITY'S HOUSE MORNING

Outside, Kale is polishing his Yamaha FZ1 motorcycle. Trinity runs out and throws herself in his arms.

TRINITY

Hey Baby.

KALE

Whatz up!

Kale and Trinity embrace each other.

KALE (CONT'D)

What's going on there?

Kale points at Trinity's cut on her arm.

You look like you've been in a
cat fight.

Trinity ignores his comment and distracts him with a long, lingering kiss. She then takes him by the hand and quickly glances up and down the street before leading the way inside the house.

12. INT. TRINITY'S HOUSE MORNING

Once inside, Kale picks up Trinity with both arms and carries her to her bedroom. He throws her onto the bed and puts on some Hip Hop music.

As he sits on the bed to roll a joint, Trinity climbs onto his back and begins to kiss him tenderly on his neck.

TRINITY

You have no idea how much I needed
this.

KALE

How much?

TRINITY

This much...

Trinity presses her lips against Kale's. He rolls over and pins her down on the bed - they undress each other and have wild, passionate sex.

DISSOLVE TO:

13. EXT. OUTSIDE TRINITY'S HOUSE LATER

TRINITY and KALE leave the house on KALE's motorbike. She is dressed in her school uniform. As they ride through the village, other girls look at Trinity in envy.

Trinity squeals in delight, holding on tightly to Kale who rides at full speed.

He stops outside Trinity's school. Lots of girls in school uniform walk past. Kale stares after them. Trinity hops off the bike.

TRINITY

When can I see you again?

KALE

Hmmmm...Was it Babyface who said that?

Trinity gives him a blank stare. Kale gives her a broad grin and pokes at her tummy playfully.

KALE (CONT'D)

Just holler, baby!

TRINITY

You bet!

Trinity smiles and winks at Kale. She kisses him deeply once more before running off to class. The school bell rings. Kale drives off, revving his engine to get the other school girls' attention. Two girls turn round and stare in his direction and Trinity glares at them both.

14. INT. DAVINA'S WORKPLACE DAY

DAVINA is at work at a local agro-processing factory. The sound of heavy machinery can be heard in the background. She glances at an analog clock on the wall. The time shows 10:30 (AM).

A male co-worker looks in her direction. He gazes at the bruise around her eye. She stares at him, and for a minute, she saw Sebi's face- he was looking right back at her- he smiles. She smiles back.

A confused expression on his face, the male coworker waves at her, acknowledging her smile - snapping her out of her reverie. Davina looks away, embarrassed. She continues to work.

FADE TO:

15. INT. DAVINA'S WORKPLACE SEVEN HOURS LATER

Davina glances at the clock which shows 4:10(PM). She prepares to leave for home, removing her cap, apron and gloves. While in the ladies' room a female colleague notices that she has been staring at her reflection in the mirror for sometime.

COLLEAGUE

Hey, you ok?

DAVINA

Sure.

Davina nods her head and flashes her colleague a weak smile. Her colleague lowers her eyes on Davina's bruised arms and raises her eye-brows. Davina turns away and hurries off to avoid any confrontation. she walks out of the building and onto the street.

16. EXT. LOCAL VILLAGE AFTERNOON

After school, Trinity and her girlfriends Celena and Jazz walk through the village.

Trinity says goodbye to her friends and pulls out her phone. She goes to her 'Recent' calls list and calls Kale.

His phone rings until the it beeps and the line goes dead. She goes to the bus stop and waits for a local bus. She calls Kale again, but there is no answer. She decides to send him a What'sapp message which reads..."Holler back, suckerrrrrrr".

Trinity gets on a bus.

17. INT. DAVINA'S HOME LATE AFTERNOON

Davina arrives home and notices that Trinity is not there.

She goes into the girl's bedroom and sees remnants of booze and drugs, condom wrappers and adult-themed DVDs. She gasps in horror, covering her mouth with her hands.

Davina exits the bedroom and shuts the door. In tears she pours herself a glass of gin and retreats to her own bedroom where she pulls out a large box from her chest of drawers. She opens the box,takes out a chain with her husband's wedding ring and puts it around her neck.

She then pulls out a grey pinstripe suit which belonged to her husband, draws it to her chest and inhales deeply. She closes her eyes.

18. INT. BUS LATE AFTERNOON

On the bus, Calypso music is blasting through the loud speakers, mingled with animated conversations from locals and tourists.

Trinity is sandwiched between an older woman breastfeeding her baby and a Rastafarian man. She pulls out her compact

make-up kit and applies some blush and lip-gloss. She calls out to the driver.

TRINITY
Next stop, please!

Trinity gets off the bus, smoothes out her skirt and walks through a clean, well kept neighbourhood.

19. INT. DAVINA'S BEDROOM LATE AFTERNOON

DAVINA continues to go through Sebi's box. She flips through family photographs as if looking for one photo in particular. When she find it she stares deeply at the image with her, Sebi and Trinity in the middle- it was a happy moment. She smiles.

(CONT'D)
20. EXT. VILLAGE ROAD LATE AFTERNOON

Trinity walks briskly towards Kale's house, pausing just once to reapply her lip gloss. She gets catcalled by two grown men playing dominoes on the side of the street.

MAN 1
Psssst...Nice girl!

Trinity walks straight past and ignores the call. She pulls out her mobile phone and checks her messages.

MAN 2
Sexy! You look sweet, girl!

Walking away from the men, Trinity lifts her right hand, gives them the finger and continues on her way.

As she nears Kale's house, she sees his Yamaha motorbike parked outside. Across the street, she eyes a jet black Bentley Continental GT sports car. She walks towards the car and checks out her reflection in the glass, turning around once to get a peek of her butt. She smiles in approval and walks towards Kale's house.

21. INT. KALE'S HOUSE EARLY EVENING

Trinity climbs the stairs and knocks on the front door but there is no answer. She turns the door knob, pushes it open and goes inside.

She sees Kale's mobile phone and car keys are on the dining table- as well as an opened bottle of vodka and two shot glasses.

There's a pair of skinny jeans, tank top and stiletto heels

along with Kale's clothes in a pile on the floor, and sexy lingerie on the couch. Trinity stops dead in her tracks. Her eyes narrow and her mouth tightens.

She heads straight to Kale's bedroom and walks in on him making love to ANOTHER WOMAN. An older woman she doesn't recognize.

She freezes for a split second...then fishes her mobile phone out of her bag and takes a series of photos of Kale and his new lover.

The couple is too wrapped up into each other to notice her presence.

Trinity quickly backs off. On her way out she grabs Kale's motorcycle keys.

22. EXT. OUTSIDE KALE'S HOUSE EVENING

Trinity hops on the Yamaha FZI motorcycle, starts the ignition and rides off in a rage.

23. INT. KALE'S HOUSE EVENING

Kale and his lover jump away from each other, his lover covering her naked body with the bed sheets as they hear the rev of the motorcycle engine outside.

KALE

What the fuck!

Kale leaps off the bed and runs out of the bedroom to take a look outside. He sees that his motorcycle is gone and punches the door in a rage.

KALE (CONT'D)

Shit!

Kale waves his hand in pain.

24. INT. DAVINA'S BEDROOM EVENING

Davina quickly dabs her eyes and places Sebi's belongings back in his box and into the drawer at the sound of Trinity bursting into the house. Upon hearing the commotion, Davina walks into the living room.

25. INT. DAVINA'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM EVENING

Davina comes face to face with an enraged Trinity, tears of mascara leaving dark streaks under her eyes. She is shaking like a leaf.

Upon seeing her daughter, Davina's expression softens and she quickly rushes to her daughter's side.

But Trinity scurries away to get away from her mother. Trinity throws herself on the couch.

DAVINA

Trinity! Where have you been? What happened?

TRINITY

Don't you dare come all up in my face-

Trinity glares at her mother. She removes her shoes

DAVINA

What? I'm your mother-

Davina inches closer to her daughter and sits at the edge of the couch.

TRINITY

My mother? What do you care?
You're just as bad as Kale. Since
when do you give a rat's ass?
You're both pieces of shit!

Trinity spits in disgust.

DAVINA

Trinity, why are you so rude? I
never raised you that way!

Davina looks at her daughter squarely in the eyes. Trinity jumps off the couch and stands over her mother.

TRINITY

You never raised me, period. We
live in the same house, under the
same roof, but you never raised
me.

DAVINA

(Looking up at Trinity)
What are you talking about?

TRINITY

You never cared about me- you only
care about him.

Trinity furiously points at a framed photo of her father on the wall in the living room.

DAVINA

Now you know that's not true. You have no idea how hard it's been-

TRINITY

Oh, for fuck's sake! You have no idea how hard it's been... It's been fourteen years...and yet you can't accept that he's gone. Get over it!

Trinity turns around and gestures at the empty house.

DAVINA

Trinity- things have not been the same since your dad passed. You too have changed-

Trinity spins around, moves closer to her mother and gives her a hard slap in the face, sending her flying across the floor.

TRINITY

Before you start lecturing me about how I live my life, think about the way you waste away yours.

Trinity charges off into her bedroom.

26. INT.TRINITY'S BEDROOM EVENING

Once in her bedroom, Trinity throws herself onto her bed. She sobs into her pillow, then pulls out a photo of her father, and her mother, with her nestled in the middle (a replica of the one held by her mother earlier).

She stares at the photo and cries uncontrollably - tears streaming down her face onto the photo- her most cherished possession.

Davina walks in to see her daughter in a state- holding the same photo that she herself treasures most.

They make eye-contact with each other.

DAVINA

I'm so sorry, Trin.

Trinity's cell phone rings. She fishes it out of her bag and sees that it is Kale calling. Trinity throws the phone away from her while it continues to ring. Then in a rage,

she picks it up and throws it hard against her bedroom wall.

The phone is cracked but is still functional as Kale's voice can be heard on the other end of the line.

KALE

Hello? Hello? Trinity, are you
there? What de rass! Hello?...

Davina sits on the bed near her daughter and holds her close. As both women embrace each other they stare at the damaged phone. Davina raises her eyebrows at Trinity and her daughter leans over and switches the phone off. She smiles at her mother.

FADE OUT

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