

Darkened Room

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Characters

Frida: The main role in this play.

Frida's mother

A woman with no name: an artist.

Diego: Frida's ex-husband.

Scene 1

In Frida's place. There are three paintings in this place. They are all copies of

Frida Kahlo's. In the living room there are many books placed on the bookshelves.

(Frida is sitting inside her bedroom, where there are many CDs, and she seems to

be lost in thoughts. She keeps staring at one book of hers. The book is: **The Empty**

Room. After several minutes, she stands up to turn the radio on. It happens to be her favorite song: California Dreaming.

Frida looks up to the ceiling and sighs. Then she reaches for a cigarette on her

desk and the lighter. She lights it and then put the book down, and she stands up to

turn the radio off. The room is soon silent again.)

Frida then opens the window. She looks into the window of another apartment next to

hers. She sees a little girl and her parents sitting inside their kitchen, eating dinner, and singing songs.

Frida then looks for a certain CD and plays one of the songs. It's "In a Darkened

Room" from Skid Row. Then Frida puts out the light.)

Scene 2

In the late afternoon, Frida just steps into her place. She wears a black suit

and carries something unknown; then her cell phone rings. It is a call from her mother.

Mom: Oh, dear! It's getting colder. Remember to take care of yourself.

Frida: I know that Mom. Is everything fine with you and Dad?

Mom: Fine. Fine. Don't worry about us. Oh! Your Dad told me that you were

promoted. I want you to know I am so proud of you. We never need to worry

about you..... (Frida interrupts this conversation.)

Frida: (Hesitates for a while.) Mom....

Mom: What's wrong, dear?

Frida: No.....nothing. I think maybe I just need to take a rest..... Mom, I love you.

Mom: O.K. Bye, dear.

(Frida lays herself on the sofa with the unknown stuff. She closes her eyes and seems to be

frustrated. Then she gives a quick glimpse of that stuff: it's a sketch book.)

(Frida puts the sketch book on the sofa, stands up, and then walks slowly to the kitchen to

get herself something to drink.)

(She keeps sighing. About 5 minutes later, something seems to strike her. She comes to her

bedroom and looks at the same window of the apartment next to hers. But the light of her

eyes are dead. The same woman in negligee in the window is painting in water colors happily.

Frida keeps looking at her for a long time. The woman then stands up and disappears. Frida

scowls with curiosity.)

(The woman comes back with her husband. The woman points to her painting and asks her

husband about it. Then he gives her a big smile and nods his head. She gives him a sweet kiss

and a tight hug.)

(Frida closes the window, and she gets back to the living room and picks up the sketch book.

She places the book on a bookshelf. Again, she starts to smoke.)

Scene 3

In a bookstore near Frida's neighborhood.

(Frida is searching for something. She just finished her work from the office. She wears the same black suit. A man comes up to Frida and talks to her. It's Diego, her ex-husband.

Frida is very surprised.)

Diego: Um..... How've you been? (Not in ease.)

Frida: Oh, it's just.....well, all the same with me. And you?

Diego: I am quite okay. (Pause.) I am sorry that I hurt you like that. I mean, (Pause) I

am really sorry.

Frida: (She hesitates for a while and steps back a little.) Never mind. You don't need

to apologize, really. (Silence.) (Both of them seem to be embarrassed.)

Diego: What are you looking for? I think I might be able to help you since I have time

now...

Frida: (A quick glimpse to the bookshelf.) Edward Munch.....I am looking for a

book about him.

Diego: (He smiles tenderly.) So you still want to be an artist? You really love painting.

Frida: (Uncomfortably.) No, I am working now, in the office 3 blocks away.

(She gives him a semi-smile.)

(A few seconds later.)

Diego: By the way, I just moved to the building in this neighborhood. I think it might

be possible that I will run into you very often.

Frida: What? (Very surprised.)

Diego: You know, the only apartment in this little town: Bright Star.

Frida: I now live there, also. (She opens up her eyes.)

Diego: Oops! (Pause) (He looks at his watch and seems to be nervous.)

I need to go.....bye?

Frida: Oh, bye, then.....

(Diego leaves and Frida is there alone)