

MARGARITA

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Margarita wears a turtleneck underneath a denim dress with striped leggings. Her hair is pulled back in a headband. She clutches a piece of paper in her hand.

Sandy, now wearing a scarf around her head, gives Margarita a reassuring "thumbs up" from the minivan. Margarita gives her a "rock on" sign. Sandy motions to smile. Margarita forces a nervous smile.

INT. THE BEST HALLOWEEN STORE - CONTINUOUS

Every aisle is overflowing with HALLOWEEN PARAPHERNALIA. From somewhere down an aisle, she can hear a MAN'S VOICE giving instructions. She turns down an aisle to follow it.

She passes an ANIMATRONIC GHOUL. IT LIGHTS UP, giving a ROBOTIC CACKLE.

Margarita JUMPS. She points at it, laughing. She looks around to see if anyone else saw. Nope.

She continues on down the aisle, running her fingers romantically over the cheap decor.

She spots HANK, a small Indian man in a vest, walking quickly towards the back. Margarita runs after him.

Start ->

MARGARITA

Excuse me. Excuse me. Excuse--

His walkie RINGS.

HANK

(to the walkie)

Yeah, I'm on my way back now.

MARGARITA

EXCUSE ME.

Hank turns around, startled.

HANK

Uh...Can I help you?

MARGARITA

(playing casual)

Oh hey...I was wondering if maybeIcouldworkhere if you would let me?

HANK

What?

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She holds up her resume to him. He looks at it, then back to her, taking it.

HANK (CONT'D)
I...Sorry--did you email me an application?

MARGARITA
No.

BEAT.

HANK
Well, we request applicants fill out an online application off our website before coming in. ~~After reviewing it we can set up an interview from there.~~

His walkie RINGS again.

~~HANK (CONT'D)~~
~~(to the walkie)~~
~~Yeah, sorry I'm on my way.~~

He hands back her resume and turns to go.

~~HANK (CONT'D)~~
~~Just email me.~~

Margarita follows after him, trotting to keep up.

MARGARITA
Yeah, well, the thing is that I'm already here...so I figured we could just interview now.

Hank tries to shake her off, walking faster.

HANK
Well, I don't normally...that's not how I--Sorry, what's your name?

MARGARITA
Margarita.

HANK
Margarita?

MARGARITA
Yeah, like the drink. My mom and dad named me after it because they were super drunk on margaritas the night they conceived me.

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HANK

Oh...wow.

MARGARITA

I know, huh?

Hank looks back down at her resume, awkwardly.

HANK

Um, I really have to--

~~MARGARITA (O.S.)~~

~~-- Wait! Look at this!~~

~~Hank looks back up to see Margarita running back down the aisle.~~ She heads straight for a MOTHER and SON shopping.

MARGARITA (CONT'D)

Wait, wait! Did you guys see this one? Look.

Hank watches her as she pretends to "casually" stroll past the ANIMATRONIC GHOUL. It LIGHTS UP and CACKLES. She JUMPS. He listens as she talks excitedly at them.

MARGARITA (CONT'D)

AH! See? Isn't that great!? You could put it by your door and it could scare trick-or-treaters. I think I'm gonna buy one for my house. Look at its eyes! Did you see the eyes?

The Mother, LISA, laughs as her son DANNY excitedly pleads.

DANNY

Can we get it!?

~~Hank raises his walkie talkie, eyes still on Margarita.~~

~~HANK~~

~~Give me two minutes, Felix.~~

~~He approaches Margarita and the shoppers.~~ Margarita is walking past the ghoul yet again. It LIGHTS UP. She JUMPS, again.

MARGARITA

AH! It's so funny, right?

Danny is cracking up and playing along with her. He walks in front of the ghoul now, making it LIGHT UP and laughing.

END

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INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Margarita is slapping the dashboard repeatedly as she cries. Sandy tries to keep her temper in check.

SANDY

You lied to me. How *dare* you lie to me? WE. DON'T. LIE.

MARGARITA

I didn't lie! I asked you if I could ride a fake horse and you said yes!! Remember?! You said I could!!! I wanted to show you I could do something by myself. You NEVER LET ME. How am I supposed to make you proud of me if you won't even let me DO ANYTHING!!

SANDY

Margarita, God...I was proud of you. You had a job--

MARGARITA

--I don't want a job!!!

SANDY

--No one does! That's life! That's part of growing up. That's what being an adult is--

MARGARITA

You always say I need to be responsible and I was trying to be and you won't even LET ME! You don't let me do **anything** I love. You never want me to be happy!

SANDY

All I EVER do is try to make you happy. MY WHOLE LIFE revolves around making sure you're happy.

MARGARITA

But you won't let me ride horses or do hobby-horsing with my friends!

SANDY

Those girls are not your friends.

MARGARITA

(yelling)
Yes they are!

(MORE)

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MARGARITA (CONT'D)

You're just jealous because you don't want me to have friends because YOU don't have any friends and you're all alone since Dad died! You only want me to be at home with you all day so you can keep me to yourself but people actually LIKE ME and you know it!

Sandy turns down the dark road sharply. She shakes her head.

SANDY

I *do* know that. But you need to understand that you're gonna get older and things are gonna get harder...And people leave you when things get hard. And then you only have yourself and your family--if you're lucky.

The car makes another SHARP turn down the road.

SANDY (CONT'D)

And when you look back at the end of your life...I just don't want you to regret--

Sandy shakes this off. She collects herself.

SANDY (CONT'D)

I just want to know you're gonna be okay. Despite everything...that you're gonna be okay.

Sandy pulls off to the side of the road. She throws the car into park, and bursts into sobs.

Margarita looks at her Mom in horror. She's never seen her like this. She reaches out to rub her shoulder.

MARGARITA

Mom. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. It's gonna be okay. I'm sorry.

We hold on the two for a long time.

EXT. HALLOWEEN STORE - A MONTH LATER

DEAD LEAVES blow across the sidewalk.

Hank hangs up a LARGE SIGN on the front of the store that reads: "AFTER HALLOWEEN SALE! EVERYTHING MUST GO!"