

'Teresa' Sides Sc. 2

1/3

INT. THE VAULT BAR - EVENING - NEXT DAY

Crowded. Teresa stands next to NOLAN BRENNER, 30s, a handsome, brooding lawyer. She signals the bartender.

START →

TERESA

Can I get a Laphroaig, neat?

NOLAN

Never met a girl who likes Laphroaig.

TERESA

You're not meeting the right girls.
(eyeing his drink)
Bourbon?

NOLAN

With salt.

TERESA

Sounds disgusting.

NOLAN

(offering her his drink)
Taste it.

As Teresa takes a slow sip.

TERESA

Uy, this is like a white man's margarita.

NOLAN

My dad turned me on to it when I was thirteen. I think he thought it would keep me from drinking.
(signaling, another round)
And it worked.

TERESA

So you're close with your dad?

NOLAN

Nope. You gotta give some to get some. Your turn.

TERESA

I'm a Gemini.

NOLAN

Uh-uh. Something real.

CONT →

TERESA

'Teresa' Sides Sc. 2

2.

2/3

TERESA

Real...

(thinks)

I hate Christmas.

NOLAN

Damn. What did Santa do to you?

TERESA

It's what he didn't do. I was ten, and my family was living in a shelter. So December rolls around and volunteers tell us to make our gift list. My baby sister asked for a pony, but all I wanted was an American Girl doll -- the California one with the surf board.

NOLAN

So what happened?

TERESA

Cut to Christmas morning. The volunteers are handing out gifts but instead of "Kailey," I get a secondhand jewelry-making kit with broken beads and no string.

NOLAN

That's messed-up.

TERESA

Right? So, I found some dental floss and glitter glue. Stayed up making bracelets that I sold for three dollars each.

NOLAN

And you bought yourself the doll?

TERESA

Hell, no. I got my parents to help me sell the bracelets and year later we were off the streets.

Nolan watches her admiringly as she sips her drink.

NOLAN

'Guess you schooled Santa.

TERESA

No, he schooled me. I realized no one was gonna give me anything unless I got it for myself.

CONT→

TERESA

'TERESA' SIDES Sc. 2

3.

3/3

NOLAN

That's an impressive story.

TERESA

You sure? 'Cause you didn't seem to think so when I wrote it in my application for the summer associate program.

(off his surprised look)

So, are you really impressed? Or are you just impressed 'cause you're staring at my tits?

Teresa pulls up the rejection letter on her phone and shows it to Nolan.

TERESA (CONT'D)

Your rejection e-mail said I was one of the top finalists at your law firm.

(off his look)

I'm Teresa Chavez.

← END

TERESA