

MATEO

6

CONTINUED: (2)

RAY

It doesn't matter. Be happy. I know y'all aren't close, but she's your sister.

LOLA

Half-sister. And I don't want her around Aman -- he needs stability while he adjusts to his new life. Hurricane Remy blows into town, she's liable to have him slinging coles by the end of the month.

RAY

I'm asking you to give her a chance. She got clean while she was away --

STELLA

I want to believe that, Ray. Truly. But she's burned us so many times in the past when we've trusted her --

Ray's gaze turns hard.

RAY

This isn't up for debate. Neither of you visited her in prison. I wasn't happy about that, but I let it slide. So give her a break. Set an example for Aman --

Ray turns to the table -- Aman is gone. Napkins are folded. But the table is otherwise empty.

RAY (CONT'D)

Where are the banana peels?

Lola takes a beat... then sprints toward the bathrooms.

LOLA

No, Aman -- don't flush those!

7

EXT. TEXAS WOMEN'S PRISON - DAY (D2)

REMY'S FACE, turned up to the sun. Breathing in freedom.

Start →

MATEO (O.S.)

So, what... now you want to get arrested for loitering?

Remy opens her eyes. Smiles at her beloved Mateo.

REMY

I was fixing to start turning tricks to get a ride home.

(CONTINUED)

1/8

7 CONTINUED:

An emotional embrace. They're so close in age, they've always felt more like twins than half-siblings.

REMY (CONT'D)
I've missed you, Teo.

MATEO
Me, too.
(Remy doesn't let go)
Damn, girl, you know I love you, but you've got to wash that prison stank off when we get home.

Remy LAUGHS. And we TIME CUT to --

8 INT. MATEO'S CAR - DRIVING - DAY (D2)

Mateo at the wheel. Remy looks him over.

REMY
You look good for two days out from a wedding. How's Finn?

MATEO
In gay heaven. He's redecorated the guest room for you. Twice. We're in the middle of a little renovation --

REMY
I can live somewhere else.

MATEO
Please. I'm marrying an only child with no parents -- his dream is to have a house full of family.

REMY
I'm sorry y'all can't get married in Texas. This state needs to get its head out of its ass when it comes to same-sex marriage.

MATEO
We'll still have the commitment ceremony and reception at Mix. And Oklahoma City is a fine place to make things legal.

REMY
You should get double frequent-flier miles for that.

MATEO
A pair of those stick-on wings at least.

(CONTINUED)

2/8

8 CONTINUED:

Remy stares out the window, her mind racing, then --

REMY

How bad is it gonna be at home?

Mateo gives Remy a sympathetic look.

MATEO

You've done your time. Lola and Stella can't ask for anything more.

REMY

We both know that's not true. Lord knows I've given them cause. Stella's right to be pissed that I left a bar rag next to an open flame and scored while Mix caught on fire.

MATEO

That's ancient history. She's past it -- she's your mother.

REMY

Stepmother. Nicole's my mother, even if she sucks at it.

An open wound. Mateo proceeds carefully.

MATEO

So... you never heard from her while you were gone.

REMY

Haven't heard from her in years.

A fact which clearly pains Remy, although she wishes it didn't. Mateo takes her hand. She smiles.

REMY (CONT'D)

I wouldn't have gotten through this without you. All the visits, care packages... You're a good brother.

MATEO

It helps I'm the only one you have.

Remy holds on tight, as we TIME CUT TO --

9 EXT. MIX - DAY (D2)

Remy and Mateo pull up. Remy sits, frozen.

MATEO

Ready?

(CONTINUED)

land
3/8

39 CONTINUED:

START →
2

MATEO

Wasn't Jane supposed to get back to us today with tile samples?

FINN

She came over this afternoon. She'll be back next week with a revised design for a deck and a nursery.

Mateo looks up, thrown.

MATEO

Wait... what?

FINN

The back of the house is already being gutted. And we've talked about making those additions.

MATEO

At some point, not now. We're not ready for a baby --

FINN

Of course we won't get the baby right away. But you always leave the design decisions to me.

Mateo can't ignore the knot in his stomach anymore.

MATEO

No, I don't -- you just make them. I wanted white tablecloths and now we're having red.

And now it's Finn's turn to be annoyed.

FINN

Sweetie, I'm sorry. I'm sure your parents can track down white tablecloths. And Jane isn't building anything, she's just drawing. I didn't think this was a big deal.

MATEO

Of course not -- this is nothing compared to lying about your parents.

FINN

Wow... okay, I was hoping we'd moved past that. But if we're not done talking about it --

(CONTINUED)

4/8

39 CONTINUED: (2)

MATEO

That's the problem, we're not talking about any of it.

FINN

Any of what?

MATEO

I don't know what -- I don't know what else you're not telling me.

FINN

Come on, Mateo. I made a mistake. I apologized. What else can I do? How long before you let me up?

MATEO

The keys to a successful marriage are compromise and communication. We're not doing either. Maybe I could've helped patch things up with your parents. Maybe I don't want a deck, maybe I want a pool --

FINN

Okay, that's fine --

MATEO

But it's not. Because these are huge decisions, and you're making them without me. I don't know, Finn -- maybe we're just not ready.

FINN

For the redesign, or the marriage?

As they stare at each other, equal parts angry and scared --

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

/end

5/8

50 INT. MIX - DINING ROOM - NIGHT - LATER (N4)

All the guests are gone. Lola and Mateo straighten up. Remy enters, a bit disheveled. Pointedly ignores Lola. Helps Mateo stack chairs on tables.

START →
3

REMY

James said to wish you a happy... whatever this has been.

Mateo looks at her. Something's different... he smiles, realizing. Nods at her dress --

MATEO

Missed a button there, Rems.

Remy smiles, busted. Off Mateo's teasing look --

REMY

What? I used a condom. We need a refill in the ladies room, by the way.

Lola flicks a quick glance at Remy, looks back down. Remy catches it.

REMY (CONT'D)

Hey, you don't get to judge me anymore, not after what you did.

LOLA

[REDACTED]
(head [REDACTED])
[REDACTED] I know it
was [REDACTED] it up to you

REMY

[REDACTED]
back there [REDACTED]

LOLA

I'm trying here, Remy.

REMY

And when I tried apologizing to you, you shut me down --

MATEO

Okay, enough! ENOUGH! I'm sick to death of listening to y'all bitch at each other!

Mateo's uncharacteristic outburst silences his sisters.

(CONTINUED)

4/8

50 CONTINUED:

MATEO (CONT'D)

Lola, what you did to Remy -- she's entitled to be pissed for awhile. A long while. But Remy, nobody forced you to do coke. And for the first time in who knows how long, you're clean -- that might not have happened without getting locked up. So please, both of you, do me a favor -- suck it up, quit keeping score, and leave the past in the past. Everybody keeps secrets, and everybody makes mistakes. Sooner or later you gotta cut the people in your life some slack, right?

And suddenly Mateo stops, as what he's saying sinks in -- pot, meet kettle.

MATEO (CONT'D)

(realizing)

I've gotta go.

Mateo exits. Remy and Lola are silent a beat. Then --

REMY

An hour ago I wanted to pick up something heavy and dent those perfect cheekbones of yours. But now... I'd kinda like to smack him.

LOLA

I've got a tire iron in my car.

Remy can't help but smile. Lola does, too. Then --

LOLA (CONT'D)

I really didn't think you'd go to prison.

Remy nods. Angry as she's been, she has a lot to atone for.

REMY

The way things were going, I probably would've ended up there anyway.

A momentary truce. Maybe there's hope for them yet. Then --

REMY (CONT'D)

Is he gonna be okay without Finn?

LOLA

I don't know.

And off their shared concern for their brother --

/end

7/8

51 INT. MATEO'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT (N4)

Finn packs his things, distraught. Zips his bag, turns --

MATEO stands in the doorway. Finn is too raw to deal with this now. He heads for the door.

START →
1

FINN

I'll get the rest of my stuff later.

MATEO

That won't work for me.

FINN

Well, next time you want to ruin my life, give me a couple more hours to get out of your hair --

MATEO

There's not gonna be a next time. We're getting married.

Finn stares at him, speechless.

MATEO (CONT'D)

I am so, so sorry for the way I've behaved. Keeping your parents a secret from me... it was crazy. But I've always known you were crazy --

FINN

This is a really confusing apology.

Mateo smiles.

MATEO

You're crazy, Finn. So am I. We come from crazy, messy, complicated families that lie and cheat and break each other's hearts. But we can change that. We can choose our own kind of crazy. You want red tablecloths? We'll cover every surface in the house with them. We'll design a deck that spans the entire backyard. We'll build TWO nurseries -- hell, three if you want -- I don't care. The only thing that matters to me is having a crazy, messy, incredible life with you. 'Til death do us part. We've got to at least try. C'mon... take a chance. Marry me.

Off Finn, no idea how to respond --

lend

8/2