

ESCAPE:
Heart Condition

written by

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EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

Matt and Ronald are both dead on the ground.

Martha is kneeling down over Matt crying.

Raymond is in shock with tears rolling down his face.

1 WEEK EARLIER

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Matt is looking in his closet holding the door open.

He walks over to his bed and finish writing on a paper.

He folds up the paper, opens the draw and puts the paper there.

1 WEEK LATER

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Martha dressed in all black walks into Matt's room.

She walks around touching things in his room with tears rolling down her face.

She walks towards the dresser, looks at his picture, pick it up as tears begin to flow down her face, She puts the picture back down, sits on the bed and opens the dresser drawer. She sees a note, grabs it, open it and begins to read it.

PRESENT DAY

INT. LIVING ROOM -DAY

RONALD, a 42 year old man in boxers is sitting on the couch rolling up a joint while his girlfriend MARTHA, who is 37 year old wearing all green is sitting on the couch counting money. MARTHA's son, MATT who is a 18 year old wearing t-shirt and short pants enters the living room.

MATT

(Loud)

Ron, why you always in my mama crib rolling up a joint and smoking?! Don't you have anything else better to do...like work??

Ronald looks at Matt with a disturbed look taking a puff of his joint.

RONALD
(Sarcastically)
Boy...if you don't walk outta this room in the next five seconds ima put some work on that face of yours.

Matt shakes his head. He looks at his mom while she is still on the couch counting money.

MATT
Ma, you gone sit here and let dude talk to me like this? You gone sit here and let this punk just smoke up the whole house knowing I have heart problems.

MARTHA
Boy stop bothering me, Can't you see I'm busy.

Matt stands there in disbelief. Enters Matt's brother RAYMOND who is 14 years old looking as if he just woke up.

RAYMOND
Mom? What's all the fuss about?
Y'all messing up my sleep.

MARTHA
Yo brother here want to come start stuff with your step daddy and he had to be put in his place.

Martha gets up and walks towards Raymond and hug him.

MARTHA CONT'D
Sorry for messing up yo sleep baby.
Go back in your room and I'll tell your brother to keep it down.

RAYMOND
It's okay I will stay in here for a little.

Raymond looks at Matt and give a sarcastic smile. Matt shakes his head.

MATT
(angry)
I'm sick of this crap. Ima show
y'all one day. Just wait!

Matt walks towards the front door, walks out and slams it behind him.

Matt looks towards the door with a disturbed look.

MARTHA
(loud)
Stop slamming my damn door!

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Matt walks to his car furious. He slams his fist on the hood of the car. He gets inside the car.

INT. CAR - DAY

He starts his car and pulls off and starts driving. Suddenly he stops the car, turns off the ignition, and covers his mouth with his hands to cough.

He looks at his hands and started to break down crying looking at the blood on his palms.

He pulled himself together, started his car, and drove off

FEW HOURS LATER

EXT. DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Matt pulls back into the driveway with the windows down. He gets out the car furious. upset

He walks to the door, opens it and goes inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM -NIGHT

As Matt walks thru the living room, He starts choking on the smoke he inhales. He places his hand on his chest and leans on the wall as he try to catch his balance.

EXT. PATIO -NIGHT

As Matt opens the PATIO door, he sees Martha, Raymond and Ronald sitting in the chairs smoking. He walks towards them.

MARTHA

(angry)

Really! Ma are you seriously doing this right now.

He reaches over and snatches the joint out of her hand, throws it on the ground and steps on it.

MATT

Y'all out her smoking like I don't live here or something! And Ma, you don't even smoke. Ever since you got with this nigga you changed.

RONALD

Boy shut the hell up with all that (**hands Martha his Joint**). I'm sick of you always whining about something...especially yo heart problem. If it is such a big deal then get the hell out cause I aint going nowhere.

MATT

What is it going to take for you guys to understand that this stuff is making me sicker (*coughs*). Ma, ever since Ron moved in here, you just been under him and letting him treat me any kind of way (**Martha side eyes him**). He has you smoking, you don't care about me anymore and what I am going thru. It's like you enjoy watching me die slowly. And Ray, I'm just trying to do the older brother duty and make sure you don't end up like me.

Martha stands up and claps slowly with the joint in her mouth.

MARTHA

(sarcastically)

Awww. So touching son...NOT! Stop crying so much and just go to your room you won't smell it.

MATT

Well, my room would be okay if y'all shit didn't have a strong ass odor.

RONALD

Boy stop talking to yo mama like you ain't got no damn sense and get out!

MATT

Man I am sick of you talking to me like this.

RAYMOND

Y'all, this is getting out of hand.

MATT

Being around all that smoke is what caused my heart problems. I am trying to make sure my little brother don't go thru what I am going thru. The only reason I am probably still alive is because of dad. Before he died he made an effort to keep me from around it. He eventually got mom to stop smoking. But since he died she changed, especially when she started dating Ron.

Raymond looks at Matt with a shocking look. He turns to his mom.

RAYMOND

Mom, is that true?

Martha pulls the blunt from her mouth and looks at Raymond.

MARTHA

Boy no it's not true. Your brother just want some attention.

MATT

(Angry)

A heart condition is nothing to play with man. It's nothing to seek attention about. It took a lot of things I wanted to do away from me.

RONALD

Who cares what you say anyways. Yo daddy is dead, stop bringing up the past. Nobody cares about your issue and what yo daddy did but you.

MATT

(Furious)

Man I am Sick of you.

Ronald stands up. Matt pushes everything off the table and charges towards Ron. The two start to fight. Martha and Raymond jumps up trying to pull them two apart. Martha grabs Ronald. Raymond grabs Matt. Martha looks at Matt

MARTHA

(mad)

Boy what is wrong with you!

MATT

(furious, crying)

This nigga won't even exist if my daddy was here! Ma, you don't remember how everything was so peaceful back then. Daddy made sure that I was good. Ever since he died and you allowed this no good man inside the house you lost yourself ma. You don't even care about me anymore. Hell, you probably don't even care about Raymond because if you did none of this will be happening!

MARTHA

Boy stop crying so much. And I don't want to remember the past. And you right, I don't care about you.

MATT

Fine you don't have to.

Matt walks back into the house while Martha is still holding onto Ronald and he is looking angry. Raymond is standing there in shock.

RAYMOND

Matt don't go!

RONALD

Forget him. Let him go. Now let go of me. Raymond you stay yo ass right there.

Ronald snatches away from Martha.

INT. MATT'S ROOM -NIGHT

Matt walks into his room and closes the door. He walks to his closet and grabs the BOX.. He opens it and pulls out a gun.

He reaches in his pocket and pulls out the packet of bullets he bought from the store earlier and loads the gun. He tucks the gun in his pants and walks out the room.

INT. NIGHT - LIVING ROOM

Matt walks into the living room. He stands there for a brief second before he walks to the Patio door. He walks outside with everyone sitting there smoking.

EXT. PATIO -NIGHT

MARTHA
you back boy! Whatcha want now?

RONALD
I'm tied of seeing you boy.

Matt looks at his mom with tears. He looks at everyone. He pulls out the gun and points it to Ronald.

MARTHA
(screaming)
MATT!!! NOOOOOOOOOOO!

Matt pulls the trigger two times hitting Ronald in the chest which causes him to fall to the ground with blood pouring from his chest. Raymond and Martha gets up screaming as Martha run to Ronald. Matt turns the gun and point it to his head crying and looking at his mom.

Raymond tries to stop Matt from doing the unthinkable.

RAYMOND
(crying)
Matt, come on man you don't have to do this. I love you. I look up to you. I understand you. Dad wouldn't want you to do this.

MATT
(softly)
Sorry Ray.I just want to escape this pain.

Matt pulls the trigger and falls to the ground with blood pouring everywhere. Martha runs towards Matt's body crying and kneels down over him. Ray stands in shock with tears rolling down his face.

MARTHA
(sobbing)
Call 911

Raymond pulls out his cellphone and dials 911. He places the phone to his ear.

911 OPERATOR
911, what's your emergency.

FADES TO BLACK.

1 WEEK LATER

INT. MATT'S BEDROOM - DAY

Martha, dressed in all black walks inside Matt's room. She walks around touching his things. She walks towards the dresser, looks at his picture, pick it up as tears begin to flow down her face. She puts the picture back down, sits on the bed and open the dresser draw. She sees a note, grabs it, open it and begins to read it.

MARTHA
(reading note)
Mom I want you to know despite everything I love you. Even though you have been putting Ron before me you are still my mom. Now what I'm about to do, is make everything better for you. You don't have to deal with me or my heart condition any longer.

MATT
(voiceover)
Just know all I wanted was for you to understand me and how I felt. All I wanted was for my mom to be there for me and you wasn't. I was hurting, it was making me sicker. Words can't express the pain you was causing me. Mom I love you and sorry for doing this.

Martha stares at the letter as tears continue to roll down her face. She looks up as Raymond walks in the room.

RAYMOND
Mom, are you okay.

MARTHA
Trying to be...I love you, okay.

RAYMOND

I love you too, mom.

Raymond sits on the bed. He and Martha looks at each other.
Martha puts her arms around Raymond.

MARTHA

I love you.

FADES TO BLACK.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tieshia is on screen.