

House of Rules Monologue- Renee

written by

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INT. BASEMENT - MIDDAY

Walks over to Renee, as she's sitting alone. Renee is listening to music via her cassette player, looking out the window.

DAWN

Renee... I know you're quiet, but you ain't come over to talk to any of us since we got here. What's wrong?

RENEE

Nothing.

Dawn tilts head forward at Renee and inches a little closer.

DAWN

Renee...

Renee looks up and stares. Pause.

RENEE

You remember Ryan?

(pause)

Ryan... That used to hang with us. All of us. When we were kids. Sawyer used to make fun of his cleft lip.

DAWN

Oh shit, yeah! White kid from down the block! His momma was a basehead.

(pause)

Sad they never found out what happened to him, or his body.

RENEE

Yeah.

DAWN

I think his momma sold him for crack. OR she killed him. Everyone said she did it.

Renee pauses.

RENEE

You know... I think about that night he disappeared.

(pause)

But I can never remember what happened. We woke up and he was... gone.

(MORE)

RENEE (CONT'D)

(pause)

That wasn't like him though. He never left the sleepover abruptly. He would've at least woken June up.

DAWN

Geez, we probably will never know what made him leave.

(pause)

But you been sitting like this for over an hour! What brought all of this on?

RENEE

Do you ever have dreams... about that night?

(pause)

Not like dreams, but nightmares?

Dawn looks up at the ceiling.

DAWN

Well, no? I didn't remember fifteen years ago and I don't remember now. What I do remember is June's momma making us all those Piña coladas.

Pause.

RENEE

Sometimes... I have these nightmares... as if I'm remembering that night.

(pause, then whisper)

And they feel so real.

DAWN

What happens?

Renee looks up at Dawn and there's a long pause.

RENEE

It's like I'm running away... from something. But I don't know why, or for what. But I'm in June's house and I'm running. And then someone comes up from behind and I turn just in time to see a knife in the air. It's like Jason!

(pause)

and then BANG..

(pause)

I shoot them. And I've never even shot a gun! Then I see Ryan's face and he's... he's shot.

DAWN

Jesus, what the hell did you do to Ryan that he's still hanging around fifteen years later?

RENEE

Nothing, forget I mentioned it.

Dawn sits down next to Renee.

DAWN

Dude, wait. Look, I'm sorry. I'm just trying to lighten the mood, I hate seeing you down like this.

Renee looks at Dawn.

RENEE

The dream, it feels real.

DAWN

It's normal for dreams and nightmares to feel real. I had the flu for four days and I couldn't tell my fever dreams apart from real life. Huge doozy.

RENEE

I've had that same dream for years now.

(pause)

But today always feels heavier.

DAWN

Dreams will do that, but it's not like you killed Ryan. Look, the sad truth is we may never know what happened to him. But you gotta find peace for you and let go of something that took place 15 years ago. Was it traumatic as FUCK? Yes. But Ryan also had a rough home-life. All we can do is continue on, in his honor.

Pause.

RENEE

But don't you find it weird that we have no memory of that night?

DAWN

I remember them Piña Coladas! And that's what you need.

(MORE)

DAWN (CONT'D)

With a double shot of rum. Forget
all this! You're making me sad..
come on, I'll make you a drink.

RENEE

Okay. No rum though. I hate
alcohol, it makes me gag.

DAWN

You're 23 Renee, grow up please.

Dawn grabs Renee's hand and they head to the bar on the other
side of the basement.

FADE OUT.