

Waiting For Forgiveness - YTS4-87

Character: Nora Clementine

Age: 27-35

Description: The eldest sister out of 5 siblings. Visits home after being gone for 5 years with someone who she'd like to do life with. She wears her heart on her sleeves, but will set you straight if crossed. Nora's return, incites a traditional family dinner where abuela and mother argue before they even reach to dessert. The generational trauma unfolds in front of everyone, especially Nora, leaving her no other choice, but to say what's on her mind.

INT. FAMILY DINNER ROOM - NIGHT

NORA CLEMENTINE

Sometimes I wonder, how mom was as a child. Was she carefree, kind, nervous, shy? Did she create imaginary friends or made weird sounds to entertain herself?

Everyone stares at Nora confused by her outburst except her mother

NORA CLEMENTINE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

I think about how mom was at the age of 9, age of 15, 22, 30. I've spent a lot of time away from home thinking about HER life. It may seem silly, because I could just ask "hey mom, tell me about your life?" and she would probably tell me about all her adventures, lessons, heartbreaks, and cooking recipes but something she would probably never mention is you, abuela.

(beat)

Mom will never get an apology. It's refreshing to see her live her life without it, almost like she doesn't need one. An apology would let her

(MORE)

NORA CLEMENTINE (CONT'D)  
 breathe better. An apology would  
 let her sleep better. An apology  
 would remind her that you're not a  
 God, but merely human or did you  
 forget? That you're human, abuela?  
 (beat)  
 Una mano lava la otra, y las dos  
 lavan la cara, remember abuela,  
 you'd tell me this when I did not  
 want to help mom with chores.  
 You'd say "family helps family",  
 she needed your support when dad  
 left.

Nora's truthfulness leaves everyone looking around  
 uncomfortably except for her maternal graces that stare at  
 her

NORA CLEMENTINE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)  
 I offered my 12 year old shoulder  
 for mom to cry on. I held her and  
 rubbed her back every night. The  
 pain of a broken heart seeped  
 through her body onto mine, while  
 all my siblings slept soundly. Have  
 you ever told her that you love her  
 or are proud of her? Have you ever  
 thought that maybe she was saving  
 herself and her kids from a  
 loveless marriage?

Nora raises her glass and stares at everyone to raise theirs

NORA CLEMENTINE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)  
 A toast! Mom, you did your best.  
 Grandma, do better. As usual, I've  
 had a terrible time, I'm starving,  
 and I'm crying.

Nora chugs her drink, steps away from the table, looks at her  
 partner with the universal 'lets go' look but has one last  
 thing to say

NORA CLEMENTINE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)  
 AH, mail me my piece of flan,  
 thanks.