

FORGIVEN

Written by

David Thompson

8001B Archibald Ave, #4720  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
323-510-6314  
Realityunleashed.com  
realityisunlimited@gmail.com

EXT. TRACT HOME

Seen through a glass door, an anxious teenager, NIKKI, paces back and forth. She stops, looks out, then pulls the blinds closed.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

The room is dark. There is cutesy RING TONE. She looks down at her cell phone.

DING! New Message appears: "After what you told me, I don't think this is going to work."

NIKKI

What!

She peers closely at her cell then begins to pace back and forth, breathing deeply, she is almost in tears.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

What! I don't believe this shit!  
He's breaking up with me, in a  
text!

She walks pass plants, the closed patio curtains, and bookshelves. She spins around and starts again.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Hell of a freaking no!

She stops and plops herself into an overstuffed chair and hyperventilates.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

I knew he was going to do this,  
this kind of shit. I knew it. I  
knew it. I should have never told  
him. NEVER!

Items on the bookshelf stare at her. Behind them are spiritual and psychological books.

SERIES OF SHOTS

A BIG BIRD toy with wheels.

A ceramic BUNNY.

A crystal bust of JESUS.

A crystal ANGEL.

LIVING ROOM

She looks at the bunny.

It glares back at her.

She looks into its eyes.

NIKKI

What are you fucking looking at?  
You think I'm stupid? Do you?

BUNNY (V.O.)

Bunnies don't talk. Why don't you  
ask Jesus or the Angel?

NIKKI

Smart ass! Shut the freak up.

CUTESY RING TONE. Nikki looks down at the phone.

PHONE - VIDEO CALL

Her MOTHER, an excited, middle aged woman, burst onto the screen.

MOTHER

Nikki, I'm doing some shopping--

NIKKI

Mom, you're always doing some  
shopping. You should stay home  
sometime.

Her mother frowns up.

MOTHER

Nik, are you okay?

Nikki shakes her head.

NIKKI

Mom, I hate when you call me that.  
And you always call me that.

Nikki sighs.

You should know how I am.

Nikki's mother smirks, looks away, then looks back.

MOTHER

You should know how I am, I'll be  
there a little later.

She quints, intently looking at Nikki.

MOTHER (CONT'D)  
Did you take your medication?

NIKKI  
Maybe you should come home now.

MOTHER  
Hunh?

Nikki glances up at the Angel,  
it glares back. Nikki pokes her lips out.

NIKKI  
I'm okay, boyfriend problems, see  
you later.

Her mother starts to speak, before she can finish Nikki ends  
the call.

She looks up. Big Bird, Bunny, and the Angel have turned  
around, their backs to her. Jesus still faces her.

NIKKI (CONT'D)  
That's fucking better! Stay in your  
place!

She glares at crystal Jesus.

NIKKI (CONT'D)  
What about you?

Expressionless, Crystal Jesus looks back.

NIKKI (CONT'D)  
Whatever.

Nikki presses contact "Brandon". VOICE MAIL RECORDING  
answers.

VOICE MAIL RECORDING (V.O.)  
I'm sorry but the person you have  
dialed has a voice mail that has  
not been set up--

Nikki grunts a "GRRRRRRRR" She taps "end call." She looks up  
at the PLANT.

The plant gently sways.

NIKKI  
What? You got something to say now?

The plant whispers.

PLANT (V.O.)

No.

Nikki confronts the plant. She intently stares at it.

NIKKI

Hunh? What?

The plant abruptly stops swinging.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

That what I thought. Stay in your place. I'll get back with you later.

As soon as Nikki turns, the plant returns to swing. Nikki begins pacing back and forth again. The CLIP CLOP of her heels increases to a loud ECHO.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

What am I supposed to do now? What am I supposed to do?

She stops in mid-stride and looks at Big Bird.

Big birds big eyes stare back at her.

She drops to the floor in a heap, closes her eyes, and heaves breaths.

There is a CRASH.

Nikki opens her eyes and looks up to see Big Bird rolling up to her face. Her eyes get big. She slaps him away, he stares at her.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Now you want to be here for me?

He SCREECHES to a roll and crashes against the wall.

Her texts displays on the phone.

NIKKI (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I love you. It was only a kiss! He kissed me, I didn't even kiss him back!

DING. A new message appears: "Kissing is like sex with your mouth. You are a cunt kissing lip licking whore!"

Nikki drags herself up to look at Jesus and the Angel.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Was what I did really that bad? Was it?

JESUS

Your signs are forgiven.

NIKKI

Did I sin? Are you saying that was a sin? Is he right, I'm a whore?

JESUS

No, it was a kiss. Sometimes the one who gives the kiss is the guilty one.

NIKKI

Then he should forgive me, right? Right?

JESUS

I forgive you.

Bunny, Big Bird, and Angel glare at her. Nikki begins pacing again. Abruptly stopping, she points at the Angel like he is on trial.

NIKKI

You! What do you have to say?

ANGEL

To err is human; to forgive, divine.

Nikki tilts her head

NIKKI

You don't have anything original?

ANGEL

That quote is timeless.

Nikki sighs a deep breath and returns to pacing.

NIKKI

Freaking men don't forgive or forget shit. They want your forgiveness when they do shit, but be damned if you can squeeze a drop out of them when it's turned around.

She reopens the curtains. The bright light illuminates her tear streaked face. A surreal glow envelops her.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A dim lamp light displays a pale Nikki sprawled on her back in bed. Her eyeballs roll back showing the white; she takes a deep breath, exhales, but does not inhale.

Her arm hangs over the edge.

Below her hand is an empty pill bottle with pills strewn around.

In her other hand, next to her face, is her cell phone.

The last text sent FROM Nikki at 10:45 displays:

"I love you! I didn't mean to hurt you. You were my life."

DING. A new message appears, received at 1100:

"I love you too. I am sorry, I just got angry. I just needed some time. Thinking about someone kissing your sweet lips made me crazy."

Her lips are dry, pale, and lifeless.

DING. A new message appears, received at 1101:

"I've been the whore. You've forgiven me so many times. Will you forgive me now?"

DING. New Message: "Hello?"

DING. New Message: "Hey baby, don't be like that."

DING. New Message: "You going to make me come over and beg???"

EXT. FIRE STATION - NIGHT

Sirens and emergency vehicles exit.

The NARRATOR, A wise old sage, speaks.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

For Nikki, forgiveness came a fraction too late. The cost of unforgiveness having already been paid.

EXT. MALL - DAY

People walk into a retail store.

INT. MALL - DAY

Manicured nails nervously tap the icon for Nikki.

MOTHER (V.O.)

Damn teenagers. She'll be the death  
of me! Sometimes I wish she were  
never born!

The phone goes to voice mail.

NIKKI (V.O.)

Hey, It's Nikki! I'm not available!  
Or am I? And just want to talk to  
you!

Finger pushes "End call."

FADE OUT.