

Parental Control: Series 1

"DAMAGE CONTROL"

Episode 106

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FADE IN:

"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

Proverbs 27:17 KJV

TITLE CARD:

"Parental Control"

INT. SHARON'S BEDROOM - DAY (1)

Shay, sitting up on the bed, eyes Stacey in front of her.

SHAY

Her boyfriend got me pregnant.

STACEY

Are you serious?

SHAY

Yes! That's why she's acting crazy. She must have just found out.

STACEY

Oh my. I cannot believe this.

SHAY

Can you go and get rid of her please. I'm not a fighter.

STACEY

I can't promise that she won't run me over and come in here and get you.

SHAY

Can you please go and get rid of her please? Our deal, remember?

STACEY

Okay, I'll be back.

Stacey walks out of the room.

EXT. SHARON'S HOME - FRONT DOOR - DAY (2)

TINA SCOTT (19), female, tall, intimidating, wearing hoop earrings, stands over the front door. Banging hard.

TINA

Shay! --Shay! I know you in there!
Come out here! Now!

Stacey pulls open the door wide. Looks up. Her face strongly disgruntled, unafraid. Tina raises an eyebrow.

STACEY

Can you please stop banging on the door! Who are you and what do you want!?

TINA

I'm looking for Shay. Where is she?!

STACEY

This is MY house. There is no Shay that lives here. Please leave.

TINA

What are you her little sister?

STACEY

I don't have a sister.

TINA

I know she's in here.

STACEY

You don't know anything you dumb girl.

TINA

Who are you calling dumb?

STACEY

Um, look around. It's not me. So, who do you think?

TINA

You need to shut up little girl.

STACEY

And you need to leave --dumb girl. I mean... like... What do you want?

TINA

That wench messed with my man!

STACEY

So, why you don't beat him up?

TINA

What? Cause that's my man and he said it was her fault.

STACEY

How? He didn't know you were his girlfriend or something?

TINA

What? ...of course he knows.

STACEY

Then why you not mad at him?

(pauses, then low voice)

You see how dumb that sounds.

Tina gathers herself and calms down. She laughs and cries a little as she wipes her face and paces a little. Pauses for a beat.

TINA

Dang girl, you are absolutely right.

I feel so stupid.

STACEY

Don't waste your time on that boy. You are too smart and pretty for that.

TINA

Oh, you don't think I'm dumb.

STACEY

I know you're not dumb. It's what you're doing that's dumb.

TINA

Yeah, I get it. I'm going to have a little talk with him. It might involve a knife.

STACEY

Say what?! I didn't say do all of that.

TINA

I got this.

Tina turns around and starts walking away.

Stacey stares her off with an eyebrow raised. She goes back into the house.

INT. SHARON'S BEDROOM - DAY (3)

Shay lies in curled up in the bed. Stacey enters through the door. She stops for a moment, puts her hand on her hip.

STACEY

She's gone now. You don't have anything to worry about.

SHAY

Oh my God. Really? What did you say to her?

STACEY

I just asked her why she was acting crazy. She told me pretty much what you told me about her boyfriend.

SHAY

What else did you say?

Shay sits up. Stacey walks over and sits next to her on the bed.

STACEY

I told her she was dumb.

SHAY

Wow. You are brave. You actually said that to her?

STACEY

Yeah. She because she was.

SHAY

How did you get her to calm down?

STACEY

I pointed out that her boyfriend is the one to blame... not you.

SHAY

You weren't scared?

STACEY

Nope.

SHAY

Well, I appreciate you doing that.

STACEY

I had to do something to get out of working for you.

It seems like no matter what I do in life I have to work.

SHAY

That's life.

STACEY

So, what are you going to do now?
What do you do for fun?

SHAY

I've been trying to get my life together ever since I found out I was pregnant.

STACEY

What do you mean?

SHAY

Well, before my parents passed.. I was on a path to becoming a doctor. I started hanging out with people I didn't usually hang out with... Things just started going downhill from there.

STACEY

You didn't use to go out and have fun with your friends?

SHAY

I had a small group of friends. We didn't hang out that much. We would study together every now and then and maybe go out to the mall or the movies.

It was simple. But my parents made sure I always focused on my schoolwork and my chores. They said it would help me become a responsible adult.

STACEY

Did it help? Because my momma never lets me have fun. It's always chores and schoolwork.

I don't want to do it anymore.

SHAY

If it wasn't for what my parents taught me, I probably wouldn't be here right now. I'm eighteen years old. A senior in high school. I'm able to stay here only because I'm responsible enough to.

(sad)

I really miss my parents.

But now I don't think I can go to college because I messed up so bad.

Stacey puts her hand on her back.

STACEY

Hey girl. It's going to be okay. You can still go to college and become a doctor. You need to keep going. Don't quit.

Shay wipes her face. Her mouth drops in disbelief. She stands up. Paces...

SHAY

No, I can't go to college. Not with a baby.

STACEY

Why not?

SHAY

Can you imagine... medical school with a baby?

A baby will take up all my time. I am not about to struggle through school. I would most likely flunk out. Changing diapers and making baby bottles... I don't think so.

STACEY

You should at least try before you give up.

SHAY

No. No. No! It's okay. I accept my mistake. It's a lost for me and there's no going back. I made a stupid, poor decision because I wasn't focused. If I just

continued to listen to my parents,
I wouldn't be in this mess.

STACEY

Clam down for a minute. You are
getting a little worked up.

SHAY

I'm facing my reality. I will
accept living a mediocre life.
After I have this baby, I'm going
to make sure they don't mess up
like I did. I'm going to be on
top of them every minute of every
day. Just to make sure.

STACEY

Are you crazy?! You sound just like
my momma.

SHAY

What else am I going to do?!

STACEY

You're going to sit down and figure
this thing out. Don't blame your
new baby for your own mistakes.

(passionately yells)

Sit!

Shay slows her pacing. She sits. Holds her forehead.

SHAY

Okay, okay. You're right. I don't
even know what I'm thinking.

STACEY

You're beating yourself up for a
mistake you made. We all make

mistakes. Isn't that what life's all about? You can't blame anyone but yourself. Accept it. Forgive yourself.

SHAY

Oh my, God. That's kind of deep for someone your age. Where did you learn that from?

STACEY

Social media.

SHAY

Social what?

STACEY

Nothing.

They both laugh.

Shay settles down and wipes her face with a big smile. Hugs Stacey.

SHAY

Wow. Thank you. I feel a lot better.

STACEY

Good.

Now, let's do something fun together.

Please? I'm a little sick of all this drama.

SHAY

Yes, girl. Good idea. I tell you what... Let's make some popcorn and watch TV. How does that sound?

STACEY

Yes! Momma never lets me watch TV.

SHAY

Okay, let's go hit the couch.

Shay and Stacey exit the room. Stacey skip out the door.

FADE OUT

THE END

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