

TO STOP

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To stop

Characters

Girl	A student in late teens.
Man	A man in his late 20's. Dressed sloppily. He is dirty with bruises all over.
Mother	Deranged, depressed, alcoholic housewife

The italicized text is presented as the different characters thoughts. It should be pre-recorded and played through the sound system. Also during each character's thought the stage should not be fully lit, rather dimly with a single light over each character.

Girl: *School is not that hard for me...I apply a minimal amount of effort, you know, just enough to get by. I'm involved with some student groups to keep me busy. I am afraid of failure. I feel like I am on the edge of a very expensive ledge and the only path is made of glass; difficult and dangerous to traverse. You can barely see it as it disappears into the dawning horizon. If I fall off the path and I'm still alive I land in the biggest pile of debt I have ever known.*

(Lights up a joint)

That's why I just get high

(Takes a puff)

Man: *I've never been in love before, but I feel like this could be it. Someone once told me that love is a transcendental connection that manifests itself when two beings come together. The stronger that connection, the stronger the love is. I guess you just have to take the good with the bad. That's part of my problem; I tend to find men who give me more bad than good. Love makes my pain go away but when its gone the pain comes back more intense. Eventually you get to a point where you have to decide*

between the love and affection from another and your own personal wellbeing.

(Inspects his wounds)

That's why I fought back

Mother: *My first one was a joy, My third one was manageable, the fifth one was a mistake. I just can't handle it. Six people constantly demanding my attention. My job was put on hold indefinitely. My social life is nonexistent. My schedule revolves around the six people that have become my family. I wonder what would happen if I just disappeared?*

That's why I need my fill

(Takes a shot)

Man: I wasn't always like this.

Girl: I don't know how I got here.

Mother: I want things to be different.

Man: Things will be different

Girl: No they wont

Mother: OK!!

Girl: I want to change my ways

Man: You won't

Mother: I want to live for me

Girl: You can't.

Man: I want to hide.

Mother: Get away.

Girl: Start over.

Mother: I am trapped.

Girl: Retrained by myself.

Man: I'm my own worst enemy.

Mother: I am digging my grave.

Girl: Being buried alive.

Man: I need

Girl: I need

Mother: I need

All: TO STOP

Blackout