

INT. JOURNEY'S BASEMENT - DAY - 13 YEARS AGO

A 6 year old JOURNEY and his 10 year old sister VENUS sit on the floor of his basement playing a game. It's the same basement Journey lived in at 16 but it looks very different. It looks more like a storage space for the family's extra furniture.

VENUS

(said with a lot of fake
pitty in her voice)
Aw you're so adorable when you
lose.

Journey throws his cards down and folds his arms in protest.

JOURNEY

I like playing with Aria more than
you.

VENUS

That's because Aria always let's
you win.

Journey stomps off and Venus shrugs and turns back around to reshuffle the cards. Journey suddenly appears in front of her holding a pile of pillows and blankets that basically cover his whole body. She looks up for only a half a second and says...

VENUS (CONT'D)

No bed in this house needs that
many pillows.

He drops the pillows and blankets down dramatically all over her cards. Venus immediately starts moving pillows out of the way and looking for her cards again, not paying attention to him at all. Journey angrily grabs a pillow and throws it at her.

JOURNEY

Hey! Pay attention to me!

VENUS

Um. Ow. What's your problem?

JOURNEY

I want to pick what we do next and
I want to build a pillow fort.

VENUS

Too bad, I think pillow forts are
boring and mom said I'm in charge.

JOURNEY

Mom also said we have to take turns when we decide what to play.

VENUS

And what are you gonna do, tell on me? No one likes a tattle-tale, nene.

JOURNEY

But you tell on me all the time.

VENUS

No I don't.

JOURNEY

Uh-huh! Even when I don't do anything, like when you broke the lid of the cookie jar and told mommy it was my fault. I got grounded for a week and I didn't even do anything.

Journey sits down and crosses his legs, looking down at the floor.

VENUS

Well, sorry.

They sit in silence for a minute and then Journey's face perks up, like he's getting an idea.

JOURNEY

If you're really sorry, build a pillow fort with me or I tell mom about all the other things you've blamed me for.

VENUS

You don't remember everything.

Journey pulls out a piece of paper with words scribbled in crayon all over it.

JOURNEY

I have a list.

VENUS

Oh you think you're so tough now, nene? There's a lot you've blamed me for too, y'know. Like getting the dog to pee on the remote.

Journey shrugs and starts getting up and moving the pillows around.

VENUS (CONT'D)

Why do you even wanna build a pillow fort so badly?

Journey ignores her question and continues to walk around setting up pillows.

JOURNEY

Come on. Get up and help me.

VENUS

I haven't agreed to this yet.

JOURNEY

I don't know what other choice you have.

Venus stares down at the list.

VENUS

Haha. No deal. I already told mom about all of these last month when I was on my forgiveness cleanse from church. You don't have anything on me.

Journey drops the pillow he's holding and immediately stomps over to his sister and grabs the list. He aggressively flips it over and points to something on it.

He drops the paper in her lap, like some kind of physical manifestation of a mic drop, and goes back to building the pillow fort.

VENUS (CONT'D)

Unbelievable.

Venus tosses the paper aside and begrudgingly gets up to help her brother.

Eventually they finish organizing the pillows to make a square shape on the floor and Venus starts spreading a sheet on top of them.

JOURNEY

No, you're doing it wrong!

VENUS

There's no wrong way to put down a sheet.

JOURNEY

Yes there is.

He comes over and fixes it in whatever much more organized fashion his little heart desires. It looks pretty much the same but, you know, to a kid sometimes things look a lot better than they are. Venus rolls her eyes and walks over to the pile of blankets to pick up another one.

VENUS

So, how'd you know about that anyways?

He looks up and scrunches up his face, but then relaxes it a second later. Like when someone is about to ask a question but then answers it in their own head.

JOURNEY

You told me.

He goes back to surveying the walls of their pillow fort and Venus continues to sort through the rest of the blankets. She moves one of them and some stuff falls from behind the trunk that the blankets are all sitting next to. She picks up a book and opens it.

She reads through the book for a second or two and then sharply turns to look at her brother.

A beat.

VENUS

You...stole...my...DIARY????

She slams the book shut, prompting Journey's eyes to widen in panic.

JOURNEY

Hey, that's all my stuff!

VENUS

No, it's MINE. SO THAT'S HOW YOU KNEW I BIT HAYDEN BENTLEY AT RECESS?! Oh this is too good. MOMMMMM! JOURNEY STOLE MY DIARIES!

JOURNEY

Mom's not even home.

VENUS

(suddenly really perky)
Well when she get's home!

Venus dances off and skips up the stairs.