

CONVOLUTED

Written by
Audrey Carter

IRIS - A seemingly ungrateful, "not a care in the world" type character. Clothing is very disheveled and messy.

RENAE - Feels like she needs to mother Iris since their mother passed away 8 months ago. Has purple hair tied up in a messy bun.

JONES - Eldest of the siblings. Has a history of drug abuse.

SCENE ONE

EXT/INT. COFFEE SHOP - DUSK

JONES, sits at an empty coffee shop called "rain", balancing a ring between his fingers as a slow fidget. Two more people sit on a bench outside the coffee shop, talking. RENAE doesn't make eye contact. Two similar looking jackets are sitting on the bench behind IRIS.

IRIS

I don't care whether you want me
to or not. This won't help.

RENEA

Help? Really? When have you ever
cared about actually getting help?
The reason why we're here is because
you don't think you need it.

IRIS

(through laughter) Because I don't.

RENAE

(forced mocking laughter) What's gonna
happen when you try another stunt like
that and actually have to pay the price?
What if you lose...

Renaе gestures toward the person inside "rain".

RENAE (CONT'D)

Him?

IRIS

Me? Lose him? You're hilarious love. He lost me years ago and didn't give a damn. I guess you could say I'm returning the favor.

RENAE

God you're so fucking difficult.

IRIS

And you're some sort of therapist?

RENAE

Wow.

IRIS

Happy?

RENAE

Oh sure, just another great conversation with some anti-hero wanna be. You think you're so fucking cool for cutting off the only people who actually give a shit about you but you know what? Have at it! Go ahead. Be my guest Iris

Renaë gets up, grabs her jacket and walks off screen. Beat.

Iris looks around to make sure she's gone, grabs his jacket, then quickly walks into the coffee shop. They sit down across from the person who's been sitting there the whole time, making quick glances at the outside bench. They sit in silence for a beat.

IRIS

She fell for it.

JONES

I'm sorry.

IRIS

What-why are you apologizing? It was what had to be done.

JONES

I know.

IRIS

Good.

JONES

So where is it?

IRIS

What- oh right. That. It's in here somewhere...

Iris quickly searches their pockets. Each time getting more and more anxious. The pill they are searching for is missing.

IRIS

I swear I had it-

JONES

Oh my god- you're dead. I'm dead. We're both gonna die oh my god-

Jones puts his head in his hands, very stressed.

IRIS

I didn't lose it there's no way I-

Iris realizes what happened. Renea took their jacket instead of hers.

IRIS

SHIT!

BLACKOUT.

SCENE TWO

INT. RENAE'S STUDIO APARTMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

RENAE has entered her apartment and is locking the door behind her. Tired and exhausted from working double shifts, she sets down her keys, jacket and wallet on the counter by the door. She takes off her shoes and leaves them by the door, opens the fridge and takes out a half empty bottle of white wine.

RENAE

(to herself) God he'll never change.

She walks to the couch and just as she sits down, her phone buzzes. 17 missed calls from UNKNOWN. She calls back, curious but cautious.

RENAE (CONT'D)

Hello?

(silence)

What do you want, Kirian?

(beat)

I asked what do you want?

(beat)

Yeah well I have enough to deal with right now.

(beat)

And do what? Do things your way?

(beat)

I'm sorry I just-

(beat)

If you would let me finish I would tell you...you know what? I'm done. We- no not we- I am done with this. This wine won't drink itself anyways. Have a good night... good bye.

Renaë ends the call and leans back on the couch, eventually finishes the bottle of wine still in her hand. Beat. She gets up to take the wine to the sink, and walks past her jacket, noticing something in the pocket. She pulls out the pill bottle, and slowly realizes that it's Iris's jacket. The audience sees her putting the puzzle together while staring at the bottle, she leans on the counter. The last thing the audience sees is a text message on her phone to Iris saying "we need to talk."

BLACKOUT.

SCENE THREE

INT. COFFEE SHOP "RAIN" - MORNING

Renaë and Iris sit across from each other in the same table Jones sat at in the coffee shop. There is an awkward silence. Renaë stares forward at the steam coming from a hot beverage in front of her, and Iris stares outside at the rain. Iris clears their throat.

IRIS

I wanted to uhm- apologize...about
yesterday
(beat)
...and I was hoping that we could
just...start fresh

Beat.

RENAE

You could've just told me the
truth.

IRIS

What? What do you mean?

RENAE

I know all of us have our
problems. I know it's been a
hard few months. But that
shouldn't justify you doing this.

The audience sees Iris completely panic but manage to keep it together. Their hands start fidgeting under the table and their leg starts bouncing quickly.

IRIS

...and what exactly do you think
"this" is?

Renaë pauses, and reaches across the table to grab Iris's shaking hand. She smiles.

RENEA

Pushing away the people that you
need the most. I know you're hurting.
And you're not alone. Oh yeah, I
think you left your jacket by mistake
yesterday, here.

Renea gets up and gives the jacket to Iris, who is visibly
relieved as she goes in for a hug.

IRIS

Thank you for this. Not the jacket
but what you said. It-it really does
mean a lot.

RENEA

Of course...well, I don't wanna keep
you any longer, I'm meeting another
friend after this, so I'll catch you
later. Okay?

IRIS

Alright.

Iris walks out happily. Beat. Renea pulls out her phone and a
piece of paper with a number. She dials it. As she walks to her
car.

RENEA

Hello? Yes, this is Gloria's daughter.
I need to know about what Iris and
Jones have been up to.

Beat. Renea gets into her car and pulls out the pill bottle,
flips it to see the underside, where the initials R.R. are
written.

RENEA

Everything. Tell me everything.

FADE TO BLACK.