

NICKI ESQ

THE BOY IS MINE

Written by

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Teleplay by

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Based on, If Any

Address  
Phone Number

1 INT. CHURCH - SUNDAY MORNING

SHOT OF PASTOR IN THE MIDST OF A "SOMEWHAT" BLISTERING SERMON.

SHOT OF NICKI AND JASMINE SEATED IN A PEW DIRECTLY ACROSS THE AISLE FROM GAVIN "DARNELL" WRIGHT, A 29 YEAR OLD EXTREMELY HANDSOME BLACK MALE.

SHOT OF DARNELL EYEING NICKI.

SHOT OF JASMINE NOTICING DARNELL IMMEDIATELY.

Jasmine nudges Nicki

JASMINE  
Looks like I'm not the only one  
bored with Pastor Michaels.

NICKI  
Shhhhhh.

Nicki then notices Darnell for the first time.

NICKI (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
Welllllll...

JASMINE  
Now can I have my iPad?

2 EXT. CHURCH STEPS

Nicki and Jasmine are midway down the steps.

DARNELL  
Great sermon wasn't it?

NICKI  
Indeed it was. I don't believe I've  
seen you at Emmanuel before. I'm  
Nicki Howell.

DARNELL  
Gavin Wright and the pleasure is  
all mine. My first time attending.

NICKI  
Will we be seeing you again?

DARNELL

You mean here at church? Well if that's the only way to see you again, then I suppose so.

They stare at each other.

DARNELL (CONT'D)

But if it's ok with you, we could see each other outside of church too.

NICKI

Well I think that can be arranged.

Jasmine clears her throat.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Oh this is my daughter Jasmine.

DARNELL

Nice to meet you Jasmine.

JASMINE

Do you even remember the sermon?

3 INT. NICKI'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING - DAY 1

Nicki and Jasmine enter. Nicki is effervescent bursting with news she can barely contain. Derrick is looking at his cell phone

NICKI

Oh my god, you are never gonna believe what happened at church.

DERRICK

Let's see, you met the man of your dreams.

NICKI

Yesssss!! He was...

DERRICK

About 6'1, ridiculously handsome, beautiful dark eyes.

NICKI

But he also had...

DERRICK

A smile to rival any sunset and he sat near you in church.

NICKI  
How do you know all this Uncle D?

DERRICK  
It's written all over your face.

JASMINE  
Actually he was 5'11 and handsome  
is relative. You took your glasses  
off before we sat down remember.

NICKI  
We are having dinner this week...

Nicki looks up to the ceiling.

NICKI (CONT'D)  
(in a joking way)  
Thank you!

JASMINE  
Make sure the restaurant is well  
lit mama and don't forget these.

Jasmine picks up Nicki's glasses.

4 INT. EDELSON'S OFFICE AREA

Gladys is seated at her desk with her trusty scooter parked near her. Through an open door we can see Edelson's office. His desk is piled high with folders. Gavin approaches Gladys's desk.

DARNELL  
Hey Aunt Gladys.

GLADYS  
Why hey baby.

Darnell reaches over and kisses Gladys on the cheek.

GLADYS (CONT'D)  
Nothin Mr. Edelson, my nephew  
stopped by. How's the ad agency  
treating you?

DARNELL  
Well I'm a copywriter now.

GLADYS  
Oooh nice, what they do?

DARNELL

I write all the words you hear in  
the commercials.

GLADYS

You hear that Mr. Edelson? My  
nephew is a big time ad exec.

DARNELL

Now I didn't say all that Aunt  
Gladys. Listen I really needed to  
speak to someone.

GLADYS

Well I AM somebody, most days.

DARNELL

(whispers)

See I met this amazing young  
lady...

GLADYS

Well that's just wonderful.

DARNELL

But I also met this incredible guy.

GLADYS

Say what?

She pretends to adjust her ear.

DARNELL

I'd like to get to know them both.

GLADYS

So you're a date juggler?

DARNELL

It's a talent.

GLADYS

Playing piano is a talent...that's  
just trifling.

Gladys reaches into her purse and pulls out a large folder  
that unfolds into an even larger flow chart.

DARNELL

What's that?

GLADYS

It's a chart that helps me understand all the letters in the LGBTQ community. I get confused sometimes. Now let's see, you must be an intersexual?

(beat)

No that's not you. Bisexual! There you are!

EDELSON

(from behind the stacks of folders)

Everything ok out there?

GLADYS

Absolutely.

Gladys turns back to Darnell.

GLADYS (CONT'D)

You know I'm usually good at advice but sweetie I got nothing for ya today. You gonna have to figure this one out on your own.

DARNELL

You're right.

Darnell kisses her on the cheek again. He starts to leave. Gladys takes another look at her chart.

GLADYS

Oooh maybe your Pansexual !!!!

5

INT - AREA OUTSIDE NICKI'S OFFICE - MORNING - DAY 2

Derrick arrives with all smiles and a gym bag in tow. Nicki and Jessica are speaking, Jessica is holding a coffee mug. Derrick is about to speak but Nicki quickly interrupts.

NICKI

Let me guess, you met the man of your dreams?

DERRICK

Yessss, he was...

NICKI

About 6'1, ridiculously handsome, beautiful dark eyes...

DERRICK  
But he also....

NICKI  
Had a smile as big as the sun.

JESSICA  
Wait, you were at the  
gym...Darling, that's every guy at  
the gym.

DERRICK  
Well we are having lunch later  
today.

JESSICA  
Darling "and this is the only time  
you'll ever hear me say this" no  
liquor at lunch. So you can  
hopefully give us a more realistic  
description of gym boy.

Mr. Layton passes by unexpectedly.

MR. LAYTON  
Ladies and Gent, I'd like to see  
you two attorney's in my office in  
5 minutes.

Mr. Layton does a double take at Derrick.

MR. LAYTON (CONT'D)  
Somebody's having a first date.

DERRICK  
How'd you know.

MR. LAYTON  
Why facial recognition of course.

6 INT. MR. LAYTON'S OFFICE - DAY 2

Mr. Layton is seated, Jessica and Nicki, who hasn't had time  
to remove her jacket are seated in the two chairs facing him.  
They each have Apple laptops on their laps.

MR LAYTON  
We've been asked to represent Ian  
McKenzie. Why you may ask? Ian is a  
highly regarded male cheerleader  
and is suing Tyson University and  
its cheerleading staff for sexual  
harassment.

NICKI

Sexual Harassment? Is the cheerleader coach a man?

MR LAYTON

The coach is Gabrielle Hollings. I assume you are insinuating Mr. McKenzie is gay.

NICKI

You said cheerleader didn't you?

MR LAYTON

Ms. Howell, Mr. McKenzie is straight "as far as I know".

Nicki bursts into laughter and Jessica lowers her sunglasses and glances at Nicki.

NICKI

Oh sorry, he's a straight male cheerleader, got it.

Nicki still can't control her laughter and she chuckles again. Jessica doesn't crack a smile

JESSICA

So when do we meet this Mr. McKenzie?

Mr. Layton picks up his office phone to address his assistant.

MR. LAYTON

Ms. Goodwin will you please send Mr. McKenzie in.

Ian McKenzie, a good looking athletically built 22 year old white male appears in Mr. Layton's office door. Both Jessica and Nicki turn around to witness Ian's arrival.

NICKI

WOW!!!

JESSICA

Good lord.

MR LAYTON

Come in Mr. McKenzie.

Ian approaches.

MR LAYTON (CONT'D)  
 Meet Nicki Howell and Jessica  
 Bouchard. They'll be handling your  
 case.

JESSICA  
 Cheerleader huh?

NICKI  
 Straight huh?  
 (beat)  
 Let's see one of your moves.

Ian does a complete backwards somersault without missing a  
 beat.

IAN  
 How's that?

NICKI  
 Wow our very own white male Simone  
 Biles.

7 INT. NICKI'S OFFICE

Nicki is seated at her desk and Jessica is standing behind  
 her. Ian is seated facing Nicki.

NICKI  
 So you and Gabby Hollings, the  
 squad coach were involved?

IAN  
 I didn't say that.

JESSICA  
 You went out on a date?

IAN  
 Did we? Humph

NICKI  
 Do you want us to represent you Mr.  
 McKenzie?  
 (beat)  
 Then act like it. It appears that  
 there was "some" type of  
 relationship here that had maybe  
 gone south.

JESSICA

We can tell by your earlier somersault that you are talented Mr. McKenzie. I'm assuming well liked by other cheerleaders.

NICKI

Did you spend time outside of practice with any of the others?

IAN

What does that have to do with Gabby's sexual harassment?

NICKI

Maybe nothing, maybe everything.

JESSICA

Did she have any reason to be jealous?

IAN

Not sure if she was jealous but she definitely was nosey. She was a GPS device, tracking my whereabouts, my every damn move.

NICKI

Will you excuse us one minute.

Nicki and Jessica step outside of Nicki's office.

**7A** - INT. OUTSIDE NICKI'S OFFICE

NICKI (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Are you sure you wanna take this case?

JESSICA

(whispering)

Darling of course. He reminds me of a statuesque gentleman I once dated. A Mr. Simon Barclay. Quite the ladies man and gifted in all the right places.

NICKI

(whispering)

Again, what does that have to do with anything?

JESSICA  
 (whispering)  
 Anywho, Gabby overstepped her bounds as his superior. This is a piece of cake.

NICKI  
 (whispering)  
 I don't like the taste of this cake.

Derrick sneaks up on them.

DERRICK  
 (whispers)  
 What are we whispering about?

NICKI  
 Uncle D you scared me!

DERRICK  
 I felt like I was missing out on some good dirt.

SHOT OF IAN QUIETLY SITTING IN NICKI'S OFFICE.

SHOT OF NICKI, JESSICA AND DERRICK'S HEADS ALL PEERING INTO THE DOORWAY THEN QUICKLY DISAPPEARING.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
 I wouldn't trust him.

NICKI  
 See! Too pretty.

8 INT - RESTAURANT - MIDDAY - DAY 2

Derrick is seated across from Gavin "Darnell" Wright. The restaurant is naturally sunlit. Their food is already in place.

DARNELL  
 You got beautiful eyes.

DERRICK  
 Wow and I thought I was smooth. Well you've got beautiful...

DARNELL  
 Lips?!

DERRICK  
Used to compliments I see. I think  
I need a glass of wine.

DARNELL  
It's kinda early.

DERRICK  
It's 5 o'clock somewhere.

The waiter approaches the table and falls into a trance at the sight of Darnell.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
(to the waiter)  
Can I trouble you for some ketchup?

The waiter ignores Derrick. Derrick gets up to retrieve the ketchup from another table and returns to his seat. The waiter has not budged.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
Don't you have some other tables to  
wait on?

The waiter snaps out of his trance and scrams.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
See that's exactly how all the boys  
look at you at the gym and yet you  
found time to introduce yourself to  
an old man like me.

DARNELL  
What can I say, I like them  
seasoned within reason of course.

DERRICK  
I was just thinking I haven't been  
on a date in years.

DARNELL  
It's still the same. Where you  
from, what do you do and of  
course..

DERRICK & DARNELL  
(in unison)  
What's your sign?

They both laugh.

DARNELL  
I'm a Virgo but I dated a Gemini a couple years back and she...

DERRICK  
She!?

DARNELL  
Yeah she.

DERRICK  
(interrupts)  
So you like it all huh?

DARNELL  
Let's just say I'm attracted to all things beautiful.  
(he winks)

WAITER  
Can I get you anything else.

DERRICK  
Another waiter maybe.

9 INT - NICKI'S KITCHEN -

Nicki, Tanya and Jasmine are seated around the kitchen counter. Jasmine and her iPad and Nicki is watching her. Tanya is reading over a script.

JASMINE  
Baby shark one more time!

NICKI  
Isn't there anything else on that iPad for you to watch. I'm baby shark'd out.

TANYA  
My little nephew does Subway Surfers.

JASMINE  
That's so yesterday.

TANYA  
Well ok then...I gotta practice for an audition, now listen to this.

Tanya clears her throat and looks into the camera.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Crips. When you're in the mood for a cracker and a chip.

NICKI

Crips?! Are you sure about this acting thing.

Derrick enters with a big smile.

DERRICK

Good evening to all.

NICKI

That lunch date must have been really superb.

Derrick gives Jasmine a kiss on the forehead.

DERRICK

Yep apparently I still got it.

TANYA

Well is it possible you can give me some.

NICKI

Let me see a picture of this Dexter.

DERRICK

Darnell!! I don't want y'all in my business. Maybe you'll get to meet him soon.

JASMINE

Uncle D, I miss Uncle Bart.

DERRICK

You do?

JASMINE

Yep he used to always give me a dollar when he saw me.

TANYA

Look at you. New job. New man. The only thing I got new is deodorant.

DERRICK

Well I would ask him if he has a friend but you know.

NICKI

Please don't get too distracted  
because we have to deal with  
cheerleaders tomorrow.

TANYA

Whew young girls can be a lot.

NICKI

Well this one is a boy.

JASMINE

Boy cheerleaders?!?!?

DERRICK

Yes boy cheerleaders.

Derrick lifts Jasmine in the air.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

GO TEAM!!!

NICKI

Apparently the female coach was  
doing a little too much "coaching".

TANYA

Well there's a twist.

JASMINE

Uncle D did I mention Uncle Bart  
used to give me \$5.

She holds out her hand.

DERRICK

It was one dollar 2 minutes ago.

JASMINE

Inflation.

**10** INT. NICKI'S OFFICE

Derrick and Nicki enter to discover Jessica is seated along  
with Ashley Pompeo, a 21 year old slim white female, a valley  
girl type, aggressively chewing bubble gum.

NICKI

Don't you have an office?

JESSICA

Yes Darling but your's is so much more "pedestrian"...we have a guest. May I present Ms. Ashley Pompeo.

NICKI

And Ashley is in my office because?

JESSICA

Well she's on the cheerleading squad with Ian and according to her "they" have been dating for sometime.

DERRICK

His somersaults bring all the girls to the yard, I see.

NICKI

Ashley let me ask you a question. Are you surprised by your boyfriend...

(beat)

I mean Ian's allegations of sexual harassment against Ms. Hollings.

ASHLEY

(pops her gum)

Not surprised at all.

Ashley reaches into her purse, retrieves a piece of paper removes her gum discards it in the paper and places it back in her purse.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

From the time Ian auditioned Gabby acted like she'd never seen a man before.

DERRICK

Well to be fair, it's cheerleading...you see an agile male body, limber and toned, it gets your attention.

(beat)

Whew. Excuse me.

Derrick exits.

ASHLEY

While Gabby was watching Ian. Ian was watching ME!!

NICKI

So jealousy was the gasoline that  
drove this car.

JESSICA

Women often want what's not  
immediately available to them.

ASHLEY

Gabby is hardly Ian's type. Much  
too old. Anyway Ian, is so good HE  
always thought HE should be  
coaching us instead of Gabby.

NICKI

Say that again.

ASHLEY

Gabby's much too old?!

NICKI

No the other part about being the  
coach.

ASHLEY

Oh yes Ian wants to be the leader  
of the pack.

Ashley retrieves the used gum from her purse and starts to  
chew it.

Shot of Nicki disgusted.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

Well I really must be going.

Ashley exits.

NICKI

Ian's legs are looking shakier by  
the minute Jessica.

JESSICA

Dear I don't think I've seen a pair  
of legs with more muscle and power,  
hardly shaky.

NICKI

(sighs)

It was an analogy.

JESSICA  
I gotta run. Get some better  
analogies.

END OF ACT 1

11 INT. DERRICK'S DESK

Derrick's cell phone rings. He has a Mariah Carey "high note ringtone". He answers the phone.

DERRICK  
Hey Darnell...you miss me  
already...I have that effect on  
people...

Ashley passes Derrick's desk and waves goodbye.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
Hey listen I was thinking if you  
didn't have dinner plans we  
could...oh...I see...I'll just have  
to find another cute face to eat  
with...we'll talk later...bye.

12 INT - NICKI'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON - DAY 3

Nicki is at her desk looking over some briefs. Derrick enters with his mind clearly on Darnell but Nicki is focused on work. Derrick takes a deep breath and sits down hoping to get her attention.

DERRICK  
(exhaling)  
Aaahhhhhhhh.

Nicki ignores him.

DERRICK (CONT'D)  
(exhaling)  
Aahhhhh.

NICKI  
Is something wrong Uncle D?

DERRICK  
How'd you guess?

NICKI

Because those are the same deep breaths the doctors told me to take when I was having Jasmine!!

DERRICK

I really was hoping to see Darnell tonight.

NICKI

Darnell? Oh your new little friend.

Derrick gives her a look.

DERRICK

I happen to like my new little friend but he has dinner plans already.

NICKI

Ooh dinner!!! That reminds me Tanya needs to watch Jas tonight because I have my very own dinner plan with Gavin.

DERRICK

First date since Shane bit the dust, huh?

NICKI

I'm a little rusty. Do they still ask...

NICKI/DERRICK

(in unison)

What's your zodiac sign?

DERRICK

Yes !!!!

**13** INT - OF RESTAURANT - EVENING

The restaurant is dimly lit with a sexy ambiance. Nicki and Gavin "Darnell" are seated across from each other. Nicki sips a glass of wine.

NICKI

So Gavin...

DARNELL

Gavin D. Wright to be precise. People call me Gavin. Others call me D. Some call me Mr. Wright.

NICKI  
What's the D for?

DARNELL  
It's a secret, not to be revealed  
until date #2.

NICKI  
Is there a date #2 in your future?

DARNELL  
I sure hope so.  
(beat)  
Hey here's a fun fact. I'm the only  
black copywriter at my ad agency.

NICKI  
Well I see you and I raise you,  
because I'm the only sista at my  
law firm. The diversity train is  
moving very slow, running on CP  
time.

DARNELL  
With all the colorful talent out  
there.

NICKI  
People love to stick to the  
"familiar".

DARNELL  
I'm always about exploring things  
that are different.

NICKI  
Really?

DARNELL  
Maybe you and I can do some  
exploring of our own. Christopher  
Columbus style.

NICKI  
Christopher Columbus?! He did more  
stealing than exploring. No?  
Imagine some white man showing up  
in yo apartment and planting a flag  
in the middle of your living room  
shouting "I claim this living  
room".

Darnell laughs.

DARNELL

Well I'd be pretty pissed, but now if you showed up and wanted to plant a flag, that's a whole other story.

**13A** - EXT. PARKING LOT - 10 MINUTES LATER

Nicki and Darnell have arrived at Nicki's car.

DARNELL (CONT'D)

Well young lady I do believe I've earned that second date.

NICKI

Do you now?

They stare for a second at each other. Darnell leans in gently and kisses her on the lips.

DARNELL

I do.

NICKI

I do believe an appointment just opened up.

**14** INT - COFFEE BREAK AREA - MORNING - DAY 3

Nicki is pouring a cup of coffee. Derrick enters.

DERRICK

I thought you were a Starbucks girl?

NICKI

Ummm Starbucks charges \$7 for a latte, Layton & Ross coffee is what? Free.

DERRICK

Point taken. I'll have one please. You got in kinda late last night missy.

NICKI

Did I? I don't remember.

DERRICK

I guess somebody got lucky on the dating "wheel of fortune".

NICKI

Jackpot....Ooh I gotta see Mr. Layton. I need to wash my hands of this Ian McKenzie case. Jessica can be the head cheerleader on this one. Here you go.

She hands Derrick the coffee and quickly exits. Derrick sips the coffee.

DERRICK

Girl you're a good lawyer but a terrible barista.

ACT 2

15 INT. DERRICK'S DESK - MORNING - DAY 2

Derrick is typing at his computer and munching on some healthy snacks. Gladys speeds in unexpectedly on her scooter. She tosses an envelope rather aggressively at Derrick.

GLADYS

Here you go.

DERRICK

Excuse me. You know if you worked as fast as you drive that thing, you'd probably still be sitting at this desk.

GLADYS

Don't you think I know that. I had no desire to work for your precious niece.

DERRICK

Really?

GLADYS

Think about it. Edelson has nothing to prove upstairs, he's been a lawyer for more than 20 years. Ms. Nicki on the other hand is just starting out with EVERYTHING to prove. I need this document, I need that document, pull up this case from 10 years ago, see what public records are available for similar cases, blah blah blah. IT'S TOO MUCH! Do I look like I really want to work that hard?

(MORE)

GLADYS (CONT'D)  
It was like working for the Miranda  
Priestly of Law. No thank you.

DERRICK  
You mean your incompetence was an  
act?

GLADYS  
I'm good right?!

Gladys speeds away on her scooter.

16 INT. OFFICE HALLWAY

SHOT OF JESSICA FRESH FROM HER PEDICURE APPOINTMENT WEARING  
PAPER SLIPPERS.

Nicki approaches.

JESSICA  
And where are we off to?

NICKI  
Layton's office...I can't do this  
case.

Jessica is startled and Nicki walks off.

SHOT OF JESSICA TRYING TO CATCH HER WHILE AWKWARDLY MOVING IN  
THE PEDICURE SLIPPERS.

They arrive at Mr. Layton's door at the same time.

17 INT. MR. LAYTON'S OFFICE

Nicki and Jessica reach Mr. Layton's office door at the same  
time. Nicki tries to enter first, but Jessica has the edge  
and Nicki pulls her jacket sleeve.

JESSICA  
Careful darling, this is Chanel.

NICKI  
Yea, four seasons ago.

MR. LAYTON  
Well the first question I'd like to  
ask is, which one of you is LaVerne  
and which is Shirley?

NICKI

Mr. Layton we can't take this case.

MR. LAYTON

Ms. Howell did you fall and bump your head? Are you experiencing some kind of concussion?

(beat)

Do you like working here?

JESSICA

She's having a hard time comprehending a man being a victim in this MeToo era.

NICKI

Oh please we are not gonna demean MeToo by throwing Ian's case under its umbrella. Ian knew exactly what he was doing. He wanted to "Do" the coach in hopes he would eventually "be" the coach!

JESSICA

Darling this is nonsense.

MR. LAYTON

Listening to you two has made me look forward to my upcoming root canal. Ms. Bouchard you take this case yourself. You can finally put that Stanford University Law degree to good use. Happy Ms. Howell?

JESSICA

Yes, Ms. Howell, happy?

NICKI

Is that Chanel?

She touches Jessica again pretending to ease the tension.

18 INT. DERRICK'S OFFICE SPACE - AFTERNOON - DAY 4

Darnell arrives carrying a bouquet of flowers. Nicki comes out of her office.

NICKI

Oooh for me?

DARNELL

But of course.

Derrick returns to his desk but doesn't quite see Darnell's face.

DERRICK  
Where are my flowers?

DARNELL  
(startled)  
Derrick!!

DERRICK  
Darnell?!!

NICKI  
Gavin?!!

Gladys rides by at the exact moment and notices Darnell.

GLADYS  
Gavin Darnell Wright !!!

DARNELL  
Aunt Gladys!!

DERRICK AND NICKI  
Aunt Gladys??!!

GLADYS  
What on earth are you doing here?

DARNELL  
Remember the young lady I told you  
I met?

GLADYS  
You said she was "amazing" so it  
can't be her.

Gladys points to Nicki.

NICKI  
You keep it up and you are going to  
have to call Triple A to change a  
flat tire on your "vehicle".

GLADYS  
And I suppose this is the  
"incredible" man you met?

DERRICK  
Well what can I say.

GLADYS  
 (to Darnell)  
 You dating anybody else in they  
 family?

NICKI  
 I can't believe this!! Men! Good  
 luck with him Uncle D.

She retreats into her office and slams the door.

DERRICK  
 I don't want him. I need somebody  
 who plays only for MY team.  
 (beat)  
 Sorry Darnell.

Gladys takes out her chart.

DARNELL  
 Aunt Gladys what are you doing?

GLADYS  
 They gonna have to add another  
 letter for you boy.

19 INT - NICKI'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING - DAY 4

Jasmine is watching a video on her iPad and Tanya has poured  
 a glass of milk for Jasmine and brings it to her on the sofa.

TANYA  
 You watching Doc McStuffin Jas?

JASMINE  
 No I'm watching these 2 ladies  
 fight at Walmart.

Tanya quickly snatched the iPad.

TANYA  
 Wait that's mine.

She hands Jasmine another iPad. Nicki enters the room.

JASMINE  
 Hey Mommy.

NICKI  
 Hey baby...don't remember mama ever  
 saying there'd be days like THIS.

TANYA

Do tell.

NICKI

Well for starters...

Derrick enters carrying a beautiful wrapped gift.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Well if it isn't our resident "man stealer".

DERRICK

Now wait a minute.

TANYA

What in the world.

Derrick sets the box down on the coffee table.

DERRICK

How was I supposed to know that your church date was the same guy who picked me up at the gym.

TANYA

You really have to watch them church boys.

JASMINE

So you both went out with the same man? Oh brother.

NICKI

I knew I should have insisted on seeing a picture of Darnell or Gavin or whatever else name he is using.

DERRICK

I'm sorry Nicki I should have known he was too smooth. After all who interrupts their triceps curls for a love connection.

NICKI

It's not your fault, I got my hopes too high too quick.

(beat)

What's in that box?

DERRICK

It's for you. It was outside

Nicki walks over to the box and removes the top. She picks up the note.

NICKI

To Nicki, Ian was a great  
cheerleader BUT a terrible client.  
Three cheers for you Ms. Nicki  
Howell. XOXO Jessica.

Nicki removes the tissue paper and picks up the vintage megaphone. She speaks loudly into it.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Go Nicki, Go Nicki !!!