

BRAND EAD

BONITA

BONITA SIDES

BONITA (30) is a sophisticated medical student; always the smartest person in the room, but likes to keep it under the radar.

SCENE #1:

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Bonita sits down with Laurel...

BONITA
Thank you for meeting me.

LAUREL
I'm very sorry about your father.

BONITA
Thank you.
(distracted)
I called him. A minute before he died. I just wanted to say hello. But the phone-- it just kept ringing.

LAUREL
I'm sorry.

BONITA
That's what I hate more than anything. Missed connections. I can't even see it in a movie-- when people don't pick up a ringing phone. I have to fast-forward through that part.

Laurel nods. Tries to be understanding.

BONITA (CONT'D)
You were with him?

LAUREL
I was. I didn't know him well.

BONITA
The autopsy said he died from *tepefactisque sanguinem*.
Overheated blood.

SIDE!
START →

LAUREL

I know.

BONITA

That's not a real thing.

Laurel stares at her...

LAUREL

I'm sorry--?

BONITA

Overheated blood-- it's not a real thing. I'm not sure why they made it up. But they did.

LAUREL

I don't think I understand.

BONITA

I'm a medical student. And there is nothing in the blood that has enough power to open a cranial gap. And that's what happened, right?

LAUREL

(reluctant)

Yes.

BONITA

And you saw it happen? You saw my dad's head?

LAUREL

(frowns, hates this)

Yes.

BONITA

It's alright. I've dealt with it. I just need to know what happened. I'm a doctor now, not a daughter. Was he conscious?

LAUREL

Yes.

BONITA

Was he speaking?
(Laurel nods)
What did he say?

LAUREL

He said the noise was hurting him.

BONITA
What noise?

LAUREL
The siren.

BONITA
Ah. Anything else?

LAUREL
Yes. He said-- they were inside
him.

BONITA
What was inside him?

LAUREL
He didn't say. He said they were
inside him and trying to get out.

Bonita eyes Laurel.

SCENE #2:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - NIGHT

Bonita flicks on a computer, pushes a chair toward Laurel:

LAUREL
Are you sure it's alright to be in
here?

BONITA
You've got some real "good girl"
issues, don't you? Yes, it's
alright.

Bonita shows her badge, and clicks up a MRI scan.

BONITA (CONT'D)
Okay, this is a para-sagittal MRI
of a healthy cranial cavity.

LAUREL
What am I looking for?

BONITA
Nothing. No tumors, no
aberrations. Clean. See.

↑
FINISH
SIDE 2
START ↑

LAUREL

Okay.

BONITA

Three hours ago, a man walked into the hospital complaining of headaches. Actually his wife said he was complaining of headaches. He was unconscious. He had some benign tumorous cells a year earlier so I did a cranial MRI, and this is what I found.

She clicks up another MRI. Black dots all over it. Like chocolate chips.

LAUREL

What are those?

BONITA

I have no idea.

Laurel looks at Bonita:

LAUREL

You have no idea what those dots are?

BONITA

Yep. I thought there was something wrong with the scanner, so I did another MRI fifteen minutes later. This one.

She clicks up another MRI. Still black dots.

LAUREL

They're still there?

BONITA

Yes, but there's something weird.

LAUREL

What?

BONITA

They moved.

Laurel frowns, looks at the new scan. Bonita helpfully uses the cursor to slide one MRI over the other. Yep, the dots have moved.

BONITA (CONT'D)

There's something foreign in this
man's brain that's... moving.

LAUREL

I didn't know that was possible.

BONITA

It isn't.

LAUREL

Then what are they?

The two turn back to the black dots on the screen.


FINISH