

INT. NINA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Nina flutters open her eyes. The world comes into focus and she sees her mother hovering over her, stroking her hair.

ERICA

Sshh, shhh, it's okay. I'm here.

Nina looks around, disoriented. Sees her hands jammed inside thick socks, held on by rubber bands. Groggy, she tries to pull them off.

ERICA

You were scratching all night.

Erica helps remove the socks, her smashed hand wrapped in bandages.

Nina weakly tries to sit up, but Erica pushes her back down.

ERICA

Rest. Shhh, rest.

Nina gives in, too tired to fight her. Her eyes drift to the source of the tinny music: the open jewelry box. The ballerina's been broken off, all that remains is a single amputated leg, spinning morbidly on the base.

ERICA (O.S.)

That's good. Rest.

Nina's eyes drift to the alarm clock. It's gone.

NINA

Where's the clock?

ERICA

Don't worry.

Nina looks at the dark window.

NINA

It's dark. What night is it?

Nina reads Erica's face. Reality clicks in.

NINA

(panicking)

What time is it?!

Nina tries to sit up, but her mother pushes her back down.

NINA
I have to go.

ERICA
Don't worry. I called the theater and
told them you weren't feeling well.

Nina freaks, struggles more violently.

NINA
No, I want to.

ERICA
Lie down!

NINA
Get off me!

Nina squirms free of Erica's grasp and gets out of bed. She gets to the door...

But the doorknob's been knocked-off, leaving just a metal post sticking out of the hole.

ERICA
We're staying in here until you feel
better.

Nina grips the metal post and pulls and pulls, shaking the door.

NINA
Where is it?

Erica calmly sits down in her CHAIR, waiting for the storm to pass.

ERICA
This role is destroying you.

Nina rifles through her dresser drawers.

She notices her mother sitting calmly.

NINA
Move.

ERICA
Nina...

Nina grabs her by the wrist.

ERICA

Stop it.

NINA

You're crazy!

ERICA

What happened to my sweet girl?

Nina yanks Erica off the chair onto the floor.

NINA

She's gone.

ERICA

Please, you're not well.

Under the cushion Nina grabs the hidden brass DOORKNOB.

Erica lunges for her daughter's legs.

NINA

Let go!

ERICA

You can't handle it!

NINA

I can't?! I'm the fucking swan queen!
You never even got out of the corps.

ERICA

You fucking ungrateful-

Nina jams the knob onto the post, opens the door.

ERICA (O.S.)

Don't leave! Nina!