

Esperanza puts the Robe over the Mirror. Silence. She stands there. A fist smashes the door. She jumps, terrified. A fist smashes the door again, and the door opens. Hector is standing there, only now he is a drunken monster.

START _____

HECTOR

What are you doing outta bed?!

ESPERANZA

Go away!

HECTOR

Did I hear music?!

ESPERANZA

No!

HECTOR

Liar! Get your ass in bed! You wanna smack? I'll punch you in the face! I'll kill you understand?! I'll kill you! I can't take it anymore! Do what I say!

Hector has grabbed her. She struggles. He throws her in the bed.

ESPERANZA

Don't touch me!

HECTOR

I wouldn't if you didn't pull such cheap shit! Why don't you listen what I tell you!?

ESPERANZA

Alright. It's alright.

HECTOR

I threw you a party for Chrissake! I told you to go to bed! I'm your father for Chrissake!

ESPERANZA

Sorry.

HECTOR

Why do you look like your mother?

ESPERANZA

I look like me!

HECTOR

I'll tell you a story.

ESPERANZA

I don't want a story now.

HECTOR

Why not?!

ESPERANZA

I just don't!

HECTOR

Fine. You danced with that boy.

Who? ESPERANZA

Tito. HECTOR

Who cares? ESPERANZA

HECTOR
Me. (Looks around.) Looks better like this. White. Shoulda painted it all white a long time ago. Green was depressing.

ESPERANZA
Mama liked green. She said it looked like Martinique.

HECTOR
Fuck Martinique! What did she know?

A lot! ESPERANZA

HECTOR
She was always looking down on me because she was from Martinique!

Go away. ESPERANZA

HECTOR
What did you say?

ESPERANZA

Get out of my room.

HECTOR

Who you bossin'? Everything's mine. Remember that. Why you got the mirror covered?

ESPERANZA

It was scaring me.

HECTOR

Oh. Alright. I don't like mirrors anyway. Goodnight. I'd better not hear music. Go the fuck to sleep.

He walks out, closing the door gently. When he's gone, Esperanza gets out of bed, and pushes the toy chest against the door. Then she stands, looking at the door, breathing hard. A moment of quiet. The Mirror speaks, muffled, from under the robe.

END

MIRROR

I can't sleep.

ESPERANZA

Be quiet you.

MIRROR

He scares me.

ESPERANZA

Yeah.