

THE RESTLESS MUSE

by

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inspired by true events

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EXT. SKY - DAY

Clouds spin in the sky.

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

A bubbly, cute little 4-year-old TORI PERCHES spins on the front lawn, smiling.

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

The MOM watches as Tori finishes her dance and bows.

Mom claps, then she plucks orange marigolds from the flowerbed and hands them to Tori. Tori perks her ear at an upbeat sound.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The music pumps out of the passing-by car. The air around vibrates, radiating like a shock wave.

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

The music shock wave hits Tori, scattering the marigold's petals.

The petals whirl around Tori. She sees the music waves and tries to catch them. Mom's amused by Tori's weird movements.

The neighbors gaze and grimace at Tori's behavior. Mom spots them. She forces an awkward smile, embarrassed.

Mom grabs Tori's hand and hurries inside the house as the neighbors begin to gossip.

The door slams.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Mom and Tori, now age 8, stand at the ominous door of the red brick school.

They share a hug and Tori vanishes behind the door.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Tori sits at her desk and looks at the other kids in class.

The TEACHER, a humorless man, plops down a stack of books on his desk.

Tori stares out the open window. The singing bird catches her attention. Sound waves spread out of it.

Tori whistles and bobs her head while the Teacher shuts the window and crosses back to his desk.

The other kids whisper and stare at Tori.

INT. TORI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mom helps Tori do her homework.

Tori taps her feet and makes sounds. She stands up and storms out of the room.

Mom, deflated, finishes the homework.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Tori's restless, inattentive, talk to others. She disturbs the class in many ways.

The Teacher approaches Tori's desk and peers at her over his glasses. Tori smiles.

The Teacher checks Tori's exercise book. Her handwriting is bad. Some drawings, notes, and glyphs. The fountain creativity symbol amongst them.

The teacher shakes his head. He takes Tori by the hand and leads her out of the classroom.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Mom looks at the principal nameplate on the desk and sinks in the chair.

The PRINCIPAL, an imposing, square-jaw hands Mom the piece of paper.

She reads the paper where bold dyslexia, APD, LPD, ADHD are visible.

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Mom on the verge of tears.

The Principal shrugs and shakes his head and hands Mom the business card.

INT. TORI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mom and Tori eat dinner. Tori pushes food around on her plate. Mom slams her hand. Tori pushes away from the table and goes upstairs in a huff.

INT. TORI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Tori sleeps. Mother kisses her on the forehead and covers her with a duvet.

Mother wipes her tears and glances at the psychologist's business card.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

The PSYCHOLOGIST, an empathetic and patient woman, listens to Mom's explanations.

Tori in a colorful dress and hair tied into two little ponytails messes around the room.

Mom calms her down and points at the chair. Tori sits on her hands, quiet and anxious.

The Psychologist smiles at Tori, points at the internal window. She sets upbeat music on the radio and walks out of the room.

The Psychologist and Mom leave the room.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Tori glances at her helpless Mom talking to the Psychologist behind the window.

Tori looks at the radio. The music shock wave from the radio hits Tori. She starts moving her feet and body.

EXT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Tears stream down Mom's face. The Psychologist tries to comfort her when she notices something behind the window.

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Mom and the Psychologist stand agape, astonished. In the room Tori dances around in graceful moves.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Tori chases the music waves and makes impromptu dance movements. She's natural, her face glows from joy.

Mom bursts into the room and embraces Tori. In the window mesmerized Psychologist.

EXT. DANCE SCHOOL - DAY

Mom and Tori stand at the different doors of the red brick school. They look up to reveal the Dance School sign.

Tori grabs her Mom's hands, and they start to spin around. They both look into the sky.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Clouds spin in the sky and the cheering crowd's sound grows.

INT. BROADWAY THEATER - DAY

The spinning sky turns into the theatrical scenery.

The Broadway audience gives the standing ovations to Tori, now age 30, who bows surrounded by the actors.

The older Mom enters the stage and hands Tori a marigold wort.

As the two share in a moment of joy and acceptance, the shock wave from clapping hits them, scattering marigold's petals.

The marigold's petals whirl around Mom and Tori, while the audience cheers.

THE END