**“SWEET CHILD OF MINE”**

**Scene 1**

**Act 1**

(*music*)

At the alley, a few women are standing, wooing the men who pass by. Suzie is seen sitting, aloof and oblivious to the surrounding.

Pimp : Well, well, well….what do we have here…? If it isn’t sweet Suzie..?

(*Suzie looks away*)

Pimp : Awww…common baby…let’s have some fun tonight….

Suzie : With you…? Hah!

Man 1 : Com’ on Suzy… the merrier the better..(laughing)

Suzy : Look..I’m tired, ok?

Man 2 : Awww…com’on, Suzy.. You look beautiful tonight.. a shame to waste..

Suzy : Don’t you get it? Back off, ok?

Pimp : What’s the matter, sweetheart? Don’t you like us anymore? Young..and strong…and mighty….

(*The other men laugh*)

Suzy : Look, let me get this straight… I don’t want any more of this, ok? I’m sick of this, ok?

Man 1 : Oh, oh..Suzy’s sick…here, here…errr…you seem fine, to me, darling…

Suzy : Will you stop it?! I’m sick of this job! Sick of this work! Sick of this place! Sick of you!!

Man 2 : Uuuu..Suzie’s getting angry….I like……ggrrrrrr…

(*Suzie getting agitated*)

Suzy : Just…back off, ok? Stay away from me! Don’t ever get near me again, ok? Leave me alone!

Pimp : Aaaaah…tsk! Tsk! Tsk! That’s not right, sweetheart…In case you’ve forgotten, you…belong to me… and as long as you are, you… are mine…

Suzy : Hey! I don’t belong to anyone! Not him, him or worse, you!!

Pimp : Haa..haa..haa..Suzy, Suzy, Suzy..Look at you..so bitterly sweet… (*walking around Suzy*).. then, who do you belong to, huh? To the streets? Haa..Haaa… if it wasn’t for me..you’re a nobody, Suzy.. I’ve given you the treasures and pleasures that is unthinkable.. the power, the glory… the fun, the excitement…hahahahaha….

Suzy : Well, mister…not anymore… you can have your treasures, your pleasures, your power, whatever.. for all I care… you can have it all.. back!

Pimp : A..a..a.. not so fast, lady…perhaps…I didn’t make it quite clear to you…. Easier said than done.. You owe me something..something that belongs to me, perhaps? Mmmmmm…what was it…mmm…mmm…ahhhh….a yes..yes… a blooming flower in the pot? Mmmm…now what’s the name?? mmmmm… ahh…yes… rose… sweet soft rose..

Suzy : Why you….

Man 1 : Rose? Why bother about a rose? She’s giving you back all things, man…so..let’s pack and go..

Pimp : Shut up…Suzy knows better than us…don’t you, honey?

Suzy : O yes, I know better, pimp! I know better than the whole lot of you… I know better than anyone else knew…but let me remind you, in case you…have forgotten… you don’t owe thing that’s mine..

Pimp : Hahahahaha….hahahaha…tsk! tsk! Tsk! Dear sweet Suzy…you do have what’s mine…and it’s my flesh you’re keeping…my blood thumping in the heart that actually belongs to me…

Suzy : Don’t you dare, pimp! She’s all mine…Rose belongs to me…She’s not yours…

Pimp : Hahahaha….have it your way, sister…we shall it…

(*All the men clear away from the stage except for Suzy*)

**Scene 2**

**Act 1**

(*Suzy is seen in her bedroom, preparing for bed time, humming to herself whilst viewing herself in front of a mirror*).

Suzy : Hmm…not bad, still going steady.. (*continues humming*)

(*After getting undress, she goes to her dressing table*).

(*The clock chimes eleven o’clock*)

Suzy : Where’s this girl? She’s supposed to be back by now…

(*sound of a car stopping in front of Suzy’s house*)

Rose : Bye, handsome…Bye! Love you much…muah! (*blew a kiss*)

(*Rose goes into her house*)

Suzy : Rose, is that you, honey?

(*Suzy gets up*)

Suzy : Who was it just now, sweety? Where did you go? Had fun? You must be so hungry…guess what? I’ve cooked your favourite dish. I’ll warm it up for you in a minute.

Rose : Will you just stop it? I’m tired, ok?

Suzy : Oh, honey…what’s wrong?

Rose : Eeeee…get your hands off…why don’t you just mind your own business?

Suzy : I know you must have a bad day, honey…why don’t you go and take your bath first? We’ll have supper together, ok?

Rose : Look…I don’t have a bad day…I don’t need a bath…I don’t want to have supper with you...a – ok?

(*Rose gets up and walks away*)

Suzy : Rose!…Rose!…Rose! What’s wrong with her? She seems strange lately…I wonder if she having problem with her friends…or…it maybe with her teachers…oh dear, I have a very bad feeling…something not good is going to happen…I’m not sure what it is…but…(sigh)…but…no, I must think positive…nothing’s going to happen..Please, God. Forgive my sin, forgive my dearest daughter. Let her be in peace with herself…

(*Suzy lies down to sleep and dreams a strange dream*)

Suzy : Rose!!! Oh..it’s just a bad dream…oh…it’s about Rose…

**Act 2**

(*Rose enters in*)

Suzy : G’morning, Rose…(*offers her cheek to Rose*)

(*Rose gets up and goes to the table*)

Suzy : Rose, I had a bad dream last night. A strange dream. Horrible.

Rose : So?

Suzy : Sweetheart. Honey. I know this must have sound crazy…doesn’t make sense. But please, stay with me today, will you? Don’t go anywhere.

(*Rose seems not to care*)

Suzy : Rose, are you listening?

Rose : What?!

Suzy : Honey, I want you to stay in the house today. Don’t go anywhere, ok baby? Something terrible is going to happen. Please stay.

Rose : Will you please? I’m trying to eat here, ok? Do you mind?

(*Suzy, taken aback, keeps quiet*)

Suzy : Honey, you changed a lot these days. You seem to be getting far away from me. What is it, Rose?

(*Rose keeps quiet, busy with her food*)

Suzy : Having troubles at college? Homework? Assignments? Com’on, sweet pie. Talk to me. Don’t keep me in the dark. Rose…

Rose : Ok, that’s it! I’ve had enough with you! Don’t bother me, okay? Just go away! Mind your own business!

Suzy : Rose! What’s happening to you?

Rose : Rose…what’s happening to you (mimicking). Well, mother dear…I’ll tell you.. Acting like a saint, pretending not to know what’s happening…well, you stop it! You hear me?! I’m done with insults from my friends. I’ve had it with talks about you. I’m up till here up, can’t you see that??

Suzy : Rose, don’t talk to me like that.

Rose : Oh? Why shouldn’t I?

Suzy : Because you’re the love of my life. My baby. My sweet child.

Rose : I’m NOT your child! I don’t even know who you are! And I don’t even want to know about that…

Suzy : Rose, please, sweetheart…don’t say that. You are my child.

Rose : I know I have a mother…but to me…my mother isn’t a prostitute. My mother is not a whore. My mother would not have simply beg for pleasures…My mother would not have sell her soul to the devil….No…you are…not…my mother…

Suzy : No! Rose…you don’t mean that! Say it isn’t true. I am your mother. Look at me, child. Can’t you see that in my eyes? Can’t you feel that deep in your heart?

Rose : Take your filthy hands off me, woman!

Suzy : No, Rose, please…

Rose : I said, take your hands off me!

(*Rose reaches for a glass of water and splashes it onto Suzy*)

Rose : There…wake up, woman! You don’t even deserve to be born as a mother!

Suzy : Rose…

**Scene 3**

**Act 1**

(*Rose goes out and bumps into her college mates*)

Rose : Hi, guys!

Girl 1 : Huh…looking happy today? (*sounding sarcastic*)

Rose : Why…I deserve to be happy, don’t I ?

Girl 2 : Well, of course…maybe she had a billionaire last night. If I had one, richer customer, I’d be feel happy too. (*laughing with other friends*)

Rose : Hey! You mind your words, ok?

Girl 1 : Hmph..! Is that true? Like mother, like daughter, right friends? (*laughing*)

(*The girl friends turn away*).

**Scene 4**

**Act 1**

(*Rose quickly rushes home and packs her things into a bag in a hurry*. *Suzy comes out, watching Rose packing.*)

Suzy : Rose, honey…what are you doing?

Rose : What does it seem like I doing? (*still packing*)

Suzy : Rose, dear, I beg you. Don’t go, honey. Don’t leave mama alone.

(*Suzy hangs on to her*. *Rose tries to push Suzy away*)

Rose : Let go off me!

Suzy : No, don’t go…please Rose, I’m begging you, sweetheart…don’t go…

Rose : Why shouldn’t I? Give me a good reason why I shouldn’t go…Well, sweetheart….(*sarcastically*), I can give you a hundred and one reasons as to why I should go…

One: my friends don’t want to befriend me anymore.

Two: I’ve been insulted and humiliated by my friends and my boyfriend…and

Three: They even said that I’m a slut!

And guess what, dear??? It’s because of you!!! You…you….prostitute!

(*Suzy slaps Rose. Both are shock*)

Suzy : Ohhh..Rose…I’m sorry….I…..I

Rose : Thank you, mama….thank YOU!

Suzy : No…..no…no…Rose…please, please…I’m so sorry, sweetheart…please…(*crying and pleading*). Don’t go….

(*Rose keeps on wanting to leave as her mother, Suzy, clings onto her. Rose gets impatient and kicks her and goes off*)

Suzy : (*crying*) Rose….(*holding onto her stomach painfully*) Rose…why, Rose? I’ve given you my heart, child…. so that you could you breathe… I’ve given you my soul, dear Rose… so that you could live your life well, my love…. Why, Rose? Why? You’ve spat me, dear Rose yet it’s still sweet to me…You’ve thrown hot water on me, sweet Rose…. but it’s still heavenly warm to me…You’ve called me names, Rose (*sobbing harder*) but it….it…sounds so beautiful coming out from your lips … and …and…you’ve kicked me, oh Rose…but it…was…it was…the most beautiful birth pain of you…dear, Rose…. Oh Rose… come back to me, Rose….I love you, my child…I forgive you….

(*sound of a car crash*)

*Suzy tried to get up and walked painfully to the sound of an ambulance. Two policeman approaches Suzy.*

Policeman 1 : Are you madam Suzy?

Suzy : Ye..yes…

Policeman 1 : Are you the mother of a girl named, Rose?

Suzy : Yes..yes.. what is it?

Policeman 1 : Please be strong, madam. There has been accident just a few metres away from your place.

(*Suzy nods her head impatiently*)

Policeman 1 : Can you please help us to identify this body?

(*A group of medical team comes in, carrying a stretcher with Rose’s body*)

*Suzy slowly uncovers the body and screams Rose’s name.*

Suzy : Who did this? Tell me, who!!??

Policeman 1 : Please, be strong, madam. We’ve caught the culprits.

(*Another policeman comes in with the pimp.*)

Suzy : Why you…you’re disgusting! Disgustingly sick! (*trying to hit the pimp*)

Pimp : Serves you right, woman…ha ha..ha..aha

(*Pimp begins to laugh as Suzy, once again screams Rose’s name while she kneels near her body*)

*Every cast on the stage freezes as the pimp continues on laughing.*)

THE END