

Shattered

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Based on a true story

INT. MELANIE AND BRANSON ARE IN THEIR APARTMENT, ONE SUNNY AFTERNOON. MELANIE IS IN THEIR BEDROOM LOOKING DOWN AT HER PHONE, HER HANDS SHAKING.

MELANIE HESTER

Okay, here we go

Melanie starts typing on her phone, she takes a few deep breaths and presses send on her phone. Sending a clear message on the phone to her mother Theresa.

ZOOM INTO THE TEXT ON MELANIES PHONE

The text on Melanies phone reads: "Hey mom, unfortunately I won't be able to make it to the flower shop opening this week. I ended up getting really hurt and my doctor told me I shouldn't be traveling. I'm so sorry.

WIDE SHOT (MELANIE SITTING THERE, SCARED)

The audience sees Melanie sitting there. After she has sent the text message and the audience is feeling her guilt and fear with her, as she covers her face with her hands and starts rocking back and forth.

Melanie receives a phone call immediately after the text is sent, she uncovers her face and looks at the phone as it rings.

MELANIE HESTER (CONT'D)

Yup, here it comes. Hey mom, what's up?

THERESA (V.O.)

Why aren't you coming? You know how damn hard I have worked on this! For all the things I have done for you girls?!

MELANIE HESTER

Mom, I slipped on black ice and fell. I can barely move; I have a bruised tailbone. I'm sorry but I can barely sit down. Mom I am sorry, this wasn't on purpose!

THERESA (VO)

I don't believe that you actually got hurt, I want proof right now!

MELANIE HESTER
My God! Branson can you come here?

CLOSE UP SHOT OF MELANIE

BRANSON TOWNS
Honey is everything okay?

INVISIBLE WIPE

CLOSE UP SHOT OF BRANSON

MELANIE HESTER
No, my mom wants proof that I got injured because she's throwing a tantrum like she always does. What do I do?

BRANSON TOWNS
Don't give her any. Shes your mom, no mom should ever demand something like that. If she actually cared, she would be here for you.

FULL SHOT (ZOOM IN TO MELANIES FULL BODY)

Melanie picks up her phone after having her mom muted for a minute or two (Theresa thought Melanie was going to get proof). Melanie this time starts to speak.

MELANIE HESTER
Mom, this is not okay. I am seriously injured. I gave you the curtesy of letting you know I couldn't make it. I didn't mean to hurt your feelings, but nothing you say or do is going to change me not coming.

THERESA (VO)
Listen here for everything I have done for you...

MELANIE HESTER
Mom stop this, right now.

THERESA (VO)
I will never forgive you for this. Do you hear me?

MELANIE HESTER
I heard you loud and clear, I won't
(MORE)

MELANIE HESTER (CONT'D)
ever forgive you for putting your
selfish needs above the well-being of
your daughter. I am done! Fuck You!

WIDE CAMERA SHOT

Melanie throws her phone on the bed and starts crying so hard
understanding that her mom is in incapable of change.