

DAMNED IF I DO

by

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INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

RINA stands center of the living room as FRITZ walks towards her as he puts on his jacket.

Rina stops him in his tracks.

RINA
We're you going Laborio?

LABORIO
Where you think I'm going?

RINA
No! You are not leaving this house!

LABORIO
Don't tell me what I'm doing.

Rina stands in front of him.

RINA
No way. There is no way you are going there to help him.

LABORIO
Are you kidding me or what? This is my brother!

RINA
I don't give a shit who it is! You aren't like your brother. He's a troublemaker and you're always getting him out of trouble. One of these days you're gonna save him and get yourself hurt or killed even. You think I don't know the stuff he's involved in? Huh? You think I'm stupid? I'm far from stupid and the things Remo is doing is dangerous. He's in over his head and of course now he calls his big brother to save his ass.

Laborio tries to walk passed Rina.

NO! I said you're not going and that's that.

LABORIO
Rina, listen, listen to me please cause you're getting me crazy now and I'm already crazy over my brother.

RINA
What does he want from you?

LABORIO
He needs back up.

RINA
Back up? Back up how?

LABORIO
He needs me to be there.

RINA
I said no! You leave this house
we are over. We are done. I'm
not tolerating this shit anymore
with you and your idiot brother.
Call him! Call him on the phone
right now, I want to talk to him.

LABORIO
I'm not calling him.

RINA
I'll call him from my phone.

Rina motions to get her phone.

LABORIO
Stop it! You don't understand
he's in a situation.

RINA
You promised me last time that you
wouldn't get involved with him
anymore and I believed you. You
swore on your Mother.

LABORIO
He called me for help! I can't
turn my back on him, he's my
blood.

RINA
You leave, I'm out.

LABORIO
Rrrr! Rina, my brother is in a
situation and if I'm not there
something bad is gonna happen to
him.

RINA
Who are you?

LABORIO

They will know who I am when they see me.

RINA

Oh, the big tough guy talk now. So big and tough. You see? He's sucking you back in. You changed your life! You aren't like that anymore, remember?

LABORIO

I have to be if it means family.

RINA

No, you don't. That's where you're all screwed up in the head.

LABORIO

He's my BROTHER!!!

RINA

And what am I? Tell me. What the hell am I?

LABORIO

I already told him I was coming.

RINA

Laborio, you are stepping back into a place where I won't recognize you anymore...

LABORIO

This is the last time. He needs me. He's my younger brother and I'm all he's got. He can't turn to nobody but me...I can't let him down.

RINA

Then we are over.

LABORIO

Why are you doing this to me?

RINA

You are doing this to you?

LABORIO

Rina, the men who are rolling up on my brother are dangerous, you're right and they know who I am and yes, I'm not rolling that way no more and I'm out of that life but they will only back down if they see my face.

RINA

But don't you see you idiot that by going there they are gonna include you too and that's it, it's game over...all your hard work, everything we've dreamed, everything we've fought for, it's all gone in an instant as soon as they see your face.

LABORIO

And if my brother dies tonight, what do you think that will do to me, anyway? I'm damned if I do and damned if I don't. You are right about what you are saying and believe me when I tell you I agree with you...I love you more than anything in the world but I can't have my brother's blood on my hands and if that means sacrificing my own life, than that's what I'm gonna do because I don't know any other way. I can't make up excuses for who I am in my heart but this is it, take me or leave me...I'm not leaving my brother all alone, I'm gonna straighten out this situation, I'm gonna straighten him out for good and I'm going to make sure that the people he's involved with disappear cause that's the only way.

RINA

This isn't happening...please, please tell me you're not doing this to me...

LABORIO

Maybe I'll always just be an animal...

Laborio leaves the house.