

# “Under Her Skin”- Ashley Sides (1/3) 2.

She searches in their bin of toys and pulls out a doll that has marker marks all over and hair that won't stay down. She gives the doll to Naomi.

ASHLEY'S MOM (CONT'D)

I told your mom to have you come over with your own dolls.

Ashley's mom leaves the two girls to play.

ASHLEY

You can't be prom queen with that doll. I'm gonna be prom queen and I'm gonna have a boyfriend and he's gonna be prom king.

Naomi looks at her doll, she tries to get the hair to stay down but to no avail. Ashley gets up.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

I have to find her crown.

Naomi is left alone in the room. She pulls at the hair harder.

POP!

She holds the head in her hand. She grabs Ashley's doll and -

POP!

She pushes Ashley's doll head onto her doll body and vice versa. She looks at the two mix matched dolls.

NAOMI

Now I can be prom queen.

INT. ASHLEY'S HOUSE - PRESENT DAY

Naomi, now 18, sits on Ashley's bed. Ashley sits at her vanity, she puts her hair in curlers.

Start →

NAOMI

Sooo, I was thinking. Prom is coming up and I think I'm gonna run for prom queen. I think with the debate club and-

Ashley slowly turns her head towards Naomi.

ASHLEY

Well, I'm running for prom queen.

NAOMI  
Yeah, but I thought-

ASHLEY  
You can't run for prom queen.  
First, you won't win against me and  
I would hate for you to be  
disappointed. Secondly, it would  
look bad if we both run, people are  
gonna think we're fighting.

Naomi doesn't know how to respond. Ashley turns her attention back to her hair.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)  
Plus, I already decided you'll be  
my campaign manager.

NAOMI  
Oh, I was kinda set on prom-

ASHLEY  
Naomi, you won't win so you might  
as well help your best friend win.

NAOMI  
I guess you have a point.

ASHLEY  
Perfect, it's decided! We make a  
great duo, I'm the beauty and  
you're the brains!

NAOMI  
Yeah, beauty and brains.

End



~~INT. CAFETERIA - DAY~~

~~Naomi sits at the lunch table with a binder open in front of her. Ashley sits across from her and fixes her makeup in a pocket mirror.~~

~~NAOMI~~  
~~Have you decided who you wanna run with?~~

~~ASHLEY~~  
~~That's what you're here for.~~

~~She puts the mirror away.~~

~~ASHLEY (CONT'D)~~  
~~Okay, there's Damien, he-~~

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ASHLEY (CONT'D)  
As if, Ni. He looks like he doesn't shower. Who else?

NAOMI  
Michael? He's popular and he's been asking you out for years now.

ASHLEY  
Nope, I've been saying no for a reason.  
(then)  
Who are you going with? If anyone's even asked you yet.

Naomi lets her eyes wander around the room.

NAOMI  
I don't know, I think Alex is cute.

Naomi's eyes land on -

ALEX, 17, white, dark brown floppy hair.

Ashley turns to look at him.

ASHLEY  
Alex? Naomi... He's a little out of your league, don't you think?

NAOMI  
We talk in debate club. Whatever, it's just a stupid crush.

Naomi turns her attention back to the binder. Ashley's gaze lingers on Alex.

INT. ASHLEY'S ROOM - DAY

Start → Naomi stands behind Ashley at her vanity. Ashley picks her hair up and checks herself out.

ASHLEY  
Okay, I think I want something like half up half down?

Naomi reaches out and touches her silky blonde hair, she doesn't really listen to Ashley.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)  
Naomi, are you listening?

Naomi snaps out of her trance.

NAOMI

Yeah, do you wanna try to curl it today too?

Ashley tosses her hair down.

ASHLEY

Obviously, the curler is already on.

Naomi grabs the curling iron and gets to work.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

I want to show Alex how my hair would look so we could coordinate.

NAOMI

What do you mean?

ASHLEY

So we look like we go together?

As Naomi wraps the last of the strand around the wand her eyes wander to the rest of her hair. Silky and blonde, Naomi runs her hand down her hair -

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

Ni, what the fuck.

Ashley flinches away from the curler.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

You just burned me.

Naomi quickly releases the curler.

NAOMI

I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to.

Ashley shakes out her hair and huffs.

ASHLEY

It's fine. I know you're not used to doing your hair.

Ashley waves Naomi off and Naomi sits on the bed.

NAOMI

I just told you I have a crush on him, you can't take someone else?

Ashley plays with her hair in the mirror.

ASHLEY

You said it was just a stupid  
crush. And people like him so I  
know he's gonna win.

Naomi shifts on the edge of the bed. Ashley turns to look at  
her.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

Oh, come on. It's not like you were  
gonna ask him, or like he was gonna  
ask you. You have nothing to worry  
about, I'm wayyy too out of his  
league to actually date him. You  
get it, right?

NAOMI

Yeah, I mean I guess it makes  
sense.

End



Naomi watches as Ashley tosses her hair with not a care in  
the world.

INT. CAFETERIA

Naomi sit across from Ashely and Alex. Naomi watches as  
Ashley flips her hair back and laughs at something Alex said.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Naomi sits on the floor with notebooks and papers around her.  
She runs her hand over a -

FLYER:

*VOTE ASHLEY AND ALEX*

*A photo of Ashley and Alex takes up the middle  
FOR PROM KING AND QUEEN.*

Naomi shoves the flyer into a binder.

INT. ASHLEY'S ROOM

Naomi sits at the vanity, she picks her hair up and styles it  
like Ashely had previously. She quickly drops her hair and  
gets up when Ashley comes into the room.

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ASHLEY

Some of the sequin came off my dress so you have to carry this with you just in case it happens at prom.

Ashley hands her a small sewing kit. Naomi packs the kit into her bag.

INT. PROM VENUE - EVENING

Naomi stands next to Ashley in a group of TEENS. Alex wraps his arm around Ashley's shoulder.

ALEX

I hope we can count on your votes. I know my *girlfriend* and I would really appreciate it.

Naomi is taken aback then taps Ashley on the shoulder.

NAOMI

Ash, can you come to the bathroom with me?

Ashley rolls her eyes then gives Alex a *one sec* finger.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Naomi follows Ashley into the bathroom. Ashley takes her spot in front of the mirror, she fixes her lipstick.

ASHLEY

You know, we're getting a little old to have to go to the bathroom together. You're a big girl you can go by yourself.

Naomi leans on the wall next to her.

NAOMI

I thought you said you wouldn't actually date him.

ASHLEY

It just happened, and I think it gives us a better shot at winning. You want your best friend to win, don't you?

Start →

NAOMI

You could've at least given me a heads up.

(then)

I just feel like you always do this, I say I like someone or that I wanna do something then you go on and take it for yourself.

Ashley turns to face her.

ASHLEY

Well, you don't ever go after what you want, and I'm the bad guy because I do?

Ashley takes a step back to look at herself.

NAOMI

I would if you didn't always convince me not to.

ASHLEY

I'm just protecting you from disappointment. You were never gonna win prom queen and Alex never would've gone for you. He laughed when I told him about your crush.

Naomi stands between her and the mirror.

NAOMI

You told him?

ASHLEY

It just proves my point. You really couldn't handle the pressure. Just face it, Ni, you couldn't be me, even if you tried.

NAOMI

You only have everything you want because people are afraid to tell you no. But if everyone could see how shallow and ugly you are under the surface we wouldn't be here.

Ashley gasps.

ASHLEY

I am *not* ugly. Take it back.

Naomi takes a step closer.

End



No.

NAOMI

Ashley, in shock, raises her hand up and slaps Naomi in the face. Naomi touches her cheek, she doesn't know how to process what happened.

ASHLEY

We're even now, we can just go out there and act like none of this happened.

NAOMI

Nothing happened? You just fucking slapped me? You are so entitled, I don't know how I stayed friends with you for so long.

ASHLEY

Well- well whatever, it doesn't matter. I have to go win prom queen so-

Ashley takes a step forward but Naomi grabs her arm. Ashley pushes her but Naomi shoves her back.

Ashley shoves Naomi but she takes a hold of her hair and pulls her down.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

My hair, Ni, not my hair.

Ashley pulls Naomi's leg and she trips backwards. Ashley fixes her hair in the mirror. Naomi gets up behind her.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

Something, she says something. I'll come back to this line.

Naomi, exasperated, lunges forward, takes her head in her hand then smashes it against the mirror. She looks up where the mirror was then down to her hand that holds Ashley.

NAOMI

Ashley? Ashley, please.

She drops her once she realizes what she's done. The body falls and Naomi looks to her friend then to her hands, covered in blood.