Footprints: Episode #107

"FOOTPRINTS" EPISODE #107

TIME FRAME: IMMEDIATELY AFTER #106

TEASER

INT: FITCH MANSION (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

KATHERINE is quietly sipping a cup of tea as she sits in a high-backed antique chair. Her posture, the poise with which she holds the cup -- none of this gives away her unabashed happiness. Only the sly grin on her face serves as evidence of this.

KATHERINE: This is all working out too perfectly. That wretched Danielle hasn't even gone on tour yet, and already there's a rift growing between her and my dear Andrew.

She takes another sip of tea and then lowers the cup.

KATHERINE: It'll only be a matter of time before she's out of his life for good.

INT: FISHER HOME (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

MOLLY strolls down the stairs, dressed casually in jeans and a small white t-shirt. As she makes her way to the front door, JASON enters from the kitchen.

JASON: Hey, sis.

Molly turns around.

MOLLY: Oh, hey.

JASON: I thought it was your day off.

MOLLY: It is ... I've just got something to go take care of.

JASON: It wouldn't happen to involve Brent, would it?

NEW YORK

INT: YANG MANSION (FOYER)

AFTERNOON

ANDREA stands before the open door, staring at the three POLICE OFFICERS just outside her home.

OFFICER #2: It's a simple question, Miss. Is Matt Gray here or not?

Andrea is tight-lipped, unwilling to give up her friend but also unable to lie to the police.

Upstairs, SARAH and MATT are watching all of this, unseen.

SARAH: We've gotta get out of here.

MATT: Yeah ... but how?

ACT ONE

INT: FISHER HOME (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

MOLLY's slowness in responding makes the answer obvious to JASON. He looks disappointed.

JASON: Molly! You can't keep doing this!

MOLLY: Doing what?

JASON: Running to Brent like this ... It's not right.

MOLLY: Jason, he's my friend.

JASON: And our sister's husband.

MOLLY: So what? I'm entitled to be friends with him.

JASON: And the fact that you're in love with him doesn't make any difference?

MOLLY: No!

He shoots her a skeptical look, which quickly disarms her cool, in-control facade.

MOLLY: I mean, it can't. Look, Jay, I'm not gonna let my feelings for Brent get out of control.

JASON: Are you sure you can do that?

NEW YORK

INT: YANG MANSION

AFTERNOON

SARAH stands up slowly, taking care to not make any noise, and pulls MATT up by his sleeve. She speaks in a nearly inaudible voice.

SARAH: Let's go back in the study.

MATT: Good idea.

They move carefully back into the room.

Downstairs, the COPS have become suspicious of ANDREA.

OFFICER #3: Are you hiding something from us, Ms. Yang?

ANDREA: What? No. No! It's just ...

OFFICER #3: What?

ANDREA: I'm surprised that you'd be looking for Matt here. He left town quite a while ago.

OFFICER #1: We're aware of that, but like I said, we received a call that he was around here.

ANDREA: That's odd.

OFFICER #2: Then you haven't seen him, then?

Andrea opens her mouth to answer, but before she can, a clattering sound travels from upstairs and catches all of their attention.

OFFICER #2: What was that?

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ANDREA: Maybe the wind--

OFFICER #1: We're going to have a look around.

The police officers step inside the mansion.

Back in the study, Sarah and Matt search around frantically for someplace to hide. Lying on the floor is a pile of papers and trays that Matt accidentally knocked off the desk.

ACT TWO

INT: FITCH MANSION (LIVING ROOM)
MIDDAY

KATHERINE is pulled away from her thoughts as she sees the butler, WALTER, leading ROBERTA into the room.

WALTER: Ms. Owens is here to see you, Mrs. Fitch.

KATHERINE: All right. Thank you, Walter.

With a nod, Walter exits. Roberta approaches her new employer.

KATHERINE: What is this all about, Roberta?

ROBERTA: Well, Andy was at the studio with Danielle this morning.

KATHERINE: And ...?

ROBERTA: They're looking awfully chummy again. It looks like they made up after that fight the other day.

KATHERINE: Patience, dear, patience. That relationship simply wasn't meant to be. It won't be long before Andrew sees that.

ROBERTA: Yeah, well, I think he might need some help opening his eyes -- and I think I know just the thing to do it.

INT: FISHER HOME (LIVING ROOM)

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MIDDAY

MOLLY fights the urge to slap her brother, JASON, following his last comment.

MOLLY: How can you say something like that? Don't you think I've got any self-control at all?

JASON: Of course! I didn't mean it to be a jab at you, Mol -- After all, you've managed to keep this hidden for this long, right?

And it's been killing me, Molly thinks.

MOLLY: Yes, I have.

JASON: I know you care about Brent. And he's just ... vulnerable right now. We all know he and Sarah have been having trouble, no matter what either of them says.

MOLLY: Brent's not denying it anymore. He's really worried.

JASON: I'm sure he is. But obviously, you and he are very close. I'd just hate for anything to happen that either of you would end up regretting.

MOLLY: Well, you don't have to worry about that. There's no chance of anything happening between Brent and me, believe me.

JASON: You can't be sure of that. After all, you did kiss that night, right? That was certainly unexpected.

MOLLY: Yeah, but it's a mistake we won't make again ... a mistake we can't make again.

ACT THREE

INT: FITCH MANSION (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

KATHERINE stands, eager to hear ROBERTA's suggestion.

KATHERINE: So what is it? What's the key to splitting up Danielle and Andrew for good?

ROBERTA: Me.

KATHERINE: What?

ROBERTA: It makes perfect sense, Mrs. Fitch. If I can just get Andy to fall in love with me--

KATHERINE: Stop right there!

ROBERTA: What? Why?

KATHERINE: This is madness, Roberta! Absolute madness!

ROBERTA: I don't see what's so wrong with my idea ... What, you don't approve of me either?

NEW YORK

INT: YANG MANSION (STUDY)

AFTERNOON

MATT and SARAH have discovered that there is no place to hide.

SARAH: We're trapped.

MATT: Just be quiet ... Maybe we'll get lucky.

He kneels down cautiously, not wanting to make the floor creak.

SARAH: What are you doing?

MATT: I'm just gonna pick up this stuff I knocked over.

He begins stacking the papers up and trying to organize them as Sarah stands nervously in the middle of the room.

SARAH: I don't hear anything. Maybe they left ...

Matt barely hears her. He lets out a stunned gasp.

SARAH: What is it?

MATT: Look at this! It's--

Before he can complete the thought, the door bursts open. The three OFFICERS rush in, followed by ANDREA, who was unsuccessful in her efforts to stop them.

OFFICER #1: So he is here after all!

The other two officers grab Matt and pull him to his feet.

OFFICER #3: Matt Gray, you are under arrest for the theft of one hundred thousand dollars worth ...

The words become nothing but a blur to Matt, who can't focus on anything but the paper he just found -- even as the cold handcuffs are slapped onto his wrists.

ACT FOUR

INT: FISHER HOME (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

Now MOLLY has let down her defenses; her pain is apparent to JASON.

JASON: Are you okay?

MOLLY: I'll live ... After all, I've made it this far, right?

Her brother can think of little to do other than nod sympathetically.

MOLLY: I just can't take this anymore.

JASON: Take what? Not being with Brent?

MOLLY: No -- as much as that hurts, I know I can manage. But seeing what Sarah has done to him -- it's killing me.

JASON: Sarah has her reasons for doing what she's doing, Mol. It's not your business -- or anyone else's -- to get involved in their problems.

MOLLY: You're right ... but I already am.

NEW YORK INT: YANG MANSION (STUDY) AFTERNOON ANDREA and SARAH are standing around in silence, both in disbelief over Matt's arrest.

SARAH: I still can't believe this ...

ANDREA: I tried to get rid of them, Sarah. But they knew he was here ...

SARAH: It's not your fault. I shouldn't've let him come over here -- it was too risky.

ANDREA: I still don't understand how this could've happened. I mean, who would have seen Matt -- or for that matter, called the police about it?

SARAH: Maybe your neighbors saw him coming in, careful as we were. What about Ed?

ANDREA: I don't see why he would. I mean, he was only a witness.

Distractedly rummaging through the papers on the desk, the papers that Matt had knocked over, Sarah grunts in frustration.

SARAH: Dammit!

ANDREA: What?

SARAH: Matt found something in here right before they caught him. He was about to show it to me when they came in.

ANDREA: Do you have any idea what it was?

SARAH: It was one of the million papers he had knocked over, but I can't find anything useful in all of this.

ANDREA: Why don't you go to the jail and talk to Matt?

SARAH: Believe me, I plan on it. Whatever he found may be the key to setting him free.

ACT FIVE

INT: FITCH MANSION (LIVING ROOM)

MIDDAY

The normally cool KATHERINE crumbles under ROBERTA's angry stare -- albeit gracefully, of course. She delivers her lie quite calmly.

KATHERINE: No, it's not that. I just don't think Danielle would consider you enough of a threat.

ROBERTA: Why not?

KATHERINE: Because ... you have no history with Andrew.

ROBERTA: What's that got to do with anything?

KATHERINE: Plenty. In fact, I've got another idea, one which is sure to make both Andrew and Danielle insecure almost immediately.

Roberta is visibly disappointed, but Katherine will not allow herself to give in.

KATHERINE: Please, just promise me you'll only do what I ask you to do.

ROBERTA: Fine. Look, I've gotta get back to work. I'll be in touch.

KATHERINE: Very good. Thanks for coming by.

Roberta exits. Once she is out of sight, Katherine drops back into her chair, now allowing her worry to show on her face. She speaks quietly to herself.

KATHERINE: Of course I don't approve of you, Roberta. Why would I want my son to spend his life with a woman who'd ruin the lives of strangers simply for money?

She sighs, nervous that Roberta will be difficult to control.

KATHERINE: Still, it's best that I don't say anything more to Roberta. If I upset her too much, she's liable to tell the entire truth to Andrew.

She picks up the now-cold cup of tea, but places it down again without taking a sip.

KATHERINE: It's time that I move on to the next phase of my plan.

INT: FISHER HOME (LIVING ROOM) MIDDAY

JASON puts his arm around MOLLY.

JASON: You mean because of your feelings for Brent?

MOLLY: Not just that. Regardless of everything else, he's probably my best friend. And Sarah is my sister. I'm bound to get caught up in all of this somehow.

JASON: Of course you are. All of us will, to some degree. But you're walking a really delicate balance ...

MOLLY: I know. But I can't pull myself out of the situation now -- I've got to be there as a friend for Brent.

JASON: And a sister to Sarah.

Molly feels a tiny stab of guilt inside of her.

MOLLY: Right.

JASON: And that's why it's so important that you keep your feelings for Brent to yourself.

NEW YORK

INT: YANG MANSION (STUDY)

AFTERNOON

Before either SARAH or ANDREA can say anything else, STEVE walks into the room, still wearing his jacket and carrying his car keys.

STEVE: What's going on here? I saw the cop cars driving away.

ANDREA: They just arrested Matt.

STEVE: What? What was that doofus doing here?

SARAH: We were trying to find out the truth.

STEVE: Face it, toots: The truth is that Matt Gray is nothing more than a petty crook.

Andrea notices the rage building in Sarah's face.

ANDREA: Steve, why don't you go downstairs? I left some lunch for you in the kitchen.

STEVE: Sounds good ... Thanks, hon.

He leaves the room. On his way down the stairs, he can't help but smile. This is all working out too well ...

END OF EPISODE #107

Next Episode