

KARMA'S A BITCH, BUT SO ARE YOU

A Radio Play  
written by  
Kris Thompson  
for  
CONE MAN RUNNING PRODUCTIONS'  
WAR OF THE WORDS (COLLATERAL DAMAGE)  
AN AUDIO PLAY BRACKET BATTLE

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KARMA'S A BITCH, BUT SO ARE YOU

**CAST LIST**

Dixie Garner (Schrenia) Female. Recently deceased hand sanitizer mogul. Entitled rich bitch. Southern Accent but **FAST** talker.

Karma (Adina) Female. Extremely bubbly and sassy "Agent of After Death Realization".

Grim Reaper (Schrenia) Male. Agent of After Death Transition. Deep intimidating voice.

**LOCATION**

Mercy General Hospital

**SYNOPSIS**

Hand sanitizer mogul has died, doesn't know it, and must face her bad deeds before moving on.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Genre: Drama or Comedy (basically wide open)  
Theme: Payback  
Sound Q: Weird Clicking Spinner Noise (provided)  
Pages: 10 (not including title/cast page)  
Length: N/A

**ACTORS:**

Adina Owen  
Schrenia Kunkel Bockholt

SCENE (1) INTERIOR/HOSPITAL ROOM

**FX: COMBO MEDICAL PERSONNEL MURMURING, FLATLINE, GOAT**

DIXIE

(Waking up sounds) Yawn. Grumble. Need coffee. Yawn. What the... I'm in a hospital? What in the hell is going on? Nurse! You there! With the hideous haircut and offensive shoes. Come here!

KARMA

You're awake! Dixie Garner. Hand sanitizer mogul. Forbes top ten billionaires eight years running since Covid19. When I heard you were here...all I could think was...It's about damn time!

DIXIE

What the hell does that mean?

KARMA

Awww..come on. You must admit it's a bit overdue. Frankly, I'm surprised someone hasn't pushed you off a balcony before now.

DIXIE

Are you insane? I think I'd know if I fell off a balcony.

KARMA

I have to tell you, after Jeremy pushed you off that balcony-

DIXIE

You are mistaken. I haven't seen that weakling excuse for a son since I fired him for trying to close our operations in China. Some silly child-labor situation. Now, why am I here?

KARMA

I'm trying to tell you. Have some patience! So, you're flying off the balcony and here comes this very large delivery truck. And, as luck or kismet or whatever you believe in would have it...it's a Garner Industries truck. (laugh) How's that for irony? (pause) (awkward) You know, because you're Dixie Garner and the truck was probably full of the hand sanitizer you got filthy rich off of and it ended up killing you. It's funny! Wow. No sense of humor at all.

DIXIE (sounding serious)

Are you on drugs? Seriously. Is it drugs? I genuinely care.

KARMA (sweet)

Awww...you do?

DIXIE

Of course not, moron! Just tell me what the hell is going on!

KARMA (annoyed)

Cool your jets Ms. Richity Rich, I-

DIXIE

Oh my. Missy, you just sassed yourself right out of a job.

KARMA

I wouldn't call this a job, per se. It's more of a calling. Or a (pause) "sentence" if I'm being real honest.

DIXIE

You'll never work in Georgia again.

KARMA (voiced like Dorothy in Wizard of Oz)

Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Georgia anymore.

DIXIE

Who the hell is Toto?

KARMA

My pet goat.

**FX: GOAT SOUND PROVIDED BY ADINA**

DIXIE

Oh my God. Get me your supervisor. (pause) Now!

KARMA

Fine. (put hand over mouth for muffled but still audible sound)  
Paging G. Reaper. Paging G. Reaper.

DIXIE

My Doctor's name is Jahreaper? Good Lord. What is that? Indian? Middle Eastern? Didn't they have nice white doctors available?

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC**

GRIM REAPER

You paged? You know how busy I am.

KARMA

Missis Money Pants insisted.

DIXIE (condescending)

You're Dr. Jahreaper?

KARMA

That's "G" (beat) Reaper.

GRIM REAPER

Dr. is such a subjective label. You can just call me Grim.

DIXIE

Doctor Reaper I demand...demand you tell me why I'm in this Godforsaken hospital! These sheets are extraordinarily scratchy. Don't you people know about thread count? My pillow is hard as a rock. There's a throbbing red light coming in through the window that's giving me a migraine.

**FX: SNORING**

DIXIE

And why in God's name am I not in a private room? Do you know who I am?

GRIM REAPER

Karma can answer any questions you may have.

DIXIE

You mean this deranged nurse?

KARMA (sarcastic)

Awww...You say the sweetest things!

DIXIE

Oh wait. Nurse Karma? (laughs) What...is that your stripper name?

KARMA (like winning an award)

She likes me! She really likes me!

GRIM REAPER

She doesn't seem to be getting it. Have you shown her the video?

KARMA

She literally just got here. Like two minutes ago.

DIXIE

Oh my God. Did Ernesto, the pool boy, make a video of us?

GRIM REAPER

Call me when she's seen the video.

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC**

DIXIE

Or was it Bobby, the paper boy? (defensive) He said he was 18. He said it. I believed it. That's what counts!

KARMA

Gross.

DIXIE

Teenagers today. Am I right? Have you seen the video? How did I look? Is it trending? What are people saying? No such thing as bad publicity, right? Maybe I should just see the video myself.

KARMA

Capital idea! I'll just pull it up here on your monitor.

**FX: SNORING**

KARMA (Cont.)

And why don't you put on these headphones, so we don't disturb your roomie while you watch. There you go! Enjoy!

**FX: TIME PASSING CLOCK**

KARMA (Cont.)

So, Dixie. That's the video!

DIXIE (in shock)

Oh. My. God. I thought I was going to be watching a leaked sex tape. What was that?

KARMA

That was every bad thing you've ever done, a lifetime of cruelty and sins against your fellow human beings, boiled down into a 15-minute video.

DIXIE

You made this video? But why? Blackmail?

KARMA

Oh, I didn't make it. But it's important you understand that every action you take in life has a consequence on your soul. You've got to "get that" before you move on.

DIXIE

I'm not going anywhere until I find out who made that video!

KARMA

So, you liked it? My favorite part? I really dig the montage of bullying scenes from...what was that? Your mean middle school years? The production quality. Those transitions. So beautiful.

DIXIE

Where did this footage come from? It's impossible.

KARMA

And then, that redhead you basically annihilated your senior year. You know, she never fully recovered from that...event. She's still in therapy if you care to know.

DIXIE

Why would I give a rat's ass about some redhead from high school?

KARMA

Well, she was your best friend (pause) up until that...event

DIXIE

How could you know that? Who are you?

KARMA

Can't accuse you of letting wealth change you. You've always been a bitch, even before the money. Props for consistency!

DIXIE

What is this? A shake down? (pause) Or perhaps I'm having a nervous breakdown! Get my doctor back here. Now!

KARMA

Fine. (put hand over mouth for muffled but still audible sound) Paging G. Reaper. Paging G. Reaper.

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC**

GRIM REAPER

You paged? You know how busy I am.

DIXIE

Doctor -

GRIM REAPER

No. But I stayed at a Holiday Inn once.

KARMA

(silence) Grim. Read the room, dude.

GRIM REAPER

Right. Dixie, just call me Grim.

DIXIE

Doctor Reaper, something very strange is happening. Either I'm being blackmailed or I'm having a serious nervous breakdown.

GRIM REAPER

I take it you saw the video. Well, what'd you think? I don't want to brag or anything, but I actually did the sound design on the section about your climb to the top of corporate America and all the people you crushed along the way.

DIXIE

Oh my God. Et tu Doctor?

GRIM REAPER

(slow, dramatic) Et tu. Et three. Whatever it takes. (pause) Wow, you're right. Tough crowd. Call me when she understands.

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC**

KARMA

Poor Dixie. You still don't get it. Not the sharpest scythe in Grim's toolbox, are you.

DIXIE

Listen up, you snotty little stripper, nurse-want-a-be. Find and bring me my cell phone before I have you thrown out on your ridiculously perfect ass. Now!

KARMA

No phones here, but I've got the morning newspaper.

DIXIE

Who reads the paper anymore?

KARMA

Your paperboy delivered to you every Sunday morning for five years.

DIXIE

(sexily) Ahh...Sunday mornings. (pause) Never mind. Just hand it over.

KARMA

Here you go. Check out the top of page two.

**FX: HEAVY RUSTLING NEWSPAPER**

DIXIE (reading)

District Court Judge Matthew Mendoza, and his wife Amanda, will co-chair the annual foodbank charity auction in May. So?

KARMA

Wait. What? No. You're on page four. Go to page two.

**FX: HEAVY RUSTLING OF NEWSPAPER**

KARMA (Cont.)

(sarcastic) Didn't figure numbers would be so hard for a captain of industry like yourself. (normal voice) There. Read that one.

DIXIE (reading)

Captain of industry Dixie Garner-

KARMA (interrupting)  
(dramatic) Oh Captain! My Captain!

DIXIE (annoyed)  
Do you mind? I'm trying to read here.

**FX: SLIGHT RUSTLING OF NEWSPAPER**

DIXIE (reading)  
(annoyed) Captain of industry Dixie Garner suffered a (amazed) catastrophic fall from her hotel balcony? And (dismayed) lost her battle with internal injuries Thursday evening at Mercy General.

KARMA (singing)  
(slow - you know the tune) Swing low. Sweet Chariot. Comin for to carry you home (the following part is a continuation but keep the same musical tone as the word home and sing the rest super-fast and monotone) but sometimes home is a red-hot burning lake of fire from which there is no (draw this word out long to end singing) escape.

DIXIE  
So...I didn't make it? I'm...I'm...

KARMA  
Ya dead Dixie.

DIXIE  
Oh boy.

KARMA  
(put hand over mouth for muffled but still audible sound) Paging G. Reaper. Paging G. Reaper.

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC**

GRIM REAPER  
You paged? You know how busy I am.

KARMA  
She's starting to get it. I know how you like to be there for the realization part.

DIXIE

Doctor Reaper.

GRIM REAPER

Well, they did used to call me Doctor Doom but then Stan Lee ruined that. Just call me Grim.

DIXIE

Doctor Reaper, I think I might be dead. You have to do something!

KARMA

You should finish reading the article.

**FX: SLIGHT RUSTLING OF NEWSPAPER**

DIXIE (reading)

Her son, Jeremy Garner, confirmed that his mother had been (incredulous) suffering from depression? Me? Suffering from depression? Lying little piece of shit. I've never been depressed a day in my life! Depression is an excuse to lay around and moan.

KARMA

Yikes. You must admit there was a bunch of laying around and moaning in your video. But that's beside the point. Continue reading!

**FX: SLIGHT RUSTLING NEWSPAPER**

DIXIE

Jeremy asks that the family be left to grieve in peace. Sources close to the family indicate he will (incredulous) take over as CEO of Garner Industries? Noooooo!!!!

KARMA (authentically gentle)

You get it now, don't you Dixie?

DIXIE (angry)

Oh, I got it! That little prick's going to get away with murder and steal my company!

KARMA

Paybacks are hell.

GRIM REAPER

And Karma's a bitch. (beat) No offense Karma.

KARMA

None taken Grim.

DIXIE

Oh wait. You're Karma. Like...what goes around comes around Karma?

**FX: WEIRD SOUND Q DRAWNOUT (NOT REPEATED) TO BE 3 SECONDS LONG**

KARMA

There! Grim. You see that! She just got it.

DIXIE

Geeze. Maybe I shouldn't have been such a bitch my whole life.

KARMA

Ya think?

DIXIE

And you...Doctor Reaper. (realization) Doctor Grim Reaper. The  
Grim Reaper? Yea...ok...I get you.

GRIM REAPER

Actually, Dixie... I. GET. YOU!

**FX: SCARY GRIM REAPER MUSIC MIXED WITH FX: WOMAN SCREAMING**

KARMA

Come on Toto. Our work here is done.

**FX: GOAT SOUND PROVIDED BY ADINA**

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