

**Laurie** (43, F, Black)

Laurie, an African American woman, plays a crucial role in "Whisper" as Nolan's trusted partner and surrogate mother to Thaddeus. Her familial connection as the sister of Nolan's ex-wife, Belinda, adds tension to the story.

Laurie offers wisdom and guidance, serving as a voice of reason in Nolan's turbulent journey. She's also a flight attendant, bringing an adventurous spirit to the narrative.

Her unwavering support and love shape the characters' quests for self-discovery and redemption.

**Nolan** (44, M, Black)

Nolan is a commanding and dominant figure haunted by his desires. As an African American man, he brings a unique perspective to his understanding of power dynamics. Nolan is drawn into a dangerous game of control and surrender when he becomes the target of Jamison's relentless pursuit.

As secrets unravel, including Jamison's past relations with Nolan's son, Nolan must confront his own dark desires and make choices that will redefine his boundaries.

EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

A very frustrated Nolan stares out into the dark.

Laurie stands with Nolan.

LAURIE

The heart wants what the heart wants.

Nolan moves to the edge of the patio.

NOLAN

I don't need to hear that shit right now.

LAURIE

Take him back?

NOLAN

No.

LAURIE

He makes you happy.

NOLAN

Not that happy.

Laurie laughs.

NOLAN (CONT'D)

Most of the time, he's just a pain in the  
ass.

They both smile and chuckle.

LAURIE

Don't do it for him.

NOLAN

I'm not trying to do shit for him.

LAURIE

Do it for yourself.

Nolan turns away from Laurie.

NOLAN

I want to.

LAURIE

I know.

NOLAN

But, I can't.

LAURIE

Your ego can't, but you can.

NOLAN

That trashy ass nigga, fucked with my  
son. Our son. Your nephew.

LAURIE

Nolan.

Nolan nods his head.

NOLAN

(fuming mad)

I. I. I could fucking kill that nigga  
right now.

LAURIE

When your heart opens, it opens to pain  
and joy.

NOLAN

Me, of all people. Can't believe this  
nigga got me like this.

LAURIE

You love him enough to hate him?

NOLAN

Yeah.

LAURIE

If you can't say, you love him right now.  
Just say you hate him.

NOLAN

That's an understatement. I hate him. I  
really fucking hate him.

LAURIE

And that's all right.

NOLAN

I hate that nigga.

LAURIE

(embracing Nolan)  
I'm about to leave.

NOLAN

What?

LAURIE

I'm leaving.

NOLAN

It's my BIRTHDAY, and you skipping on me,  
too?

LAURIE

It's the best gift I could give you right  
now.

NOLAN

What fucking sense does that make?

LAURIE

Why settle for a substitute?

NOLAN

You're not a substitute?

LAURIE

I love me too much to stay.

Nolan turns to look out into the darkness.

Laurie leaves without saying goodbye.

**Character Report for "LAURIE"**

LAURIE: The heart wants what the heart wants.

LAURIE: Take him back?

LAURIE: He makes you happy.

LAURIE: Don't do it for him.

LAURIE: Do it for yourself.

LAURIE: I know.

LAURIE: Your ego can't, but you can.

LAURIE: Nolan.

LAURIE: When your heart opens, it opens to pain and joy.

LAURIE: You love him enough to hate him?

LAURIE: If you can't say, you love him right now. Just say you hate him.

LAURIE: And that's all right.

LAURIE: (embracing Nolan)  
I'm about to leave.

LAURIE: I'm leaving.

LAURIE: It's the best gift I could give you right now.

LAURIE: Why settle for a substitute?

LAURIE: I love me too much to stay.

**Character Report for "NOLAN"**

NOLAN: I don't need to hear that shit right now.

NOLAN: No.

NOLAN: Not that happy.

NOLAN: Most of the time, he's just a pain in the ass.

NOLAN: I'm not trying to do shit for him.

NOLAN: I want to.

NOLAN: But, I can't.

NOLAN: That trashy ass nigga, fucked with my son. Our son. Your nephew.

NOLAN: (fuming mad)

I. I. I could fucking kill that nigga right now.

NOLAN: Me, of all people. Can't believe this nigga got me like this.

NOLAN: Yeah.

NOLAN: That's an understatement. I hate him. I really fucking hate him.

NOLAN: I hate that nigga.

NOLAN: What?

NOLAN: It's my BIRTHDAY, and you skipping on me, too?

NOLAN: What fucking sense does that make?

NOLAN: You're not a substitute?