

YOUR DESTINY by Rama Esayas (REVISED FULL SCRIPT)

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PANEL 1

Destiny, a 17-year-old girl, walks alone down a dim road. A house party glows behind her. Her face shows anger and hurt, tears in her eyes, but she's holding it together.

NARRATION:

June 28, 2026

NARRATION:

I was just a normal 17-year-old girl until...

RANDOM PERSON:

COME ON DESTINY! STAY!

DESTINY:

Ugh I wish I hate having strict parents

SFX:

clunk

PANEL 2

A glowing chain lies on the ground reading "\$JALEEL\$."

NARRATION:

I found a gold chain that changed my destiny.

DESTINY:

Am I tripping... or is that chain glowing?

PANEL 3

Three-part panel: putting on chain → time tunnel → glitching hands.

SFX:

click

SFX:

WOOOOOSH

NARRATION (IN TUNNEL):

2026... 2016... 2006... 1996

NARRATION:

June 28, 1996

NARRATION (DESTINY):

That sent me back—thirty years—to the exact same road.

DESTINY:

AHHHHHH!

DESTINY:

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY HANDS?!

SFX:

VROOOOM

PANEL 4

Headlights rush toward Destiny.

NARRATION:

June 28, 1996

DESTINY:

Gasp

PANEL 5

A car passes through her.

NARRATION:

June 28, 1996

SFX:
THUD

PANEL 6

Jaleel lies injured. Destiny tries to help but she can't touch him.

NARRATION:
June 28, 1996

DESTINY:
OH SHITT, are you ok, let me help you

DESTINY:
Wait, his chain, it matches mine. He must be Jaleel, and I'm about to watch him die

JALEEL (WEAK):
Ant... Naomi... please help..

NARRATION:
I tried to help Jaleel... but just like the car, my hands went right through him.

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PANEL 7

Destiny back in 2026, researching Jaleel.

NARRATION :
June 28, 2026

NARRATION:
When I got back to my timeline, I knew I had to figure out what happened to Jaleel, so I googled his name with the date and found a video that changed everything.

NARRATION (YOUTUBE):
In loving memory of Jaleel "\$JALEEL\$" Harris (1978–1996)

DESTINY (BURST):
Hold up—MOM AND DAD?!

NARRATION:

Jaleel did say their names... “Ant... Naomi...”

PANEL 8

She puts the chain back on.

DESTINY: I have to know the truth

PAGE 3**PANEL 9**

Destiny is transported to the setting of the youtube video, which happens to be the morning of June 28 1996, the day Jaleel dies. Now she can solve the truth of who kills him and why. She watches as Jaleel and Ant (her dad) rap while Naomi (her mom) sets up the camcorder. Destiny has a thought bubble of parents in the future, unhappy and arguing.

NARRATION:

The morning of June 28, 1996

JALEEL:

Ant, I’m telling you, we could be like Tupac and Biggie.

ANT (LAUGHING):

Yeah, and then what? We start dissing each other through rap?

JALEEL:

Nah, not us. We’re different.

NAOMI:

Guys, I support your dreams... but right now my dream is making it to Megan’s party, so...

NARRATION (DESTINY):

I had never seen my parents this happy—laughing and joking together. Now they were miserable, but with Jaleel, they were happy.

PANEL 10

At the party.

NARRATION:

At Megan's party

NAOMI (BURST):

Guys, you have to perform! This DJ is garbage, it's your time to shine!

ANT:

Nah, let's just chill. Besides, I wanted to talk to Naom—

JALEEL:

Common Ant, let's do it. Naomi's right we got this.

DESTINY:

Jaleel's confidence is kinda attractive...

PANEL 11

They perform.

NAOMI:

YEAH! Lets go.

DESTINY:

He's a star... I'm not letting him die. Not tonight.

PANEL 12

Jaleel and Naomi kiss.

JALEEL:

Naomi... I know we're all friends, me, you, and Ant, but...I like you. How do you feel?

NAOMI:

... only one way to find out.

NARRATION (DESTINY):

It felt wrong watching my mom kiss someone other than my dad.

NARRATION (DESTINY):

But I'd be lying if I said that was the only reason I hated it.

PANEL 13

Ant overhears.

ANT:

I liked Naomi first, and I was gonna tell her tonight. I'm not letting him take her.

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PANEL 14

Ant drags Naomi away.

ANT:

C'mon, I need to talk to you.

JALEEL:

Wait, where are you guys going? Ant, you're my ride, you can't leave me here.

NAOMI:

Ant slow down, you're hurting my arm.

NARRATION (DESTINY):

That look on my dad's face, I knew it all too well. It was the first time he resembled the man he would become: angry and miserable.

PANEL 15

Car argument.

ANT:

You know I like you.

NAOMI:

What? No I didn't!?

ANT:

Well now you do. And you kissing Jaleel is crazy. Do you like him?

NAOMI:

I... I don't know

SFX:

VROOOOMMMM

PANEL 16

Jaleel walking.

JALEEL:

Dammit I think fucked up

PANEL 17

Driving back.

NAOMI:

I know you're mad, but we have to go back for Jaleel. He has no ride, and he's been drinking.

ANT:

You're still worrying about him right now? You know what, fine, I'll go back.

SFX:

SKREEERT

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PANEL 18

Destiny comforts him (he can't see her).

NARRATION (DESTINY):

I knew he would die that night. The same road, the date on the video—it all matched up, and I was determined to stop it.

SFX:

VROOM VROOM

PANEL 19

Car approaching.

NARRATION:

IT'S TIME

PANEL 20

Realization.

DESTINY:

Wait... I know that license plate. Not just because it hit Jaleel, but because it's my dad's car! My dad's red Honda Accord!

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PANEL 21

Full emotional realization.

NARRATION:

My dad... he's about to hit Jaleel.

My mom is in that car... she sees everything.

And they do nothing.

They leave him.

They kill their best friend... and leave him.

NARRATION:

And that night...

that secret...

that's what tied them together.

NARRATION:

Not love.

Not choice.

Just guilt.
Just trauma.

NARRATION:

That's why they're miserable now.
That's why nothing feels real.

NARRATION:

I'm the product of that misery, of a choice they made that night.

NARRATION:

But Jaleel...
He didn't deserve this.

NARRATION:

He was the light.

NARRATION:

And I won't let that light die twice.

NARRATION:

Even if that means...
I never get to shine.

PANEL 22

Destiny glows intensely, standing in front of the car. Ant snaps out of his rage and swerves the car.

DESTINY:

AHHHHH!

SFX:

SKREEEECH

PANEL 23

Ant and Naomi rush out. Jaleel is shaken but alive. They hug him.

NARRATION (DESTINY):

I didn't know how I did it. I didn't have superpowers. But then again, yesterday I couldn't time travel, so I wasn't about to question it. All that mattered was that I saved him.

ANT:

HOLY SHIT—Jaleel, I didn't even see you—

NAOMI:

Oh my God—are you okay?!

JALEEL:

I'm good... let's just go home.

PANEL 24

They drive away.

NARRATION:

He'll never know me.

NARRATION:

But I changed his destiny.

NARRATION:

Even if it erased mine.