

THE PROXY

When they mistook her for a powerful woman, she played along to survive. Now she's taking it all back.

Created by: Kelly R. Tenney

Genre: Thriller | Drama | Romance | Social Conspiracy

Format: Movie of the Week

Logline

When a struggling single mother is mistaken for a high-profile art dealer during a violent gallery heist, she plays along to stay alive. But when she learns the real woman orchestrated it all, Monique must infiltrate the art world's underbelly to expose the truth and reclaim the identity that was nearly stolen forever.

Tone & Genre

Thriller meets Intimate Drama

- A **psychological identity thriller** with the emotional richness of a coming-into-power journey.
- Grounded **romance** woven through a mother-son survival story.
- Social legacy tension, **art, Black identity, and cultural theft** in a post-viral world.

Think:

- Killing Eve meets The Undoing
- Queen & Slim meets Inside Man
- A splash of *The Crown* meets *Atlanta*

What It's About

THE PROXY is about:

- Stolen identity and stolen art
- Power from invisibility
- A woman using the illusion of status to reclaim her truth
- Legacy, authenticity, and who gets to tell the story
- Revenge wrapped in elegance

It's a survival story, a social reckoning, and a slow-burn character transformation—with heart, teeth, and paintbrushes.

Our Hero - MONIQUE DAVENPORT

33 years old, Black. A waitress. A mother. An artist with no name on the wall. She's used to being overlooked, until someone uses that against her.

- Sharp. Resourceful. Tired of just surviving.
- Untrained but brilliant painter—her art is raw, intuitive, deeply personal.
- Her relationship with her son grounds her. But now she must lie to protect them both.
- Her journey: From Impostor to Architect of Her Own Power.

The Mirror - BIANCA ST. JAMES

40's. Black. A luxury gallery owner with cartel connections and impeccable taste. She is what Monique might have been—if the world hadn't decided otherwise.

- Powerful, cold, calculating.
- Built her empire stealing art—and identities—from women like Monique.
- She didn't mistake Monique. She chose her.
- When Bianca re-emerges, the war becomes personal.

Themes

Art as Identity. Legacy as Leverage.

- Who owns the story?
- What happens when a Black woman steals back what was taken?
- How do we fight the systems that erase us—without becoming them?

Explores:

- Cultural theft & repatriation
- Single motherhood & Black creativity
- Digital mythology, social media spectacle
- Power, wealth, erasure, and revenge

World & Visual Style

Atlanta.

- Gentrified art galleries. Historic Black neighborhoods. Corporate glitz meets street hustle.
- Warm colors in Monique's world—texture, clutter, life.
- Cold minimalism in Bianca's—sterility, luxury, curated danger.

Camera & Tone:

• Handheld intimacy transitions into elegant framing as Monique gains power.

- Close-ups linger on paint, skin, expression, breath.
- Digital overlays, social feeds, security footage heighten tension & identity blur.

Romance Thread

Monique & Jordan Rivers

- A reluctant partnership becomes emotional friction.
- He's an ex-cop turned fixer who once worked for Bianca.
- Trust is hard-earned, tension-filled, and always walking a knife's edge.
- Their love story is less about rescue and more about awakening.

Audience & Market Fit

For fans of:

- Sharp Objects
- Killing Eve
- I May Destroy You
- The Undoing
- Queen & Slim

Target Audience:

- Women 25-50
- BIPOC creators and social justice thinkers
- True crime + art world enthusiasts
- Viewers seeking elevated, character-driven thrillers with emotional depth

Why Now

- Cultural theft and appropriation are center-stage globally.
- Black stories about identity, survival, and artistry have mainstream power.
- "Mistaken identity" narratives are ripe for social and emotional subversion.
- *The Proxy* speaks to modern erasure—and what it takes to be seen.

Franchise Potential

 Anthology series: Each season follows a different stolen identity, legacy battle, or cultural theft

•	Docu-style companion	Rea	l stories of	^f repatriated	art,	forged	identity,	exploitation
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• **Art exhibit / installation**: Partner with Black visual artists to exhibit "reclaimed works" from the story