CASSIE, WHO LIES

First Story:

Six years earlier, back in Russia VARNYA was married to a government official (DANIIL) in Krasnoyarsk, in Siberia. Daniil oversaw the new environmental licensing agency tasked with cleaning up the pollution caused by decades of mining, notably gold. He was approached by a powerful businessman MELOR who wanted Daniil to overlook a new gold mine smelting operation using mercury and cyanide. Melor was approached Daniil at his home with a group of important people, himself, several politicians, a police chief and some foreign investors along with their body guards. In Daniil's home office Melor offered Daniil a suitcase full of untraceable money - ten million dollars in foreign currency for the permits he wanted. When Daniil refused Melor killed him. Making all the people there accomplices.

Varnya saw who they were, had met them at the door in fact, knew many of them socially and personally. Coming from a family of high reputation and status, she'd make an excellent witness, unimpeachable even against the strongest of them. Knowing this Melor searched the house to kill her after murdering Daniil.

While they searched the mansion, Varnya snuck into her husband's office while and after kissing her dead husband, took the case of money and fled with her daughter AGNESSA (Agnes).

Since Varnya was the daughter of a diplomat, she was fluent in many languages. She fled to the United States to hide and protect her daughter. The murder became notorious in Russia and the killers, even six years after the fact, still have good reason to kill her.

Also there's the money she took.

Six Years Later…

Melor is now an internationally wanted criminal. He's kept safe in Russia though his influence, but outside of Russia he's a wanted man. A racketeer, a mobster.

Melor has found Varnya and Agnes through their nanny MARIA.

Using Maria's information, his gang and some American contacts, Melor has arranged to kidnap Agnes at the DALTON hotel. His goal is now not so much to kill

Varnya, as it is to recover the money she took. He's in desperate need of the funds. He's willing to ransom Agnes (this time) for the money. Of course, Melor plans on killing them both eventually, but only after he gets the money.

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Agnes is taken by force from her room in the night. She's taken to a locked room in the closed wing with Melor who terrorizes her.

Later she is moved when Cassie finds out.

Later chased to an upper floor by gunfire

Lock themselves in a suite

Light a fire?

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Second Story Start:

CASSIE ROE, is a troubled orphaned girl who has a problem with lying. She lies all the time as a way of controlling her situation. She's borderline pathological. She wins a trip to The Dalton Hotel to spend Christmas with rich kids during a blizzard which closes the hotel off from the rest of the world. The other kids quickly figure Cassie out and shun her, all except one boy, SCOTTY, with whom she'll have a later romantic relationship.

While ostracized from the group, Cassie meets Agnes and they spend a day together, becoming friends and being seen together by many of the hotel guests.

The next day Cassie searches of Agnes and can't find her. Further, everyone denies having seen her, or even being where she said they were. They deny everything. Even Agnes' own mother denies she has a daughter.

Cassie has to fight her own mental issues and a hotel full of liars to find Agnes and unravel the plot.