

## Checkmate!

INT. TOWNHOUSE IN SUBURBS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-EARLY EVENING

NILES LLEWELLYN, mid-20's, mixed race Latin descent, handsome, military neat, intense.

LILY HOLMES, early-30's, from mid-west, compassionate.

NILES is dressed in his business casual attire. He comes home and flops on the burgundy leather couch next to his girlfriend LILY as she watches T.V., gives her a kiss and smokes a cigarette from a pack he takes out of his shirt pocket.

He begins to stare into space as if he knows the outcome, another job most likely not being given to him. He has been laid off for approximately two months and isn't too fond of his unemployment checks. He goes into the kitchen for a beer and a tuna sandwich. He opens the fridge and realizes everything in it preordered food and healthy snacks that he dislikes from days ago. He checks the fridge door and grabs the mustard bottle, but realizes the he is out of mustard. He shakes it, looks at it and then walks over to the fridge and then throws it in the trash can.

LILY

Hey babe how was the interview.

NILES

It went like how it normally goes... Who knows I might get it. I might not. I hope I do.

LILY

Don't sound so sad.

NILES

LILY, do you feel like running to the store with me?

LILY

Yes, gimme a sec.

NILES

Alright.

LILY

What you don't feel like talking?

NILES

No, not really.

LILY

Do you want any real food or just your sandwich?

NILES

Just the sandwich.

LILY looks at NILES sadly, walks over to him and then massages his neck for a couple seconds.

LILY

Babe it's gonna be alright.

NILES looks at LILY and then looks down and smiles sarcastically.

LILY leans down over his shoulder and then kisses him on the mouth. LILY already has on sports attire from her evening jog, after work. So, she puts on her sneakers.

EXT. LILY leads the way to the car and NILES follows and then locks the front door. They jump into NILES' car which is an older model German car that sits low and has primer on the exterior. The engine is upgraded and wheels are upgraded for better performance. The couple heads to the grocery store, approximately a mile from their townhouse.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE GROCERY STORE-MINUTES LATER

LILY sees her friend as NILES and her walk into the store. Her friend has a fairly new convertible black coupe, with tint. It has low profile black rims in the back and regular wheels on the front.

KIM LOPEZ, Medium build, very feminine, soft-spoken.

KIM

LILY!

LILY

Hey girl!

KIM

I just got off of work! Boss is annoying the hell out of me. Oh, sorry hey NILES.

NILES

Hey KIM.

KIM

Hey NILES.

(Pause)

Well yah we have been swamped with work lately. Corporate is supposed to be coming to check things out. Restructuring the office you know.

LILY

I how you feel as of lately work for me has been a bit laid back. It's not as bad as it was last month.

KIM

Well later, take care.

NILES

Later.

LILY and KIM hug each other and kiss each other the cheek and then part ways. Then LILY and NILES walk into the grocery store, together. They walk to the mustard aisle examine brands and prices. LILY pulls one from the aisle and looks at it closer.

LILY

Why is food becoming so expensive?

NILES

Cuz, it's no longer food it's science.

LILY

What?

LILY looks at NILES and smiles and NILES looks at her with a straight face.

NILES

I'm serious. Food is no longer food. Its all genetically engineered or something.

LILY looks at NILES sarcastically.

LILY

Right. So, this is all science?

LILY holds up the mustard bottle and puts towards NILES face sarcastically and NILES Nods up and down.

LILY

Whatever. Looks like food to me. Why would someone waste time and engineer food?

NILES

Are you serious?

NILES looks at LILY and smiles sarcastically.

NILES

You're the healthy one and don't know anything about what your eating? What you just look at anything that says organic or green?

NILES starts laughing.

LILY

Don't laugh.

LILY slaps his arm gently.

NILES

It's corn.

LILY looks baffled.

LILY

Corn? That's one of the dumbest things I've ever heard.

NILES

Wow, how about we discuss this later.

LILY

I hate when you do that. Later? Ugh.

NILES  
Here it is! Do we need anything else?

LILY  
Yah, we need salad and yogurt.

NILES and LILY walk to get the yogurt, then the salad. Then they walk to check out counter. Put the food on the counter and wait behind the two people ahead of them with a young child. LILY stares and daydreams.

FADE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM- DREAM

LILY and NILES are in an emergency room while LILY having a baby. NILES is supporting LILY in the birth of their baby. LILY leaves the hospital and their baby girl is put into her infant crib. The couple takes about half an hour trying to learn how to get the car seat placed in the car, correctly. The room has fairytale borders and yellow walls.

END SCENE

INT. GROCERY STORE-CONTINUOUS

CASHIER, teenage girl, lackadaisical, polite.

CASHIER  
Hi, do you have a discount card? How will you be paying today?

NILES  
Umm, cash. I don't have a card.

CASHIER  
Would you like to sign up for one?

LILY  
No thank you.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF TH GROCERY STORE-MINUTES LATER

LILY walks ahead of NILES a couple of feet.

NILES

Wow, LILY, check you out. I didn't know sexy can out do sexy.

LILY blushes as she takes the car keys from him and gives NILES a kiss.

LILY

You look tired baby I'll drive.

NILES

Cool.

CUT TO:

EXT. TOWNHOUSE- MINUTE LATER

They reach home, exit the car, open the door and enter, joyfully. Afterwards they enter the bedroom. NILES slaps her rear and she blushes. They take off their clothes and begin kissing each other.

LILY

I thought that you were tired. You fooled me.

NILES

A real man can never get tired of a good woman.

INT. ANOTHER PART OF THE ROOM- CONTINUOUS

NILES smiles from cheek to cheek.

LILY

Therefore you ride.

LILY smiles at NILES in a romantic way.

LILY

Fine.

They have sexual intercourse and then fall asleep. In the late hours of the night Niles hears something downstairs and remembers that they forgot to close the kitchen window and it has been thunder storming for the last couple of hours. Lily feels him leave and wakes up.

NILES

Baby go back to sleep you have a long day ahead of you. I need to close the window.

INT. STAIRCASE-SECONDS LATER

NILES walks downstairs and sees two small creatures; about four feet tall and they have heads that are rather large. They stand in the kitchen and see the window screen popped out. Niles becomes shocked and in awe and his initial reaction is to start swinging fists. He throws his first punch grabs a pot from the dish rack.

NILES

Get the fuck out...

NILES points the direction of the exit and then runs after one of the creatures in rage. NILES' veins are popping out of his neck and he skin tone is becoming red.

CUT TO:

INT. INSIDE THE KITCHEN-SECONDS LATER

One of the creatures grabs his mouth to silence him. He is now in a coma like state, now as they levitate him through the window, while knocking down a few things on the counter.

NILES is still conscious and begins chanting psalms 23 in his head.

NILES

The lord is my ...

Then he skips to psalms 35 in his head.

NILES

Contend, Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take up shield and armor; arise and come to aid. Brandish spear and javelin against those who pursue me. Say to me, "I am your salvation."

CUT TO:

EXT. The backyard is rather small with a wooden fence, behind the yard is a large wooded area where the two small. E.T. beings bring him to their vehicle, which favors a saucer.

He is levitated into the large vehicle and is put into a room with bright lights and laid on a table. Three other creatures walk into the room and begin to conduct something that looks somewhat like an operation. Yet at the same time tries to yell for Lily, but is still not able to be heard, because he is in somewhat of an unconscious state. He begins to feel the vehicle levitate for a moment and then he is feels it make a noise similar to an engine, but less noisy and feels it move with an instance. He begins thinking about his beloved girlfriend, family and all of his life passes before his eyes, until awhile after he is woken up and the beings communicate with him telepathically, while in restraints.

FIRST BEING

(Telepathically)

We are not your enemy. We have chosen you as an ambassador of your world and ours. We communicate differently do our worlds being worlds apart. We have inserted an object and have done a slight modification to your genetic make up so that you can survive in our atmosphere and living conditions on our planet. It is our objective to use you to help your people. We will remain our planet for a short time and then we will send you to your planet to do the task that is asked of you. While here we will condition you in order to keep you safe from all harm, because you will be in the interest of world governments. You have a pure enough heart and the blood of all; we are using you because do to you having the blood of all races you will have no bias and can rely our message to all walks of life efficiently. Once more we are good beings.

CUT TO:

INT. STAIR WAY INSIDE LILY'S HOUSE-LATER

Meanwhile, early morning LILY wakes up from the alarm clock. She notices that NILES is gone. So she walks, around then makes her way downstairs.

LILY

(Yells)

Baby! NILES

CUT TO:

## INT. LILY'S KITCHEN-CONTINUOUS

She notices the window is open. She is surprised as she sees the window screen busted.

LILY  
(Screams)  
What the fuck!

CUT TO:

## INT. LILY'S TOWNHOUSE-CONTINUOUS

She runs to get her cell phone and calls his number. The phone rings three times and the phone goes straight to voicemail. So, she calls again. No answer. So, she goes into NILE'S nightstand and grabs his handgun, extremely dainty and scared and begins to cry.

LILY  
(Yells)  
NILES!

CUT TO:

## EXT. TOWNHOUSE-LATER

She gets no response and she knows something is wrong. She attempts to call the police by dialing 9-1 and then stops because of having no faith in the authorities. So she calls his cousin, also his best friend.

MILO, early 20's, in grad school for Psychology, extremely articulate and professional.

CUT TO:

## EXT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT- MORNING

Sitting on a chair on his balcony drinking juice and smoking a cigarette, MILO notices that the number is not familiar to him and does not pick up the phone. So, LILY calls again and MILO picks up on the second ring.

MILO  
Hello.

LILY

(Crying)

Hi, this is LILY have you seen NILES?

MILO

No, is something wrong?

LILY

(Crying)

I don't see him...

MILO

Calm down, now weren't the two of you together last night?

LILY

(Crying)

Yes.

MILO

Hmm...gimme a sec let me call him.

He puts her on hold and calls Niles. No response, just voicemail, so calls him again. No response. So he switches back to LILY'S line.

MILO

LILY, are you still there?

LILY

(Crying softer)

MILO

Alright, I'll be there in a couple minutes.

CUT TO:

EXT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT- MINUTES LATER

NILES leaves his balcony and grabs his keys from the kitchen counter and drives down the street to NILES and LILY'S house and knocks on the door and LILY opens the door, after looking through the window blinds.

LILY  
(Distressed)  
Hey.

MILO  
So, what's going on now?

CUT TO:

INT. TOWNHOUSE-LATER

She opens the door and lets him in and shows him the busted window screen and the mess in the kitchen.

MILO  
Hmm...well he is having trouble finding work. Maybe he got drunk.

LILY  
He didn't use the front door, because the chain was chain was still on.

INT. TOWNHOUSE-MIUTES LATER

Milo shrugs his shoulders.

MILO  
I don't know even if you are drunk why would you go through the window? I'm lost. It looks suspicious. Tell you what depends on how you feel Kia gets off of work at in a few. I can ask her if you can stay there, until we figure this out. Cuz you look scared. I gotta get to work... Hmm. Police I don't know. Wait a few hours and if you do not hear from him... Wow! I never thought I would say this, but call the cops and file a missing persons report.

KIA, voluptuous, chubby, cute, works night shift at the airport, goes to culinary school, have been dating Milo for about a year, early 20's.

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDE OF TOWNHOUSE

MILO calls KIA on her cell phone.

KIA  
Hey, MILO.

MILO  
KIA, can LILY stay by you for a day or two?

KIA  
Why!

MILO  
We can't find NILES and it looks like something went down.

KIA  
(Gasps!)  
Are you serious? Yah, tell to come.

MILO  
Thanks a mill babe. You already know why I wouldn't let her stay with me...

KIA  
Alright, I'll be home in few.

CUT TO:

EXT/ INT. TOWNHOUSE FRONT DOOR OPEN- MINUTE LATER

MILO text the address to LILY and looks at it and drives to KIA'S house. KIA is dressed in her uniform from the airport and pulls up a few minutes afterwards. LILY has a small bag of clothes. KIA sees her in car and walks over. LILY walks out of the car and the two women hug each other.

KIA  
LILY, it's gonna be ok.

LILY  
I hope so.

CUT TO:

INT. MEANWHILE, ALIEN PLANET- CONTINUOUS

NILES is trying to get accustomed to the new surroundings. He is beginning to believe that the E.T.'s are not as bad as he originally thought and begins to understand that they may not be as bad as he first assumed and learns that the might be trustworthy, but hey

just have a different perspective on life. The E.T.'s send him to place to condition him. He is given luxury amenities that would be comparable to luxuries on earth, but exponentially have a greater effect on the body. For example, he goes into something like a Jacuzzi to relax his muscles. He is given a masseuse. Food is given to him that is in the purest form grown and farmed for him only inside of lab, because he can not eat the same food as them. He is given clothes that are futuristic and used in a "clean" environment, because these beings have technology and medicine that is extremely advanced if compared to our world. His clothes from earth are contained and quarantined, because Beings from our world would cause an outbreak somewhat like the Ebola virus to them. He examines his surroundings a bit more and can't understand the unity between them. He feels someone shocked, but understands they are way ahead of human beings in all regards.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALIEN PLANET-CONTINUOUS

He is shown the door by the beings and one opens it for him, he is almost blinded by the bright light of their sun.

SECOND BEING

(Telepathically)

Believe when I say it we are your friends. I know it's crazy down there, where you come from. There is no group effort, for us our effort is space. That's our number one objective. Everyone there thinks only about themselves and vanity. Here we all work towards space. Hell, a good analogy is u can put a man in a porno, but it does not mean they know how to fuck! A lot of the people that occupy earth, think they know how to fuck, but really?

CUT TO:

EXT. ALIEN PLANET-CONTINUOUS

Niles smiles and then gets overwhelmed with laughter.

SECOND BEING

(Telepathically)

We can fuck! We explore and go to other places. We know the ins and outs.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. ALIEN PLANET-CONTINUOUS

Second being takes him outside. NILES is amazed at what he sees. He sees people that he has not seen for a long time walking amongst him and the second being and other E.T.'s. He sees his uncle that passed as a child. He sees his deceased father. He is astonished they look like holograms, but can be seen more vividly.

NILES  
(Telepathically)  
What the.....?

UNCLE LARRY, tall, slim, masculine, speaks in a high frequency.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALIEN PLANET-CONTINUOUS

His uncle walks towards him and grabs his hand. NILES shakes.

UNCLE LARRY  
Relax, calm down.

NILES  
(Gasps)

CUT TO:

Tears slowly roll down his face.

SECOND BEING  
(Telepathically)  
Calm down, they live amongst us, just as they do on earth. We can see them, because our planet is exponentially more pure than yours; therefore they cross over into our dimension and we recognize them and talk to them a lot clearer. Do you understand?

NILES  
(Telepathically)  
Are you serious!? This is serious!?

## SECOND BEING

(Telepathically)

This is serious.....I assure you this is serious. This is normal to us, because our veil, between our world and theirs has removed thousands of earth years ago. We are as pure as possible.

## UNCLE LARRY

It's true; I've been trying to contact you from the day that I transitioned. Earth I guess if you don't have the gift of seeing it's a wrap.

## NILES

(Telepathically)

So, there really is a transition?

## UNCLE LARRY

Of course.

CUT TO:

## INT. MEANWHILE AT KIA'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

## KIA

Do you need a drink?

## LILY

Too early.

## KIA

Sorry, well you looked like you need it.

## LILY

No, thank you.

## KIA

Do you mind the smoking?

LILY

Not at all.

KIA

Alright, well make yourself at home.

LILY

Thanks for everything that you are doing for me.

KIA

What, you're practically family.

CUT TO:

INT. KIA'S APARTMENT-CONTINUOUS

KIA opens up the back window slightly and then goes to the linen closet for a towel and stuffs the bottom of the door. Then she proceeds to get her bong and smoke marijuana from it. She sits on the couch, gets the T.V. remote and then she turns on an educational channel like Discovery, TLC, History and proceeds to watch. LILY sits on a chair by herself and holds her head down, with her hands on her face. Kia looks up at her with an intense stare.

KIA

Do you smoke?

LILY

I tried it twice with my cousin when was in my early twenties.

KIA

What about now?

LILY

No, I have had this damn job for so long and we get random drug tests.

KIA

What exactly do you do there?

LILY

Get bored and act like I'm working when my boss comes around.

KIA

I have cigarettes too.

LILY

I'll take one, thanks.

CUT TO:

INT. ANOTHER PART OF LIVING AREA-CONTINUOUS

LILY lights the cigarette and walks to the window and looks out and begins to tear up.

KIA

So, what do you think happen to him?

LILY

I don't know.....It's just not like him to leave. Something happened, but it seems strange.

KIA

You know Niles and Milo, only tells us what we need to hear. Sorry, I wasn't given the details.

LILY

Hmm? Well wasn't much. The door and bolt on the door were locked, but the kitchen window was busted out.

KIA

Huh, you know you are going to have to call the police, right! I know. NILES nor MILO are going to like that, but what other choice is there?

LILY

I know I'm going to wait for the till evening first.

KIA

Well...

CUT TO:

INT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT- NILES' ROOM

NILES' alarm clock goes off in the early morning and he turns it off. He walks into the bathroom and takes a shower and then gets himself ready for another day looking for

work. He sees his cousin and roommate MILO sitting at the kitchen table eating and smoking cigarette.

MILO

Hey, morning cuz.

NILES

Hey, what's up?

MILO

Are you, ok?

NILES

What do you mean?

MILO smirks for a moment.

MILO

I heard you snoring hard.

NILES

(Laughter then pause)

Crazy dream. Is JASON here? I need another push start for my car. Battery is dead. I'll ask LILY for the money to buy another.

MILO

I think he is here?

CUT TO:

INT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT, HALLWAY

NILES knocks JASON the third roommate of house door and he wakes up.

JASON, short, stocky, muscle bound, laid back, Mid-30's divorce with two kids.

JASON

Hey.

NILES

Can you help us push start my car? Battery has been dead since yesterday evening.

JASON

Alright, gimme a sec.

MILO

Wow, this is crazy.

NILES looks confused. JASON punches NILES softly on his arm.

JASON

You need a new car bro.

NILES

What? This is good old fashioned German engineering.

MILO

MILO smirks. NILES looks somewhat pissed.

MILO

Were just pulling your chain.

JASON smirks.

JASON

Lighten up. Were just jiving.

NILES smiles.

NILES

And the old man says jive.

MILO and NILES look at each other and smile.

MILO

The old man says jive.

JASON

Stop the shit; let's push this piece of shit on wheels.

The three men look at each other and laugh. NILES shakes his head left and right.

NILES

Wait till I get the Bilstein and shocks and my new low pro rims.

MILO

Whatever.

NILES

Assholes.

The three men look at each other again and laugh. NILES pulls a cigarette out of his shirt pocket and lights it up.

JASON

One day we will get money.

NILES and MILO smirk.

MILO

Not with those child support payments.

JASON smirks.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT-SECONDS LATER

JASON puts on a pairs of slacks and an undershirt quickly and the three roommates walk outside to the car. JASON opens the front door and the other two get behind it and help push, after enough momentum is built up NILES jumps inside as if he on a bobsled team and put it in gear and drives off waving his left hand out of the window to his roommates. He drives to a downtown section of a major town in the metro area and parks his car on top of a hill in a residential neighborhood. He gets out and walks to some major businesses in the area and puts out a lot of applications, but as usual a majority of them telling him to fill them out on-line. After an hour or so, he notices that he has two missed calls from LILY. He looks at his phone and then calls LILY.

LILY

Hey, baby.

NILES

LILY, what's up?

LILY

I don't hear from you all of a sudden.

NILES

Been busy. Applications.

LILY

Why do you treat me like this? You treat me like a hoe and do everything for you.

NILES  
Hey, we'll talk about this later.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING-LATER

NILES hangs up the phone. LILY calls back. He picks up.

NILES  
Yes, LILY.

LILY  
Babe.

NILES  
Alright, speak.

LILY  
Why do you treat me like this?

NILES  
Damn, really! Right now you want to talk?

LILY  
Yes.

NILES  
Fuck it alright.

LILY  
I'm listening

NILES  
You have a different perspective. One that I can not get used to.

LILY  
What?! And what would that be?

NILES  
You're a modern girl?

LILY

Stop beating around the bush? Is it because of my past?

NILES

(Pause)

Wow.

LILY

Heeeelloo. Modern Girl?

NILES

LILY why do you know, so much people?

LILY

I just do.

NILES

That's the response that you give me?

LILY

What do you want me say?

NILES

Why is your number so high?

LILY

I had a little fun in life is that bad?

NILES

You have a number close to 100.

LILY

You made me tell you. You kept asking me questions on the sly.

NILES

Lily you told on yourself.

LILY

How?

NILES

Well, when I asked the first few dates you kept silent.

LILY

So.

NILES

LILY, how can you expect for me to take serious.

LILY

(Crying)

Are you calling me a slut? But I do whatever you ask of me and I take care of you.

NILES

No. You you're just faster than the tortoise.

LILY

What is that?

NILES

A kind turtle. Wait not the turtle, but the hare.

NILES

Look it's not science you been with too many people.

LILY

What about you? You have been with the whole world. And fuck off you know I can't win a race at anything.

NILES

Is this a joke or are trying to be funny? If so my turn. Ok so a black guy a rabbi and a CLICK. (Hangs phone up and LILY calls back 4 times).

LILY

Did you just hang up on me?

NILES

No it was my cell phone reception.  
(He smiles)

LILY

Why do you do this to me? You know I love you.

NILES

Alright, I'm serious this time around. Thanks Lily.

LILY

Niles is been a year and three months and you still can not tell me you love me? I know you do why can't you be more affectionate?

NILES

LILY, but really? Did your family ever tell you to treat your pussy like a temple?

(Pause)

You grew up with a different perspective. Let's just agree to disagree right now. Not right now when I you we can talk. O yah, could you bring lend me some cash to fix my starter?

LILY

One day you are going to see that you need me and that I need you.

NILES

Well will you.

LILY

Alright, you broke fuck.

NILES

Alright, I'll text the address to you. By the way watch your mouth.

CUT TO:

EXT. NILES ENTERS LIBRARY-LATER

NILES goes to the library to fill out a few more applications. LILY meets up with him. She leans in to give NILES kiss and he move his head somewhat to avoid the kiss to his mouth.

NILES

Thanks LILY. You look nice today.

LILY

What do you want? You want something. You're too nice. A compliment, `wow! Do you remember what you said to me earlier?

NILES

O, I didn't mean all of it. Well not completely literal. Can we talk about this later? I'm leaving in a few.

LILY

Come to my place. I would like to talk there.

NILES

Alright.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY-LATER

NILES drives to her home about an hour later. He knocks on the door and she takes awhile. She is inside exercising. He bangs a little harder she is startled and then opens the door.

LILY

Hey, baby.

NILES

Hey.

LILY

Are you hungry? I cooked.

NILES

O, really?

LILY

(Smiles)

No.

NILES

O, because you and cooking doesn't go well together. (He smiles)

LILY

Well I ordered out.

NILES

Close enough.

(Smiles)

What's this Chinese?

LILY

I had to have it just for today.

NILES

The healthy fitness freak buys Chinese, hmm. Why isn't it open?

LILY

I didn't eat yet.

NILES opens the bag.

NILES

Oh, now I see salad. Are you going to eat any real food?

LILY

Yes.

NILES

Quit exercise for sec and come eat.

NILES shares out some food for the both of them.

LILY

Not so much, dear?

NILES

Damn, LILY eat some fucking food! What do you want? You expect to be perfect? You look great. What else can a man ask for? Now eat! You keep starving yourself.

NILES dumps more food into her plate.

LILY

I can't finish that.

NILES

Then try.

LILY picks up the chop sticks and then starts to eat. NILES looks over extremely stern and then begins eating his food. Then he goes into his pants pocket for a cigarette and starts lighting it. He feels the ground shake he stops and looks at LILY. She stops eating and runs into his arms. They place in dismay as everything falls. He grabs her and then grabs pillow from the couch seat to cover her head. It's an earthquake that has rocked southern California and it is one of the most catastrophic in recorded history. SoCal is in shock and the place looks like a war zone.

LILY

Damn did it end?

NILES

Earthquake.

The floor stops and then a few seconds later it stops. Then a couple minutes later the floor shakes again, but with less intensity.

NILES

Damn this is beginning to be annoying.

NILES walks to the front door and looks outside the door. LILY follows behind him and takes a look.

LILY

O my gosh it looks like a war zone, damn. Is that my car alarm?

NILES

Yes.

LILY

Where are my keys?

LILY looks for her keys.

NILES

Alarms shut off automatically after five minutes.

LILY

So leave it alone.

NILES

Yes!

NILES lights the cigarette and smokes.

NILES

Wow, I'm getting tired of Cali. Love it, but I like I'm starting to hate it more.

LILY

Wanna do east?

NILES

East Coast? You say it like the two of we are included. Are you making my decisions without me again?

LILY

Well I just thought.....Can we?

NILES

Listen, I'll think about it, but we have to worry about this mess first. I was hoping something fell on my car. I could use an insurance check right now.

LILY

Well at least we are safe.

NILES

That's true a lot of emergency vehicles.

NILES tries to call MILO and his phone has a busy signal.

NILES

As usual the damn quake has messed with the phone service! Why do we pay these companies again?

LILY

Calm down you can't fight the world. Hopefully, everyone is alright.

The light dims back and forth and then goes out. He power goes out.

NILES

The damn power.

LILY

I'm scared.

NILES

Calm down.

CUT TO:

INT. TOWNHOUSE-CONTINUOUS

He presses a button on his cell phone to use as a flashlight and walks upstairs to his nightstand and pulls his gun out his nightstand and walks downstairs and cock it back after loading it.

NILES

Well this is LA. The fucking Babylon city. Try me! Babes you will be alright.

LILY stares into NILES' face.

LILY

Damn, you always make me feel safe.

NILES

We can't drive for now they have to move the debris from the area. This sucks. Lock the doors and windows. Do you have a flashlight?

LILY

Yes there is on under the kitchen counter. My dad put one there for me.

NILES

Alright, cool.

INT. NILES goes for the flashlight-CONTINUOUS

NILES

Think the quake was strong enough to knock out the grid for the area?

LILY

For the region. I thought I was gonna die.

NILES

LILY we can sleep. Sleep or bone. You already know what I want.

LILY

Douche. My douche.

NILES

Douche is in my blood.

LILY

I know. That's why I don't pay you any mind. Hmm. I think I will pick...Hmm... Let's bone.

NILES

Find the bed and rid yourself of your clothes.

CUT TO:

He puts his gun on the nightstand in the bedroom. They engage in passionate sexual intercourse and wake up in the morning.

LILY

Good morning!

LILY kisses NILES' mouth.

NILES

Morning. Lastnight was nice. Light?

LILY

Power is still off. NILES put your gun up. You can't sleep with it on top of the stand.

NILES

It's dangerous?

LILY

Yes, it is.

NILES

Alright.

LILY

Are you hungry? I have bagels?

NILES

I'll take one. LILY you know we have finish most of the food in the fridge first. Or it will spoil.

LILY

Alright. You want cereal? We need to finish the milk.

NILES

Is it the stuff of or the good stuff?

LILY

Healthy, but this fiber cereal isn't too bad.

NILES

Alright. I'll try it.

LILY

I'm glad that there weren't any of the usual fools running around after the quake.

NILES

I guess that it hurt everyone this time around, but speak to soon.

CUT TO:

LILY walks downstairs and grabs a bowl from here cupboard that is not shattered and NILES follows her. LILY pours a small amount into NILES' bowl.

LILY

Wow! Almost all my things are shattered.

NILES

But you're safe. That's all that matters.

LILY

I guess so...

NILES

What if we did Nevada?

LILY

Is it because of your fascination with E.T.'s or is there any actual opportunity?

NILES

Well.

LILY

Not trying to be rude, but why do think like that?

NILES

Like what?

LILY

Conspiracies, E.T.'s.

NILES

I just do.

LILY

Well no, not Vegas. Somewhere else. I just wanted to see what you were gong to say. Vegas' economy is bad right now.

NILES

Where did you here that?

LILY

An article about best and worse cities in the U.S. Nevada not great, right now. Tourism is down and that's what they depend on...

NILES

Hmm...LILY how can you not believe in E.T.'s?

LILY

How could you. Like really you don't think if it were real something would have happen to the human population already?

NILES

Why would they harm us? They are technologically advanced. It's like us just learning about the wheel and them having airplanes. Like really they would just think of us as being cute. We are no threat to them and I doubt that they would harm us.

LILY

How do you know so much about everything? You think that you are right, I guess.

NILES

Alright, now hear me out. (pause)

NILES looks at LILY.

NILES

Cereal is actually good.

NILES gets up and pours himself some more cereal.

LILY

Wow is this really happening? You are eating something healthy.

NILES smiles and LILY looks shocked.

NILES

Ok, Anyhow back to the subject.

LILY

Alright.

NILES

Do you know that there are 35 Clearances above Top Secret.

LILY

Huh?

NILES

What would be that much of secret that the general public does not need to know? Answer is fucking aliens.

LILY

What?

NILES

Why would the U.S. government close their space program; thus far they have been the leaders in innovative technology, in reference to space. The fucking saw some shit up there that scared the fuck out of them!

LILY

Wow this is far-gone, but I'm listening. Could it be that they are just too broke in today's age.

NILES

Space program requires 300 billion. We piss away trillions of dollars. This is the U.S. If we wanted to we could keep the Space program. It's something out there I think that scared them.

LILY

Continue, I'm Listening.

NILES

You know they release declassified information every couple of years, but the info the how the public is like from 60 years in the past. I think the reason why the general public has to be given info in small increments is because the average person would shit their pants if this kind of information was brought to light.

LILY

Hmm.

NILES

The world would be different, that's for sure. Religion would stop. All these churches would have to become schools or something, I really don't know. We could already have humans that already have visited their planet, via their technology. It's something that they are not telling us.

LILY

I wonder if they deal with this kind of thing where they come from.

NILES

Like what?

(Pause)

Oh natural disasters.

The two of them start cleaning the house up. Then NILES pick up his phone and calls MILO, but the phone is still dead. He looks down somewhat frustrated and begins cleaning the place up again, for awhile.

NILES stops for a second, just to look at the place in disgust and then he begins again.

NILES

This is becoming so annoying. Come on California!

LILY

It's our fault, the beaches, mountains, weather and desert. We like it so much we forget we are...(smiles) Calm down! Babe damn. We gonna move one day. Anywhere we go there are going to be issues.

NILES

True, I hear you.

LILY

Do you understand, though?

NILES

I guess so.

CUT TO:

INT. TOWNHOUSE BEDROOM- COUPLE HOURS LATER

LILY

Wow!

NILES

Tired. Me too.

LILY

Yes.

NILES and LILY flop onto the bed and fall asleep. NILES twists and turns as he sleeps and wakes up from time to time, because he is depressed that he is not able to find another source of employment.

LILY is calm and sleeps well. She feels comfortable in his presence.

LILY

Did you sleep well?

NILES

(Sigh)

NILES looks at her and falls back asleep.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEANWHILE A FEW MILES FROM LILY'S TOWNHOUSE-CONTINUOUS

ALVIN MOORE- Small, built, defiant, trouble-maker, late teens, leader.

SARGEANT PHILLIP MOORE- Disciplined was once a street kid, father figure to Alvin Moore.

SARGEANT PHILLIP

(Phone)

Have been trying to call but the phone lines were all busy...Yah bro it's crazy out here. War is built for the soft. People like me and you can handle it, the rest I don't know bro.

ALVIN

Yah, I guess.

SARGEANT PHILIP

I'm really calling about the earthquake, is everyone alright?  
Colonel let the Cali boys call home.

ALVIN

It caused a little damage.

SARGEANT PHILIP MOORE

Everyone is talking about it saying that shit was bad.

ALVIN

Listen! Bro you don't need to be worrying about no fucking earthquake, right now! You are at fucking war over seas and shit. We are fine. Trust me. Just worry about making it back safe. I'll talk to you another time.

SARGEANT PHILIP MOORE

Alright, tell Grandma I miss her.

ALVIN

She is asleep, but later.

SARGEANT PHILIP MOORE

Stay out of trouble.

ALVIN

I will, later.

ALVIN and SARGEANT hang up the phone.

MARCUS TAFT- Average height, follower, trouble-maker under peer pressure, early 20's.

CUT TO:

EXT. IN MARCUS' BACKYARD-CONTINUOUS

MARCUS

What the fuck are you doing now? Not today. You said you would help me clean this shit up.

ALVIN

All this shit. It's an earthquake your mom would understand. All areas look like shit. Look at the street. You fuck this and let's smoke.

ALVIN walks to the shed.

ALVIN  
(Surprised)  
Yo who's bikes?

MARCUS  
James' own?

ALVIN  
Where that nigga get money from?

MARCUS  
He stole them. Stop asking stupid questions.

ALVIN  
Why you have them?

MARCUS  
In case they authorities come looking for them.

ALVIN  
I swear you'll two dumb fucks.

MARCUS  
Fuck you.

ALVIN  
They have gas?

MARCUS  
The moped does. The scooter don't have none.

ALVIN  
You have a gas can?

MARCUS  
Yah.

ALVIN  
Damn power is still off. You think the gas station has electricity.

MARCUS  
That's a far ass walk.

ALVIN  
It's a little in the gas container.

MARCUS

Be better to put it in the Moped. Alright.

ALVIN

Put it in the moped then and we ride it to the gas station.

MARCUS

Alright.

ALVIN

Damn, you look like a little bitch. Stop being so scared. I'm the small one and fuck, I'll take on the world.

MARCUS

You talk a lot of shit.

They gas the moped and ALVIN rides, while MARCUS has the gas container in his hand.

ALVIN

This shit is slow.

MARCUS

Cuz its two grown as men on a damn moped.

They see a gas station from a distance.

ALVIN

There's one.

EXT.CLOSER TO GAS STATION-CONTINUOUS

ALVIN

It's closed.

MARCUS

Damn, let's go back home.

ALVIN

Let's look for another.

MARCUS

The fucking bike is stolen.

ALVIN

Yo, you are a weak as friend. Ain't no one looking for this. We just had a fucking major earthquake, dumb ass.

EXT. A COUPLE OF GAS STATIONS-CONTINUOUS

MARCUS

Damn, how we ride so far?

ALVIN

Cuz I want gas for the damn scooter. This shit is some bull. All th gas stations are closed.

MARCUS

Fucking disaster, would you open your gas station?

ALVIN

Bitch, I will punch if you don't shut up.

MARCUS

Yo quit the bad talk.

ALVIN

What?

MARCUS

You have money?

ALVIN

\$2.00

MARCUS

\$2.00. Are you stupid? Gas is expensive. \$2.00 can't fix this problem.

ALVIN

Huh?

MARCUS

I don't have any money. I left in the house.

ALVIN

I got this.

MARCUS

Got what? Listen our carrying capacity is too much too expect the little fuel we have to go so far. \$2.00 need to go in this tank. We are two adults riding on a moped.

ALVIN

There you go on that school shit. Sounding all educational and shit.

MARCUS

You are a stupid person. You were weak as shit in 8<sup>th</sup> grade now you tough. Our neighborhood ain't even that hood.

ALVIN

Ain't the hood the hood you come from, but the heart that you have.

MARCUS

Whatever.

ALVIN

How we gonna get back?

MARCUS

Walk. I'll push and we swap when it runs out.

ALVIN

This is some bullshit. I ain't pushing shit.

MARCUS

What?

ALVIN

This is a nice neighborhood. Let's get money.

MARCUS

Really? Are you stupid.

ALVIN

We need gas and fuck we need money. No one has power. I say we get it now.

MARCUS

Are you serious?

They look at each other. ALVIN stands firm.

ALVIN

We go for it.

MARCUS looks at Alvin in disbelief and his shoulders drop as he looks towards the floor.

MARCUS

AL. You must really think your last name is Capone. It's Moore. Moore you dummy.

ALVIN

No electricity. These people have money you think they are gonna stay in their homes.

MARCUS

Yah. It's a fucking disaster. I think you should leave it alone.

They hide the bike behind some shrubs.

ALVIN

Hide the bike in the woods. We can do the house over there the window is open.

MARCUS

Yo, talk lower.

ALVIN

Shut up!

ALVIN hops the fence then enters the kitchen window slowly. He jumps through and the dish drain falls. ALVIN walks in and he enters the kitchen and then MARCUS follows hesitantly.

CUT TO:

INT. LILY'S TOWNHOUSE-LATER

Meanwhile LILY wakes up wakes up shakes NILES.

LILY

Do you here that?

NILES

I hear that I'm finna load and cock back.

INT. TOWNHOUSE –CONTINUOUS

He picks up his gun loads it and cocks it back

NILES

LILY hide in the closet.

LILY runs to the closet.

A few seconds later ALVIN and MARCUS walk up the stairs. ALVIN walks into up way ahead of MARCUS. Then ALVIN locks eyes NILES.

NILES

Father God!

Before ALVIN can say word NILES pulls the trigger and ALVIN tumbles down the stairs. MARCUS runs to the window and leaps out, but NILES fires and hits his foot and his lumbar.

MARCUS

Fuck this nigga crazy.

NILES runs to the window, but then realizing he can't get through it fast enough, he fires out of the window and realizes he can't get MARCUS. MARCUS hops the fence and runs to the moped. NILES tries to rush and remove the bar for the sliding back door to the townhouse. LILY leaves the closet and runs downstairs and sees a body and regurgitates.

LILY

(Screams)

NILES chases after MARCUS, but MARCUS gets away bleeding profusely.

NILES

Bitch.

NILES return to the house looks at the body and then at LILY.

NILES

Get the rug.

LILY

(Crying)

NILES

Damn he fucked the carpet.

LILY

Call the cops.

NILES

What? Why? Let dump him. Help me clean this up.

LILY

NILES you have to. If we leave him here there is lot of questions that are going to be asked.

NILES looks at ALVIN and tears begin to fall down his cheek.

NILES

Are the phones working yet?

NILES goes for his phone but the battery is dead.

NILES

LILY calm down. He was trying to hurt us.

LILY trembles.

LILY

No.

NILES

Lend me your phone.

He walks over to it and calls 9-1-1.

NILES

Who would have thought? Me calling the police?

LILY

Fucking call. Get this guy out. I cant stay here.

The 9-1-1 operator answers the phone.

OPERATOR, polite, professional, female.

OPERATOR

9-1-1. How can I direct your call?

NILES

Emergency.

OPERATOR

Ok, can you elaborate?

NILES

Well, there was a break in and the victim was shot.

OPERATOR

Address please?

NILES

31 Nitrum Ct.

OPERATOR

Emergency crew will be around as soon as possible. There might be a bit of a delay, because of disaster relief.

EXT. TOWNHOUSE FRONT DOOR- COUPLE HOURS LATER.

Emergency crew knocks on LILY's front door. LILY opens the door.

OFFICER M. FILMORE, nonchalant, soft spoken, not detail oriented.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS, tall, arrogant, analytical.

OFFICER M. FILMORE

We are responding to a 9-1-1 call.

LILY

(Crying Softly)

Oh, come in.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS follows behind him.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

So, damn!

DETECTIVE D KEEPS and OFFICER M.FILMORE see ALVIN's dead body.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

Wow, I thought this chapter of my life was over when I transferred here.

NILES

Him and another guy came through the window.

Ambulances arrive on the scene. OFFICER M. FILMORE checks the pulse of ALVIN.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

Then you shot him?

NILES

After they ran up stairs and tried to attack.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

I get it. The all too normal scenario of the street punk and the simple man that gives a little justice. Don't these kids have parents?

OFFICER M. FILMORE

They leave from a poorer section of town and rob the better off. It's a shame. So, you said he attacked you.

NILES

Well my lady shook me and told me to wake up she hears someone downstairs. I went for my gun and hen boom seconds later me and the guy confront each other they come my way and then boom. He is dead and his friend runs, after he is shot.

OFFICER M. FILMORE

So, the second guy was shot in the front also, because he did attack you?

NILES

Yes.

LILY looks at NILES and OFFICER M. FILMORE and DETECTIVE D. KEEPS look stand in circular formation.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

When will these kids learn? So, you could not catch the other guy.

NILES

I was too slow. Sooo...

(Pause).

He got away.

LILY

I'm scared that he might come back.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

We'll check the hospitals to see if any one checks in with gunshots. We will call for forensics and see if everything adds up. They might take a while, because of the delay.

OFFICER M. FILMORE

Damn it, can we find a sheet of something to cover him up a close his eyes.

DETECTIVE D. KEEPS

We will be in the car until they come.

OFFICER M. FILMORE

I'll stay here. I wanna make sure nothing gets touched or moved, before forensics come.

NILES looks at OFFICER M. FILMORE with sarcasm.

NILES

Make yourself at home. Want any coffee?

LILY

NILES not now.

NILES

Ok.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARCUS' BACKYARD-CONTINUOUS

Meanwhile MARCUS is in his backyard and waves his on and off girlfriend from two house down to help him.

TIFFANY, mid-teens, spoiled, chubby build.

MARCUS

Come here.

TIFFANY opens his back gate and looks at him and her eyes open wide in disbelief.

TIFFANY

Why the fuck are you not at the hospital?

MARCUS

Cuz I can't!

TIFFANY

Well what kinna dumb shit did you do know/

MARCUS

(Yells)

Bitch come help me! You see I'm fucking hurt. Help me walk in the shed.

TIFFANY helps him walk into the shed.

MARCUS

Go bring moped in. Close the door and go get me some peroxide and alcohol and a few towels. Then some food I'm feeling weak as fuck.

TIFFANY

Alright. Babe you gonna be ok.

MARCUS

No long talking. Please just go get this stuff. It hurts.

MARCUS grabs himself side.

TIFFANY leaves the shed and runs home to get the items.

MARCUS

Hurry before my mom comes home.

TIFFANY comes back with the items MARCUS requests a few minutes later then looks at the blood and light headed.

MARCUS

Baby you can do it, close your eyes and pour as much the alcohol and stuff on it.

TIFFANY

Oh fucking gosh. It's gonna hurt.

MARCUS

Fucking do it!

TIFFANY pours alcohol and peroxide on the wounds and MARCUS puts a towel in his mouth to keep him from making noise and then tears slowly begin to roll down MARCUS' eyes.

MARCUS

Am I gonna die? Please don' make me die.

TIFFANY

I don't think your wounds are life threatening.

MARCUS

Give me some of the snacks I need energy. O boy.

TIFFANY

My mother does not need to know about this.

MARCUS grabs the towels and wraps his wounds and TIFFANY helps him.

TIFFANY

I would let you stay at my place but you already know what it is.

MARCUS

I'll stay here. My mother never knows if I'm here or not.

TIFFANY

Where your friend?

MARCUS

Oh he went to help his uncle clean his yard.

TIFFANY

So, now he plays good guy for the disaster. (Pause) Babe those wounds are not too bad so man up a little. You lucky you not dead.

MARCUS

Could you please the just fuck up? I don't need to hear this shit right now!

(Pause)

Please!

TIFFANY

That's why you get no pussy. You don't know how to talk to women.

MARCUS

(Sigh)

I'd rather have Delilah.

TIFFANY

What movie did you steal that from?

MARCUS

It's from a book. A good book.

TIFFANY

Well the book must be boring, cuz I never heard of it.

CUT TO:

EXT. LILY'S TOWNHOUSE- LATER EVENING

Forensics pull up and there is a large crowd outside. LILY and NILES begin to look hesitant and fearful as OFFICER M. FILMORE exits to talk to forensics.

NILES leans over to LILY'S ear.

NILES

(Whispers)

The crazy thing about killing is that you must take five more people for ever one soul that you take, because you will always be looked at as the killer of someone's child; whether it's just cause or no cause at all.

A tear drop slowly rolls down his eyes.

LILY

What can we do now?

NILES

Move.

LILY

Where?

NILES

(Pause)

Somewhere as long as it's far.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH BUILDING-9 DAYS LATER

ALVIN is resting with eyes closed peaceful as he is dead and laying in his coffin in a dapper pinstriped suit.

MARY ASHER, kind, compassionate, grandmother of ALVIN and SARGEANT, West Indian, brave and outspoken.

MARY ASHER stands up firm and cries softly to herself. MARCUS walks in and stands in the back of the church and is wearing sunglasses with his eyes blood shot red and tears fall from his cheeks. TIFFANY is with him as she sheds tears, also. Her Blouse is sprinkled with tear drops. MARCUS walks by the casket and looks in and then tears roll down his eyes profusely. The casket is shut and six Paul bearers walk him to the hearse.

EXT. THE STREETS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-CONTINUOUS

There is a motorcade and people following the hearse to the cemetery. ALVIN is put into the ground as everyone surrounds the whole. The coffin somewhat slips as ALVIN is lowered into the ground.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOUTH FLORIDA-SIX MONTHS LATER

LILY and NILES enjoy the beach.

CUT TO:

INT. AIRPORT SIX MONTHS LATER

SARGEANT PHILLIP MOORE arrives from war and is the airport. He sees his grandmom and hugs her.

SARGEANT

How's my Grammy?

MARY ASHER

Good baby. How have you been? You know I missed you!

MARY ASHER tries to lift his bags, but struggles from old age.

SARGEANT

Are you serious?

MARY ASHER

You know you are still my baby grandson. You been at war and stuff. Let me help you.

SARGEANT

Put those down. I'm a grown ass man, now. (Pause) Excuse my language.

MARY ASHER

Yah, cuz I will still put a belt to your rear.

She smiles and looks at SARGEANT.

MARY ASHER

I'm so glad that you made a change and did something productive with your life, boy.

Mary Asher and SERGEANT walk out of the airport and get into her car.

EXT. MARY ASHER'S/ ALVIN'S RESIDENCE- LATER

SARGEANT

Home sweet home. Gonna feel nice to sleep without a worry.

MARY ASHER

I cooked you favorite, fried rice, chicken wings and spinach.

SARGEANT

Thanks.

Mary Asher and Sergeant enter the house and puts his sea-bag/ luggage down and the wall in the kitchen. Sergeant looks over at the fridge and notices an obituary/ funeral program of ALVIN MOORE, his younger brother and hugs his grandmother as tight as possible.

SARGEANT

(Crying hysterically)

Why? I asked him to stay out of trouble. Why?

MARY ASHER

(Crying softly)

You have to be strong boy. Pull yourself together.

(Sigh)

We gonna all be together someday.

SARGEANT

But they had to kill him? They could have just shot him.

MARY ASHER

Come son, sit down and eat your food. You still play chess?

Maybe that will ease your mind.

SARGEANT and MARY ASHER share out some food, turn on the television in the living room and MARY puts he chess set on the table and sets it up.

MARY ASHER

Let's play. You still got it or are you rusty, now?

SERGEANT smiles with tears coming down his cheeks.

SARGEANT

Wow, are you serious, grandma is trash talking?

MARY ASHER gently smiles

Is that a smile that I see? Baby read a couple psalms before you to sleep tonight.

SARGEANT

Yes grandma.

They begin to play chess.

SARGEANT

Your move.

She moves a chess piece.

MARY ASHER

OK, there.

SARGEANT moves again.

SARGEANT

They play a little longer and make a few crucial moves.

MARY ASHER

There.

SARGEANT

Check.

MARY ASHER makes another move.

MARY ASHER

(Smiles)

The good thing about check is that you can always make another move. In life you never want to be in checkmate, cuz you won't get out of that one.

SARGEANT

Huh, I never thought of that. Checkmate!

MARY ASHER

(Gently smiles)

You got me again. Let me explain tell a story. Maybe this would give you a different perspective.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. AN OPEN MARKET IN THE WEST INDIES 70'S (FLASHBACK)

Thugs robbing a younger MARY ASHER and her friend as they work at their stand the second day of work. MARY and her friend allowed the abuse, because of the safety of their lives.

RETURN TO SCENE

MARY ASHER

The youth of today is lost. Etiquette and respect has went straight out the window.

EXT. SAME OPEN MARKET ON ANOTHER DAY (FLASHBACK)

Thugs coming back every other day to rob MARY ASHER and her friend.

RETURN TO SCENE

MARY ASHER

Do you know I used to get robbed everyday trying to provide for my family? Honest to God. I kid you not! (pause) They used to come every other day to rob us. The rudeboys. They would rob the entire market every other day. Worthless! Fucking worthless!

Then it got to the point.

(Pause)

After about two weeks we noticed something. The family was going hungry. Weren't eating, cuz of the thieves. Pardon my language. Fucking knuckleheads! And we were already poor.

MARY ASHER lifts up the bottom part of blouse. SARGEANT looks shocked. MARY ASHER reveals a large scar on her lower back then lifts up her sleeve and shows another one and then another one on her leg.

SARGEANT

(Smirk)

Never heard you curse before. I can tell must have been rough back then.

MARY ASHER

Family hungry and broke.

MARY ASHER

I decided that something has to change! (pause) I knew that it would not be them, so it had to be us. So, I start bringing things that I could hit them with, especially the machete. The next time they came I figured they would have to fight me!

SARGEANT

Really! (Pause) You sound serious? Hmm, you must have bee a real Athena.

EXT. SAME OPEN MARKET ANOTHER DAY (FLASHBACK)

MARY ASHER gets tired of the bullying and decides to be a vigilante and fight back. She is sweaty from a hard day at work.

RETURN TO SCENE

MARY ASHER

Yes, Love. I picked the machete up and went at them. I got cut in a few places, but it needed to be done. I began fighting back each time they back, until eventually they began to realize that I was crazy and they just started to leave me and my money alone.

Anyhow from that point I realized that I needed somewhere with more structure. So, I thought how about the U.S. Phillip listen I love where I come from, but hate it as much. When I came to the states, there were eight of us living in an apartment. Eight women and we slept on cots and we worked hard. Then we eventually sent for our kids and then the rest of our relatives.

(Pause)

You see ALVIN me and you would talk to. That's my boy. He comes from here. This neighborhood isn't so bad. Your mom isn't around to care she drops you two off cuz she no longer wants the responsibilities. You see ALVIN was becoming one of those thugs like back home. I never raised him like that. Peer pressure says it

cool and you guys follow. Luckily you stopped and did something with yourself. Like I miss him dearly, but he was out there doing things that he had no reason to doing These guys used to rob women. How soft could you be? That's so punkish. ALVIN was becoming the very thing that I ran from.

SARGEANT

I get it, but that's little bro.

MARY ASHER

Well, don't know what else to say? (Pause) Think I'm joking look here.

MARY ASHER pulls her blouse down a little show a couple scars on her arm and the shows a few stab wounds on her back.

SARGEANT looks and is in awe.

MARY ASHER

You know the empty barrel makes the most noise. A person doesn't have to run off at the mouth to be tough.

SARGEANT has tears coming down his cheeks slowly and then he nods his head up and down and then has a slight smirk.

CUT TO:

INT.MEANWHILE AT A SOUTH FLORIDA MALL-AFTERNOON

NILES

I'm getting used to this place.

LILY

The rain can be annoying.

NILES

Well. You can't really win wherever you go.

LILY

I guess.

NILES

Think about it. L.A. has earthquakes, Miami has hurricanes, New York has no space and D.C. has politicians.

LILY looks at NILES and smiles.

LILY

Yah, you seem to be less stressed.

NILES

I'm glad your job let you transfer out here.

LILY

I miss my old co-workers.

NILES

You find new ones.

LILY

You only like it here, cuz the women are pretty.

NILES

Really? L.A. has nice women, but...

LILY

(Smiles)

I know. I am going to have to watch out for you. They dress in less clothes out here. (Pause) You know who I miss?

NILES

Who?

LILY

My girl KIM.

NILES

Wow wasn't expecting that.

LILY

Yah, KIM.

NILES

But you barely speak.

LILY

We did, then you came into my life.

NILES

What does that mean?

LILY

You see her. She is gorgeous.

NILES

You're gorgeous.

LILY

She has it. Everything. Hips, ass.

NILES

She's nice, but not like you.

LILY

Huh?

NILES

Is there some jealousy?

LILY

No.

NILES

You look like you belong in a magazine.

LILY

She's a good girl.

NILES

Fuck, here we go again.

LILY

Well, I know you want a good girl. She's pretty and you know it. Prudish and you know it.

NILES

I want you. To sleep with her would be boring.

LILY

Oh, so you have thought about sleeping with her.

NILES

No! Please stop. We're on the beach. You know what happens here? People have fun.

LILY

Well, but...

NILES

Just stop.

LILY

But.

NILES

But what?

LILY

Well.

NILES

You want to get into it now? Are you kidding me? Alright, I wanted a good girl. There are none. You will do just fine. Were far from home I no longer look like a dummy, cuz no one knows you. We fuck and we fuck well. End of story!

LILY

No it's just beginning. You know we been together and you still act like we're not. You douche.

NILES

Damn! What are we doing now? Having fucking fun and doing the shit they say couples do.

LILY

Why won't you hold my hand and show affection in public.

NILES

Lame. That's so damn lame.

LILY

Lame? You're broke and that's lame.

NILES

When you met me I had money.

LILY  
Stop living in the past.

NILES  
Really?

LILY  
You had money, cuz you had two fucking roommates. I had money and a whole place to myself.

NILES  
Damn, just shut up.

LILY  
You should show me more respect than you do. I do any and everything that you ask of me.

They see a Jet Ski rental place on the beach.

NILES  
Let's go jet skiing. No arguing today, please.

LILY  
Just gonna change the subject. How rude.

NILES  
Look, today is gonna be a good day. We are gonna ride.

LILY  
Alright.

INT./EXT. JET SKI RENTAL PLACE-MOMENTS LATER

NILES and LILY are dressed in beach attire.

STEVE, late teens, college kid, frequent beach goer

STEVE sees LILY and NILES walking into the establishment and walks towards them.

STEVE  
Hey, can I help you?

NILES

Yah, we would like to rent a jet ski.

STEVE

We have a couple jet skis and a few wave runners.

NILES

They all look the same. What's difference?

STEVE

Well the jet skis you stand up on. The wave runners you sit on and bring another person.

LILY and NILES look over at the area where they jet skis and the waverunners are located.

LILY

Oh I see.

NILES

We'll get the waverunner.

STEVE

Do you have a certificate?

LILY

For what?

STEVE

To ride.

NILES

Serious?

STEVE

I figured you were from south Florida.

LILY

California.

STEVE

Well you need to go thru a two hour course to ride them.

NILES

Why they look pretty simple?

STEVE

They just started this rule a few years ago. Kids were riding and crashing into yachts. Oh and the drunks too kept crashing.

NILES

Give us a sec.

LILY and NILES move away into a corner.

NILES

(Whispers)

I want to ride. You think that he would crack for a buck.

LILY

Huh?

NILES

I want to ride, but don't want to sit the two hours.

LILY

Let's find out.

NILES

Alright.

LILY and NILES walk back over to him.

NILES

Hey, STEVE you seem cool.

STEVE

Alright?

NILES

Can we just pay you to get the certificate and skip the class.

STEVE

Hmm?

NILES

Well?

STEVE

Did you drink or anything, today?

NILES

No. Why would you even ask that/

STEVE

Cause you gonna operate the jet ski.

NILES

Well?

STEVE

This is my father's business. He comes and checks up on me from time to time. He's in the office now. He leaves in few. I'll do it.

NILES

Yes!

STEVE

Wait how much?

LILY

What do you want?

STEVE

Gimme forty dollars for them.

NILES

Alright.

JOE, liberal, slim, lackadaisical, STEVE'S dad.

JOE walks outside with his laptop bag a couple seconds later and walks over to STEVE.

JOE

I'm be gone for the rest of the day. Make sure you turn the alarm on before you lock up shop.

STEVE

Yes dad.

JOE exits the Jet Ski rental place and jumps inside of his convertible. NILES, LILY and STEVE look at JOE.

NILES

Wow, your dad seems cool.

LILY laughs.

STEVE

Yah, he's like a fake hippy.

NILES and LILY laughs.

STEVE

Step into the office.

NILES and LILY follow STEVE into the office.

NILES

Thanks bro. Here's your money.

NILES hands STEVE a fifty dollar bill.

STEVE

Let me get your change.

LILY

Keep it.

NILES

Yah, keep it.

STEVE goes on the computer and begins making the certificates.

STEVE

What's your names?

LILY

LILY HOLMES.

NILES

NILES LLEWLLYN

STEVE

L, E, W,E,L,L,I,N.

NILES

No, L,L,E,W,L,L,Y,N.

STEVE

Would have never gotten that.

NILES

No one does. That's cool.

STEVE types the information and moments later print the certificates and hands them to LILY and NILES.

NILES

Okay, thanks again.

STEVE

The rentals are thirty dollars per hour.

LILY hands STEVE thirty dollars and they do the transaction and walk outside to rentals and LILY and NILES look at the waverunner as STEVE begins to start pointing.

STEVE

Alright, now you use this to gas it. Put this cord bracelet on you wrist. You fall of it stops the waverunner.

NILES

Got it.

STEVE

We have lockers you can put your stuff in, until you come back. Oh yah and you have to sign this waiver.

STEVE, LILY and NILES Walk back into the office and read the waiver and sign and then STEVE shows them their lockers and they put their contents in them. They all walk back outside. STEVE gets the waverunner and pushes it into the water. NILES hops on it and then LILY hops on the back of it.

STEVE

Have fun.

NILES gases the waverunner and LILY holds on tight.

LILY

(Yells)

I'm scared slow down.

NILES

(Yells)

All that shit you were talking earlier. I'm gasping this to the max.

LILY smiles hard and laughs from having fun.

LILY  
(Yells)  
Asshole!

LILY and NILES ride for about forty five minutes and park on the shore.

LILY  
That was fun.

NILES  
Was fun. Haven't had that much fun in awhile.

STEVE walks over to LILY and NILES.

STEVE  
Came a few minutes early.

LILY  
We had fun.

LILY and NILES walk along the shore. LILY grabs his hand and tries to hold it. NILES removes his hand from her hand. LILY looks at him frustrated.

LILY  
Man up. Why do you do that? Ugh?

NILES looks at her as if she is dumb.

LILY  
Well I wanted to tell you something.

NILES  
What!?

LILY  
You slipped.

NILES  
What?

LILY

I'm pregnant.

NILES looks confused.

NILES

Well looks like we need to find the father.

LILY looks at him pissed. NILES grins.

NILES

Great! How far along?

LILY

A month and a half. Hey don't play with me like that again asshole.

LILY looks at NILES in the eyes firmly and then grins.

NILES

Come here.

NILES grabs LILY'S hand for the first time and then they slowly walk along the shore.

NILES

Wow, I never thought that I would ever do this. (Pause) This is a weird feeling.

LILY

Love.

NILES

Feels weird.

LILY looks at him and smiles.

LILY

Now what?

NILES

What do you mean? I guess we do the family thing.

LILY looks at him firm and happy.

LILY

Do you mean?

NILES

Oh, you know what. Hmm. I'm not sure if I am ready for that.

LILY

Yes!

NILES

Wait! I did not say yes, but I am saying that I will think about it.

LILY has tears of joy.

LILY

This is the closest thing that I have ever heard you say to yes.

NILES

Well.

LILY

You know you love me. Yes! We're gonna tie the knot.

NILES

Babe. Now listen to me...

LILY hugs him and kisses him on the chin jokingly and then daydreams for a while.

CUT TO:

EXT./INT. MEANWHILE CONVENIENCE STORE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-  
LATE EVENING

SARGEANT sees his friend that owns the convenience store in the neighborhood outside  
smoking a cigarette.

MR. PATEL, short, friendly, charismatic, Asian/ Indian descent.

MR. PATEL

Hey, Phil when did you get back?

SARGEANT

Last night.

MR. PATEL

Glad you made back.

SARGEANT

We have catching up to do.

MR. PATEL

Yah, bro really. Are you ok?

SARGEANT

What do you mean?

MR. PATEL

Well, listen check this out, when you were gone I starting paying attention to shows about the war and some of them talking about...(pause) Well, you know how soldiers are returning with shell shock and all sorts of stuff.

SARGEANT

I have always been cool with you cuz you kept it real.

MR. PATEL

How's the fam? Have not seen ALVIN. I had him giving updates while you over there. I saw your grand mom a few months back, but she she's never has been one to really talk to me.

SARGEANT

Well.

SARGEANT looks down.

MR. PATEL

Damn, don't tell me he went to jail.

SARGEANT

Worse.

MR. PATEL

Worse. No.

(Pause)

Prison?

SARGEANT has tears begin to fall down his cheek.

SARGEANT

He's dead.

MR.PATEL

What the hell? Did I hear you right?

SARGEANT

Yes.

MR. PATEL looks at SARGEANT and his eyes begin to turn red and then he cries softly.

MR. PATEL

Hmm....wow. cant believe that I'm hearing this. You guys are like my sons. Do you know the son of bitch that did it?

SARGEANT

I think he just made a bad choice.

MR. PATEL

So, it like that? Hmm. Damn.

SARGEANT

Yah. I wanted to go to funeral.

MR. PATEL

Wait U.S. would not let you go?

SARGEANT

I was in combat at the time. They do if you are not in a mission and my duties were complicated. I was the one they could count on.

MR. PATEL

Fuck, but could count on them? What the fuck. What are we fighting for?

SARGEANT wipes his eyes.

MR. PATEL

Wish I could help you out. I need another smoke.

MR.PATEL hands SARGEANT a cigarette and they smoke and then SARGEANT gives MR. PATEL a hand shake.

SARGEANT

I'm going to head out.

MR. PATEL

Wait.

MR. PATEL walks into his store and pulls a pack of cigarettes from the shelf and a lighter and gives them to SARGEANT.

MR. PATEL

Here. On the house.

SARGEANT looks down and walks away.

Thanks.

CUT TO:

INT. MARY ASHER'S BASEMENT- MIDNIGHT

SARGEANT sits in the basement alone and angry in the dark.

SARGEANT

(Talking to himself)

Who's gonna die? You are. Who's gonna do it I am.

SARGEANT punches the wall and then goes upstairs for his laptop and then goes back to the basement and begins going on state websites and looking at articles about ALVIN MOORE and the incident. He stays up all night and falls asleep on his laptop.

CUT TO:

EXT. SARGEANT WALKS TO MARCUS'S HOUSE-EARLY MORNING

He wakes up in the morning and walk to MARCUS' house a few doors down. SARGEANT knocks on his door and MARCUS looks out the window and then looks down at the floor as if he does not want to be bothered and debates opening the door.

MARCUS

Hey, what's up PHIL?

SARGEANT

I need to be asking you.

MARCUS

Come on, are you serious.

SARGEANT

Punk don't fuck with me. I know you know something about what happened. I not saying you did it, but I am saying you know something about hat happened.

MARCUS

You know ALVIN was like my bro too. Damn. Alright out of respect for you and ALVIN imam tell you.

SARGEANT

Speak. Nigga! Speak!

MARCUS

Well it happened like how the police report said it did.

SARGEANT

Put your clothes on.

MARCUS goes upstairs to put his clothes on. SAGEANT walks back to his house for an address, walks back to MARCUS and shows him the address.

SAREGEANT

Is this far?

MARCUS

Hell yah.

SARGEANT

How far?

SARGEANT looks at MARCUS very stern.

MARCUS

Couple miles.

SARGEANT

Meaning, two or three, right.

MARCUS

Something like that.

SARGEANT

You have a bike or something. A car you can use.

MARCUS

Everyone is at work.

SARGEANT

Guess we have to foot it.

MARCUS

Walk?

SARGEANT

Yah. (Pause) if you don't I will whip your ass in your own house.

MARCUS looks at SARGEANT and then hangs head down for a second.

MARCUS

Alright.

MARCUS and SARGEANT walk about a mile and MARCUS begins to get tired.

SARGEANT

Are you really this soft you're tired already?

MARCUS

I'm not in the military man.

SARGEANT takes a cigarette out of pocket and hands it to MARCUS and lights it.

SARGEANT

Let's walk.

MARCUS

Where are we going?

SARGEANT

AL's killer lives here.

MARCUS

What? How do you know?

MARCUS looks at SARGEANT confused.

SARGEANT

Hmm. Internet. You can find anything on the internet.

EXT./INT. THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT/ APARTMENT PARKING LOT-LATE MORNING

SARGEANT and MARCUS finally get there.

MARCUS

I'll stay here.

SARGEANT

Damn boy why are you so soft?

MARCUS stays by the bush as SARGEANT knocks on the former residence of NILES.

MILO

(Yells)

Coming. Stop knocking.

JASON

I got it.

JASON opens the door, so that it is ajar.

SARGEANT

I'm looking for NILES?

JASON

And you are?

JASON looks confused, and is hesitant to open the door entirely. He looks at SARGEANT suspiciously.

SARGEANT

A good friend.

SARGEANT pushes the door in on JASON. JASON punches SARGEANT, but SARGEANT punches him and knocks him to the floor. MILO is sitting in the kitchen and runs over with his breakfast bowl full of hot cereal and hits SARGEANT in head with it twice and the cereal burn SARGEANT a little a splatters all over him. SARGEANT falls and then runs to the door and run out holding his head. MARCUS sees this and starts running away. JASON and MILO pursue them a couple meters and then stop. JASON turns to MILO both men out of breath and stops with his fists in the air. SARGEANT is out of breath.

MARCUS

What happen?

SARGEANT

I got whooped up on. Where the fuck were you?

MARCUS

I was here watching out.

SARGEANT

For what? You sound stupid now.

MARCUS

Yo, don't get mad, but dude wasn't at that place. He was at another place down the street. A woman was with him. I t look girly, so I guess it was her place.

SARGEANT

Damn, now you tell me.

MARCUS

I kinna remember.

SARGEANT

Point me in that direction.

MARCUS

We'll walk. I feel bad that you got your ass beat.

SARGEANT

Hopefully you remember.

SARGEANT and MARCUS walk to LILY'S former townhouse, but MARCUS stays a few houses away, while SARGEANT knocks. A woman answers, but does not open the door.

WOMAN, old, soft spoken.

WOMAN

Hello.

SARGEANT

Afternoon, is NILES home?

WOMAN

No one lives here by that name. Oh, wait it think that's the person that used to live here. He has mail sometimes. I've been here for three months.

SARGEANT

Alright, thank you.

SARGEANT exits the front of the townhouse.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF TOWNHOUSE- A COUPLE MINUTES LATER.

SARGEANT meets back up with MARCUS.

SARGEANT

They not there. Woman said they moved.

MARCUS

Hmm?

SARGEANT

Let's walk back. My head still hurts. Your phone has internet?

MARCUS

No.

SARGEANT

Damn, I have to turn my phone my back on. Been off since I was deployed. No need of having a phone in combat.

CUT TO:

INT. MEANWHILE THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT-CONTINUOUS

JASON

What the fuck was that?

MILO

I don't know.

JASON

I hope NILES does not owe anyone.

MILO

Me neither.

JASON

He still gets unemployment, right?

MILO

I don't know, but that shit was weird. He only used to bring LILY here. That's what makes this weird.

JASON

(Smiles)

Glad we whipped his ass. Fucking lunatic.

MILO

(Smiles)

Wow the only time you smile is when you're fighting. Correction, I whipped his ass and I saved you.

JASON

Guy, clipped me with door. Next time he's getting a bullet. These days you can't trust anyone or anything.

MILO

I know, I know.

JASON

Hey, call NILES.

MILO

I don't think it's too early is it?

JASON

Forget time zones, NILES need to hear about this one.

MILO

Gimme a sec. I'll call him.

MILO remakes his breakfast, because of the incident.

MILO

I will when I'm finished eating. I gotta clean the from off the floor too.

JASON

I got it.

JASONS cleans up the mess.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT BALONY- CONTINUOUS

MILO grabs his phone and calls NILES.

NILES

(Phone)

Cuz?

LILY wakes up.

MILO

Some shit just went down?

NILES

Like what?

MILO

Some guy came here looking for you.

NILES

Wait, what?

MILO

JASON answered and said no. dude pushed the door in and fight broke out. I got into it also. We fucked him up, but...

(Pause)

Cuz what's going on?

NILES  
I'm lost. Who would want me?

MILO  
Well they want you bad.

NILES  
Hmm?

MILO  
What you mean hmm? Cuz, figure it out. We came up on the winning side this time, but next time time who knows? It's hard fighting an invisible enemy.

NILES  
I know Cuz, I know.

MILO  
Alright, later.

#### INT. MARY ASHER'S BASEMENT-CONTINUOUS

SARGEANT sits on the computer and is trying to find the location of where NILE'S resides. He daydreams for a while and begins hesitating about locating ALVIN'S killer. He fights with himself and wonders if it is something he should leave alone. He turns off the basement lights, gets off of the hard metal chair he has been sitting on, walks over to an old recliner in the corner of the basement slouches and then cries in the dark for about a minute. He holds his face up with his hands. He gets up and grabs a picture of him and ALVIN as youth looks at it for a few seconds and then puts it next to the recliner. He walks. He dries his face and gets himself together to look normal to the public. He gets up and grabs a picture of him and ALVIN as youth looks at it for a few seconds and then puts it next to the recliner.

#### EXT.THE FRONT OF MARY ASHER'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

He leaves the basement, walks outside, dries his face and gets himself together to look normal to the public. He walks over to MARCUS' home and knocks on the door. MARCUS opens the door.

MARCUS  
Hey sup, PHIL?

SARGEANT looks at MARCUS sternly and bites his bottom lip.

MARCUS

Damn, my bad hey SARG.

SARGEANT

MARK, do you think it's wise for me to meet ALVIN'S killer?

MARCUS

(Sighs)

Wow question is kinna deep to ask first thing in the morning.

(Pause)

Don't do it.

SARGEANT

I just want some kind of closure.

MARCUS

Huh? I think it would be best to leave it alone.

SARGEANT

Why? I just want to talk to him.

MARCUS

You are kind of off? Like your military thing makes you off. You flip too quick.

(Pause)

You think you can sit down with dude and talk?

SARGEANT

I don't know. I'm capable. I have control.

MARCUS looks SARGEANT in his eye sternly, looks at the ground and then looks into the sky. MARCUS leans over and puts his right hand on SARGEANT'S right shoulder.

MARCUS

(Whispers)

Don't do it.

SARGEANT

Alright.

SARGEANT walks back to his house.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. CASINO VERANDA SOUTH FLORIDA- TWO WEEKS LATER-  
EVENING

LILY and NILES leave the casino and it is thunder storming outside and LILY waits under the veranda.

NILES

Wait, here I'm going to get the car.

NILES runs to the car and gets soaked. He drives under the veranda and picks LILY up and they start driving home.

LILY

What are we going to eat?

NILES

I don't know.

LILY

I'm going to order something.

NILES

LILY I wish you cooked a lil more.

LILY

Chinese? It should be there by the time we get home?

NILES

Pizza.

LILY

Alright.

LILY grabs her phone and places the order via the internet. The couple pulls up to their house a few minutes later.

LILY

I have a surprise.

NILES

What?

LILY

A surprise.

NILES

What kind of surprise?

LILY

I bought the paint you wanted.

NILES

Are you serious?

NILES looks amazed.

NILES

LILY it's expensive.

LILY

Nothing is too expensive for you.

NILES smiles.

NILES

Babe it's like a thousand dollars.

LILY

So.

NILES

Wait, what's the name of it?

LILY

Laguna Seca Blue.

NILES puts his hand on her leg.

NILES

How did you know?

LILY

I do pay attention. I saved the name on my cell phone when we were at the shop and you were talking about it with your friend.

NILES

You're so cool right now.

LILY

I like it. It's going to look pretty when you paint your car.

NILES

Not pretty, but hot as hell. I'm going to bang the hell out of you.

LILY smirks.

LILY

So, this is what turns you on?

NILES looks at LILY.

NILES

Yes. Sorry to rough?

LILY

Yes. Try be a lil more romantic.

LILY and NILES look at each other in a flirtatious manner.

NILES

I'm trying.

LILY

Yes you are.

CUT TO:

INT. LILY and NILES are in their house and NILES is changing out of his wet clothes.

NILES

We came up today. \$600. Not bad.

LILY

Correction \$200. We spent \$400.

NILES

We can't win everytime.

LILY

True.

LILY and NILES look at each other and smile.

The door knocks and LILY opens the door, but is not the pizza guy it's SARGEANT with a revolver handgun in his hand and pushes the door open and LILY falls behind it. NILES runs over to the door.

SARGEANT looks over at NILES

SARGEANT  
Checkmate! Die Motherfucker!

NILES runs towards SARGEANT.



















