Echoes of the Lake

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PROLOGUE

EXT. STREETS. EVENING

Big city life. The lights loom over all the buildings.

INT. PENTHOUSE. EVENING

It's a super modern penthouse, in the middle of the room there's a marble table. Two women are sitting in front of each other. One of the women signs some documents, she then hands them to the other woman.

The woman who is signing her divorce papers is AUDREY, the woman standing in front of her is her ex wife VICTORIA. VICTORIA (31), her hair is brown and her eyes green. She seems like a natural charmer.

AUDREY's jaw is tightened, and she blinks rapidly, fighting back tears. She refuses to give VICTORIA the satisfaction to cry in front of her.

#### AUDREY

#### Done

VICTORIA looks at the document making sure she has signed all the pages. She doesn't seem sad at all, she seems relieved.

VICTORIA And... we're officially divorced. Wow

VICTORIA CONT'D You want to celebrate. Champagne

AUDREY No thank you. I'm not in a mood

AUDREY gets up from her chair.

AUDREY CONT'D I wish you all the best

VICTORIA You sure don't want to stay

AUDREY Jesus VICTORIA, what's wrong with you

## VICTORIA Nothing, I still love you

AUDREY scoffs.

## AUDREY

#### Is that why you cheated on me

VICTORIA for an instance looks down on the table before answering her.

#### VICTORIA

It was a mistake

# AUDREY A mistake long two years

VICTORIA bites her lip, she avoids looking at her again.

AUDREY CONT'D I should go

AUDREY grabs her purse.

## VICTORIA I'll walk you out

#### AUDREY

Don't bother. I know my way out

AUDREY heads to the door, VICTORIA walks to the glass cabinet, she grabs a bottle of expensive whiskey, she pours a large quantity into a glass. She, then, sits on the sofa. She stares at the glass full of whiskey, she sips it. Whiskey kicks in.

## VICTORIA

Damn

VICTORIA leaves the glass on the couch, she wipes a tear away from her eyes. She takes her glass of whiskey again, she spills the rest of the whiskey on the sofa.

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT ONE

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

VICTORIA is sleeping in her bed alone, she's agitated, her forehead is wet. When All of a sudden she wakes up, she sits up on the bed, her breathing is fast, she touches her forehead. She tries to slow down her breath.

#### VICTORIA

#### Not again

She reaches for the glass of water on her bedside table.

EXT. HOUSE. GARDEN. DAY

We see an old house, it is not abandoned, but definitely no one has lived in the house for years. The trees and the grass that surround the house are tall, they need trimming.

VICTORIA stands in front of the house, right next to her we notice that there are several bags and a suitcase. VICTORIA rubs her forehead. She walks in.

INT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

VICTORIA walks inside, she drops the bags onto the floor. She stands motionless, the silence of the house pressing in on her. Her gaze drifts on the dust covered furniture. A small bittersweet smile touches her lips.

INT. HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

VICTORIA pushes open a window, the rusty hinges groaning in protest. A flood of sunlight pours into the room, illuminating the swirling dust motes that dance in the stale air.

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

VICTORIA heads into her room. Nothing has changed since the last time she was inside, there are posters of rock bands on the walls. This time she doesn't look around the room, she heads straight to her bedside table, where there's a picture of VICTORIA with three other girls. The picture is slightly faded, the colours are not so bright. Judging by the way they were dressed and their physical features, the picture was probably taken ten/fifteen years ago. The four girls stand in front of a lake. VICTORIA is in the middle, her arms are outstretched on the other girls' shoulders, but she is kissing one of them on the cheek. She takes the pictures in her hand, again her smile is bittersweet. She touches the faces of the girls but she focuses on one of them.

## VICTORIA whispering I'm so sorry

Still dressed, she lies on the bed, she holds the picture against her chest.

(...)

VICTORIA wakes up all of a sudden. She rubs her eyes, she looks at her watch.

EXT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

VICTORIA sits on the steps of the house, there a six pack of beers right next to her. She opens one of them while she listens to the noises of the small town. When

## Woman V.O. VICTORIA

VICTORIA looks at the woman, she stares at her for an instance, she recognises her almost immediately.

# VICTORIA

## KATHERINE

KATHERINE VALLANCE, she is one the girl who was in the picture.

VICTORIA gets up immediately as she walks towards her. They stand in front of each other, VICTORIA smiles at her, KATE, instead, stares at her but doesn't show any emotions, until VICTORIA hugs her. KATE softens, she smiles a little, VICTORIA smells the scent of her hair. As they are still hugging:

#### VICTORIA CONT'D

You haven't changed at all. You are so ... beautiful

KATE looks away, avoiding VICTORIA's gaze. They pull apart from the hug.

VICTORIA CONT'D

Can I offer you anything, I've got beer, beer and beer

VICTORIA and KATE chuckle.

KATE I guess a beer is fine

They both sit on the steps. VICTORIA hands a beer to KATE, they clink cans.

VICTORIA

Cheers

KATE Cheers

VICTORIA looks at KATE, her smile is genuine, she's happy.

VICTORIA How, how are you

KATE I'm... I'm good

KATE CONT'D How long has it been since...

Before VICTORIA answers, she taps her finger against her leg, she looks away when she answers.

VICTORIA 13 years

KATE I thought you were going to sell the house sooner or later

 $\label{eq:VICTORIA} \end{tabular}$  Me too, but I never had the courage to do it

KATE Are you moving here

VICTORIA Don't know, it's an open ticket KATE nods.

VICTORIA CONT'D What about you, what do you do

KATE I'm a history professor. You

VICTORIA smiles.

# VICTORIA

# I'm a lawyer

They look into each other's eyes for a moment.

VICTORIA CONT'D Are you married, single...

> KATE I'm not married

VICTORIA nods.

VICTORIA Are you seeing someone

> KATE Yeah, I am

VICTORIA

## Is she special

KATE It's too soon to tell. What about you

> VICTORIA I'm divorced

KATE raises her eyebrows, surprised.

KATE How long have you been married

# VICTORIA

Two years

KATE And how long have you been cheating on her

# VICTORIA

## Two years

# KATE You never change, uh

VICTORIA smirks.

#### VICTORIA

How's ALEX, have you seen her, do you still talk to her

KATE pauses.

#### KATE

I see her sometimes, she, everyday she goes to the cemetery, but I guess it is safe to say we're not friends anymore

VICTORIA nods.

## KATE CONT'D

She's married if that's what you're thinking

### VICTORIA

I don't sleep with married people

KATE eyes her.

KATE

### Yeah sure

VICTORIA leans close to her.

#### VICTORIA

Maybe we should continue what we started

KATE leans close to her too, their lips are separated just by a few inches. KATE smiles at her, VICTORIA smiles back. KATE touches VICTORIA's lips.

KATE

Do you want to kiss me, after all the years

VICTORIA's breath is hot, she nods. When KATE grabs her beer can, she flips upside down and the beer completely wets VICTORIA.

VICTORIA's eyes widen in disbelief, KATE abruptly gets up from the steps.

KATE CONT'D You haven't changed at all, VICTORIA

### KATE CONT'D

#### See you around

She leaves her. When VICTORIA gets up and yanks her arm.

#### VICTORIA

I still dream of her, about that night

KATE steps back.

KATE Forget about that night

### VICTORIA

Do you, too

KATE shakes her head.

KATE

### I don't

KATE CONT'D

It was a long time ago, you should move on with your life

KATE walks away. VICTORIA sits back on the steps, she throws the empty can on the ground.

EXT. CEMETERY. DAY

VICTORIA walks along the tombstones. Her face seems worried, she's uneasy, probably she doesn't like cemeteries very much. Her hands inside her pockets, while she slowly walks. Until she spots what she's looking for, she stops for a moment, then starts walking, her pace this time is more decisive. In front of a gravestone, there's a girl holding a bouquet of flowers. VICTORIA walks right next to her. The girl looks at her in disbelief, the bouquet of flowers falling on the ground. VICTORIA Hey ALEX

ALEX MOORE is one of the girls in the picture.

She picks up the bouquet, hands it back to ALEX except for one flower, VICTORIA smells it before putting it into the vase in front of the gravestone.

#### ALEX

VICTORIA oh my god, what are you doing here, I have no idea you were-

She doesn't even finish her sentence when she hugs VICTORIA. VICTORIA hugs her back, tightly.

#### ALEX CONT'D

I thought I never see you again, when did you come back

# VICTORIA

Yesterday

VICTORIA holds her hand, ALEX doesn't pull back.

VICTORIA CONT'D It's been thirteen years now

ALEX

Yeah, I come here everyday since her death

ALEX and VICTORIA stare at the gravestone.

"ELLIE REESE 04/08/1994 07/12/2012"

ELLIE was the fourth person in the picture.

VICTORIA I still miss her

> ALEX Me too

ALEX puts the flower in the vase.

VICTORIA I know it may be crazy but, I keep having nightmares about that night

ALEX

What happened was a tragedy. I think about her a lot, especially when it comes to her anniversary

VICTORIA

Don't you think it was weird, she was the only one who died while we got away with it

ALEX shrugs while she looks at the pictures of ELLIE.

ALEX She might be dead, but we lost something too that night

VICTORIA looks at her, not sure she understands.

### ALEX CONT'D

The three of us changed from the night, we grew up so fast

#### ALEX CONT'D

We made a promise to stick around together, but... I mean, ELLIE died, you left, KATE and I... we barely speak to each other.

VICTORIA

I don't think it was an accident

ALEX

She was driving, we were wasted, of course it was an accident

VICTORIA Maybe you're right

ALEX squeezes VICTORIA's arm.

VICTORIA CONT'D So you're married uh

#### ALEX

Yeah, three years, a happy beautiful wedding, and now my husband cheats on me

#### VICTORIA

#### Oh I'm sorry

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

VICTORIA and ALEX are kissing, hot, passionate, deep kisses. VICTORIA helps ALEX to get on top of her, ALEX straddles her. VICTORIA unbuttons ALEX's trousers, ALEX moans in pleasure. (...)

VICTORIA and ALEX look at each other, their look dishevelled. VICTORIA smirks as she looks at ALEX.

ALEX It's been a day and you're already making troubles uh

VICTORIA

### I should go now

VICTORIA straightens her clothes.

ALEX Yeah, I should go home

# VICTORIA See you around

VICTORIA heads out of the car.

# ALEX

# VICTORIA

VICTORIA stops and looks at her.

ALEX CONT'D Don't be a stranger

VICTORIA smiles at her and she starts walking.

EXT. STREET. DAY

VICTORIA is walking back home, when in the opposite direction she sees KATE who is going to work.

KATE Hi

## VICTORIA Hey

## KATE What are you doing here

VICTORIA looks around, pretending like she was just taking a walk, that's all.

## VICTORIA Walking

walking

KATE looks at her, she lifts her eyebrows.

KATE Have a good day, VICTORIA

KATE keeps walking again, but VICTORIA steps in front of her.

VICTORIA I went to ELLIE's

KATE Did you see ALEX

VICTORIA No, no of course not

KATE scoffs and she starts walking again.

VICTORIA CONT'D What have I done now

KATE stops, she walks back to her.

KATE

Maybe you don't remember but, ALEX is still wearing the same perfume she used to thirteen years ago which I hated, it was way too sweet, I could recognise it between millions of people. Her perfume is all over you

VICTORIA doesn't know what to say, her lips apart but the voice doesn't come out. KATE walks away, for good this time. VICTORIA smells at her clothes, she curls her lips, a bit disgusted, KATE was right ALEX's perfume is way too sweet.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL. OFFICE. DAY

KATE stands in the middle of the room, she grabs a book from the bookshelves, when she sits at her desk working on her laptop we see the same picture we saw in VICTORIA's house. She stares at the picture.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL. STREET. DAY

VICTORIA leans against the wall waiting for KATE. Two schoolgirls are standing right next to her, talking and chuckling, while they eye her.

One of the schoolgirls approaches her.

Schoolgirl Do you have a cigarette

VICTORIA shrugs.

# VICTORIA

Maybe

Schoolgirl I've never seen you around here

VICTORIA

I just moved back.

VICTORIA CONT'D What if I give you a packet of cigarette and you answer a few questions

Even the other schoolgirl seems interested as she steps closer.

Schoolgirl What kind of questions

VICTORIA Have you ever heard of ELLIE REESE

The two schoolgirls look at each other.

Schoolgirl #2 She's the girl who died at the lake, right

# VICTORIA

Correct

When they hear the school's doorbell chimes.

VICTORIA CONT'D Anything else

> Schoolgirl I'm sorry

When

KATE Girls go back to class

Schoolgirls look at VICTORIA, they have been played by her and have been left with no cigarettes.

Schoolgirls Professor VALLANCE

KATE smiles at the two girls while they leave. VICTORIA and KATE stare at each other.

VICTORIA Professor VALLANCE, kinda hot

KATE What do you want VICTORIA

VICTORIA I need to talk to you

KATE And I don't want to talk to you

> VICTORIA KATE please

KATE takes a deep breath.

KATE

Not here

KATE walks away, VICTORIA still stands against the wall. KATE turns and looks at VICTORIA.

KATE

Are you coming or what

VICTORIA follows her right behind.

INT. KATE'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

VICTORIA is seated on the sofa, she looks around, there's a light smile on her lips, she remembers the house. KATE hands her a glass of water.

# VICTORIA

## Thanks

KATE sits right in front of her.

VICTORIA CONT'D I see you've made some changes

KATE

VICTORIA, let's cut to the chase

VICTORIA

## Okay, sorry

VICTORIA takes a deep breath.

VICTORIA CONT'D I... I don't think it was an accident

KATE

We were in the same car with her and we were wasted

KATE CONT'D I was so wasted I don't even remember what happened exactly

> VICTORIA I remember everything from that night

VICTORIA chuckles.

KATE VICTORIA, you were so wasted you couldn't even stand straight

> VICTORIA Yeah I had a few drinks, it's true

KATE A few, you don't remember anything at all then

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### VICTORIA

I think someone wanted to make her pay

KATE

What are you talking about

VICTORIA

Oh come on, you remember how ELLIE was, everyone wanted to see her dead

KATE

You're just making assumptions

VICTORIA

I keep having nightmares about that night

VICTORIA CONT'D And I don't think I can handle it anymore

KATE

Wow. You're so tired about having nightmares that after thirteen years you decide to come back here because you think ELLIE's death wasn't an accident

VICTORIA

I feel guilty

KATE

Your self destructive behaviour got nothing to do ELLIE's death

KATE CONT'D

Go home, VICTORIA, there's nothing we can do anymore

VICTORIA You have to help me, please

KATE

VICTORIA, I want you to get out of my house, now

They stare in silence at each other, VICTORIA is trying not to cry but her eyes are filled with tears, KATE is trying not to lose her temper.

When

Woman V.O. Hey babe I'm home

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KATE's girlfriend walks into the living room and she sees VICTORIA and KATE staring at each other.

KATE

#### Hi love

KATE plasters a fake bright smile as soon as she sees her girlfriend, she jumps on her feet and greets her with a big passionate kiss. VICTORIA wipes a tear away and she looks on the ground.

When KATE and her girlfriend pull apart, they both stare at VICTORIA.

#### KATE CONT'D

Right sorry, VICTORIA this is NATALIE, NATALIE this is VICTORIA

# VICTORIA

Нi

KATE VICTORIA is an old friend

## VICTORIA Who was about to leave

VICTORIA gets up from the sofa.

VICTORIA CONT'D Thank you for the lovely chat, it was nice catching up

KATE

I'll walk you out

KATE and VICTORIA head out of the room.

INT. KATE'S HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

KATE and VICTORIA stand by the door.

VICTORIA Tell me you'll think about it

KATE

There's nothing to think about it

VICTORIA takes KATE's hand, she rubs her thumb but she pulls away abruptly.

VICTORIA I'm begging you KATE I'm sorry, but I can't help you with that

> KATE CONT'D You should go home now

KATE closes the door in front of VICTORIA.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. KATE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. EVENING

KATE and NATALIE are having dinner, KATE is playing with food on the plate, absent minded, NATALIE notices it, she takes her hand.

> NATALIE Hey babe, you alright

> > KATE

Yeah, sorry. I got lost in my own thoughts

NATALIE Everything alright

KATE

I'm fine, just a little tired

NATALIE

Do you want to go out for a drink later

KATE

No thanks, I'm not in the mood, but you should go

NATALIE No, I want to stay with you

KATE

Go, don't worry about me. Plus I got work to do, I won't be much of a company

KATE smiles at her.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. EVENING

ALEX and her husband are having dinner, none of them bothers to talk, they just chew their food and nothing more. They sit distant at the table, they don't even look at each other when they talk.

> Husband I'm going out later, don't wait up for me

ALEX

I've got plans too anyway

ALEX gets up from the table, she puts her plate into the dishwasher. Husband keeps eating.

> Husband Where are you going

ALEX leans against the dishwasher.

ALEX

You remember VICTORIA

Husband Your high school friend, right

ALEX

Yeah, she's back in town and she asked me out for a drink

Husband

Okay, good

Not interested in making more conversation with her, he gets up, and heads out of the room leaving the plate on the table.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. EVENING

VICTORIA is sitting alone at the table, the food is still intact on the table. When The doorbell chimes. VICTORIA walks from the kitchen to the other room.

INT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. EVENING

VICTORIA opens the door and she finds ALEX standing at the door.

VICTORIA ALEX, what are you doing here

ALEX

Can I come in

VICTORIA

Sure

VICTORIA steps away from the door to let ALEX in.

## INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. EVENING

ALEX and VICTORIA take a seat.

## VICTORIA Are you alright

#### -

ALEX

I'm sorry I came here unannounced

## VICTORIA

#### Don't worry

#### ALEX

My husband told he was going tonight and I was tired of playing the sad pathetic wife who waits for him, so I told him I was going out for a drink with you

VICTORIA smiles at her.

## VICTORIA

You're welcome to stay here as long as you want, at least I can return the favour

VICTORIA CONT'D I was the one knocking at your door every time

ALEX Yeah, do you still talk to your mother

VICTORIA

Not really, I invited her to my wedding but she didn't even show up

ALEX's eyes wide open in shock, she can't believe VICTORIA's married.

ALEX Wait, you're married

VICTORIA chuckles.

VICTORIA

I'm divorced now, but yeah I was

#### ALEX

#### What happened

## VICTORIA

I cheated on her, for the entire wedding

ALEX

Oh VICTORIA Not my finest moment

ALEX takes VICTORIA's hand.

ALEX You were the one who got more affected by...

## VICTORIA

My family

ALEX

Yeah, I mean, between your father and your mother, I'm surprised you didn't end up in jail

They both chuckle.

#### VICTORIA

I never thought it that way, but I guess you're kinda right

ALEX

You were the one who got more affected by ELLIE's death

VICTORIA

I always thought I was just broken, you know. I thought ELLIE was broken enough to understand me

ALEX She always had been broken

VICTORIA It should have been me

## ALEX

Why

VICTORIA Because I can't stop thinking about her

VICTORIA CONT'D I still feel her blood on my hands

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VICTORIA looks at her hands like she's still seeing the blood on her hands, then she looks away. ALEX cups VICTORIA's face.

ALEX

VICTORIA, we were young and stupid, but what happened wasn't your fault. You're not broken, I know you and even if I haven't seen you in years you're still my best friend. And believe me when I say you have nothing to feel guilty about. What happened was a sad tragedy. You're not a bad person

> VICTORIA How can you still do it

> > ALEX

Do what

#### VICTORIA

Finding the right words for every situation

ALEX smiles at her.

ALEX

I told you, you're my best friend, and I hate when you're feeling sad

VICTORIA

I don't deserve you, you know that

ALEX

I know

ALEX kisses VICTORIA's cheek as she drags her arm.

VICTORIA What are you doing

ALEX Come on, make the happy dance

VICTORIA

Oh god no, it was too embarrassing

ALEX VICTORIA KENSINGTON, happy dance, now VICTORIA slowly and embarrassed makes a few moves, basically she jumps around, while ALEX is looking at her like she's just got nominated as a judge of a dance program. When The doorbell chimes. They both look at each other, wondering what the hell is going on. The doorbell chimes again.

INT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. EVENING

VICTORIA I thought you didn't want to see me again

KATE leans against the doorframe.

KATE It's true I don't want to see you again

> VICTORIA Then what are you doing here

> > KATE

I was in the neighbourhood, heard the music and ...

VICTORIA You do realise there's no music

KATE looks away for a moment.

KATE

I know

VICTORIA smiles and lets her in.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. NIGHT

KATE walks inside the room, ALEX leaning against the table. As soon as KATE sees ALEX at VICTORIA's, she thinks she was stupid to come and see her. Her jaw tightens, her lips closed in a flat line.

KATE

Oh wow

ALEX Hi KATHERINE

## KATE

## Hi ALEX

# KATE CONT'D I'm sorry I had no idea you two were-

# VICTORIA We were just talking

ALEX And doing the happy dance

KATE No way, not the happy dance again

#### ALEX

Way

# ALEX CONT'D Come on do it

ALEX drags KATE in the middle of the kitchen and they dance like they did it for this entire time and nothing changed between them. VICTORIA looks at them smiling.

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

Flashback

VICTORIA puts her backpack on and she climbs down from the window.

EXT. HOUSE. GARDEN. DAY

There's a car at the end of the street waiting for her. VICTORIA runs as fast as she can toward the car. It's an old car but still, it does the job.

INT. CAR. DAY

VICTORIA gets inside. A metal band playing. The seats of the car are ruined, the colours are not bright anymore.

ELLIE Hi baby

VICTORIA Hi They kiss.

## VICTORIA CONT'D Drive before my mum sees us

ELLIE laughs.

# ELLIE

## Sure baby

ELLIE ignites the engine.

INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

A rock band is playing. VICTORIA lies down in her bed, while ELLIE is looking for something in her closet.

# ELLIE

Found it!

# VICTORIA

# Show me

ELLIE wears a small top, it's white and pretty transparent, she walks in the middle of the room.

ELLIE So what you think

### VICTORIA

Wow, come here right now

VICTORIA drags ELLIE onto the bed and they kiss passionately.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

ALEX is sitting on her bed while she puts on some lipstick.

ALEX

#### Ready

She gets up from the, grabs her backpack and gets out of the room.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY

ALEX stands by the door.

#### ALEX

I'm going out, mum

ALEX'S mum V.O. Ok, have fun. Love you

### ALEX

## Me too

ALEX runs out of the house, without even looking back, she doesn't want to be late for the party.

INT. KATE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

KATE is already dressed, she's wearing a lot of eyeliner compared to now. She puts on a necklace with a small heart charm, picks up her backpack and heads out of her room, slamming the door behind.

INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

VICTORIA and ELLIE are making out. When ALEX and KATE open the door.

#### ELLIE

Dude have you ever heard of the word knocking

# ELLIE CONT'D

Jesus

ELLIE abruptly gets up from the bed, she adjusts her clothes. VICTORIA sits up on the bed a little embarrassed, she doesn't look at ALEX nor KATE.

#### ALEX

You said 4 pm sharp, dude

ELLIE looks at her watch, it's 4.15, she dismisses ALEX with hand as she goes to the mirror for the final touches. KATE rolls her eyes, she leans against the door. ALEX stares at VICTORIA's lips and then her body. VICTORIA clears her throat as she gets up from the bed.

#### VICTORIA

I need to use the bathroom

#### ELLIE

#### Sure baby

#### KATE

#### Yeah, me too

The three of them stare at KATE.

KATE CONT'D Period. Better change pad before we leave

ELLIE

Oh I'm sorry love. If you need anything check the first drawer

# KATE

Thanks

VICTORIA and KATE walk outside the room.

INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. BATHROOM. DAY

KATE and VICTORIA walk inside the room, they lock the door behind. As soon as the door is locked they hug tight, none of them wants to pull apart. The arms of the two women are wrapped strongly around each other.

#### KATE

I missed you so much

#### VICTORIA

I'm tired of hiding, I want to tell her

KATE

VICTORIA we just wait a few months and then it'll be just us

VICTORIA I want to be with you, I want to kiss you

> VICTORIA CONT'D Don't you want to kiss me

> > KATE

More than everything, but we decided to wait after it happened

KATE cups VICTORIA's face.

KATE CONT'D It'll be worth it, I promise

#### VICTORIA

#### I can't wait

VICTORIA picks up something from her pocket.

VICTORIA CONT'D

I brought you something She puts a red hair elastic onto KATE's wrist and then she puts one onto hers.

> VICTORIA CONT'D This way I'll always be with you

KATE smiles, she touches it immediately.

KATE And I'll always be with you

VICTORIA smiles.

KATE CONT'D I love it and I love you

# VICTORIA

I love you too

They hold hands before they head into ELLIE's room again.

INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

VICTORIA and KATE walk back into the room, ALEX eyes them immediately, she notices the red elastic on their wrist but doesn't say anything.

VICTORIA Come on babe, we should go

#### ELLIE

#### Almost done

She puts on mascara, and then she heads to the door.

ELLIE CONT'D And we're ready to party!

KATE follows her right behind, ALEX and VICTORIA are a few steps behind.

### ALEX

What's going on between you two

## VICTORIA

#### What you mean

ALEX looks at her like: don't try to play with me, I know your secret.

ALEX Between you and KATE

VICTORIA scoffs.

## VICTORIA Nothing

# ALEX VICTORIA. Be careful

## VICTORIA I will

VICTORIA hugs her.

# VICTORIA CONT'D You're my best friend you know that

ALEX hugs her back, she wants to be her girlfriend not her friend, she tries to smile lightly.

ALEX Best friend, right

They head out of the room.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. NIGHT

ALEX drags KATE in the middle of the kitchen and they dance like they did it for this entire time and nothing changed between them. VICTORIA looks at them smiling. ALEX looks at VICTORIA.

ALEX Don't stand there come on

VICTORIA No thanks, I'll get us some beers VICTORIA walks to the refrigerator and grabs three beers. She hands them to her friends, they clink bottles.

KATE God, it seems so-

ALEX

Crazy, right

KATE

Yeah

ALEX looks at them.

ALEX Can I ask you a question

> KATE/VICTORIA Yeah/Sure

ALEX Did you two, I mean, you two

KATE shakes her head. VICTORIA blushes as she looks on the floor.

> VICTORIA No

KATE How did you know anyway

ALEX

You're not the only smart one, you know, smartass

VICTORIA smiles.

KATE

Do you think ELLIE knew it

ALEX

I doubt it, she was way too wasted like the rest of us

EXT. LAKE. SUNSET

The four girls arrive at the party, they stand for a moment with their mouths open looking at how many guests are already there partying.

Some of them are already drinking, while some others are playing in the lake.

ELLIE

Now this is what I call a party

KATE

Hell yeah

ALEX smiles. As VICTORIA, ALEX and KATE take a step forward, ELLIE stops them.

ELLIE

Where you think you're going

The three of them stop, they both turn to look at ELLIE who is proudly holding a small bag of molly.

KATE

I'm out

KATE leaves the group, VICTORIA looks at her leaving, briefly. ELLIE shrugs.

#### ELLIE

#### Your loss

VICTORIA, ALEX and ELLIE gather around. ELLIE hands one of the pills to ALEX, she takes it like she's holding a diamond and swallows it. ELLIE then places two pills onto her tongue and she looks at VICTORIA. VICTORIA steps closer to ELLIE, ALEX upset leaves them she reaches for KATE, she doesn't want to look at them kissing, they make out until they swallow a pill each.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. NIGHT

KATE

#### I wasn't

ALEX and VICTORIA look at KATE in disbelief.

KATE CONT'D I was drunk, but I didn't took anything

#### ALEX

You're lying, you always wanted to be perfect in everything, but guess what, you loved having fun and getting wasted

#### KATE

ALEX, I'm not lying

## VICTORIA She's telling the truth

ALEX raises her voice.

ALEX

How do you know, uh, you were a junkie VICTORIA, you would have done anything to get some drugs. And I recall it very well, you fucking took them

VICTORIA doesn't have the courage to meet ALEX or KATE's eyes.

VICTORIA

It's true, you saw me taking it but then I spit it out

ALEX I don't believe it, you're just making it up and I don't understand why

VICTORIA looks on the floor.

### VICTORIA

I made a promise to… a special person to stop doing drugs, and I kept it. I had a few drinks, that's it, I just pretended I was wasted. You said it yourself, I was junkie it wasn't hard for me to pretend I was loaded

VICTORIA CONT'D

That's why I don't think it was an accident, I think ELLIE was killed

ALEX

You're just making it up. There's just one thing, why now after all these years

#### VICTORIA

Because I keep seeing her face right before we crash against that fucking tree. I'm tired of wasting my life because I feel guilty I couldn't help her

#### ALEX

You know what, I'm done, I don't care. ALEX died in a car accident, that's what happened. End of the story. ALEX grabs her things and she slams the door behind herself, without even looking back. KATE looks at VICTORIA who is looking at the door, she's sad her friend didn't believe her.

KATE

Hey, you okay

VICTORIA clears her throat.

#### VICTORIA

#### Yeah, I'm fine

VICTORIA takes ALEX's bottle of beer and she puts it in the trash bin.

KATE

Is it true what you said

KATE takes a step closer to VICTORIA.

### VICTORIA

## About what

KATE You didn't take any drugs

VICTORIA nods.

## VICTORIA I promised you

VICTORIA doesn't look her in the eyes.

VICTORIA CONT'D I still have it you know

VICTORIA shows to KATE that under her watch she still has her red hair elastic.

KATE

# VICTORIA...

KATE stands right in front of her.

VICTORIA I never stopped loving you VICTORIA closes the gap between her, their lips separate just by a few inches.

VICTORIA CONT'D You were the best thing that happened to me

KATE takes VICTORIA's hand.

KATE I thought I would never see you again

VICTORIA

I wanted to stay away from you

KATE

It took you only thirteen years to come back

KATE smiles.

#### VICTORIA

It took me a while, yeah

VICTORIA and KATE look at each other, then VICTORIA gently kisses KATE. They stop for a second, then they start kissing again, deeply, passionately, desperately. They have waited for thirteen years to kiss again and their desperation shows it. VICTORIA pushes KATE against the counter, KATE throws her arms around VICTORIA's neck.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

ALEX is still angry after the fight with VICTORIA and KATE. With a firm walk she heads into her room, opens the closet. On the last, top shelf we notice there's a black box. After a few attempts she grabs it. She opens it. Inside the box there are pictures, including the same one of KATE and VICTORIA's, newspaper's articles of the day ELLIE died, and under it, there's the small bag of molly with the pills inside. The pills are not well rounded like they used to be, in fact in

> ALEX What have you done, ELLIE

EXT. LAKE. NIGHT

ALEX and KATE are talking and laughing while they stand

the end of the bag there's a colourful dust.
ELLIE is sitting on a table, with a beer in her hand, visibly drunk. VICTORIA sits next to her, pretending to be drunk.

> ELLIE You want to stay at my place tonight

> > VICTORIA

# Uhm...

She looks at KATE then looks at ELLIE again.

I'm staying at ALEX's

VICTORIA CONT'D You should have told me sooner

ELLIE

Change your plans, come on

VICTORIA Sorry

ELLIE shrugs, but she's upset.

## ELLIE

Okay, fine

ELLIE barely gets up from the table.

VICTORIA

Where are you going

## ELLIE

I'm meeting with a guy, he owes me a favour

VICTORIA raises her eyebrows suspiciously.

INT. CAR. NIGHT

The girls are driving back home. Music is so loud, ALEX sits by the passenger seat, she's all sweaty, she leans her head by the window. KATE and VICTORIA are in the backseat, they try to be subtle, but they are holding hands, while ELLIE is driving. ELLIE is trying to be focused, but she's way too wasted to drive straight. Sometimes she brakes the car when there's no need to.

## Best party of my life!

### ELLIE

I'm a party animal, baby!

ALEX and ELLIE laugh, VICTORIA and KATE hold their gaze, they want to kiss but they don't want ELLIE to find out that way. VICTORIA closes her eyes, then she takes some courage and sits right next to KATE. ELLIE looks at them from the rearview mirror. She smiles at VICTORIA When The car hits the tree.

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

VICTORIA is woken up by her recurrent nightmare.

She sits on the bed, her forehead is sweaty, she tries to calm her breath. When

### KATE

Hey

# VICTORIA Hey, I'm sorry I woke you up

KATE sits on the bed.

KATE One of your bad dreams again

## VICTORIA

Yeah

# KATE Come here

VICTORIA looks at her, but she doesn't move, not because she doesn't want to but because she's not used to that kind of love and affection.

KATE CONT'D Come on, I don't bite

VICTORIA mouthing Okay VICTORIA scoots over a little, KATE pulls her in for a hug. KATE gently rubs VICTORIA's face and then her hair red elastic.

KATE I have it too, you know

# VICTORIA

You do, really

KATE nods.

KATE

I wanted to throw it away like the rest of your gifts, I was so pissed at you. I didn't want to throw away the most precious gift from the love of my life

VICTORIA stares KATE right in the eyes.

KATE

It always have been you

VICTORIA kisses KATE, it's sweet it shows all the love they have for each other.

# VICTORIA

I love you KATHERINE

### KATE

### I love you too

KATE keeps on hugging VICTORIA tightly while she smiles.

KATE CONT'D

I know I'll regret it as soon as this thing I'm about to say come out of my mouth

VICTORIA looks at her, curious and confused, she gets serious in an instant.

KATE CONT'D If this thing with ELLIE is tormenting you, I think we should do something

VICTORIA can't believe what she's saying, her mouth open in surprise, her eyes filled with tears.

# VICTORIA Are you serious

If this helps you to put your mind at ease, I mean, why not. I'm not saying ELLIE did die on different circumstances but we should dig into it

KATE

VICTORIA I can't believe someone is willing to help me

KATE Hell, I want to sleep at night I don't want you to wake me up every night

KATE chuckles.

KATE

ALEX will come around, don't worry she'll help us

### VICTORIA

How do you know

### KATE

Oh please, she was so desperate for your attention and she still is. Worst case scenario we'll do it just the two of us

## VICTORIA

Thank you

KATE kisses her.

KATE Can we go back to sleep now

VICTORIA smiles at her.

# VICTORIA

# Yeah

They both lie on the bed, KATE wraps her arm around VICTORIA's chest. VICTORIA closes her eyes and she smiles like she hasn't in a very long time.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

ALEX is in bed alone, she's awake. Something is tormenting her, she flips from one side to the other of the bed until, frustrated for not sleeping, sits up on the bed, groaning.

# ALEX Fucking party

She flips again on the bed.

INT. CAR. NIGHT

The car just crashed against the tree. The first person we see is KATE, who has a cut on her forehead. She looks around terrified, her eyes wide in terror, she touches herself, her legs, her arms, everything seems fine until she touches her face, she looks at the blood on her forehead, she touches it again, it hurts but it's nothing serious. She looks at VICTORIA, she is smashed against the driver's seat, her nose is broken and bleeding.

### KATE

VICTORIA, VICTORIA wake up

KATE tries to wake her up. After a few attempts she slowly opens her eyelids, then she opens them wide open, she reaches for her face.

VICTORIA panics and screams for the pain.

### VICTORIA

### My nose, my nose!

She looks at her trembling hands covered in blood. KATE cups VICTORIA's face.

KATE

Babe, babe look at me

KATE CONT'D I think your nose is broken

VICTORIA nods, but she's shaking.

ALEX

What, what happened

KATE

Hey ALEX, we need to get out of here

ALEX

I think I dislocated my shoulder

KATE

We can fix it

KATE CONT'D How's ELLIE

ALEX turns to look at ELLIE, both airbags explode, ELLIE seems perfectly fine, her eyes are closed, she is seated up straight except for the fact that it feels like she's sleeping. ALEX, even if she's suffering for her shoulders, scoots over to her, she touches her, but she notices something's off. She starts crying.

#### ALEX

Guys

KATE is cleaning VICTORIA's face, they pause.

KATE

What is it

# ALEX I think ELLIE-

She looks down at ELLIE's chest, there's blood coming off.

# VICTORIA What

### KATE

### Get out of the car

ALEX opens the door car, as does KATE and VICTORIA, the three of them head out of the car.

EXT. CAR. NIGHT

The three of them stand in front of what it used to be a car, there's smoke coming from the engine.

# VICTORIA

## We need to take her out

The three of them try to open the car door, but it's too damaged to open up.

# ALEX

# Damn it

### KATE

### Come on, come on

She slams her hand against the car door.

### KATE

### One more time

They position themselves and they push. The door opens a little.

ALEX

Come on, we have to try again

## VICTORIA

There's no time

## KATE

### VICTORIA don't!

VICTORIA ignores her, she slides in between the door and the car seat. She cuts her arm against the metal door, she groans in pain but she reaches for ELLIE's neck, she checks if she's still breathing. VICTORIA turns and looks at her friend, terrified, she starts crying.

## KATE V.O.

### Can you move her

ALEX touches her face, desperate.

### ALEX

What have we done

### VICTORIA

### ELLIE I'm going to take you of here

VICTORIA wipes the tears away from her face, she takes ELLIE's arms and places them around her neck. She lifts her the first time, she moves just a few inches, she lifts her again just enough to let ALEX and KATE grab her. VICTORIA shields ELLIE with her own body against the metal door. ALEX and KATE drag ELLIE onto the ground. As soon as they lie her down they see there's a blood stain on ELLIE's tummy. The three of them stand in front of her, they look at each other. When ALEX kneels right next to her, she lifts her shirt. There's a metal fragment into her spleen bleeding non stop.

### KATE

## We need help

VICTORIA kneels next to ELLIE, she tries to stop the bleeding but there's nothing to do anymore.

### VICTORIA

Come on ELLIE please

(...)

VICTORIA's hands are covered in blood, while she's still trying to stop the bleeding. ALEX is sitting next to the car while she's holding her shoulder. KATE sits next to VICTORIA.

KATE

VICTORIA stop it

# KATE CONT'D There's nothing you can do anymore

Still VICTORIA's hands are putting pressure on ELLIE's, KATE, then, stops VICTORIA.

KATE CONT'D She's gone

VICTORIA shakes her head in disbelief while she's crying. KATE hugs her tight to make her stop. ALEX is looking at the car absent minded while we hear far away the siren's ambulance.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

ALEX stands at the door, judging from her eye bags she got no sleep at all, she looks tired, remembering about ELLIE and what happened that night must have been really difficult for her. She knocks at the door.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY

VICTORIA and KATE are seated at the table while having breakfast together, they are not talking right now, but they are not uncomfortable. They are just drinking their coffees, while holding hands.

When they hear the knock on the door.

KATE

Waiting for someone

VICTORIA Uhm no, not that I know of

KATE

Any secret lovers I should know about

VICTORIA gets up, smiles at her, she gets closer to her.

# VICTORIA

I'm not going to spill all my secrets yet

KATE stops her and kisses her, when they pull apart VICTORIA goes to the door.

INT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

VICTORIA opens the door. INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

ELLIE opens the door. A guy stands in front of the door, his clothes are casual.

> ELLIE What do you want TRAVIS

-

TRAVIS Is that the way to greet an old friend

He shows her the small bag of pills ELLIE had the night of the party. As ELLIE is about to yank them away, TRAVIS pulls the arm away.

TRAVIS CONT'D You can look but no touching

> TRAVIS CONT'D Unless...

ELLIE Unless what

TRAVIS Unless you pay

ELLIE

You know I don't have the money right now

TRAVIS tucks the pills in his pocket.

TRAVIS Too bad princess

ELLIE Oh come on TRAVIS

TRAVIS leans against the doorframe.

TRAVIS We should do something

ELLIE I'll give anything you want

## TRAVIS

### Dangerous words, princess

ELLIE I'm not afraid of you

TRAVIS hands her the pills.

TRAVIS They're on the house

# ELLIE Thank you TRAVIS TRAVIS See you around, princess

TRAVIS leaves the house, ELLIE closes the door behind.

INT. HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

ALEX stands by the door, she feels sorry she had a fight with VICTORIA. VICTORIA and ALEX look at each other, they both feel sorry about things quickly escalating the other night. They stare at each other in silence, VICTORIA crosses her arms, ALEX looks down on the ground too stubborn to admit she's sorry right away, but then:

# VICTORIA

# I'm sorry

# ALEX No, I'm sorry

ALEX CONT'D

# Can I come in

VICTORIA stops for a second.

VICTORIA Yeah, yeah sure.

VICTORIA scoots over to let her in.

VICTORIA CONT'D It's just that... I'm not alone

ALEX ignores her, and walks in.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY

ALEX walks inside and she finds KATE drinking coffee. VICTORIA follows ALEX into the kitchen.

ALEX Oh wow

# KATE

# Morning

ALEX turns and looks at VICTORIA. ALEX Really, her

VICTORIA looks at KATE before answering to ALEX.

VICTORIA It's always been her

KATE smiles at VICTORIA.

KATE To ALEX Coffee

> ALEX Yeah

ALEX sits next to KATE, while she pours her a cup of coffee. VICTORIA sits next to ALEX.

ALEX

To KATE I owe you an apology to you too

KATE shakes her head and takes ALEX's hand.

KATE

We're friends, and sometimes friends fight. That's all

ALEX looks at VICTORIA and then to KATE

ALEX So… we're friends

> VICTORIA Friends

# KATE

## Friends

EXT. LAKE. NIGHT

Music pumping, ELLIE barely manages to walk but still she gets into a secluded area, where you can hear the music in the distance. TRAVIS is leaning against a wooden table holding a beer while he is talking with some friends. He notices ELLIE coming toward him. His friends take a step back.

# TRAVIS

Princess

# ELLIE Hi, TRAVIS

# TRAVIS What are you doing here

ELLIE gets closer to him, she whispers into his ear.

### ELLIE

## I want more pills

TRAVIS laughs and then shakes his head.

TRAVIS Sorry princess, those don't come for free

> ELLIE You know I don't have any money

## TRAVIS

Sorry princess, no money no pills

TRAVIS turns as he is about to walk back to friends when ELLIE catches his arm, stopping him. TRAVIS grabs ELLIE's arm in response and he puts it right behind her back making ELLIE gasp.

TRAVIS CONT'D You're just another greedy junkie

TRAVIS lets her go, but ELLIE, not satisfied with his rejection, slaps him.

### ELLIE

### Fuck you TRAVIS

TRAVIS stops her, he pushes her against the table, his friends step away immediately. If before TRAVIS was calm with her, now he completely changed with her. He looks at her with disgust, her lips closed in a flat line, her jaw tenses, he gets closer to her.

## TRAVIS

Silly greedy girls who like pills and don't know when to stop cause nothing but troubles

ELLIE looks at him in the eyes, she's scared but she pretends to be strong.

ELLIE

Let me go motherfucker

TRAVIS doesn't let her go. He doesn't want to hurt her, he just wants to show her who is really in charge.

ELLIE CONT'D I said let me go

He doesn't let her go, until ELLIE bites his bottom lip. TRAVIS screams in pain, he touches his bottom lip, that way ELLIE pulls away from him.

## TRAVIS

This is not over, princess

ELLIE gives him her middle finger as she runs away back to her friends. TRAVIS touches his lip again, he looks at one of his friends and nods, his friend nods back at him as he steps away from the group.

EXT. LAKE. NIGHT

ALEX, KATE and VICTORIA sit on the grass, they pass a bottle of vodka to each other.

KATE Let's make a game

KATE CONT'D Where do you see yourself in ten years

### ALEX

## You really want to do it right now, while we're wasted

KATE Yep, totally. No judging

# VICTORIA

# Okay, I'll go first

VICTORIA grabs the bottle of vodka, she sips it.

## VICTORIA CONT'D

I see myself working in a prestigious law firm, I'm married to a beautiful woman and we have two dogs

VICTORIA hands the bottle of vodka to ALEX, she sips it.

ALEX

One thing for sure, I won't be living here anymore. I travel a lot for work, I'm a journalist and definitely I'm still single

KATE grabs the bottle of vodka.

## KATE

I'm a famous geologist who discovers ancient relics, I think I have found the right girl but I still want to have fun

KATE hands the bottle of vodka to VICTORIA again.

VICTORIA What, you still want to play

KATE shakes her head.

# KATE

I just want to say, no matter what happens between us, I'll always love you guys

### ALEX

### I love you

### VICTORIA

I love you guys

When

ELLIE meets with the group away, she sits next to VICTORIA. She doesn't talk but she seems upset.

VICTORIA To ELLIE You alright

ELLIE Yeah, I'm fine

VICTORIA You seem... worried

ELLIE I said I'm fine

# VICTORIA

Okay, sorry

ELLIE What were you doing

# ALEX

Nothing much, KATE just asked us where we see each others in ten years

ALEX hands the bottle of vodka to ELLIE. ELLIE closes her eyes, she thinks for an instance before giving an earnest answer.

> ELLIE God... I hope we get the fuck out of here asap

The four of them chuckles.

ELLIE You know what, I think we should go home

> ALEX But we were having fun

ELLIE Yeah, well I'm tired

ELLIE gets up.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY

The three of them are still sitting at the table.

When ALEX looks at KATE and then VICTORIA.

ALEX I need to show you something

ALEX CONT'D Promise you won't get mad

### KATE

Jesus

VICTORIA just covers her face and then nods. ALEX puts on the table the small bag with pills from the night of the accident.

> VICTORIA What the fuck, ALEX!

KATE Since when you're taking pills

ALEX

Wait, what, no I'm not!

ALEX CONT'D They're from the night of...

She looks away.

KATE How come you still have them

ALEX

I took them from ELLIE's, I didn't want us to get in trouble

VICTORIA You took them for all these years

ALEX I wanted to get rid of them, I have hidden them for so much time I forgot I still had them

> VICTORIA What are you going to do

ALEX VICTORIA you're not thinking straight ALEX looks at KATE for support but KATE doesn't understand what ALEX is implying, she raises her eyebrows confused.

KATE I don't think I'm following you

# ALEX

To KATE And they call you the smart one

KATE makes a face.

ALEX

Focus, both of you

ALEX CONT'D How many pills did you take that night

KATE

Zero

They both look at VICTORIA.

VICTORIA I... I spit them out, it doesn't count

> ALEX It does count

ALEX CONT'D How many VICTORIA

> VICTORIA One I guess

ALEX I took one

KATE What about ELLIE

> ALEX One

ALEX CONT'D Look at the pills, we still have three more

VICTORIA

### What are you suggesting

### ALEX

I think ELLIE was mostly drunk, but I'm not sure if she was that wasted to crash against a tree without even trying to brake

After that shocking news, the three of them go silent for a moment. VICTORIA gets up pacing around the room, shocked. KATE looks at her, then she walks toward her to reassure her.

### KATE

Hey you alright VICTORIA nods. KATE squeezes her hand.

VICTORIA I... I think ELLIE left the party for a while

ALEX

Do you know where she went

## VICTORIA No

KATE To VICTORIA Don't worry

She squeezes her hand again.

### VICTORIA

What if we're just making it up. What if it was just an accident

### VICTORIA CONT'D

Maybe we're just making assumptions because we all feel guilty. If something was odd police would investigate, they never interrogated us, they knew it was an accident

### ALEX

VICTORIA the police did question us, when they found out ELLIE assumed there was nothing to investigate

### VICTORIA

That's exactly what I'm saying, there's nothing to-

KATE cups VICTORIA's face, VICTORIA barely holds the tears.

KATE VICTORIA stop it, look at me KATE CONT'D

You left right after ELLIE died and you spent thirteen years before coming here again

KATE CONT'D

You left everything behind, your house, your friends, your love

VICTORIA

I couldn't stop thinking about her, about that damn night

ALEX steps closer to VICTORIA and KATE.

ALEX

That night affected our lives, but if you need closure to move on, okay then, I'll help find out the truth

KATE

ALEX is right

ALEX See, we even agree on something

VICTORIA chuckles.

ALEX To VICTORIA Come here

ALEX hugs VICTORIA, then ALEX looks at KATE.

ALEX

To KATE Come here too

KATE hugs VICTORIA and ALEX. As they remain still hugged:

> VICTORIA I love you guys

KATE/ALEX I love you/Love you too

INT. HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

KATE and VICTORIA are seated on the sofa, KATE holds VICTORIA's hand. ALEX stands in front of them.

ALEX Okay, so, we do know ELLIE left the party for a while

ALEX CONT'D Any idea where she might have gone

The three of them stare at each other, then shake heads.

ALEX CONT'D What about her dealer, do we have a name, face

VICTORIA looks down on the ground, embarrassed. VICTORIA I introduced her to a guy named SPIKE, but I don't think he was at the party

KATE rubs her thumb on VICTORIA's hand.

 $\label{eq:ALEX} \mbox{I think we a name then}$ 

ALEX CONT'D Do you know where SPIKE lives

## VICTORIA

I left for thirteen years, remember

KATE

I think I might know where he works

ALEX and VICTORIA both look at KATE, their eyebrows raised in curiosity.

KATE CONT'D I... we dated briefly, as a rebound

VICTORIA pulls her hand away from KATE.

VICTORIA You slept with SPIKE

KATE

VICTORIA you left, what was I supposed to do

ALEX

Guys can you focus

KATE

Sorry

VICTORIA Yeah sorry

ALEX Shall we go

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

The car is parked in front of an old shed. ALEX is seated at the driver's seat, KATE is seated next to her while VICTORIA is seated in the backseat.

ALEX looks around, the place is abandoned and even the other sheds around need maintenance.

ALEX Wow, lovely place

VICTORIA What does SPIKE do for a living

KATE

Plumber

VICTORIA

I'm sure you had a lot in common

ALEX

You know what, I think I'll leave you two alone while I'll have a lovely chat with SPIKE

Without waiting for an answer, ALEX heads out the car.

EXT. SHED. DAY

ALEX stands in front of the door, she takes a deep breath and she walks in.

INT. SHED. DAY

As soon as ALEX steps in, she finds pipes, bricks everywhere, while there's a guy piling up some pipes. The guy stops and looks at ALEX.

## ALEX

Hi, sorry to bother you, I'm looking for SPIKE

SPIKE leaves the pipes on the ground, he takes a step forward.

SPIKE

I'm SPIKE, and you are

## ALEX

## I'm ALEX

ALEX looks at SPIKE from head to toe, he's very nice and handsome, his biceps are hidden by a white shirt.

ALEX CONT'D Oh wow, nice to meet you

# SPIKE

# Likewise

They shake hands.

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

# VICTORIA

How long did you two

## KATE

Couple of months, he was nice and sweet, and I could rely on him

# VICTORIA

Yeah sure

KATE turns and looks at VICTORIA.

KATE I waited for you, god knows how many times I fell asleep while crying

## KATE CONT'D

When I realised you weren't coming back I dated every person who would have given me some attention

## KATE CONT'D

Some of them were kind and some others weren't

VICTORIA looks outside, the pain she caused to KATE feels unbearable.

# KATE CONT'D SPIKE was one of the nice guys

They stay in silence for a minute, avoiding each other's looks.

VICTORIA leans closer to KATE's seat, she lies her forehead on KATE's shoulder.

## VICTORIA

I'm not going anywhere

KATE doesn't look at her.

KATE

How do I know you're not running away again

# VICTORIA

Because... I

When KATE's phone buzzes, it's NATALIE. KATE looks at her phone.

# KATE

## Shit

She plasters a big fake smile before answering

KATE CONT'D Hi love

VICTORIA bites her lips, jealous and upset, as she sits back into her seat

INT. SHED. DAY

SPIKE How do you know my old name, it's been ages since anyone calls me SPIKE

ALEX What's your name then

# SPIKE

# MARK

### ALEX

Oh

SPIKE/MARK smiles lightly at her.

# SPIKE/MARK What can I do to help

ALEX I... do you remember VICTORIA KENSINGTON

SPIKE/MARK eyes ALEX suspiciously.

### SPIKE/MARK

Are you a cop

ALEX

What, no, god no

## ALEX CONT'D

VICTORIA is a friend of mine, she uhm, she's having a hard time right now and I'm trying to help her

### SPIKE/MARK

I'm sorry for her but I haven't spoken to in a long time

ALEX

I know

ALEX CONT'D

Did VICTORIA ever introduced you to a girl named ELLIE, she died in a car crash after a summer party at the lake in July 2012

SPIKE/MARK shakes his head.

SPIKE/MARK Doesn't ring a bell

ALEX Please, it's important

SPIKE/MARK

I'm sorry, I wasn't even there that summer

ALEX

So you never gave her any kind of pills, anything

## SPIKE/MARK

No... I got beat up pretty bad by TRAVIS and his crew, I stopped selling and got cleaned

As soon as she hears the name of TRAVIS, ALEX focuses on this name.

ALEX

# Who is TRAVIS

SPIKE/MARK TRAVIS SANCHEZ, he works in the old junkyard

ALEX

Thank you for your time

ALEX steps back ready to leave.

# SPIKE/MARK Wait, ALEX

ALEX stops.

## SPIKE/MARK

TRAVIS is dangerous, I wouldn't go there if I were you

ALEX smiles sadly at him.

ALEX We owe it to ELLIE

ALEX turns and gets out of the shed.

# SPIKE/MARK V.O. Good luck then

EXT. SHED. DAY

ALEX walks back to the car

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

VICTORIA and KATE are no longer talking, ALEX opens the door car and she sits at the driver's seat.

> KATE How did it go

ALEX It wasn't him, but at least we have a name Both KATE and VICTORIA look at ALEX curious and anxious to know what she has found out.

ALEX CONT'D TRAVIS SANCHEZ

VICTORIA Never heard of him

KATE

# Who is him

ALEX

MARK says he is dangerous, he works at the old junkyard

VICTORIA

We should go now

ALEX

No, we need a plan

KATE Yeah, she's right

ALEX

If he's dangerous as MARK says, I'm not even sure he's going to collaborate with us

VICTORIA What are we going to do then

> KATE We go home now

ALEX And we get some rest until we come up with a plan

> VICTORIA Guys we can't quit right now

ALEX VICTORIA you're not thinking straight, you're too involved

VICTORIA

Okay, so a guy name MARK who got called himself SPIKE, whom you've never met, tell you not to trust him and now you don't want want to meet TRAVIS

ALEX turns and looks VICTORIA right in the eyes.

ALEX

VICTORIA I know this is hard, but what if TRAVIS did really kill ELLIE, what are you going to do, call the police and say "Hey I found my friend's killer"

VICTORIA

I just want to talk to him

KATE turns and faces VICTORIA.

KATE

It's funny, you spent thirteen years without knowing what happened and now, all of a sudden, you want to find the truth

KATE CONT'D

I'm sure a couple of days won't kill you

KATE CONT'D

Or you're just tired of being here already

VICTORIA is speechless, her jaw open. KATE turns and looks outside. ALEX looks at KATE and then VICTORIA.

> ALEX I'm taking you home

She turns on the engine car.

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

ALEX parks the car in front of KATE's house. KATE opens the door car.

KATE Thanks for the ride

ALEX nods at her, smiling.

ALEX I'll call you tomorrow KATE heads out of the car, without even saying goodbye to VICTORIA.

EXT. KATE'S HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

KATE stands at the door, looking for her keys.

INT. ALEX'S CAR. DAY

ALEX looks at VICTORIA.

# ALEX Well

VICTORIA What

ALEX Aren't you going to talk to her

# VICTORIA No, why would I

ALEX Jesus, VICTORIA, you're so stubborn

# VICTORIA

She doesn't want to talk to me

ALEX

Don't you understand she's scared, you come back here like nothing happened and pretend everything's fine

ALEX CONT'D When you left she was devastated

VICTORIA She's probably better off without me

ALEX

Yeah keep telling yourself that, I see the way you look at each other but, you know what, it's not any of my business

VICTORIA looks at KATE walking in. ALEX turns on the car and revs the engine.

## VICTORIA

## Wait, wait, pull over, pull over

ALEX smiles, smirking. She pulls over. VICTORIA gets out of the car, as fast as she can.

EXT. STREET. DAY

VICTORIA runs as fast as she can until she reaches for KATE's house.

EXT. KATE'S HOUSE. FRONT DOOR. DAY

VICTORIA knocks at the door repeatedly. She's panting, her breath short. KATE opens the door.

> KATE Oh it's you

# VICTORIA

Waiting for someone

## KATE

Actually, yeah, I am

## VICTORIA

I'm not leaving you again

KATE looks at her, her lips closed in a flat line, her jaw clenched.

## VICTORIA CONT'D

I spent all my life regretting leaving you, I tried to move on, I really did, but it's you KATHERINE, it's always been you. I love you

KATE limits herself to look at her, she doesn't reply back.

# VICTORIA

Oh fuck

VICTORIA reaches for VICTORIA and she kisses her, deeply. She pushes against the door.

KATE

Fuck you

KATE bites VICTORIA's bottom lips, hard it shows all the passion and the anger she feels. VICTORIA flinches back, but doesn't stop kissing her.

> VICTORIA And I love you

They keep on kissing.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

ALEX grabs a huge bag from the closet. She opens the first drawer and puts some clothes into it. When

> Husband What are you doing

ALEX I'm leaving you

# Husband What are you talking about

ALEX

Oh please, stop pretending like you care, you've been cheating on  $${\rm me}$$ 

Husband That's, that's not true

ALEX

Yeah, sure

She puts more clothes into the bag and leaves the room.

Husband ALEX, please, we can work this out

ALEX V.O. Fuck you!

ALEX slams the door.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. LAKE. NIGHT

ELLIE is walking back to the party, she's walking down to a part of the lake where there's no one, even the music seems so far away, her pacing is fast and anxious. When TRAVIS's friend, the one he got the order to do something, stands in front of ELLIE.

## ELLIE

# Jesus, you scared me

TRAVIS's friend doesn't say or do anything, he just stands in front of her looking at her.

# TRAVIS

## Too bad, princess

ELLIE's eyes widen in shock as soon as she recognises TRAVIS's voice. She turns and looks at him, scared.

ELLIE I'm sorry if I've upset you She looks for a way out, but she considers it's two men against one girl.

### TRAVIS

I'm not upset, you disrespected me in front of my friends

TRAVIS's friend grabs ELLIE, blocking her. His friend is an accomplice, they probably had done that hundreds of times, he knows exactly how to move, he looks at TRAVIS, he kinda seems turned on by the situation.

ELLIE gasps in shock, she's scared, tears of fear stream down her face.

### TRAVIS CONT'D

If you think crying will help you, you're wrong

ELLIE tries to break free from the guy's hold, but he's too strong.

#### ELLIE

What do you want TRAVIS

TRAVIS deliberately slowly walks toward her until he stands in front of her. TRAVIS touches ELLIE's lips, he yanks her pants. ELLIE gasps again.

## ELLIE CONT'D

I'll do anything you want, but please just let me go

TRAVIS

Anything, are you sure

ELLIE nods.

## ELLIE

## Yes, yes, anything

TRAVIS steps back.

### TRAVIS

From now on, you'll be working for me

# ELLIE

Fine, I'll do anything you say

## TRAVIS

#### Good

# TRAVIS CONT'D Oh princess, this'll be our little secret, don't tell anyone. Indeed

## ELLIE

### No one will ever know

TRAVIS nods at his friend to let her go, he obeys. ELLIE takes a few steps further, but TRAVIS stops her.

### TRAVIS

#### Wait

He wipes the tears away from her face, ELLIE closes her eyes, she's disgusted, she doesn't even want to see him.

## TRAVIS CONT'D

Wear some makeup or people will notice you cried

ELLIE S… sure

TRAVIS lets her go for good this time, ELLIE runs away as fast as she can. TRAVIS tells something into his friend's ear, they both laugh.

EXT. LAKE. NIGHT

ELLIE runs until she gets into a secluded area of the lake, where there's no one around. Her breath is short from the shock. She lies against a tree, she's shaking, her legs and arms shaking. She knows she's screwed. She takes deep breaths.

# ELLIE

## Fuck, fuck, fuck

INT. BAR. DAY

KATE and VICTORIA are having breakfast. The place is nice and not crowded, there's soft music playing, and the patrons are talking to each other.

KATE now is wearing the red hair elastic on her wrist.

KATE You're always late

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# VICTORIA

## It's not my fault

### KATE

### And who's fault is that

## VICTORIA

Don't know, definitely not mine

VICTORIA smiles at KATE, KATE shakes her head while laughing. When ALEX arrives and sits in front of them.

### ALEX

### Morning

KATE eyes her, she seems a complete mess, her clothes are dishevelled.

KATE Everything alright

### ALEX

### Yeah, I'm fine

ALEX grabs KATE's cappuccino and drinks it. KATE looks at her, her mouth gagged.

## VICTORIA

You look like ... shit, you know

ALEX takes a deep breath, she steadies her voice into a low charming one while with a bright smile on her face tells to her friend what happened.

# ALEX

I left him, I left the house. I'm staying at the local b&b the mattress is pretty shitty, but apart from that, I've never been better, thanks

VICTORIA and KATE look at ALEX completely in shock. When The waitress gets to the table.

# Waitress Can I get you anything

### ALEX

## I'm sorry

ALEX bursts out crying, she heads out of the bar as fast as she can. The waitress looks astonished at KATE and VICTORIA.

VICTORIA

I'm sorry, she's just going through-

# KATE

A lot

# Waitress No problem

The waitress leaves the table.

# KATE We should go talk to her

# VICTORIA

Yeah

VICTORIA gets up from the table, KATE finishes her cappuccino before getting up.

EXT. BAR. DAY

ALEX is crying, lying against the wall. VICTORIA, followed by KATE walk in front of ALEX.

# VICTORIA

You want to talk about it

ALEX shakes her head, as she says no.

ALEX No, everything sucks and I feel so… lost

> ALEX CONT'D I feel so lost right now

## KATE

You did such a brave thing ALEX, it's normal to feel a little lost ALEX shakes her head again.

## ALEX

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It's not the wedding, I should have broken up with him the moment he was cheating on me

ALEX CONT'D I've felt lost since ELLIE

KATE and VICTORIA both look on the ground, they know exactly what ALEX feels, they feel it too.

#### KATE

I know

## KATE CONT'D ELLIE was fucked up, but she brought us together

VICTORIA

And she brought us back together once again

INT. CAR. NIGHT

ELLIE is trying to be focused, but she's way too wasted to drive straight. Sometimes she brakes the car when there's no need to. VICTORIA closes her eyes, then she takes some courage and sits right next to KATE. ELLIE looks at them from the rearview mirror. She smiles at VICTORIA, then she sees the tree at the end of the road, she brakes but the car doesn't respond at her command. The car just keeps going, ELLIE tries to stop the car one more time, she hits the pedal repeatedly but nothing's working. Her face pales, eyes scared and full of fears, the impact is so brutal and fast she doesn't even have time to tell the others. She knows she's going to die, well, probably, they all are going to die.

ALEX

Best party of my life!

ELLIE I'm a party animal, baby!

She plasters one last big fake smile, before the car hits the tree.

INT. HOUSE.LIVING ROOM. DAY

VICTORIA and ALEX are seated on the couch, KATE hands ALEX a cup of tea.

ALEX Thanks KATE sits on the floor in front of them.

KATE Feeling better

ALEX nods.

## VICTORIA

Do you want to talk about what happened earlier

ALEX

No guys I'm fine and I'm sorry, really sorry, about before

She takes a deep breath.

ALEX I made some research about our new friend Travis

KATE

What about him

ALEX

He grew up in a foster home, spent some time in a juvenile facility, he was always fascinated by cars, engines. And that's when he started his dealer career

> KATE I'm afraid to ask, how do you know all that stuff

> > ALEX Told you shitty bed, can't sleep

> > > VICTORIA So what's the plan

> > > > ALEX

I don't think he'll talk to us spontaneously, but it's worth trying

ALEX CONT'D I've read he's still working with his crew

ALEX CONT'D

I think best option is we get him to open up to us and if he cooperates we'll ask about ELLIE

## VICTORIA

#### That's your plan

ALEX

VICTORIA we're no cops and we're playing a dangerous game, we need to be extra careful

### KATE

## ALEX is right

KATE CONT'D

We don't want him to be suspicious or our cover will blow up

VICTORIA

Alright, alright

ALEX

Then we have a deal

VICTORIA nods, her look is focused, serious and determined. ALEX is cool with the plan but at the same time she's worried. KATE, instead, is looking at VICTORIA worried that she might end up in trouble.

INT. CAR. DAY

The following day, ALEX, KATE and VICTORIA in the backseat, are looking at the junkyard. They have parked the car in the distance, making sure no one can see them. ALEX looks at the both of them while she speaks.

ALEX

We're going to be super cool, no pressure at all

ALEX now looks at VICTORIA only.

## ALEX

To VICTORIA If he doesn't say anything useful we'll just figure it out what to do, indeed

## VICTORIA/KATE Fine/Yes

ALEX

Let's go then

The three of them get out of the car.

EXT. STREET. DAY

The three of them start walking until they stand in front of the old junkyard.

KATE Are we really doing it

> ALEX Yeah

## VICTORIA Yeah, let's go

VICTORIA is the first one who walks in, KATE and ALEX follow her right behind.

EXT. JUNKYARD. DAY

As they step inside they find old broken cars all around, there are huge piles of rusting cars everywhere, overgrown weeds all around and oily puddles.

KATE

Wow classy

VICTORIA

I think I'll take you here for our date ALEX scoffs.

ALEX Are you done or what

KATE

Trying to keep it casual, see

ALEX eyes KATE and takes a step forward, until she finds an old office where we hear people talking on the inside. She stops and she waits for VICTORIA and KATE to arrive. The three of them look at each other briefly before going in.

INT. OFFICE. DAY

The three of them step in, the office is minimal, there's an old wooden counter stuck with piles of documents and a dead plant. On the walls, there are posters of cars, motorbikes and naked women. TRAVIS is talking to two men. When they see them walking inside they stop talking.

## KATE

#### Are we interrupting something

TRAVIS eyes the women with a grin on his face.

### TRAVIS

No, no not at all. How can I help

One of the men goes out, while the other one, the one who helped TRAVIS scare ELLIE the night at the party, leans against the counter. VICTORIA stares at him without saying anything, but her breath is ragged, she clenches her fists. KATE notices it immediately, she squeezes VICTORIA's hand, VICTORIA looks at her with a light smile.

ALEX

I just run into a fender bender, my car's old, but maybe you could help me find a new bender, for my old car

ALEX chuckles.

## ALEX CONT'D

I made a little joke, new fender old car

ALEX chuckles again, but TRAVIS doesn't laugh.

TRAVIS

Go outside and find what you're looking for

ALEX

Can't you help me out, I'm really hopeless

TRAVIS

There's one of my men outside, he can help with

ALEX

Okay, thanks

## TRAVIS

#### You're welcome

The three of them stand in front of TRAVIS, they have no intention at all of leaving empty handed.

TRAVIS CONT'D Do you need anything else

## KATE

## Do you remember ELLIE

VICTORIA and ALEX eyes KATE like "what the fuck, we said to take it slowly". TRAVIS doesn't flinch back, he answers keeping his cool.

#### TRAVIS

ELLIE who, what are you talking about

KATE

She was our friend, she died the night at the summer party at the lake

TRAVIS Sorry for your loss, but I really don't know what you're talking about

> TRAVIS CONT'D You should leave now

KATE stares at him, showing no fear at all.

ALEX

Thank you for your time

KATE

I'm not leaving until you tell me what happened to ELLIE

TRAVIS shrugs.

#### TRAVIS

I'm sorry ladies, I met a lot of people, but ELLIE… doesn't ring a bell to me

TRAVIS walks back behind the counter.

VICTORIA To KATE We should go

ALEX

TO KATE Come on, KATHERINE, let's go KATE doesn't take a step back, VICTORIA and ALEX look at each other and then drag KATE outside.

EXT. JUNKYARD. DAY

The three of them get out, KATE visibly upset for not getting information.

ALEX Not here, just keep smiling and walking

But apparently, ALEX is the only one who smiles to no one except for the broken and rusty cars, while VICTORIA and KATE just keep walking but they do not smile at all.

INT. CAR. DAY

As soon as the three of them get inside the car:

ALEX What the fuck is wrong with you, are you out of your mind

KATE What was I supposed to do, he clearly had no intention to talk to us

ALEX And you thought threatening would be a great idea, uh

> KATE Maybe he would be scared

ALEX Jesus, KATHERINE, what's wrong with you

KATE He wasn't going to talk with us!

VICTORIA I think we should go home, there's nothing else we can do here

ALEX

That's right

ALEX starts the engine and we see the car leaving.

INT. HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. EVENING

KATE and ALEX sit on the couch, while VICTORIA walks into the room holding three bottles of beers, she hands one to KATE and then to ALEX. She then sits in front of her.

> VICTORIA Come on we should celebrate

ALEX Celebrate what exactly

KATE There's nothing to celebrate

> VICTORIA Our friendship

KATE and ALEX look at VICTORIA, their eyebrows raised in doubt.

VICTORIA CONT'D I know our chat with TRAVIS didn't go as we hoped

ALEX

No, not at all

VICTORIA

ELLIE would be proud of us of what we did for her She raises her bottle.

VICTORIA To ELLIE

KATE and ALEX raise their bottle too.

KATE/ALEX To ELLIE

The three of them drink the beer.

ALEX What's our next move then

VICTORIA I think TRAVIS is useless, he won't talk to us unless we find something useful

> KATE What do we know about his friends

ALEX

Nothing much... he met them during high school

ALEX CONT'D But mostly is TRAVIS the mastermind they just help him out

> KATE Maybe we should dig about their past

 $$\operatorname{ALEX}$$  Good idea, I'll see what I can find about them

## VICTORIA

Great

They remain silent for a moment. When KATE looks ALEX and VICTORIA.

> KATE Come on, let's play a game

> > ALEX Oh god

VICTORIA covers her face.

VICTORIA Really

KATE Yeah, it'll be fun

KATE CONT'D Where do you see in ten years

KATE CONT'D
I'll start

She drinks the beer before answering.

KATE CONT'D I see myself...

As KATE doesn't answer right away, ALEX mocks her.

ALEX See is not as easy as it was before, now we're gotten old

## KATE

## Oh shut up

KATE CONT'D I see myself still working for the local high school and I'll help my students find their purpose. And then I'll come home to my lovely wife

KATE looks at VICTORIA, smiling.

VICTORIA

Any idea on who's the lucky girl

KATE In due time I think she'll know it

ALEX scoffs. ALEX closes her eyes.

ALEX My turn now

ALEX CONT'D

I want to write articles again, maybe work in the local journal

VICTORIA

That's great news ALEX

#### KATE

It is, indeed, you should do it, I kept reading all your articles even when

KATE looks down on the floor.

When we weren't talking to each others anymore

ALEX smiles lightly.

ALEX And I think I want to spend some time alone

> KATE That's fair

> > ALEX Yeah

ALEX To VICTORIA Your turn now

VICTORIA takes a deep breath.

### VICTORIA

Let's see… I think I have finally made peace with myself and live with the happiness I deserve

## VICTORIA

#### TO KATE

And of course I want to be with you

KATE smirks. ALEX yawns as she gets up.

ALEX

I'll call you tomorrow, now I think it's time to go home

## VICTORIA Drive safe

ALEX

I will

ALEX hugs KATE and then VICTORIA.

ALEX Goodnight

## KATE

## Night

VICTORIA Thank you for everything

ALEX Love you, both of you

KATE

Love you

VICTORIA Love you

ALEX gets out of the room and then out of the house, leaving KATE and VICTORIA alone in the room.

### VICTORIA

So you want to tell me more about the lucky girl

KATE

#### I'm not sure

They both chuckle.

VICTORIA I love you, you know that

## KATE

#### I love you

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

KATE wakes up in the middle of night, she stretches her arm out looking for VICTORIA, but she's not in the bed. KATE turns on the light, but there are no signs of her. She gets up from the bed, wears the robe and walks out of the room.

INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. NIGHT

KATE turns on the light but still, there are no signs of VICTORIA.

## KATE

#### VICTORIA

She walks out and goes into

INT. HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

Again, she turns on the light but VICTORIA is gone.

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

KATE walks back into the room, she picks up her phone from the bedside table and she dials VICTORIA's number. KATE is worried and scared, she touches her face.

> KATE Come on, pick up, pick up

EXT. STREET. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

VICTORIA is hiding behind the wooden fence, looking at TRAVIS, his loyal friend talking and stashing some food and drugs inside the broken cars, when her phone buzzes. She grabs her phone, it's KATE, she tucks it away. INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

## KATE

Fuck

KATE leaves the phone on speaker as she is dressing up. Since VICTORIA doesn't answer she hangs up and calls the only person who can help her ALEX.

INT. B&B. BEDROOM. NIGHT

ALEX is trying to sleep, when her phone chimes repeatedly. She reaches for the phone on the bedside table.

ALEX

What the hell

As soon as she hears KATE on the phone, she sits up on the bed, with her eyes wide open.

## ALEX CON'T I'll be right there

ALEX gets out of the bed, she puts the first clothes she finds in the closet and gets out.

EXT. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

TRAVIS and his friend after stashing money and drugs inside the cars, satisfied, shake hands.

Friend Goodnight TRAVIS

## TRAVIS Have a good night

The guy whistling heads out of the junkyard.

EXT. STREET. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

VICTORIA gets down on the ground, hiding. The guy walks until he gets into his car.

EXT. STREET. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

When he is gone, VICTORIA gets up from the ground. She looks from the holes in the fence where TRAVIS is. There are no signs of him.

## VICTORIA Showtime, motherfucker

She easily climbs up the fence and she gets in.

EXT. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

VICTORIA slowly walks between the broken cars. She looks around making sure TRAVIS doesn't see her. She grabs a long piece of metal similar to a baton from one of the broken cars. Until she stands in front of his office, she takes a deep breath, she's nervous but she doesn't care, she wants justice for her friend.

EXT. HOUSE. NIGHT

KATE is standing in front of VICTORIA's house, when ALEX drives as fast as she can until she gets to VICTORIA's house, brakes screeching.

INT. CAR. NIGHT

KATE gets inside the car, she barely closes the door's car that ALEX has already started the engine.

#### KATE

We have no time

#### ALEX

We better move

EXT. JUNKYARD. OFFICE. NIGHT

VICTORIA leans right next to the door as she spies TRAVIS.

INT. JUNKYARD. OFFICE. NIGHT

TRAVIS is seated behind the counter counting more cash, he stocks into large piles. He seems cool and cheerful and doesn't suspect VICTORIA is spying on him.

INT. CAR. NIGHT

ALEX is driving along a dark road.

## KATE

#### Can't you go faster

#### ALEX

#### I'm trying!

INT. JUNKYARD. OFFICE. NIGHT

VICTORIA slams the door and gets inside the office. TRAVIS scares the shit out of himself.

## TRAVIS

Who the fuck are you

He reaches for the gun under the desk.

VICTORIA Don't move or I'll fucking hit you

She shows him the metal baton.

## VICTORIA CONT'D Hands where I can see them

TRAVIS scoffs, but he's not scared of VICTORIA. He is used to deal with bad guys, definitely a woman like her doesn't scare him.

VICTORIA takes a step forward until she reaches for the counter. She hits the counter with the baton.

VICTORIA CONT'D I said hands where I can see them

## TRAVIS

Very well

TRAVIS raises his hands on the head.

## VICTORIA

## Now step out

TRAVIS smirks but eventually he does as she says, he deliberately walks slowly until he steps in front of her.

## TRAVIS

I don't think you're looking for your friend's fender

## VICTORIA

## Correct

TRAVIS Then who the hell are you

## VICTORIA No one

## VICTORIA CONT'D Just a friend of ELLIE

TRAVIS chuckles.

TRAVIS Told you, I don't know who ELLIE is

## VICTORIA

Liar

VICTORIA CONT'D I want to know what happened the night at the summer party

> TRAVIS I don't know what you're talking about

VICTORIA ignores his mocking tone.

VICTORIA Tell me what happened that night

TRAVIS Sorry dude, I don't know what-

VICTORIA doesn't even let him finish when she hits his right knee with the baton. TRAVIS screams in pain, he falls down on the floor while he touches his right knee.

EXT. STREET. NIGHT

KATE and ALEX stepped out of the car.

KATE I hope she hasn't done anything stupid

> ALEX Me too

ALEX and KATE walk fast as they can until they reach the junkyard.

INT. JUNKYARD. OFFICE. NIGHT

TRAVIS is still on the floor touching his knee, he now is furious, he looks at VICTORIA with rage, his mouth closed in a flat line, her jaw tensed.

> VICTORIA Just tell me what happened and I'll let you go

TRAVIS sits up on the floor still holding his knee.

TRAVIS

ELLIE was nothing but a little brat, desperate for attention

VICTORIA Tell me what happened that night

> TRAVIS She disrespected me

VICTORIA Is that why you killed her

> TRAVIS I didn't kill her

## VICTORIA Stop lying!

VICTORIA raises the baton as she's about to hit TRAVIS again.

TRAVIS Stop it! I'm telling you the truth!

VICTORIA stops a moment before swinging the baton against him.

TRAVIS CONT'D I swear to god, I didn't kill her

> TRAVIS I just wanted to scare her

EXT. STREET. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

KATE and ALEX stand in front of the gate, it's locked. They look at the fence, they know what they have to do.

## ALEX

I swear to god I'm so going to kill her

KATE

Me too

They climb up the fence.

EXT. JUNKYARD. NIGHT

ALEX and KATE walk until they stand in front of the office, they hear VICTORIA and TRAVIS talking.

KATE whispering What are we going to do now

ALEX Whispering We have to get in before it's too late

> VICTORIA V.O. She died you pervert

KATE and ALEX look at each other, the situation could escalate any moment. They nod.

ALEX Whispering On my 3

# ALEX Whispering CONT'D 1...2...3

ALEX opens the door and KATE walks in, followed right back by ALEX.

INT. JUNKYARD. OFFICE. NIGHT

As soon as the two women get inside VICTORIA and TRAVIS stop for a moment.

KATE VICTORIA put that thing down

VICTORIA shakes her head.

VICTORIA I can't, he's confessing

#### ALEX

Police are on their way, I'm sure he won't cause any troubles VICTORIA ignores them, she points the baton into his direction.

> VICTORIA Keep going

TRAVIS She came to me looking for more pills

TRAVIS CONT'D We got into a fight, I wanted to make her pay

VICTORIA is now crying but she knows she's finally getting to know the truth, she keeps staring at him, never losing her focus.

VICTORIA What happened then

TRAVIS We followed into the woods

ALEX

You piece of shit

TRAVIS shakes his head.

### TRAVIS

It's not what you think it is TRAVIS CONT'D I told her that from now on she would have worked for me

TRAVIS CONT'D

And to make sure of that we sabotaged her car's brake

TRAVIS laughs. VICTORIA assaults him, she punches his face again and again.

ALEX

VICTORIA no!

## KATE

VICTORIA stop it!

They keep hitting each other until there's a gunshot. ALEX and KATE look at VICTORIA and TRAVIS, none of them moves, until TRAVIS shoves VICTORIA's side on his left. VICTORIA got shot into her tummy, there's a puddle of blood coming from her chest.

## KATE CONT'D No no no no!

Police sirens are approaching in the distance. TRAVIS barely manages to get up, he stumbles, he is in pain but he has to get away from here. With the gun pointed to ALEX and KATE:

#### TRAVIS

Let me go or I'll shoot you like your friend

They move away from the door, now the only thing that matters is to help VICTORIA. TRAVIS visibly limping steps out the room. ALEX and KATE reach VICTORIA in a second. ALEX places her hands on VICTORIA's tummy trying to stop the bleeding. KATE places her sweater under VICTORIA's head. VICTORIA is in pain, suffering, the bleeding doesn't stop, but she's not worried, it seems like she has a small smile on her lips.

### VICTORIA

We...did it, ELLIE (coughs) was... killed

#### KATE

VICTORIA, hold on, the ambulance is on their way

VICTORIA grabs ALEX and KATE's hands.

## VICTORIA

## T... Thank you for ...

VICTORIA closes her eyes, she faints unconscious.

#### KATE

#### No, no VICTORIA! VICTORIA!

INT. HOSPITAL. ROOM. DAY

VICTORIA is lying into the hospital bed, there are no wires or breathing machines attached to her. She's sleeping. KATE is holding her hand, When ALEX walks into the room, holding two coffees. She hands one to KATE and she sits right next to her. KATE smiles at ALEX.

> ALEX Any news

KATE

No

ALEX squeezes KATE's hand.

ALEX Don't worry, she'll be fine

ALEX CONT'D Why don't you go home, I'll call you if anything-

KATE

No, I'm fine, really

ALEX

KATHERINE ... It's been two days

KATE

I don't care, I don't want to leave her alone

VICTORIA moves her hand slightly. KATE notices it immediately.

KATE CONT'D Oh my god, did you see that

ALEX

I'm sorry, no

d, I'm sure

ALEX

Sorry

VICTORIA moves her hand again and again, this time even ALEX sees the hand moving.

KATE

Oh my god

KATE She moved her han ALEX Oh god, she's awake

Tears of joey fill both KATE and ALEX's eyes. VICTORIA slowly opens her eyes.

## VICTORIA

Неу

KATE kisses her on the lips multiple times.

KATE Hey love

ALEX Hey you, you really scared us

VICTORIA I'm sorry, I didn't want you to-

> KATE Shut up, it's over now

VICTORIA Where's, what happened to TRAVIS

ALEX He got arrested

> VICTORIA We did it

ALEX and KATE nod.

END OF ACT FOUR

EPILOGUE

EXT. CEMETERY. DAY

BLACK FRAME

ONE YEAR LATER

It's ELLIE's death anniversary. KATE, VICTORIA, ALEX and SPIKE are standing in front of ELLIE's tombstone. VICTORIA kneels down as she leaves some colourful flowers on it. KATE helps VICTORIA stand up.

> KATE She would have loved seeing us altogether

## ALEX

## She would have hated it

KATE laughs.

KATE Yeah, definitely

## SPIKE

## Shall we go

ALEX takes SPIKE's hand, and smiles at him.

KATE Yeah

## KATE To VICTORIA Babe, ready

## VICTORIA Yeah

They all look one more time at ELLIE's pictures and leave.

EXT. ALEX'S HOUSE. GARDEN. EVENING

ALEX, SPIKE, KATE and VICTORIA are gathered around the table while they are eating.

ALEX takes SPIKE's hand.

ALEX

We have an announcement to make

KATE and VICTORIA look at each other and then to the happy couple.

ALEX CONT'D I'm pregnant

## KATE

What, oh my god

VICTORIA Congratulations guys

## ALEX

Thanks

## ALEX CONT'D

You're the first ones to know, we haven't told anyone else yet

VICTORIA We're so happy for you guys

SPIKE

Thank you, really

ALEX

We're going to make some adjustments but we couldn't be more excited

KATE

A toast

KATE grabs the glass of wine.

INT. HOUSE. BEDROOM. NIGHT

KATE and VICTORIA are back home from ALEX party's, they talk while they are taking off their clothes.

VICTORIA

Nice party uh

KATE

Yeah, I'm so happy for them and ALEX looks so joyful

## VICTORIA

True

VICTORIA sits on the bed while she looks at KATE wearing a sweater.

KATE What are you looking at

VICTORIA smiles.

VICTORIA Nothing, I'm just... thinking

KATE sits right next to her.

KATE

About what

VICTORIA

About what happened in the last year ... about me... about us

## KATE

## Oh, I see

KATE looks at VICTORIA studying her, she doesn't know if VICTORIA is going to tell her something good or bad. VICTORIA takes KATE's hand, but KATE gets up from the bed.

### KATE CONT'D

VICTORIA if you're going to break up with me, just do it, please

VICTORIA looks at KATE like "why on earth would I break with you".

## KATE CONT'D

I mean I get it, you've moved back here and clearly you want to go back to your life, you're definitely not the monogamous type, but I'm not ready for an open relationship, so just let's get it over with

VICTORIA chuckles, she gets up and puts her hand on KATE's mouth.

## VICTORIA

Shut up

#### KATE

So, you're not breaking up with me

VICTORIA shakes her head, smiling. VICTORIA kneels down, and picks up a small red velvet box from her pocket, there's a diamond ring inside.

### VICTORIA

KATHERINE VALLANCE, you are the love of my life, will you marry me

KATE nods while crying.

#### KATE

## Yes, yes, yes

VICTORIA puts the engagement ring on KATE's finger. KATE helps VICTORIA stand up, then she kisses her repeatedly.

## KATE CONT'D I love you, I love you

## VICTORIA I love you

They hug and kiss while they fall onto the bed, laughing.

INT. ELLIE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DAY

ELLIE is staring at herself in the mirror while she puts on some red lipstick. When she's done, she smiles at the mirror and then gets out of her room.

END OF EPILOGUE

The end