LOST

"The Man Who Cried Wolf"

by Michael Nelson

Michael Nelson mikenl@gmail.com

#### TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. CAFETERIA

The cafeteria has a clean room feel to it. Fluorescent lights cast an unnatural glow over round tables surrounded by chairs. The room is completely devoid of people --

Except for one man. The back of his shirt has a last name written across it: FLAGG. He's reading a paper and sipping from a Styrofoam cup of coffee.

An excited sportscaster calls a baseball game which is blaring from the TV hanging in the corner of the room.

Flagg picks up the remote control that's sitting next to the coffee cup and mutes the TV.

He takes a sip of coffee and turns the page of his newspaper.

His cell phone begins to vibrate on the table, spinning in a slow circle.

Flagg checks the caller ID and lets it ring a few times.

On the fourth ring he picks it up.

FLAGG

Yes?

There's a faint sound of a voice on the other end of the line.

FLAGG (CONT'D) Correct. Really? Then we better get moving.

Flagg flips the phone closed and takes another sip of his coffee.

He taps the phone on the table, thinking for a moment and then pushes his chair back with a loud scraping noise.

INT. HALLWAY

The long hallway is lit by the same sterile fluorescent lights as the cafeteria. These, though, give off a quiet buzz.

Flagg walks down the hall, the heels of his shoes echoing off the walls.

He stops at one door, knocks once, and then enters into the --

INT. LOCKER ROOM

His shirt already unbuttoned, Flagg tosses it into his open locker.

He strips down to his boxers and then removes what looks like a completely black flight suit from the locker.

He steps into it and zips it up.

The suit doesn't have any names or patches on it. It's completely black on all sides.

Flagg then removes a radio from the locker with an attached ear piece. He places the ear piece over his ear and clips the radio to his hip.

Finally, he removes a large handgun and a silencer from the locker. He screws the silencer on.

He slides a full clip into the gun and then chambers a round.

Flagg clicks the safety off and then on again and slides the gun into a holster on his hip.

He checks his watch for the time.

### FLAGG (to himself) Ten minutes.

He strides out of the room, neither taking his time nor in a hurry.

INT. STAIRWAY

CLICK. CLICK. CLICK.

Flagg walks up the metal stairway, checking his watch every so often.

EXT. SHIP DECK - DAY

The ship is a tanker. The deck is painted white and red.

The deck is bustling with activity. Sailors in nondescript uniforms move about doing their respective jobs.

Flagg steps onto the deck. As he passes sailors they salute him. He salutes back.

He walks toward a pair of black helicopters, their blades already rotating in a blur.

Men dressed just like Flagg are sitting inside the helicopters.

Flagg removes his radio and speaks into it.

FLAGG (into the radio) Bring him out. We've got two minutes.

He replaces the radio on his belt and moves over to one of the choppers. He taps his watch and then holds up two fingers. The pilot nods.

He walks over to the other chopper and repeats the signal.

When he turns around, he sees the prisoner --

The prisoner is wearing a black hood, an olive long sleeved shirt and olive pants.

He wrestles against the grips of the men that are surrounding him. He's yelling but his voice can barely be heard over the noise of the helicopters waiting to take off.

The prisoner cries out, inaudibly.

One of the soldiers removes a taser and jabs it into the side of the prisoner. The prisoner's body contorts into an odd shape before going limp.

The men drag him the rest of the way to the helicopter.

Flagg nods, pleased, as they drag the prisoner past.

They lift the prisoner into the chopper and strap him into one of the seats.

Flagg twirls his finger in the air and hops into the last empty seat of one of the choppers.

Flagg's chopper takes off first, making a one hundred and eighty degree turn before zooming off.

The other chopper rises into the air and then flies off in the direction of the first one, leaving the deck silent except for a few sailors shouting commands and the sound of waves crashing against the side of the ship. INT. HELICOPTER - MOMENTS LATER

Flagg taps the chopper PILOT on the shoulder.

FLAGG

How long?

Without looking back the pilot answers.

PILOT One hour at most.

Flagg nods and settles back for the trip.

FLAGG It's been too long.

His hand fingers the gun at his side in anticipation.

# END OF TEASER

#### ACT ONE

EXT. RADIO TOWER - DAY

Everyone is gathered around JACK cheering, happy that they've finally heard from the outside world. Jack stands with his ear up to the satellite phone waiting for the MAN ON THE SHIP to respond.

KATE is standing next to Jack smiling.

Jack pushes the phone harder to his ear.

KATE Hey, can we get some quiet?

The group quiets down as the man's voice crackles through the phone.

MAN ON THE SHIP (O.S.) Do you guys think you can hang on for one more night?

JACK We've made it this long. You guys can't get out here any sooner?

MAN ON THE SHIP (O.S.) We would have been out there today but we thought we had lost Naomi so we continued along. We need to move the ship to within helicopter range. Keep this phone on you. We'll keep in touch. Over and out.

Jack looks at the phone for a moment and then --

JACK We've been found!

The group bursts into renewed cheers.

CLAIRE asks the question that's on everyone's mind.

### CLAIRE

What now?

JACK Now? Now we head back to the beach and wait.

ALEX, standing next to her Mom, DANIELLE ROUSSEAU, points down at Naomi's body.

ALEX What about her?

JACK We'll bury her up here. Once we're done with that, we'll leave.

Danielle gestures in the direction of the radio transmitter building.

ROUSSEAU I'll go look for a shovel.

Jack nods as Danielle walks off.

INT. RADIO TOWER BUILDING - DAY

Rousseau digs around some of the random tools looking for a shovel. She hears a door open behind her and turns to see --

Alex and KARL entering.

#### ALEX

Hey...Mom.

Rousseau nods in her direction.

ALEX (CONT'D) I wanted you to meet someone.

Rousseau stands up and wipes her hands on her pants.

ALEX (CONT'D) This is Karl.

Rousseau shakes his hand

KARL Nice to meet you Ma'am.

ROUSSEAU

Is he your...

Alex smiles.

ALEX My boyfriend? Yes.

Rousseau's smile fades a bit.

ROUSSEAU He's...one of them isn't he? An Other. Karl answers.

KARL

Not anymore. They don't want me anyway. They had me strapped down watching crazy videos. Something about Jacob loving me. A brainwashing technique that Ben came up with.

Alex nods.

ALEX

Yeah, Dad --

She stops herself.

ALEX (CONT'D) I mean Ben...he's full of crazy ideas. There was always something, I dunno, odd about him. Almost creepy.

She pauses for a moment and then asks --

ALEX (CONT'D) Who is my real Dad?

Rousseau turns back to the pile of tools, avoiding eye contact.

ROUSSEAU That's another story for another day. Would you both like to help me look for a shovel? There's a dead girl out there waiting for a hole.

Alex and Karl look at each other and shrug.

KARL Sure thing Ms. Rousseau.

ROUSSEAU Call me Danielle. Please.

Alex and Karl roll up their sleeves and bend down next to her to begin the search.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

DESMOND, tired and wet, walks toward the beach camp. In his hand he holds Charlie's Greatest Hits.

JIN, sitting against a tree, sees Desmond first. He sits up.

JIN

Desmond.

BERNARD walks up from from the ocean.

# BERNARD

Welcome back.

SAWYER stands up, flipping the hair out of his eyes and lays a half read book in the sand.

SAWYER

Well, I'll be.

HURLEY runs to Desmond.

# HURLEY

You're back!

JULIET notices that Desmond is missing someone.

JULIET Where's Charlie?

Desmond looks down at the sand and pauses.

# SAWYER

That can't be a good sign.

Desmond looks up and his tear filled eyes deliver the tragic news.

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

The group, having finished digging the grave, is now on the long trek back to the beach.

Rousseau and Alex hold onto ropes which are tied to Ben's arms.

Hurley's voice crackles through Jack's radio.

HURLEY (O.S.) Someone come in. Jack?

Claire's face lights up ready for news of Charlie.

Jack pulls the radio off his belt and depresses the button.

JACK Go ahead Hurley. Is everyone safe? There's silence over the radio for a moment.

JACK (CONT'D)

Hurley?

HURLEY (O.S.) Yeah, I'm here. Put Claire on would you?

JACK

Sure.

Claire hands Aaron to Sun.

Jack holds the walkie-talkie out and Claire takes it.

CLAIRE What's wrong Hurley?

EXT. BEACH CAMP - SAME

Jin, Sawyer, Juliet, Bernard and Desmond surround Hurley as he talks to Claire. Their faces are sullen.

HURLEY Um...well. Desmond just got back from the Looking Glass and Charlie's kinda not with him.

CLAIRE (O.S.) What do you mean kinda not with him?

HURLEY (into the walkie-talkie) Well...you see...

And that's when Hurley breaks down.

HURLEY (CONT'D) (to Desmond) I can't do this man. This is too much...

Sawyer squeezes Hurley's shoulder and gestures for the radio.

SAWYER Here, gimme that.

Hurley hands the radio to Sawyer.

CLAIRE (0.S.)

Hello?

HURLEY I didn't even really say goodbye to him...

Sawyer presses the talk button and motions for Hurley to be quiet.

SAWYER It's Sawyer. I'm sorry that I have to be the one to tell you this. The rock star saved all of us but...well... he didn't make it back out of the station. He sacrificed himself to save our butts.

A small crackle emerges from the speaker. It might have been static, might have been Claire.

Sawyer flips his hair back and looks down at the radio, thinking.

Hurley walks off by himself down the beach.

EXT. JUNGLE - SAME

Claire is nearly mimicking Sawyer's pose. She's staring down at the walkie-talkie.

A tear escapes Claire's eye and drops to the ground.

Her eyes narrow.

#### CLAIRE (whisper) You.

Kate, not hearing Claire, walks over to comfort her.

But Claire doesn't want to be comforted. She pushes against Kate's arms.

Kate's taken by surprise.

KATE Claire, it's okay.

CLAIRE You. You killed him. You killed Charlie. It's all your fault.

And it's then that Kate realizes who Claire is talking to. It's --

BEN Watching Claire, eyes unemotional -- uncaring. BEN I think John put it well when Boone died. What did he say? He was a sacrifice that the island demanded. Something like that. Jack's heard quite enough. JACK (to Ben) You. Shut up. Ben shuts up, but his eyes are still menacing. Claire collapses in Kate's arms, sobbing. Kate comforts her. CLAIRE Why? Kate hugs Claire tighter. Claire continues to cry. Other people in the group are comforting each other. Off Ben, his eyes fixed on Claire. INT. BEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - FLASHBACK Ben, in his mid-20's, is in the kitchen preparing a picnic lunch. He places two sandwiches in the picnic basket along with some fresh apples and grapes. He opens up a cupboard and pulls out a bottle of wine and two wine glasses. He nods to himself, pleased. Ben's Dad walks into the kitchen. He looks like he's been drinking all morning. He opens the refrigerator and removes a can of Dharma beer. He pops the top and takes a sip.

> DAD Where are you off to?

BEN Annie and I are going on a picnic.

DAD You and her are still together?

His Dad laughs to himself.

BEN What's funny?

Ben's Dad takes another sip of his beer.

DAD Nothing. I just would've never matched you two together. She's a scientist and you --

Ben closes the picnic basket hard.

BEN What? What were you going to say? That I'm a work man? That she's smart and I'm not? Just say it Dad.

His Dad starts to walk out of the room.

DAD You said it, I didn't.

But Ben's not ready to end the conversation.

BEN Why can't you be happy for me? Just once? You hate me, don't you?

His Dad turns around.

DAD I don't hate.

BEN Fine. Regret. You regret me. You regret me ever being born because you still blame me for Mom's death. You just can't --

His Dad throws the half filled beer can against the wall. It bounces onto the tile floor, splashing its contents all over the wall and tile. He points a finger at Ben. Ben quiets down. He doesn't want to get his Dad into a drunken rage.

His Dad walks over to the refrigerator and pulls out another beer.

BEN

I'm asking her to marry me.

The refrigerator door shuts with a thump.

DAD

What?

BEN Annie. I'm proposing to her today.

His Dad nods, not saying anything.

BEN (CONT'D) That's it? That's all you have to say?

Ben's Dad walks to the doorway and turns around to look at his son.

DAD The sooner you're out of my house and my life, the better.

He turns and walks out of the room, taking a swig of beer.

DAD (O.S.) (CONT'D) And make sure you clean up that mess before you leave.

Ben stares after his Dad, his eyes filled with hate.

EXT. JUNGLE CLEARING -- DAY

And it's those same eyes that are now watching Claire sob.

Jack walks over to where Kate is holding her. About ten feet away, Sun is working on comforting Aaron, who has begun to cry.

JACK We need to get going. Claire looks up at him. Rubbing her eyes, she nods.

Jack holds out his half empty bottle of water.

CLAIRE No. Thanks though. I'll be alright.

JACK I don't want to rush you or anything but I really think we should be back before sundown. There's a lot of weird stuff in this jungle at night.

Kate helps Claire to her feet.

Sun walks over and hands Aaron to Claire. He's been crying.

Claire immediately switches into Mom mode, rocking Aaron gently.

Aaron's crying subsides.

#### CLAIRE

We can go now.

Jack nods and rounds up everyone.

Alex and Danielle pick up the ropes holding Ben's arms. He doesn't put up a fight, but looks over at Alex.

# BEN

A little slack, honey?

The last word drips with sarcasm. Alex pulls the rope tighter and Ben sneers.

BEN (CONT'D) Didn't I teach you any --

And before Ben can finish his sentence, the butt of Danielle's rifle comes down on the side of his face hard, knocking him out cold.

END OF ACT ONE

# ACT TWO

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY Kate walks beside Jack, a few yards in front of everyone else. Jack takes off his backpack, unzips it and pulls out a bottle of water. He sets the backpack on the ground. JACK Five minutes everyone. Jack takes a drink. KATE Can I get a sip? Jack hands the bottle over and Kate takes a drink. She hands it back to Jack. KATE (CONT'D) Can I talk to you for a second? JACK What's on your mind? Sure. KATE What you said earlier. Jack pretends not to know. JACK What did I say? KATE Oh come on Jack. You know what I'm talking about. She pauses, a little embarrassed. KATE (CONT'D) You said that you love me. Jack nods. JACK Yeah? A small smile slips across his lips.

KATE I just thought you would want to talk about it.

Jack sighs.

JACK Can we talk later?

Kate's face drops.

JACK (CONT'D) I just have a lot of things on my mind right now, Kate.

Kate nods.

KATE Yeah. That's fine.

JACK Tonight. I promise.

KATE Whenever you want.

A few feet away, Ben watches the conversation.

EXT. GRASSY HILL - DAY - FLASHBACK

The setting is picture perfect. The hill overlooks a grassy plain which leads to the jungle and, beyond that, the ocean.

Providing a picturesque backdrop are huge volcanic cliffs.

Ben and ANNIE sit together on a checkered blanket, lunch spread out in front of them.

Ben pours Annie some more wine. He tops off his own glass.

ANNIE Thank you for the picnic. It's wonderful.

Annie takes a sip of the wine.

Ben smiles sheepishly.

BEN

I'm glad.

ANNIE

This is such a beautiful island. I want to stay here forever.

BEN Dharma won't be around forever.

Annie nods and sighs.

ANNIE

I know.

She looks out over to the ocean.

BEN Who knows what will happen though.

They're each lost in their own thoughts for a moment.

When he sees that Annie's not watching, Ben slips his hand into his pocket and pulls out the engagement ring, holding onto it tight.

Annie takes a bite out of her apple.

BEN (CONT'D) Wanna go for a walk?

Annie smiles, her mouth still full.

ANNIE

I'd love to.

Ben stands and then holds out his hand to help Annie stand. She stands, still looking out at the ocean, thinking.

> BEN I'll just clean up --

Ben gets down on one knee. He looks up at Annie and takes her hand in his.

She looks down at him in surprise.

ANNIE Ben? What...?

BEN We've been dating for three years now Annie and every day I fall more and more in love with you. (MORE) BEN (CONT'D) I can't imagine spending my life with anyone else. I would be honored to call you my wife. Annie, will you marry me?

Ben holds up the ring. The diamond sparkles in the bright sunshine.

Annie is smiling and crying at the same time.

For a moment she's in shock, not able to respond.

BEN (CONT'D)

Annie?

She nods vigorously. He carefully slips the ring onto her finger. She admires it in awe.

ANNIE Yes. Yes! Oh my, Ben, it's so beautiful. I love you so much.

Ben stands up and pulls Annie to him, hugging her tight.

BEN I love you too.

Off the newly engaged couple hugging and kissing.

EXT. EDGE OF BEACH CAMP - DAY

The group of castaways walk along the beach in a single file line as they approach the camp.

They come around a bend to see Jin and Sawyer digging graves for the dead Others.

Desmond's sitting against a tree close by, drinking from a bottle of wine.

He's the first to get up, but only after taking one last drink.

He walks up to Jack and shakes his hand.

DESMOND I don't know about you but I'm ready to get off this bloody island.

Jack smiles.

JACK Good to see you Desmond. Juliet walks up to Jack next, giving him a hug. Jack hugs her back, a little uncomfortably. He knows that Kate's watching him.

Juliet steps back.

JULIET I'm glad you're safe, Jack. That everyone is.

Jack smiles, still feeling awkward.

JACK Good to see you, too.

Desmond sees Claire holding Aaron close and watching him.

DESMOND

Claire --

He walks over to Claire and puts his arm around her.

DESMOND (CONT'D) How are you holding up?

Claire shrugs.

#### CLAIRE As best I can.

She begins to cry and Desmond pulls her closer.

DESMOND Before he and I left, he gave me something for you in case he didn't make it back.

Desmond pulls Charlie's list out of his top pocket and hands it to Claire.

DESMOND (CONT'D) I tried to dry it out as much as I could.

She grips the letter tight.

CLAIRE I'll look at it later. Thank you Desmond.

She gives him a hug.

Jin goes to Sun and gives her a hug. They walk off, talking.

Bernard finds Rose and they hug.

ROSE Thank you for not being Rambo.

Bernard laughs.

#### BERNARD You're welcome.

Sawyer finishes shoveling and steps out of the fresh grave. He dusts himself off and walks up to the group.

He nods to Jack.

SAWYER Good to see you guys back safe. We gettin' off this rock or what?

Jack smiles.

JACK Sure looks like it.

He notices Ben, tied up.

SAWYER I see you've brought back a new addition.

Jack nods.

SAWYER (CONT'D) Decided the camp needed a punching bag for its last night?

JACK

No one's going to hurt him. I want him to be alive and conscious so he can see us all get off this island. I'll let whoever's coming for us deal with him after that.

Ben looks up.

BEN All they're going to do is kill me. You might as well just do it now.

Sawyer gets up into his face. He holds his fist up menacingly.

SAWYER You'd like that, wouldn't you? You little --

Kate grabs Sawyer's arm and pulls him back.

KATE Sawyer. Don't. Just listen to Jack.

Sawyer holds up his hands, backing off.

SAWYER Alright. Alright. No harm done, freckles.

Ben grins.

BEN Oh, I see. Listening to your little girlfriend now are you? Can't kill me huh? Wasn't it just a few days ago you were over in the Black Rock...

Sawyer's fists fly fast and a punch lands on Ben's already black and blue face.

Kate and Jack both grab Sawyer, pulling him away before he can do any more damage.

SAWYER Don't you dare bring that up.

JACK That's enough Sawyer.

Sawyer stares Ben down.

SAWYER It's James, doc.

Ben's head stays turned to the left for a moment.

He spits out blood and turns to smile at Sawyer, a little trickle of blood and spit running down the side of his mouth.

BEN That the best you got, James?

Kate moves Sawyer away before he seriously hurts Ben. She escorts him towards his tent.

SAWYER You're dead, bug-eyes.

Jack turns to Rousseau and Alex who are still holding the ropes attached to Ben.

JACK I want you two to take him to the edge of camp and tie him to a tree. Make sure he can't escape.

Rousseau nods.

ROUSSEAU You won't have to worry about that.

The two women walk off, leading Ben.

Jack points to Karl who's been standing off to the side, quiet.

JACK I want you to make us a fire here on the beach. A big one. I want it watched all night. We'll all take shifts. I want those helicopters to know exactly where to find us.

Karl nods and heads off into the jungle to find wood.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - FOOD AREA - AFTERNOON

Rose and Bernard gather food for the evening.

BERNARD It looks like we're finally going to get to go home, Rose.

Rose shakes her head.

# ROSE

No Bernard.

He's confused for a moment and then the light bulb goes on.

BERNARD

Oh. Right.

Rose isn't happy that he forgot.

ROSE You didn't remember did you.

BERNARD Well, I got so excited about the rescue --

Rose finishes his sentence.

ROSE That you completely forgot that I was rescued when we crashed here.

Bernard frowns.

BERNARD I'm sorry Rose. We won't leave.

ROSE If you really want --

BERNARD What I really want is to be with you.

Rose smiles and Bernard smile's back.

ROSE Thank you. We'll have to tell Jack and the others you know.

BERNARD

I know.

Bernard picks up the box of food and they walk off back to their tent.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - CLAIRE'S TENT - AFTERNOON

Claire holds Aaron, rocking him slowly. He's asleep.

She lowers him into his cradle. Her hand passes over Charlie's Drive Shaft ring which is sitting on the blankets.

Claire doesn't even notice it.

She wraps Aaron in the blankets. The ring disappears into the folds of the cloth.

She slowly pulls Charlie's Greatest Hits out of her pocket. It's still folded up the same way as when Desmond handed it to her. She looks at it, debating on whether or not she wants to open it.

She starts to open it and then stops.

She looks at the half folded paper for a few moments.

Taking a deep breath, she opens up the paper all the way.

CLAIRE Oh Charlie --

Claire reads what's written, her eyes getting wetter and wetter as she works her way through.

She reaches the end. A few tears spill down onto the paper.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) You were my everybody, Charlie Pace.

She wipes her eyes and then they go wide with surprise. Standing in front of her looking quite alive is

CHARLIE

dripping wet.

He smiles at Claire.

CHARLIE

Hi Claire.

CLAIRE

Charlie?

CHARLIE I'm sorry Claire. I'm sorry I had to leave you and baby Aaron so soon. I didn't want to, but I had to. I did it for you Claire.

Claire stares at him in disbelief. Tears are flowing freely down her face.

CLAIRE I forgive you Charlie. I love you. Please don't leave me again. Stay with me. I beg you. I need you.

Charlie shakes his head.

CHARLIE

I'll always be with you Claire. Don't worry about me. I'll be watching over you and baby Aaron.

He reaches down and strokes the baby's back.

Aaron coos softly, almost as if he senses Charlie's presence.

CLAIRE I wanted you to come with us when we were rescued.

CHARLIE I know, I'm sorry I can't. But like I said, I will always be watching over you both.

Charlie pauses and his smile fades.

CHARLIE (CONT'D) I came to warn you. Your trials are not over yet.

CLAIRE What do you mean, Charlie?

Charlie shakes his head. His mouth stays closed.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) What's going to happen? Talk to me Charlie.

Charlie's smile returns.

CHARLIE Goodbye, Claire. I love you.

CLAIRE

Charlie...

But Charlie's gone. Claire crawls over to where he was just standing. She grabs at the sand and begins to sob.

END OF ACT TWO

EXT. BEACH CAMP - EVENING

Karl is tending to the now large fire that's burning on the beach. A large stack of wood sits next to him and a column of black smoke is rising into the air.

Jack walks up and smiles at him.

JACK

Not bad.

Karl puts another log on the fire.

KARL Living on an island all your life does have some benefits.

JACK Yeah, I guess it does. Keep it strong.

Karl nods.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF CAMP

Ben watches as Jack says a few more words to Karl and then walks away.

Sitting there, tied to the tree, allows Ben a lot of time to think.

EXT. OTHER'S VILLAGE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Ben is walking hand in hand with Annie.

She's smiling like a little girl on Christmas morning.

ANNIE

I can't believe there's less then a month till the wedding.

Ben shakes his head in disbelief

BEN

I know.

ANNIE I thought a year engagement was going to be awful. I'd have to say that was the fastest year of my life. I know what you mean.

They walk up onto the front porch of Annie's house.

She checks her watch.

#### ANNIE

You want to come in? I can make some coffee and we can just enjoy each other's company. Maybe you could even play the piano for me.

Ben shakes his head.

# BEN

Not tonight Annie. I need to get home. I have to be up early for work.

Annie puts her hand on her hip.

ANNIE

What's your deal Ben? The past few months you always have to be home early. It's only nine.

BEN

I know. I just need my sleep. I do all the heavy lifting around here.

ANNIE

I just wish you would make a little sacrifice for me once in a while.

Ben pulls Annie close and kisses her gently.

BEN Maybe next time. Tonight, I'm tired.

Annie nods, reluctantly.

ANNIE Alright. Do what you need to do.

Ben smiles.

BEN I love you. Annie opens the door to her house and switches on the light.

# ANNIE See you tomorrow.

Ben smiles as she quietly closes the door.

Ben adjusts the bag that is over his shoulder and walks down the steps of the porch and off towards his house.

He walks for a couple hundred feet, looks around and then takes a sharp ninety degree turn towards the edge of the village.

EXT. ANNIE'S HOUSE - SAME - FLASHBACK

Annie's looking out her window from between the blinds and sees Ben make the abrupt turn.

The blinds snap shut and a moment later the front door opens. Annie steps out and walks off in the direction that Ben went.

EXT. EDGE OF JUNGLE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Ben walks out into the clearing and pulls off some leaves that have clung to him.

He opens up his pack and removes a piece of paper.

Confident that no one's watching him, he walks toward the large pylons of the sonic fence that are looming in front of him like silent watchmen.

EXT. EDGE OF JUNGLE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Annie crouches down low behind a large bush as she watches Ben approach the fence.

Ben looks around one last time to see if he's been followed. He walks over to the box on the pylon, opens it and punches in numbers.

The fence shuts down. He walks across it and reactivates it. He slings his bag over his shoulder and walks into the jungle.

Annie stays still, watching the jungle into which Ben walked.

A word escapes her lips.

# ANNIE

Liar.

After a moment she stands and walks away, not looking back.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - EVENING

Claire sits at the edge of the ocean looking out at the sun setting.

Hurley walks up and sits down next to her.

They're both silent for a moment.

HURLEY

He gave me a hug before he left. I was mad at him. I wanted to go along but he wouldn't let me. I didn't even really say goodbye because I was mad. I'm an awful friend.

Claire puts her arm around Hurley.

CLAIRE No you're not.

HURLEY I miss him.

Claire nods.

CLAIRE It was only a couple days ago that everything was starting to get back to normal.

She looks out at the ocean again.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) I lost my soul mate.

HURLEY I lost a friend.

Hurley reaches over and hugs Claire.

A few tears drip from Claire's eyes, wetting Hurley's shirt.

CLAIRE It's not fair. Life never is.

And the two hold each other and grieve together as the sun dips below the horizon.

INT. JACK'S TENT - EVENING

Jack works on packing his gear into a suitcase.

Desmond walks into the tent holding a half empty bottle of wine.

JACK

Hey Desmond.

DESMOND Jack, can I talk to you a minute?

Jack nods, closing the lid of his suitcase.

JACK Sure. What's on your mind?

DESMOND A lot more than I would like, that's for sure. I was with Charlie when he died you know.

Jack nods and looks down at his hands.

JACK How are you holding up?

DESMOND Alright for the circumstances, but there's something else.

Jack looks up, interested.

DESMOND (CONT'D) He was in the communications room and the door was shut because it was flooding and he didn't want to flood the entire station and he had turned off the communications jam and...

Jack holds up his hands.

JACK Whoa now, slow down. Charlie's in a room filling with water and -- DESMOND

And...and the room is now totally filled with water, and he's in there trying to hold his breath...

Desmond begins to cry.

DESMOND (CONT'D)

Sorry.

JACK It's okay. Take your time.

DESMOND I'm sorry, brotha. I told you I had a lot on my mind.

Desmond dries his eyes and continues.

DESMOND (CONT'D) So Charlie's in there drowning and he holds up his hand where he's written a message. I thought it was going to be something about Claire, but it says that the boat isn't Penny's. That woman from the helicopter crash knew Penny and you contacted her boat and for some reason now Charlie is saying that it's not Penny's boat.

Jack thinks for a moment.

JACK Maybe he just meant Penny wasn't on the boat.

Desmond shrugs.

DESMOND

I don't know. I'm just relaying the message. I thought I should just tell you because it might start some unwanted talk among the rest of the group.

Jack nods, deep in thought.

Finally --

JACK

Well, whether it is Penny's boat or not, someone is coming to rescue us. By this time tomorrow we'll be heading home and I'm sure that if Penny's not on the boat to meet you, she'll be waiting once we get off.

Desmond nods.

DESMOND

I hope so.

Desmond gets up to leave.

DESMOND (CONT'D) Oh and one other thing. She does love you back.

Jack's speechless. How would he know?

He tries to fake ignorance.

JACK Who are you talking about?

Desmond smiles mischievously.

DESMOND Your girl. She loves you. It's all going to work out for you Jack.

JACK But how would you know something like that?

DESMOND Since the hatch imploded --

Desmond taps his head.

DESMOND (CONT'D) I've been able to see things up here.

He gives Jack a wink.

DESMOND (CONT'D) I'll see you around.

Desmond turns and walks away.

Off Jack, completely stunned.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - CLAIRE'S TENT - EVENING

Claire is also working on packing her belongings. She smiles at Aaron who is cooing in his cradle.

#### CLAIRE

We're going home tomorrow little quy.

And for some reason this upsets Aaron because he begins to wail.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) Shh...it's okay.

Claire reaches down and under Aaron to pick him up. Her hand stops.

She pulls something out from under Aaron and he stops crying.

She holds up a ring in the firelight. The ring has two large letters: DS.

Claire smiles.

### CLAIRE (CONT'D) Second tour of Finland --

She turns the ring over in her hand, examining it.

Then, she slowly slips the ring onto her finger.

The tears are close.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) Why, Charlie? Why did you have to go?

Baby Aaron is cooing in his cradle once again and Claire sits down in the sand, looking at the ring on her finger.

She spins it around her finger, thinking.

END OF ACT THREE

# ACT FOUR

EXT. BEACH CAMP - NIGHT

Rose and Bernard work on packing up their belongings. They don't appear to be moving as fast as the others.

# ROSE

Bernard?

BERNARD

Yes dear?

Rose moves closer to Bernard and drops her voice

ROSE Did you tell Jack yet?

Bernard sighs. He knows he has to, he just doesn't want to.

BERNARD

Not yet.

Rose begins to fold some clothes.

ROSE You need to -- <u>soon</u>.

BERNARD In the morning. Will you come with me?

Rose nods.

#### ROSE

Yes.

Off Rose as she continues folding clothes, thinking.

Meanwhile, on the

OTHER SIDE OF CAMP

Ben sits against the tree that he's tied to, watching Sun and Jin pack.

They kiss.

Ben watches, a longing look in his eyes. A longing for that kind of intimacy.

# EXT. EDGE OF JUNGLE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Ben walks out of the jungle and into a clearing. He looks around, making sure that no one has followed him.

Not hearing a sound, he moves towards the pylons.

At the pylon, he goes through the motions of deactivating the fence.

A loud diminishing hum signals that the fence has been shut down.

He crosses the fence line but then hears a rustling behind him. He whirls around to find --

## ANNIE

Standing at the edge of the fence. She's been crying.

ANNIE What are you doing out here?

The question almost sounds rhetorical.

BEN Annie...I...

ANNIE Why did you lie to me Ben? Where are you going in the middle of the night?

BEN You wouldn't understand.

ANNIE Oh, is that so? Try me.

Ben's dug himself too big of a hole. He can't lie anymore.

BEN I'm meeting with them.

ANNIE

Them?

BEN The hostiles.

Annie can't believe her ears.
You're what?

BEN The hostiles. They're good people Annie. Peaceful people. They care about this island. More then the initiative does.

ANNIE They attack our people, Benjamin.

Ben shakes his head.

BEN That's what the initiative wants you to think. We've killed almost half of them. This was their land before it was ours.

ANNIE You lied to me -- for who knows how long.

Ben nods slowly, a guilty look on his face.

BEN

You're right. I did. But it was for your own protection. I didn't want you to know about this in case anyone did see me and questioned you.

ANNIE But I know now.

BEN

You do.

ANNIE And I know I can't trust you.

BEN

Now wait a second...

Annie shakes her head.

ANNIE

I'm sorry Benjamin. It's over. I can't marry someone that I can't trust and who can't trust me.

She takes off the engagement ring and drops it into the grass.

# BEN I love you Annie.

Before she can reply, a huge noise booms behind Ben. We know that sound. It's THE SMOKE MONSTER.

A tree fifty feet behind Ben flies into the air and then lands with a crash.

### ANNIE

The monster...

But Ben doesn't move. In fact, he's actually calm.

BEN It's okay. You're on the other side of the fence so you're safe

# ANNIE

But you...

BEN Don't worry about me, I'm fine.

Annie takes a few steps back.

Another ROAR rips through the night as the Smoke comes into the clearing. It slowly approaches the fence where Ben and Annie are standing. Electrical sparks shoot through it.

The air is filled with the familiar gurgling sound of the smoke as it hovers in the air.

Ben turns to watch it in awe while Annie is frozen in fear.

BEN (CONT'D) It's beautiful.

Without warning the Smoke shoots across the fence line and GRABS ANNIE BY THE LEGS, LIFTING HER INTO THE AIR.

It's then that Ben realizes HE DIDN'T REACTIVATE THE FENCE. Annie screams.

> BEN (CONT'D) Hold on Annie!

The monster slams her into the ground and then drags her back towards the fence line.

Ben runs to the nearest pylon. He's holding the piece of paper with the activation number. His fingers move as fast as they can.

### ANNIE

Ben!

The fence activates with a large humming sound and the monster is blown back onto Ben's side of the fence. Ben watches it move off.

There's a shrill scream and Ben turns to see --

#### ANNIE

Lying right in between the pylons, a stream of blood squirting from her ears, her body convulsing violently. Blood begins to seep our of her mouth.

## ANNIE (CONT'D)

Help...

Ben runs over and grabs her legs, pulling her to his side. But it's too late. Ben is dragging her lifeless body.

He lifts her head up into his arms.

BEN

Annie.

There are no tears. Ben has learned to control them but inside he's crushed.

He brushes her hair back and kisses her cheek.

BEN (CONT'D) I'm so sorry.

Ben looks up to the sky, anger flashing in his eyes.

BEN (CONT'D) Why me, Jacob? Why?

If Ben receives an answer, it's not audible.

Ben looks back down at Annie and continues to hold her, not wanting to let go.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - NIGHT

Ben sits with his arms tied around a tree. His head is thrust back and his breathing's slow. He's asleep.

The CRACK of a twig pierces the silence. Ben's head jerks forward. He's fully awake.

Standing not twenty feet away is the silhouette of a person backlit by the moon rising over the ocean.

# BEN

Claire?

Claire steps forward. Her eyes are red from crying but she doesn't look sad, she looks like she could rip Ben's head off.

## CLAIRE

You killed Charlie.

Ben sits up a little straighter, ready to take some blows if they come. His voice is calm.

BEN Listen, just because...

Claire snarls at Ben --

#### CLAIRE

Shut up.

-- and raises a handgun that she's been holding out of sight, aiming it at him.

And for just a moment, just a split second, fear flashes through Ben's eyes.

He didn't see this coming.

The gun guivers in Claire's unsteady hand.

BEN Put the gun down Claire and let's talk like civilized people.

CLAIRE You -- civilized?

She laughs sarcastically.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) No, you've done too much talking.

BEN Don't do this Claire. It's no one's fault that Charlie died. Hearing Charlie's name sets Claire off.

CLAIRE

It's your fault. Yours. If you didn't lie, didn't try to block the radio signals he wouldn't have had to go down there in the first place.

BEN I had to do it. Jacob told me to.

CLAIRE

Who?

BEN

Never mind. Just know that I had my reasons. I was protecting this island and now -- now the island is in danger.

# CLAIRE

I don't care about your stupid island. I lost the man I love. A good man. A man who didn't deserve to die, which is more then I can say about you.

Claire takes another step forward. There's now only two feet separating the muzzle of the gun and Ben's face. Her finger puts more pressure on the trigger.

> BEN You have no idea how important this island is.

The gun continues to shake in Claire's hands.

CLAIRE

And you don't know how important Charlie was.

The tears begin to flow again.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) He meant everything to me. He helped raise Aaron. He was there when I needed him and now this is all I have left.

Claire holds up her hand to show Ben that she's wearing Charlie's Drive Shaft ring.

Ben decides to change his negotiation strategy.

BEN Charlie sacrificed his life for you, for your people. What he did was noble. It's what he wanted. If your saying that I killed him you're saying that he didn't make the sacrifice, that it wasn't his choice. And it was, Claire. It was his choice.

Claire steps forward the final two feet, holding the gun's muzzle only inches from Ben's temple.

CLAIRE It's because of you that he had to make that sacrifice in the first place.

Claire's finger continues to tighten around the trigger.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) And now you're going to get what you deserve.

BEN You're just fighting violence with violence, Claire. Would Charlie want you to do this?

We're tight on Ben's eyes as he closes them, preparing for his execution.

He waits for the shot -- knows it's coming. A beat goes by, then another.

There's a rustle of leaves and Ben opens his eyes to find --

<u>He's alone.</u>

INT. KATE'S SHELTER - NIGHT

The signal fire continues to burn brightly outside, casting shadows across the inside of Kate's shelter.

Amongst these shadows, Kate works on folding a few clothes into a suitcase. She lifts up a shirt and finds her toy plane lying in the sand.

She picks it up and looks at it. She loses herself in thought for a moment.

A person clears their throat behind Kate causing her to jump.

She turns to see Jack standing at the entrance of the tent. He looks at the airplane with interest.

> JACK What's that you got there?

Kate sets the plane into the suitcase.

KATE It's nothing.

Jack nods.

JACK I meant what I said.

KATE I'm sorry?

JACK What I said to you. You know. That I love you. I meant it.

Kate smiles.

JACK (CONT'D) It sort of came out a little clumsily.

KATE It did take me by surprise.

JACK Want to go for a walk? It is our last night on the beach after all.

KATE I'd like that.

Kate gets up and the two walk out of the tent.

EXT. BEACH - LATER

Kate and Jack stroll along the edge of the ocean leaving a line of footprints behind them. Waves lap at their feet.

Kate looks up at the sky.

KATE You know what I'm going to miss most about the island? Sawyer?

Kate gives Jack a look.

Jack shrugs

JACK (CONT'D) It was a valid question.

Kate moves on.

#### KATE

No. I'm going to miss the stars. I've almost gotten used to them, but look how many there are. It makes you feel so small, so insignificant. It's almost like it's been taunting us. There's a whole universe out there. So many places to explore and we can't even get off this little island.

Jack's looking up at the stars along with her. He nods in agreement.

JACK God's cruel joke.

# KATE But just look at them.

They're both quiet for a few moments.

And then, Jack goes for it.

He gently grabs Kate's arm and pulls her in front of him.

And kisses her.

Kate's eyes go wide with surprise but she slowly relaxes.

Her eyes close.

Jacks hands move to Kate's cheeks. He presses her closer to him.

And then, as quick as it started, Jack pulls back. Kate still wants more.

Jack smiles.

Kate opens her eyes slowly to see Jack.

They look at each other, savoring the moment.

JACK I'm surprised.

KATE <u>You're</u> surprised?

JACK Yeah. You haven't run away yet.

Kate laughs.

KATE Well I was debating --

JACK Thank you for not.

KATE I'm done running.

Jack's feeling pretty good about himself.

JACK We're going home tomorrow.

Kate shakes her head in disbelief.

KATE I know. I can't believe it.

She looks at Jack, waiting for him to talk. He doesn't say anything.

KATE (CONT'D) What's going to happen to us?

JACK I'll leave that up to you. You know how I feel.

Kate nods.

KATE You know. I have this weird feeling we're being watched.

JACK

By who?

They both look around

# JACK (CONT'D) You're just paranoid.

They go silent for a moment.

Now it's Jack's turn to wait for Kate to talk, for her to say three little words.

JACK (CONT'D) We should probably head back to --

Before he can finish Kate moves in and kisses him.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - DAY

Ben is sleeping soundly against the tree that he's tied to.

There's a whisper and Ben awakens.

He looks around.

# BEN

Who's there?

RICHARD ALPERT steps out of the bushes. He puts his finger over his mouth.

RICHARD Shh. I'm getting you out of here.

BEN

It took you long enough. I was almost killed by one of them.

RICHARD

I know. We've been watching you for a while but we had to wait until all of them were asleep. Austen and Shepard are together. We saw them kissing on the beach not too long ago.

Ben nods.

BEN

I know. Now, get me out of here. We have lots to do. The ship off the coast knows the position of the island. We have to get everyone to the temple. Ben rubs his wrists.

BEN (CONT'D) I'll go alert Jacob.

RICHARD

I think Locke is already moving in that direction. Chris is following him. Should I tell him to take Locke out?

Ben shakes his head

BEN No. I'll deal with John myself. We have some unfinished business to take care of.

Ben stands up.

BEN (CONT'D) Now, let's get going. There's work to be done.

Richard nods and the two creep off into the jungle, disappearing into the leaves.

END OF ACT FOUR

### ACT FIVE

EXT. ALEX AND DANIELLE'S SHELTER - MORNING

Alex is sleeping soundly, lying on a bed of blankets.

Next to her, Rousseau stirs. She sits up and stretches. Her rifle sits next to her. She looks over at Alex.

Her face softens and she smiles just a bit.

ROUSSEAU Alex, my dear, if only I could stay with you.

She looks at Alex a moment longer, imprinting Alex's face into her memory.

Rousseau turns away from the tent and slides her feet into her hiking boots.

She slips her rifle over her shoulder.

ALEX Where are you going.

Danielle turns to see Alex sitting up, half asleep.

# ROUSSEAU I'm going to --

She stops. She can't lie to her only daughter.

ROUSSEAU (CONT'D) I can't leave this island. There's no place for me back in that world.

ALEX Then Karl and I will stay with you.

ROUSSEAU No. You're still young. You'll be accepted back into society. I, on the other hand --

Alex throws the blankets off herself.

ALEX I've been on this island just as long as you have. I'm staying with you Mom. I'll go get Karl.

Rousseau nods, helpless to stop her determined daughter.

Alex walks off to the bonfire where Karl has been keeping watch all night.

EXT. JACK'S TENT - MORNING

Jack is sleeping in his tent, his arm laying over his eyes. Hurley's voice pierces the silence.

> HURLEY Jack! Wake up! Jack!

Jack stirs as Hurley gets to the door.

HURLEY (CONT'D) Jack, get up. Quick!

Jack sits up, rubbing his eyes.

JACK What's up Hurley.

Hurley's panting, out of breath.

HURLEY

It's Ben. He's gone. His ropes were cut by someone. I found two sets of footprints going off into the jungle.

JACK Is anyone else missing? Any of us?

Hurley shakes his head.

HURLEY I don't think so. Should we go out and look for him?

Jack shakes his head.

JACK Let him go. We're leaving today and he doesn't want to go. Let him run off to wherever he wants to run to. Someone will catch him soon enough.

HURLEY

But...

JACK It's okay Hurley. We have more important things to do then to chase after him. Hurley throws his arms in the air in frustration. HURLEY Whatever dude. Why did we even bother tying him up? Hurley walks away, annoyed. Jack lays back down to get a little more sleep. EXT. JUNGLE - MORNING JOHN LOCKE walks up the side of a mountain. He steps over the line of ash on his way to Jacob's hut. He holds a knife in his hand. He slaps a vine out of the way with it. He looks around him suspiciously, thinking he heard something. He continues walking. SNAP -- a twig cracks and a bush rustles behind him. He whips around to find --BEN Pointing a gun right at him. BEN Hello John. Locke's hand instinctively goes to his hip where his gun sits. Ben cocks his weapon. BEN (CONT'D) Don't you dare. John's hand freezes. BEN (CONT'D) I think there are a few things that we need to discuss.

Off John, looking completely helpless.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - MORNING

Jack's up and he's taking his shelter apart.

Sawyer walks up.

### SAWYER

Yo, Jacko.

Jack doesn't turn around.

JACK What is it Sawy...James.

SAWYER

Just thought I'd let you know that our resident Frenchy has decided to skip town.

JACK No big surprise there.

SAWYER Well, see, she took her daughter and Karl.

Jack turns to look at Sawyer, worried.

JACK

The fire ...?

SAWYER It's all under control. I added a couple more logs and it's brighter than ever.

Jack nods, relieved.

SAWYER (CONT'D) So what now? Do we go hunt them down?

JACK There's no need. They can do what they want. I'm not their dictator. I'm barely the leader anymore. (MORE) We're going to be back in the real world and I'm going to go back to being a surgeon, you're gonna go back to doing whatever it is that you do and we'll all scatter in the wind.

SAWYER

Well ain't that just a bright outlook.

JACK Not exactly a positive one, but

probably the closest to reality.

Jack goes back to taking down his shelter and Sawyer looks around.

SAWYER You know, I think I'm actually gonna miss this rock.

JACK

Yeah. I guess I will too.

Sawyer takes a deep breath of the cool salt air and walks off.

EXT. BEACH CAMP - DAY

The losties stand together on the beach looking out over the water, waiting.

The signal fire continues to burn. Flames jump in the air and a pillar of smoke rises into the sky.

Hurley stands next to Sun and Jin who are holding hands.

SUN Do you think they are really going to come?

## HURLEY

(to Sun) Of course they are. We're going to be rescued!

Down the line Jack looks out over the ocean in silence, his hands in his pockets.

Rose and Bernard walk up.

BERNARD

Jack?

Jack snaps out of his thoughts.

JACK

Yeah?

BERNARD We just wanted to come over and say goodbye.

That took Jack off guard.

JACK

Goodbye?

BERNARD Rose and I aren't going with you guys. We don't want to be rescued. We've decided to stay.

JACK I don't understand. BERNARD Before we crashed on this island Rose was sick and, well, she thin

Rose was sick and, well, she thinks the island healed her. If we go back, she may get sick again but staying here --.

Jack puts a hand on Bernard's shoulder.

JACK I'm sure there's a perfectly logical explanation.

ROSE I had terminal cancer.

It takes a moment for this to sink in.

JACK How do you know it's gone?

ROSE

I <u>know</u>.

Bernard nods in agreement.

ROSE (CONT'D) Our minds are made up, Jack. This is our home now.

Jack thinks for a moment.

JACK Well good luck to you.

Jack hugs Rose and then Bernard.

JACK (CONT'D) I'm not sure if I'll be visiting anytime soon.

They laugh.

Sawyer points to the ocean.

SAWYER They're coming!

About four miles out two helicopters are flying low over the ocean towards the island.

A cheer goes up on the beach.

People are hugging each other. Vincent begins to bark and wag his tail.

Tears are shed and high fives are given as the helicopters move closer.

INT. HELICOPTER - SAME

Inside the helicopter the prisoner sits handcuffed, surrounded by men dressed all in black. His hood is still on.

Flagg reaches over and removes the hood.

It's MICHAEL.

The traitor.

The murderer.

He looks through the cockpit window at the approaching island. A tall column of smoke can be seen along the coast.

Tears are streaming down his face.

MICHAEL No. No. I can't do this. I can't go back. Why are you doing this to me?

But the men around Michael don't respond.

The pilot turns to Flagg.

PILOT

Five minutes.

Flagg nods, continuing to finger the gun at his side.

A small smile appears on his lips.

FLAGG Won't be long now.

And as Michael continues to sob and plead --

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW