

Oil

By

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

A beam of light shines through an old wooden window. This is the only light she will receive all day. A Dream Catcher dangles from the window sill, it looks homemade of twigs and threads.

She looks up into the skylight, a beautiful aboriginal women thin and frail. SHENOA, no more then twenty years old. Her bright eyes look up as if freedom is close but too far.

SHENOA

My father told me a story when I was young. He told me long ago, near the beginning of the world, Grey Eagle guarded the sun, moon, stars, water, and fire. But Grey Eagle hated people. He hated them so much that he kept these things hidden away, and the people lived in cold and darkness. Grey Eagle had a beautiful daughter who fancied Raven, for Raven was a handsome white bird who loved Grey Eagle's daughter in return. He was invited to the longhouse of Grey Eagle. Raven looked about the walls of the lodge and saw the sun, the moon, the stars, water, and fire. Raven was ashamed of Grey Eagle for hiding them, and knew what he must do. When no one was watching, he stole all these things from the lodge of Grey Eagle. He flew with them right up the smoke hole of the long house. He flew and he flew, higher and higher. He hung the sun as high as he could in the sky. It made so much light that he was able to escape all the way to an island far out in the ocean. When night fell, he flew again, this time fastening the moon up in the sky and hanging each star in its own place around the heavens. Then he flew back over the land, still carrying the water and the fire. When he reached the right place, he dropped the water, creating the source of all fresh water - rivers, lakes, and streams. Raven flew on, still carrying the stick of fire in his beak. As he flew, the smoke

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SHENOA (cont'd)
blew back on him, turning all of his feathers the darkest black. When his beak became too hot, he dropped the fire on some rocks, concealing it within them. Still today when we strike two stones together, drops of fire will spark out. And still today, we see the black feathers of the raven, darkened forever because he brought good things to this world. It feels like I am the Raven and I've been here in the lodge for years. Three winters in this house. I've tried to escape and leave this place behind but he finds me. He always does.

FLASHBACK:

INT/EXT. DOORWAY - DAY

A door knob twists. Footsteps make the sound of somebody sprinting. SHENOA is dashing to the front door.

With all her strength she hits the opening door sending a man trying to enter to the ground. This is DAVE. A bearded man in his early thirties. He looks Blue Collar like he just got back from a construction site.

Dave yells in frustration as he begins his pursuit.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Shenoa is limping through a field of snow. She hardly has any clothes on and is barefoot. The winter cold is too much for her.

Dave catches up to her and picks her up carrying her back to the house.

Shenoa is shaking uncontrollably it must have been -35 outside.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Shenoa is kicking and screaming with what energy she has left. The room is dark and dreary. More closer to a prison cell than an Ikea bedroom.

SHENOA

No, no.

DAVE

Sh..

Dave throws her onto the bed and puts her under the covers to warm her up.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

The light still shines on Shenoa's face. She's almost motionless. Stuck in her own imagination thinking of the freedom of the world outside.

SHENOA (V.O)

One week on. One week off. I tried to escape often at first.

A metal wire is wrapped around Shenoa's ankle. This is high grade titanium welded to her ankle.

SHENOA (V.O)

Each time he finds me. We are alone in the wilderness. Far from people. Nobody here's my cries or screams. I still try to keep strong so that I can leave this place some day.

Shenoa is dancing. It is a traditional aboriginal dance that she learned as a child where she moves around the room as if there where drums beating and people chanting.

SHENOA (V.O)

I have to do chores. I wash his clothes by hand.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is scrubbing a rubber work suite. It is drenched in oil stains. She struggles to brush the stains out with all her strength.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA (V.O)

It's the only way to get the oil out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa gets up and stretches. She is barely wearing any clothes. She moves around the room not much to do. She scratches her hair. Looking around curious and puzzled what to do.

SHENOA (V.O)

He makes me clean and cook for him. Some weeks he barely leaves me enough to live. When I don't do something he hurts me. He turns off the heat for a week. It gets cold and alone. I get frightened each week. I know when he comes home I dread it each week.

Shenoa takes the dream catcher down and hides it underneath a the couch. She straightens the furniture. Puffs the pillow.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Shenoa makes the bed tightening the sheets and covers. Her leash is long enough to make it around the house.

SHENOA (V.O)

If I try to escape hurts more. If I do what he wants I survive. I'm in less pain.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa leans against the wall. She slides down. Looking scared and hopeless.

SHENOA (V.O)

I can't help but be scared. Each time he comes back.

She curls into a ball scared and afraid of Dave coming through the front door.

A key is turning the locks on the front door. Somebody is coming through. The door creaks open. Through the door the Dave's silhouette shines through.

(CONTINUED)

Shenoa is in the corner trying to protect herself from Dave.

SHENOA

No. No.

Dave comes up to her and starts to grab her wrists and drag her to the bedroom.

Shenoa isn't fighting so much as a crying plea. She has almost given in.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Shenoa is staring up at the ceiling blankly. Waiting for it to be over. Dave's shoulders move back and forward. He is raping her.

She has no emotion or no feeling. Just sitting there letting him finish off.

SHENOA (V.O)

Week after week. He takes me when he wants. I don't know how to fight back any more.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is lying on her side looking away from her capture. Dave just lies there as he's done what he wants. Looking happy with himself.

DAVE

Front room.

Shenoa goes to the living room. Dave commands a certain amount of obedience. This is the prison that he has designed for Shenoa.

There is a table with a bunch of photos of Dave growing up with his family. They almost look normal making it weird that Dave is a kidnapper and rapist.

He is staring at the table with intent as he believes that he has just done well by his family.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is sleeping on the couch. A small blanket draped around her. Her eyes open she won't sleep tonight.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is bringing Dave a sandwich. He sits on the couch with his feet kicked up. What's more hard work the oil fields or keeping her prisoner.

DAVE

You remind me of her.

SHENOA

Your mother?

DAVE

No you're not that beautiful.

SHENOA

Leanna.

DAVE

Yes. I remember it like yesterday. He forced me out of the house into some bullshit college program. He was drunk as a donkey.

SHENOA

Not like you.

DAVE

I enjoy a drink every now and again. But he enjoyed her when he got drunk. Slipped into her room. My mother turned a blind eye.

SHENOA

You're stronger than him.

DAVE

Damn right I am. You have her eyes and her fingers.

SHENOA

Why don't you go back to her?

DAVE

I tried once. It didn't end well. No I'll never see them again. Just like you'll never see your family again.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Dave walks into the bedroom his family pictures smashed. The pictures are out of their frame and some are ripped.

Dave is reacting emotionally. He grabs his hair and drops to his knees.

DAVE

No. You did this. You bitch. I should kill you.

Dave charges out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa stands firm in the middle of the room and watches Dave charge at her.

SHENOA

Your family is as fucked up as you are.

DAVE

No.

Dave pushes her into the corner and smacks her in the face.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Shenoa is huddled outside the house door freezing attached to her leash.

SHENOA

I can't. I can't. Ah..

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

The morning light peeks through the window. Birds chirp outside the window.

Dave is unloading groceries in the kitchen. Shenoa comes over to help them.

SHENOA

There isn't enough.

DAVE

There's enough for me. Don't want a fat Indian girl.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA
I'll get sick again.

DAVE
Groceries are expensive. I need a
new truck.

SHENOA
Did you get it?

Shenoa grabs a pregnancy test from one of the bags. She goes
to the washroom.

DAVE
With the door open.

INT. WASHROOM - MORNING

Shenoa has a pregnancy test in her hands as she sits on the
toilette. The color turns blue. Dave walks in.

DAVE
So what is it?

SHENOA
It looks like I'll be eating for
two.

DAVE
Shit.

Dave looks disappointed and leans up against the door. He
doesn't know what to think or feel.

DAVE
Go into the other room.

SHENOA
I didn't mean to get pregnant.

DAVE
Now.

Shenoa leaves into the other room.

DAVE
Ah.

Dave begins shouting at the top of his lungs and is tearing
apart the bathroom. Beating holes in the wall and ripping
shelves off their hinges.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is lying on the floor again. Staring at the window the dream catcher moves left to right. Her hands are moving around her stomach.

SHENOA (V.O)

I always thought I would be the raven. Flying out of here giving the world everything wonderful. But maybe I'm Grey Eagle's daughter and you were the one to fly away. Either way I will love you and protect you.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is cleaning Dave's oil dirtied clothes. Scrubbing as hard as she can.

SHENOA

Hmm..

There are some stubborn stains.

SHENOA (V.O)

I just need to keep working hard and maybe he'll let us be family. I still work hard leave. He finds me time after time.

Shenoa has a bucket full of oil grease. She wipes the grease on her ankle and slips her leash off .

SHENOA (V.O)

He doesn't know that I can escape the leash. I'm waiting till the summer when my feet don't freeze.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa goes into the other room and does some stretches. She is free of her leash and enjoys the movement. To her this is a small win.

SHENOA (V.O)

I don't know what the future holds. I need to be strong for me and my raven.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is in bed at night. She shifts around below the blankets. Tossing and turning.

Shenoa wakes up in sweat. Her heart looks to be beating out of her chest. She is out of breath. The dream catcher must have missed one.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MORNING

A pickup truck is pulling into the driveway. It looks like there are chains on the tires to keep it balanced on the country road.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Dave unloads more groceries. Shenoa is getting out of bed even greeting Dave with a smile.

SHENOA
More food this week.

DAVE
Now that you're eating for two.

SHENOA
You're letting me keep Raven.

DAVE
You named it. For now yes.

Shenoa hugs Dave and is all smiles almost as if she is pretending to be a normal couple.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dave is lying on his back getting a massage by Shenoa.

DAVE
Why Raven?

SHENOA
Raven was my mother's name.

Dave turns around. Shenoa stops and faces him looking in each other's eyes.

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SHENOA
Can we be a family?

DAVE
Yes.

The two sit in silence on the bed. We can almost feel the tension between captive and captor in a pause.

DAVE
As long as there is no trouble.
Don't have the energy to deal with
you a baby and work. If you try
anything.

SHENOA
I won't.

DAVE
Better not. Trained you well.

Shenoa moves into his arms and they lay together.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Dave is loading his duffel bag full of work clothes. A helmet, rubber gloves, work pant and a mask.

Shenoa puts his lunch in a metal container.

DAVE
Did you have my work suite?

SHENOA
It is still hanging in the laundry
room.

Dave suddenly smashes his fist on the kitchen cabinet and then against the fridge. Yells furiously and uncontrolled.

DAVE
God dammit.

It looks like Dave is about to beat on Shenoa. She begins to cry and move into a corner into a little ball.

SHENOA
(Cries)
No.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Get up I'm not going to. Go get the suite.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - MORNING

Shenoa taking a clean rubber suite off its hanger. She is folding it neatly into a bag.

More dirty suites lay in hampers in the room. Covered in mud and oil. This is one dirty man Shenoa has to clean up after.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Shenoa hands it to Dave. He takes the bag and shoves it into his duffel bag. It's big enough to fit a small body in it.

SHENOA

It's dry now.

DAVE

That's your job. Do it right.

Dave leaves through the front door. There are sounds of him locking the doors behind him. Sounds of a truck driving off.

Shenoa is trying to catch her breath. She just avoided a beating.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The dream catcher hangs from the ceiling as Shenoa lies on the floor. The bed still doesn't appeal to her as much.

SHENOA (V.O)

I now think that there is a life out of here. That Raven will grow up free. Maybe if he trusts me enough he can think that we can live together outside of here. As a family in the city.

Shenoa reaches up to the dream catcher. She is almost dancing with her arms. She moves them down and around her belly where fetus is becoming a small child.

SHENOA (V.O)

He has given me more than any other man in my life. Maybe I could learn to love him and be with him. He can take care us. Let Raven fly.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Shenoa has put on clothes today and it looks like she is brushing her hair making herself look nice for no apparent reason. Shenoa looks at herself in the mirror.

SHENOA

You'd make a good mother.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY/NIGHT

Shenoa is sitting on the couch all dressed up. Waiting to be a mother. The light moves in and out of the room. She sits alone at night.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

The clothes are all clean and nicely folded. Some rubber suites are hanging on clothing lines.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa is still in her clothes and waiting patiently. She wipes the kitchen counters.

SHENOA (V.O)

Is this what a good wife does? Is
this what a good mother does?

Shenoa is going diligently about her chores. Even cleaning the inside of the fridge.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

It looks like Dave is all finished his week at the refinery. He is loading his equipment into the back of his truck.

An older man with a few more years of blue collar work around his belly approaches Dave.

HAL

Hey Dave. We just got word they're opening two new refineries up the road.

DAVE

Lot's more oil. Lot more work.

(CONTINUED)

HAL

Might need you to take on more work
training the boys.

DAVE

Okay. Gotta keep that black gold
flowing.

HAL

That's what I wanted to here.

Dave gets into his truck.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Shenoa is over the toilette with morning sickness. She moves
her hair behind her neck. Picking herself up she walks out
of the bathroom. More of a mess than usual.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Dave is unloading more groceries into the cabinets. Shenoa
walks in a little dizzy and unwell.

DAVE

Are you done?

Shenoa nods.

SHENOA

Mm...

DAVE

I'll be working more so I'll have
to leave you longer.

SHENOA

Will there be enough food?

DAVE

Twice as much and I got Raven
something.

Dave reaches into a grocery bag and gives Shenoa a whited
teddy bear.

DAVE

This is for Raven when she comes.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA

Thank you.

Shenoa has a small look of joy on her face. She celebrates and hugs Dave.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is lying on top of Dave nothing covering them but a blanket. Almost looks like she is there intentionally. Maybe she is just a good actress.

SHENOA (V.O)

This isn't that bad. I can live
with no love in my heart as long as
I know Raven will have a chance.

INT. WASHROOM - MORNING

Shenoa is over the toilet again. More sick then usual. She walks out of the washroom.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa walks into the living room grasping her belly. She is experiencing a gross amount of pain. Stumbling back and forward she finally collapses onto the floor.

INT. MACHINE ROOM - DAY

It is a small warehouse floor. Dave is getting a processor up and running. The machine seems stubborn unable to start. Dave is fixing the machine.

DAVE

And there she goes.

The machine starts up a conveyor belt starts rotating. One of Dave's colleagues walks up to him.

OIL WORKER

You really love this ah Dave?

DAVE

Gotta get the oil. Keep that black
gold running.

Dave smiles as the refineries operation begins to get back to normal.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa stares at the dream catcher again. She holds her belly unable to move. Blood stains litter the carpet. She has lost Raven.

Shenoa is in tears. There is no child to look forward to. She is going to have to escape by herself for herself.

SHENOA
(Cries)

Locks unwind. Dave enters the house locking the door behind him.

Shenoa doesn't look like she's moving.

DAVE
Well what happened here.

Dave walks up to Shenoa and pushes his hair behind her head. She's unconscious but still shivering from the cold.

He picks her up and carries her to another room.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Dave carries Shenoa into the bed and tucks her under the covers. Despite him holding her captive against her will it looks like the man actually cares for her.

Shenoa looks like she is going she is sleeping peacefully in the silent room.

A pair of wire cutters cuts off the wire around Shenoa's ankle as it can be a hassle for Dave to move her around.

SHENOA
I lost Raven.

DAVE
I know sleep now. It will take a while.

Dave rolls up the covers on Shenoa. She falls asleep.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Shenoa stumbles into the kitchen. Looking dizzy and half out of it.

Dave is throwing out things from the fridge. He is pouring out a juice jug down the drain.

SHENOA

What are you doing?

DAVE

You didn't think I actually wanted to have a kid with you. You wench. Ha ha.

SHENOA

What. Why?

DAVE

You'll cook and you'll clean my clothes tell every goddamn drop of oil is squeezed from this earth. I would never raise a child with you. I poisoned the juice and the food.

SHENOA

No.

Shenoa slips back into the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Shenoa again passes out on the bed. Maybe this is sadness or the weakness after her miscarriage.

DAVE

(Laughter)

SHENOA

No.

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

Birds are chirping outside. The surrounding tree branches are covered in snow. Winter is in its deepest cold.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Dave wakes up. He is slowly moving on the couch. He doesn't look like he is very enthusiastic. Not exactly a morning person.

DAVE

You awake in there? Open the door.

Shenoa opens the door and smashes Dave's head with a lamp. He falls to the floor like a tree in the forest.

Shenoa frisks his pocket for the keys and grabs them out of Dave's pants. He wrestles with her and tries to bring her to the floor.

Shenoa pushes Dave down and runs to the door. She quickly unlocks the three pad locks on the door and runs out.

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

Shenoa bursts out of the house wearing nothing but her underwear. She is sprinting as fast as she can to get away from Dave.

Dave follows Shenoa out of the house in nothing but his PJ's.

DAVE

You know you won't get far.

Dave goes inside and shuts the doors behind him.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

Shenoa is running down road in her bare feet. It was roughly plowed probably by Dave himself. The road is rugged and hard.

Pure determination and anger drives Shenoa to run at her fastest. Like Pocahontas moving through woods or painting the colors of the wind behind her.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dave is putting on his work pants. He reaches into a coat room and grabs his jacket. He puts on his boots and gets his keys out of his jacket.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

Shenoa is running out of breath. She pauses and looks around.

The motor of a snow mobile heard in the distance. It is Dave and he is moving closer. Shenoa has never made it this far before. She keeps running.

EXT. ROAD CROSSING - DAY

Shenoa looks at the road ahead. She has reached the main highway. Well plowed and there might even be traffic in the distance.

SHENOA

Yes.

Dave is coming up behind Shenoa.

SHENOA

Help. Help me.

Shenoa runs into the center of the highway but no cars are coming.

Dave is turning the corner in his snow mobile.

SHENOA

No.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A slow moving river follows the highway. Shenoa runs into it to get away from Dave.

Shenoa is wading into freezing cold water. She looks further forward to the freedom that lies across.

SHENOA

I won't go back.

Dave stands at the side of the river. He waves at her.

DAVE

Shenoa.

Shenoa freezing stops in her tracks and passes out. Falling into the freezing water of the slow moving river.

Dave is wading through the water and picks up Shenoa. Carrying her over his shoulder. She gasps for breath still alive.

EXT. ROAD CROSSING - DAY

Dave is driving the ski-doo back to his house. Shenoa is on his back wrapped in a blanket.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is wrapped in heavy blanket and towels. Shivering with a bad case of hypothermia.

A blow torch lights. Dave is welding Shenoa's leash back on her.

DAVE

Girl. I should through you out with the trash.

Shenoa gets up at the burning feeling of the torch. Dave smacks her with the backhand of his wrist.

DAVE

Sit down.

SHENOA

I hate you.

DAVE

I know.

SHENOA

I'm going to kill you.

DAVE

If you could you would've already.

Dave cools the weld with a bucket of cold water.

SHENOA

You killed Raven. You killed our child.

DAVE

You see them.

Dave points to the pictures by the bed.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

They were a family based on love and affection. This is different. I can't have that not while I'm here. So I'll take you as many times as it take me to suck every bit of oil dry from this earth. Sleep now you've been through a lot.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dave is getting ready to go to work again. Putting on his clothes and stuffing his duffel bag. He leaves out the door locking it behind him.

Shenoa walks out from her bedroom and makes a funny face at him as he leaves. She grabs the dream catcher from underneath the sofa.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is scrubbing Dave's work clothes putting in some serious elbow grease. The oil spills off the rubber jump suite and Shenoa's hand blacken as she scrapes of the crud.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is lying in bed. Doing nothing she looks depressed. Tears run down her eye's. She is crying at night.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is on the floor again. Absorbing all the light from the window that she can.

SHENOA (V.O)

I always want to hurt him now. At first I wanted to escape. Now he has taken everything from me. I want to take everything from him.

Shenoa is waling to the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa is looking around. Trying to open a locked cabinet. She opens the fridge. The cutlery drawer, only plastic spoons.

SHENOA (V.O)

What to do it with? Can I cut him with a plastic spoon. Can I wrap the leash around his neck and pull as hard as I can. Strangle him with my own hands. Every time I fight him he always wins. He's always stronger.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa flicks on a light. It flickers on and off.

SHENOA (V.O)

From taking oil from the earth. So much muscle so much strength. I'm strong too.

Shenoa is finishing scrubbing a set of rubber pants.

Her hands blackened by the oil stains. She looks down at her hands.

SHENOA (V.O)

He said tell every drop of oil is drained from the Earth. Maybe I can drown him in oil. No.

Shenoa moves her hands down the clean pants.

SHENOA

Oil can catch fire.

Shenoa looks like a new vigor has awaken in her. The idea has given her a new hope to end this prison sentence.

INT. MACHINE ROOM - DAY

Dave is hard at work operating the conveyor belt. He looks like he is riding that machinery like wild stallion. This is what Dave gets up early in the morning to do everyday.

OIL WORKER

Having a good day Dave?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE
Gotta get that oil out.

OIL WORKER
Love this guy.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dave is coming through the front doors. Shenoa is waiting for him like a 1950's house wife. Dressed in cheap sexy clothes and with some make.

She walks over and hugs him.

SHENOA (V.O)
One week I play the good housewife
and the next week I am the Raven
learning to fly again.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is brushing the oil from Dave's work clothes into a bucket. She looks like she is working hard. The clothes are clean.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Pacing back and forward through the living room. She knows that this plan requires patience. Her excitement can hardly be held in.

SHENOA
How to start a fire? He turns off
the gas and locks away the
lighters. What he won't see.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

There are a few unfinished walls in the basement. Shenoa removes one of the two by fours from the basement wall. Less than a foot in length.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa has the end of a mop handle and the piece of wood laid out in the center of the room.

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SHENOA (V.O)
I must be the only aboriginal
person to never start a fire.

Sounds of sticks scratching together. Shenoa is working the two sticks together. She moves them forward and back. She twists the mop handle trying to get the coal.

Shenoa is going crazy on the sticks trying to start this fire.

SHENOA
Ah.

Shenoa is struggling to make something happen.

A pile of papers are in the center of the room. It looks like she is ready to start a fire in the middle of the house. Small enough to clean up the mess afterwards.

Shenoa is almost dancing around trying to get this fire lit.

She is rubbing the two sticks together her hand are almost starting to blister.

The mop handle snaps sending a splint into Shenoa's hand. She starts bleeding intensely.

SHENOA
(cries)
Ow.

A large wood splinter in Shenoa's hand. Blood splattering on the carpet and floor.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa's bloody hand moving towards the large basement sink. She runs the cold water and sticks her bloodied hand in the sink.

Shenoa grabs the splinter in her hand and pulls it out of her hand.

SHENOA
Ah..

The pain brings her to her knees. Tears run down her face. This might be the nail in her coffin.

She wraps her hand with a piece of cloth. The blood seems to be stopping.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

A brush moves along the floor wiping up the blood stains. She struggles to hold the brush straight with one of her hands still with a fresh wound.

Shenoa is impeccable at cleaning up after herself. She has to be to save herself from a beating.

Dave walks into the house. Shenoa has a saddening look on her face.

Dave puts down his work bag and slowly walks towards Shenoa. Sitting on the couch where he tells her to be when he gets home.

DAVE

What happened?

SHENOA

I opened a can. The metal cut my hand.

DAVE

Stupid girl. Start dinner I'm hungry.

Dave unlocks the pantry. Shenoa walks up and grabs a lighter.

SHENOA

Is the gas on?

DAVE

Same as every week.

Dave walks in and sits on the couch. Shenoa grabs a lighter.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa is holding down the gas on the lighter. She cracks open a few cans of stew.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is straightening Dave's boots at the front door. She is hanging his jacket. Her hand still on the gas of the lighter.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa plops the canned stew into the pot and turns the gas on full. She clicks the lighter it has ran out of gas.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa approaches Dave and shows him the empty lighter.

SHENOA

It's out.

DAVE

So get another one. There in the pantry.

Dave hands her the keys. She opens up the closet reaches in and finds a new lighter. Throwing out the old one in the trash.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa re-fires the gas and lights the stove burner with the new lighter. The stew is heating up. Shenoa gets out a nice big bowl.

FLASHBACK:

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

A classroom of young aboriginal teenagers and women is gathered around the room. A young women in her thirties is sitting in a circle with an elderly women.

This is a healing circle. Shenoa and her friends are gathered in a circle listening to the elderly women share her experiences.

ELDERLY WOMEN

We never had schools like this when we were younger. Sometimes men came and took us to white people schools.

SHENOA

Where all the cool kids go.

TEACHER

Shenoa that's enough.

(CONTINUED)

ELDERLY WOMEN

When we tried to speak up or go home to are families they would beat us and abuse us. No we didn't learn anything and it wasn't a party. Half of us didn't survive into are thirties.

TEACHER

At one points indigenous children were sent to schools to correct our behavior. To change who we are.

ELDERLY WOMEN

But they didn't. We are who we are. Just remember know one can take that from you.

The class is in a silent awe.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A large bottle of whiskey sits on the coffee table. Dave sits on the sofa with his legs crossed and feet up. Shenoa sits down across from Dave.

DAVE

You should thank me for what I did for you. You know that your people are going the way of the electric car.

Dave swaying side to side. A little tipsy from the whiskey but maybe even more dangerous.

DAVE

You here that wench. Grateful.

SHENOA

I'm grateful.

DAVE

I did you a favor.

Dave sits and sips his whiskey.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa lying flat on her back. Waiting for this barely competent man to finish his business. Her eyes lie open at the thought of starting on her plan.

Dave finishes off. The two lie side by side.

DAVE

Get out.

Shenoa leaves the room.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Shenoa sneaking into the kitchen on her tip toes. She reaches into the trash. Being careful not to make a sound or she'll wake the beast in the next room.

She sees the lighter atop the garbage and grabs it.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa puts the lighter underneath the couch next to the dream catcher. She lies down on the couch and falls asleep.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is seeing Dave off again,

SHENOA (V.O)

Days turn into weeks and weeks
months.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is carefully brushing off the oil in Dave's clothing into a bucket. The bucket almost appears half full. She scrubs and scrubs.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa has gathered some paper and tissue in the middle of the room. This cave woman is about to start a fire.

A lighter sparks against the tissue paper. Try after try nothing is igniting.

(CONTINUED)

Magic happens a spark turns into an open flame. Shenoa has done it. Her little pile of paper is burning in a small fire.

SHENOA
(shouts of joy)
Oh. Oh. Yes, Yes.

Shenoa quickly grabs a broom stick with pieces of towel or clothing wrapped around it dipped in oil from Dave's clothing.

The broom handle ignites into a quick burning torch. Shenoa is amazed. The oil is highly flammable. She stops from her burst of joy and marvels at what she has created.

Beating of drums. Shenoa starts dancing to the beats of her imaginary pow wow going on in the background.

She flips and turns in and throws the torch around. This was the dance that her mother did for her and her ancestors did before the coming of a new season.

The living room has become a stage for Shenoa's dancing and she for the first time in a long time feels the life within her. Movement becomes freedom and it is within her grasp.

Shenoa is the solo act in her own pow wow!

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Shenoa is lying on the floor next to the blackened pile of papers. Her renewed hope has given her the energy and attitude to succeed.

Noises of a vehicle are approaching. It's Dave home a few days early.

Shenoa wakes up in a panic. She starts cleaning the pile of burnt papers on the floor.

She brings her torch into the laundry room.

Quickly returning to the mess she made. She uses a broom to sweep up the mess and hides the lighter under the couch.

Dave comes through the front door.

SHENOA
You're back early.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Fuck it's my house I'll come back
when I please.

SHENOA

I was going to clean everything.
Make it look perfect.

DAVE

It's not usually this dirty in
here. You must be a fucking mess
when I'm not around.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Dave is walking around the kitchen island.

DAVE

Cook me some breakfast.

Dirty dishes on the counter.

DAVE

What the fuck is going on here?

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Dave is walking to the window. He's moving towards Shenoa's
Dream catcher.

DAVE

What's this? Hm. Answer me.

SHENOA

It's a dream catcher.

DAVE

Didn't I tell you I didn't want any
of this shit around.

SHENOA

It helps me sleeps.

Dave walks up to Shenoa. She falls to her knees. Dave grabs
her by the elbow and slaps her in the face. He starts
hitting her violently.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Shenoa is looking at herself in the mirror. Beaten and bruised. She looks tired and exhausted. Her eye is black from the beating.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is limping towards the window. The only light she'll get all day is shining through. She stumbles towards the one beam of light.

SHENOA (V.O)

Is it worth it. There is nothing left to catch my dreams. I have to endure them. If I fail he might kill me.

FLASHBACK:

INT. FRIENDS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is putting makeup on. Nothing too special maybe a little too much like teenagers do. Loud beats are dropping in the background.

Shenoa's friends are getting ready for a night out. Two girls are sipping on white wine in plastic cups. They are dancing to the music.

SHENOA'S FRIEND

Oh you go girl.

One of her friends is breaking it down dancing. The girls are having a fun party night.

FRIEND

Somebodies getting lit.

Her friend walks up to her and starts moving her hands through Shenoa's hair.

FRIEND

Shenoa you're so pretty.

SHENOA

Thank you. Is this dress too short?

FRIEND

No it's perfect. Ben's coming to pick us up at eight.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA
Shit. I'm almost done.

Shenoa finishes up her makeup.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The three women do shots at the bar. It look like something nasty. The place is a rundown country hole also the only who within driving distance.

There is a mix of characters at the bar some of which look even dirtier than Dave. There is also some teenage aboriginal boys that are hanging out on the dance floor.

The girls order another round of drinks at the bar. One of the boy walks up to kiss Shenoa. She turns her cheek and gives him the cold should.

SHENOA
Ah. Gross.

EXT. BAR - NIGHT

Shenoa stumbles outside of a bar. Two of her friends follow behind her laughing. She is wearing a cheap dress and make up done like an amateur. Everything you need to survive the cold night.

SHENOA (V.O)
It was my first night out.

Shenoa walks out of the bar and down the long road.

FRIEND
Shenoa where are you going?

SHENOA
Ima go home.

FRIEND
Are you crazy you miles away. It's cold out.

Shenoa walks down the small town road.

EXT. ROADSIDE - NIGHT

Shenoa is wandering down a pitch black highway in the middle of the night.

Dave's pickup truck pulls over in front of Shenoa.

SHENOA

I'm good.

Shenoa waves at Dave.

Dave gets out of his pickup truck and runs at Shenoa. He chases her down and grabs her. Moving her into the passenger side of his truck.

Dave pulls out a long metal flashlight and beats her on the head knocking her out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa starts to look at the empty window.

SHENOA (V.O)

But what life is worth living here.
What is I can't see all that Raven
created the Earth the rivers and
the sea.

Shenoa takes the cushions off the couch and starts peeling layers of thread from the bottom of the sofa.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Shenoa takes off the round handle of a trash can in the bathroom.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa hangs a new dream catcher on the top of the window. Homemade and rustic but it looks and acts like a dream catcher.

SHENOA

That's better.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is still scrubbing the oil dirtied clothing again and again. Brushes to the clothing as if it where paint brush to canvas.

SHENOA (V.O)

As he takes oil from the Earth I
take it from him. More and more
until finally there is enough.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MORNING

The truck pulls into the driveway. Footsteps step out of the car door. Dave is walking into his house. His key chain dangling from his jacket pocket.

Dave opens the locks on the front door carefully. Having been surprised by Shenoa before.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dave walks into the house. No surprises. He comes home to a friendly submissive Shenoa.

DAVE

Yea.

SHENOA

Hey.

DAVE

Bedroom.

Shenoa walks into the bedroom. Dave locks her inside.

Dave brings in a duffel bag full of Costco groceries. He unlocks the door.

Shenoa comes out and helps him unpack the groceries.

SHENOA

Good week?

DAVE

Lots of oil. Made three more wells.

SHENOA

I cook your favorite tonight.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dave is kicking back on the couch again. Almost too drunk one could really take advantage of him right now.

An empty plate on the coffee table. A T-bone stake bone looks like it has been chewed at by a hungry dog.

DAVE

I'm going to bed. Sing me that song. The one I my mother always sung.

SHENOA

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dreams that you dream of,
once in a lullaby Somewhere over the rainbow,
blue birds fly And the dreams that you dream of,
dreams really do come true Someday
I'll wish upon a star Wake up where the clouds are far behind me.

Shenoa moves the dish into the kitchen and empties the plate into the trash. She comes back and helps Dave to bed.

SHENOA

Where trouble melts like lemon drops
High above the chimney top That's where you'll find me
Somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
And the dream that you dare to Why, oh why can't I?
Someday I'll wish upon a star Wake up where the clouds are far behind me.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is tucking Dave into bed. Making him as comfortable as possible.

SHENOA

Where trouble melts like lemon drops
High above the chimney top That's where you'll find me
Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
And the dream that you dare to Why, oh why can't I?

Dave is knotting off.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Outside.

Shenoa leaves closing the door behind her. It looks like Dave has forgotten to lock the door behind him.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is tip toeing through the living room. She walks through as quietly as she can.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - NIGHT

She keeps the lights off. She reaches behind the washer and grabs the torch. She dips the edge of the torch in a bucket of oil.

Using soap and the greasy oil she slips her lease.

Shenoa puts on one of Daves rubber suites.

Using the mud from the bucket Shenoa makes a lines around her eyes and to her hair. Similar to the warpaint of the Mahicans.

She puts her hair in a bun and leaves.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa tip toes to the couch and reaches under it. She grabs the lighter. A stack of tissues and paper is made in the center of the room.

Quietly Shenoa strikes the lighter. She looks nervous if Dave catches her this could be her last beating.

She strikes and strikes again. This is maybe her last chance. The paper isn't catching fire. Light strikes again. This time the tissue catches fire.

Quickly Shenoa lights her torch ablaze. Slowly she takes a few steps towards the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa opens the door slowly with a lit torch in hand. She moves towards the bed slowly.

(CONTINUED)

Plastic grocery bags filled with oil seep through the bottom of the mattress. Oil drips to the floor. Dave's bed is a primed explosive ready to be lit.

Dave's eyes blink open. Shenoa is standing over top of him.

DAVE
You look beautiful.

SHENOA
I hate you.

Shenoa's torch touches one of the oil bags in the bottom of mattress. Instantly the mattress goes up in flame. Dave erupts into flames.

DAVE
(screams)

AH. AH.

The man is on fire along with most of the bedroom. This is what Shenoa has been working for. She stands back and watches.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

The house has begins to smoke in the dead of night.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Most of the bedroom is in flames. Dave is struggling to move covered in flames.

Shenoa is almost happy. Her eyes light up as the flames overcome the room and begin to overcome the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is out running the flames by moving into the living room. The place is burning down around her. The flame retardant clothing offers her some protection.

Shenoa goes to the front door. She tries to open it repeatedly but Dave has locked away the keys.

She has nothing to do but wait tell the flames overcome her.

An opening in the house emerges as the flames begin to overcome the house. Part of the roof falls in collapsing the surrounding walls.

Shenoa huddled in a corner sees the opening to the outside world and makes a run for it. Her suit catches fire.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Shenoa runs through the burning flames. Her suite is on fire. She jumps out of the house and into the snow. The flames around her are still growing around the house.

Shenoa stands up and moves away from the burning rubble. Her rubber suite is almost all burnt off.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - NIGHT

Shenoa stands in the driveway looking at the house as it burns to the ground. Basking in the warmth of an old life.

Dave with a last ditch effort runs out of the flames still on fire. He collapses into a pile of snow beside Shenoa. Dead for good.

Shenoa takes a deep breath and sits down next to the house. She awaits the morning and a long walk.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

Shenoa is walking down the road. A wanderlust traveler hardly bothered by the cold.

Two pick up trucks with trailers are parked along side the road. Snow mobile trails leave into the forest.

Shenoa doesn't look like she is doing well. She tries the door handles on the trucks. There is nothing she can get from the trucks.

The poor girl walks down the ski-doo tracks into the wilderness. She hopes to find the drivers.

EXT. RIVER PATH - DAY

Shenoa is walking down the snowy paths trying to find the the ski-doo's. Mountains in the background. The thin narrow path follows the winding river.

Shenoa is alone in the wilderness escarpment. Surviving the cold by herself.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

A muzzle sticks out of the grass with a crystal clear scope zoomed in on a open field. Not a sound. The hunters have a clear view of the field from their perch.

A dear passes by their view far off in the field. Grazing in the wild.

Bullet is cocked into the guns chamber.

Suddenly the dear is scared off. Shenoa struggles to make her way through the deep snow.

The hunter stairs down the business end of his rifle. He's unsure. Is this girl his enemy, his game or does he help her. He takes a deep breath.

Shenoa stops in her tracks and collapses to her knees. She's spotted the hunters far off.

The man removes his face mask. Broad and proud. He looks like an elder chieftain. His spotter gets up with him.

The Elder walks up to Shenoa as she lies shivering in the cold snow. He drapes her with his coat and helps her up.

The spotter drives his ski-doo over. They are hustling to help her anyway they can. She lays on the space behind the ski-doo driver.

The elder reaches into a bag on the ski-doo and pulls out a blanket wrapping it around her.

ELDER

Bring her back to the truck. We'll
take her to the hospital from
there.

The ski-doo takes off back towards the truck.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

An older aboriginal women comes running down the hallway. She is in tears, Shenoa's two younger sisters come running beside her.

MOTHER

Where is she?

She looks at the nurse in the hallway.

(CONTINUED)

NURSE

Three rooms down.

MOTHER

Oh my god. Oh my god.

Shenoa's mother overcome with emotion and joy her daughter is alive. This is a first step in reuniting a family after years of thinking she was dead or lost.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Shenoa's family walks into the room. Her mother in tears, she runs over and gives her a hug.

MOTHER

You're alive. Oh, you're alive.

A small smile erupts on Shenoa's face. She is finally reunited with her family.

Her sisters walk up and hug her too. Shenoa's family is warming her heart.

The three women sit in chairs next to Shenoa's hospital bed.

MOTHER

I never gave up. I always new you were alive. Where were you?

SHENOA

I was taken. The night I went into town. I walked home and he took me in truck. I lived captured in his house for years.

MOTHER

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

SHENOA

You didn't do anything.

SISTER

It's good to see you.

MOTHER

What happened to him? The man who took took you.

SHENOA

He's dead. Burned in a fire. I think I want to go home.

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER

We still have your room.

Shenoa is falling asleep in the hospital bed.

MOTHER

I'm going to stay with her. Can you go home prepare the room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa's mother is hanging over her bed. Not exactly in a comfortable sleep.

Shenoa wakes up. Tosses and turns.

SHENOA

Mom.

MOTHER

Yes.

SHENOA

I'm hungry.

Shenoa is tucking her mother into her hospital bed.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

The hospital is dark, the lights are off. Shenoa walks down the hall alone.

SHENOA

Hello.

She takes baby steps down the hall. There is no nurses or orderlies.

INT. HOSPITAL KITCHEN - DAY

A white refrigerator door opens and Shenoa digs around for a microwaveable dinner. She pops it in the microwave and waits.

Karen, a white nurse in her forties, comes around the corner. Professional salaried.

KAREN

You made it.

Shenoa is startled by Karen.

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

Sorry. I didn't mean to startle you. You look like you'd been out there for a while.

SHENOA

Yes. I'm very hungry. He usually ate most of the food.

KAREN

He.

SHENOA

Dave. He kept me locked up for years.

Shenoa digs into the macaroni and cheese dinner.

SHENOA

I find it hard to sleep. I can't stop thinking of it.

KAREN

I find it hard sometimes. Helping all the patients that are in critical care. Wait here.

Karen leaves. Shenoa digs in to her microwave dinner. Karen returns and gives Shenoa a prescription bottle of pills.

KAREN

That's Vicodin. Pop one of those before you go to bed. Don't let the doctors know I slipped it to you.

SHENOA

Thank you.

KAREN

Jesus Christ honey. I'm sorry for you. That you had to go through that. Don't ever let a doctor tell you what's good for you.

Karen leaves the room. Shenoa looks at the pills and takes one with her water.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa sneaks into her bed with her mother. Gives her a hug and the two sleep together in peace for the first time in a while.

EXT. PARENTS HOUSE - DAY

A SUV pulls into a house on a reserve. Shenoa's mother and sister get out of the car. They help her out and through the door.

INT. SHENOA'S ROOM - DAY

Shenoa's mother opens the door for her to walk though. She walks in and takes a seat on the bed.

MOTHER

Not much has changed since you left. I put fresh sheets on the bed. Dinner is at six.

SHENOA

Thanks mom.

INT. SHENOA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is lying in bed. Her eyes wide open. She can't sleep in the normal conditions anymore than she could when waiting for Dave.

Shenoa lies on the floor to try and get some sleep that way. It's a bit weird but whatever works.

INT. MOTHERS KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa's sisters and mother are having breakfast. Nothing aboriginal just cheerio's, toast and peanut butter. Shenoa's walks in and pours a bowl of cereal.

MOTHER

How are you doing this morning?

SHENOA

I didn't sleep well again. Even with the pills.

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER

We can go back to the hospital.

SHENOA

No it's alright. It's the dreams. I can't stop thinking somebody is coming.

SISTER

They sound more like nightmares.

MOTHER

Is there anything we can do.

SHENOA

When I was locked away I use to make dream catchers when know body was around.

MOTHER

There is a crafts fair at the pow wow this weekend. We can go if you feel better.

EXT. POW WOW - DAY

Ceremonial dancers are humming and singing in a circle. A small crowd watches as they sing the traditional songs of their ancestors. Loud music plays in the background.

A community has gathered in celebration of the changing of season. People are wearing traditional clothing and the women Jingle dresses for the healing ceremony.

Shenoa's sister is one of the dancers. She dances around a drummer. Shenoa watches with her mother.

Shenoa is walking around and arts and crafts table with a variety of different dream catchers. A merchant is busy taking money from another women.

SHENOA

How much for this one?

MERCHANT

For you it's free. A gift.

Shenoa picks up the dream catcher. She looks at her with guilty eyes.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA

Thank you.

MERCHANT

It's beautiful. I hope it works.
Let me put in a bag for you.

Shenoa hands the women the dream catcher. The merchant puts it in a leather pouch.

SHENOA

What's in there?

Shenoa points to a nearby tent.

MERCHANT

That is the elders tent. It's were
we go to ask for healing and
forgiveness.

EXT. HEALING TENT - DAY

Shenoa wanders into the tent amidst all the noise. Drums beating in the background.

INT. TEPEE - DAY

Wandering into a massive cone. There is different decorations in the Tepee of furs and blankets. The tribal elder sits in the middle of the room.

Different incense burns leaving a pail smoke in the room.

ELDER

Come in child. Word has spread
about what happened to you. It will
take time to heal those wound.

SHENOA

I'm just glad to be free.

ELDER

And how did you escape?

SHENOA

I flew. Like the raven.

ELDER

Greyhowl has kept you for two long.
Spread you're wings and fly to the
seas, in the mountains and through

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELDER (cont'd)
the streams. Take your time and
heal child.

Shenoa looks at a massive dream catcher that hangs from the ceiling of the tepee. She closes her eyes and spins around in a circle.

The music from the singers outside beats louder and louder.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

A cruiser pulls into the parking lot of the local police station. Not too run down but just your average country joint. Few parking spaces are empty.

Shenoa's mother car is parked in front.

An officer gets out of his car.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Shenoa's mother is in the waiting room. Shenoa is at the counter filling out paper work.

Officer Hal is helping Shenoa with the paper work. Hal is a aboriginal middle aged police officer. He has a chill attitude about what has just happened to Shenoa.

OFFICER HAL
We found the cabin in the woods and
recovered a body. We need some help
identifying the man. Did you know
his name?

SHENOA
His name was Dave. He worked in the
oil sands.

OFFICER HAL
Do you mean dirty Dave? How about
that. Hey Mark, you know that guy
we picked up in the woods the other
day. It was dirty Dave.

Shenoa is shocked and nervous that the officers are buddies with the man who kept her locked up for years.

OFFICER HAL
Dave was a good guy. Anyway we have
a officer who came down from Ottawa
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER HAL (cont'd)
to get your statement. You can take
a seat we'll be right with you.

Shenoa moves into the waiting room and sits down. Hiding her
fear she is almost in tears.

Amelia pops out of one of the rooms. A senior police
officer in the RCMP she is in charge of the interview.

AMELIA
Shenoa?

SHENOA
Yes.

AMELIA
Can you come with me please.

INT. BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

Shenoa is sitting down across from Amelia. She is starting
her interrogation.

AMELIA
My name is Amelia . I was sent from
Ottawa to get your statement. You
were missing for about two years.
Did he take you anywhere else?

SHENOA
No. Just the house. I tried to
escape but I never got further than
the road.

AMELIA
Was this the man who kept you
prisoner?

Amelia slides a folder over to Shenoa. She looks inside
there is a prison photo of Dave.

SHENOA
Yes. That was him.

AMELIA
Shenoa I want you to think hard
now. Were there any other women
with you when you were locked away?

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA

Other women. No. It was just me and him. He had no others.

AMELIA

Are you sure.

SHENOA

Yes. He would come home from work in the oil fields. I cleaned his clothes. He didn't have time to. Why is there others?

AMELIA

You were the 274th women to be reported missing in recent years. We'll be in touch if we find anything else out.

INT. SHENOA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa's new dream catcher is dangeling from the ceiling. Shenoa's stares eye's wide open.

SHENOA (V.O)

The dream catcher isn't working. The flames in my dreams keep growing and growing.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa struggles to open her sleeping pills or whatever other drugs are on her. She's a mess and keeps an open bottle of vodka close to her.

She looks in the mirror. There are more backs under her eyes. More tears running down her cheeks.

INT. SHENOA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa walks into her room and passes out on her bed with a bottle of vodka in her hands.

Shenoa's room becomes as much a prison as her previous living arrangements. Her eyes can't shut.

The dream catcher spinning and spinning from the ceiling.

INT. MOTHER KITCHEN - DAY

Shenoa's mother and sister are at the table waiting for her to come to the morning breakfast table.

MOTHER

It's not that big a house. I'm worried about you. You can just sit around here all day.

Shenoa walks up to the counter and pours a bowl of cereal.

SHENOA

Yea. You try being locked in a house for two years.

MOTHER

I think you need to see someone.

SISTER

We're all really worried.

SHENOA

I need to go back to the hospital to get more medication. Just leave me alone. I just need time.

Shenoa leaves the table with a bowl of cereal and goes back to her room.

SISTER

That went well.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The room is your typical examination room. The doctor removes an old paper towel from the bench.

Shenoa is sitting on a stool waiting for the doctor to give her instructions.

DOCTOR

Have a seat up top.

The doctor pats down the bench twice.

DOCTOR

So what is it you wanted to see me for.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA

I can't sleep.

DOCTOR

Even with the sleeping pills I prescribed you?

SHENOA

No they haven't been working. I just keep seeing him come through the doors. Waiting to take me away again. I need oxy cotton.

DOCTOR

That's usually prescribed for people in a lot of pain.

SHENOA

I am in pain all the time. What he did to me it doesn't go away.

DOCTOR

I'm going to give you two weeks worth. Start changing it from one pill a day to two pills a day. Ween yourself off of them. This is the last medication I can give you. You have to go a psychotherapist to get more. Good luck.

The doctor writes a prescription out on a piece of paper and gives it to Shenoa.

INT. MOTHERS CAR - DAY

Shenoa's mother is waiting for her in the car. She starts the ignition as Shenoa gets into the car.

MOTHER

You know I'm really sorry about what happened to you. But I've lost too many friends to bad memories. When you disappeared it was harder on me than you can imagine.

SHENOA

Mom.

MOTHER

No listen. You need to tell me right now if you gave up on life in that mans house. Cause if you did I can't have you around your sisters.

(CONTINUED)

SHENOA
No. I don't give up.

MOTHER
Okay.

INT. WASHROOM - NIGHT

Shenoa is in the washroom again. With her bottle of pills nearby. Her hand pressed up against the sink. It looks like she is fighting her urges to use the pills.

SHENOA (V.O)
As it turns out the real prison
Dave made for me wasn't in a house
at all. It was in me. What I choose
to do and not do.

Shenoa looks at the pills and flushes them down the sink.

SHENOA (V.O)
I choose to be like Raven and
explore.

EXT. MOTHERS CAR - DAY

Shenoa is in the car wearing a rad pair of sunglasses. She looks like a normal young women with her hair blowing in the wind and her arm dangling out the car door window.

SHENOA (V.O)
I want to explore the mountains.

EXT. BEACH - SUNSET

Shenoa's mothers car is parked at the edge of a beach. The sun reflects brightly on Shenoa's skin as she walks freely.

SHENOA (V.O)
The rivers and the oceans. I want
to live free. No longer am I going
to be missing. I am going to be the
one who finds the world.

Shenoa is doing a happy skip on the beach. Her arms are waving freely in the wind. A bright smile comes across her face as she starts realizing joys of freedom.