

FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

FLAKKA is a tall, solid bloke in his late twenties. He charges through the ferns that over run the forest floor, carries a bolt-action rifle with a large scope attached to it.

JAVON PHELPS follows a few metres behind Flakka. He is twenty-three, slightly chubby and pale. He huffs and puffs as he runs through the undergrowth.

Further behind Javon follows the two Rixon sisters.

MEREDITH RIXON is twenty-two, her dark shoulder length hair, messy with kinks, and glasses gives her a nerd like appearance.

BRIANNA RIXON is sixteen going on seventeen, all dressed in black trashy fashion, every movement of her slender body is charged with self-confident sexuality.

Brianna is flushed with excitement, enjoys the hunt.

Flakka stops, leans against a tree trunk, rifle raised. He indicates to the others with hand signalling to get down low.

The Rixon sisters quickly obey, disappearing in to a thick clump of ferns.

Javon scurries beside Flakka who adjusts his cowboy hat than takes aim through the scope of the rifle.

JAVON

Don't shoot it in the head
Flakka.

RIFLE SCOPE'S POV - THE FOREST

Ferns sway as something low to the ground moves through them. Orange fur is quickly glimpsed between the ferns.

BACK TO SCENE

Flakka pulls the trigger. BANG! The sound echoes through the forest. Flakka huffs with annoyance.

FLAKKA

Missed the little bugger.

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Flakka pulls back the rifle's bolt, ejecting the spent shell. He jumps up, resumes running through the forest. The other three follow.

EXT. Paddock - DAY

The forest ends in a cow paddock. Several dozen cows are spread out across the hilly paddock.

Flakka bursts out of the forest, followed closely by Javon. Flakka looks around for his target.

The two Rixon sisters stop next to Flakka.

Meredith points.

MEREDITH

There it is near the dam.

Four hundred meters away, an orange furred, FERAL CAT strolls toward an old wooden fence post. He scratches his front claws on the post.

Flakka takes aim through the rifle's scope.

FLAKKA

So you're not shittin' me
about turning a dead cat into
art?

JAVON

That's the plan.

FLAKKA

How you gonna do that?

JAVON

Taxidermy.

FLAKKA

Yeah? Where'd you learn that?

JAVON

The Internet.

Flakka pulls the trigger. BANG!

The bullet misses the cat. It flees.

The cows are spooked by the gunshot, start a stampede.

The four gape fearfully at several dozen cows stampeding towards them.

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Flakka runs toward the forest, leaving the other three behind. The first wave of cows rumbles past, cutting off Javon, Brianna and Meredith's path to the forest.

EXT. EDGE OF FOREST - DAY

As Flakka nears the forest, he glances over his shoulder. He collides into a tree, bumps his head. He flops onto his back. His rifle misfires. The bullet shoots through his left foot.

EXT. Paddock - DAY

Javon and Brianna flee from the panicked herd. Cows run along side them.

Meredith stands her ground. She focuses on the movements of the cows than nimbly dodges out of the way as they pass her.

EXT. DAM - DAY

Javon and Brianna leap into the dam. The cows run around the waters edge.

Javon and Brianna splash about in the dirty water.

The stampede starts to subside as Javon and Brianna drag themselves out of the water. They both lay side by side, breathing heavily, covered in mud. They glance at each, burst out laughing.

Suddenly a vicious hissing startles them both. The feral cat is beside them, teeth bared, the hair on its back raised. The cat is the size and build of a pig dog.

Brianna and Javon cower at the sight of the freakish cat. It threatens to attack.

Meredith arrives on the other side of the dam.

MEREDITH

Come on, we got to go.
Flakka's shot himself in the
foot. We got to get him to a
hospital.

Javon's wide-eyed stare remains fixed on the cat.

The cat hisses. Brianna flinches.

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BRIANNA

I don't care if Flakka's shot his dick off! Sis, you tell that Gun tootin', roo rootin' redneck to get his arse down here and kill this cat before it kills us.

Meredith sighs, keeps her impatience in check.

MEREDITH

Oh for Pete's sake. Splash some water on it. Cats hate water.

Meredith walks away.

Brianna and Javon leap back into the dam, frantically kick water at the cat.

The cat bolts.

EXT. EDGE OF FOREST - DAY

Javon helps Flakka stand up, supports his weight.

Brianna carries Flakka's rifle. She watches Flakka struggle with amusement.

BRIANNA

I guess shooting something that moves isn't as easy as shooting beer cans after you've drunk all the beer out of 'em.

Flakka glares at Brianna.

FLAKKA

Shit Javon. Your girlfriend's got a real smart mouth. How do ya put up with it?

Javon looks embarrassed, glances at Meredith.

JAVON

Um, Brianna isn't my girlfriend. She's my girlfriend's sister.

Flakka is dumbstruck, glances at Meredith.

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FLAKKA

Oh.

Meredith stares at Flakka. By her agitated and saddened expression, it is apparent that Flakka is not the only one to have made this mistake.

EXT. FRONT YARD. RIXON'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The Rixon's home is a large two-storey house with a double garage, located in middle class suburbia. It has a well-manicured lawn and garden.

Javon rides into the driveway on his Vespa scooter, comes to a stop. He removes his helmet.

EXT. BACKYARD - AFTERNOON

Meredith practices Kendo sword fighting under the pergola. She thrusts and parries with her Shinai, her movements are agile and graceful.

She pauses in her training as Javon walks towards her. The two embrace and kiss.

MEREDITH

What's wrong Jav?

JAVON

What do you mean?

MEREDITH

Well it's obvious you're peeved off about something.

Javon looks agitated, thrusts his hands in his pocket.

JAVON

Ah my brother and his bitch snob girlfriend are giving me grief again.

MEREDITH

Those two are always giving you grief.

Javon raises his finger, opens his mouth to argue than changes his mind.

JAVON

You know what. I shouldn't be carrying around emotional baggage.

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JAVON (CONT'D)
I came here to spend some
quality time with my
sweetheart.

Javon mimes holding an invisible box, places it on the
ground.

JAVON (CONT'D)
Yeah bugger it. I'm gonna
leave this baggage right here
and pick it up when I leave.

Meredith smiles at Javon. She leans close to him and kisses
him on the lips.

MEREDITH
You're a dag Jav.

The two walk towards the house, holding hands.

JAVON
So when are ya gonna challenge
me to a Kendo match?

Meredith gives Javon a look of disapproval.

MEREDITH
You know you'll only get
seriously injured if I do.

JAVON
Ah you don't know that.

MEREDITH
Yeah I do. I'm proficient in
Kendo and you know jack shit
about it.

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

GRISELDA RIXON is a forty four year old who tries
desperately to look youthful by dressing like a twenty year
old and bleaches her hair blonde.

She stands in front of the kitchen counter, busy making
sandwiches. Brianna stands on the other side of the kitchen
counter.

BRIANNA
I got a phone call from the
real estate agent. They
accepted my application for
the unit.

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Griselda continues to make sandwiches, doesn't even glance at her daughter.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Um Mum, I think it's your turn to make some sort of response.

GRISELDA

You'll be seventeen in three months Brianna. You do what you want.

BRIANNA

(Sarcastic)

Oh wow Mum. Holy shit. You didn't have to go to that much trouble with your response.

The back door slides open. Meredith and Javon enter the kitchen.

Brianna turns around to face Javon, smiles sweetly.

BRIANNA

Hi ya Javon.

JAVON

Hey Brianna.

BRIANNA

Have you found any dead cats yet?

JAVON

Nah, not yet.

The two gaze silently at each for a beat. Javon is smitten. Brianna smiles seductively, enjoying Javon's attention on her.

Meredith frowns with agitation as she glares at her sister and her boyfriend.

The whining growl of two trail bike engines can suddenly be heard. The noise distracts Javon and the two sisters, breaks the triangle of adoration and frustration between the three.

INT. DOUBLE GARAGE - AFTERNOON

The right side door rolls open. SKYLAR RIXON, aged forty five, rides his Yamaha YZ250F dirt bike into the garage and cuts the engine.

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He is tall, muscular, and ruggedly handsome. The helmet and protective gear he wears is covered in dust.

DAMIEN RIXON aged 10, parks his Suzuki Peewee 70 beside his father's bike.

Damien hurriedly leaps off his bike, kicks off his boots than runs through the door that leads into the house.

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Damien runs into the kitchen, still wearing his helmet and protective gear. He hurries toward the counter Griselda stands at.

DAMIEN
Mum! Mum! I did it!

Damien pulls off his helmet, slaps it on the counter. His face is flushed with pride and excitement.

DAMIEN (CONT'D)
I chucked a wheelie!

Griselda smiles with pride at her son. She gives him a hug and kisses his forehead.

GRISELDA
You're a little champion.

Griselda passes her son a sandwich. Damien takes a large bite out of it.

Brianna watches the exchange between her brother and mother with furious envy.

Skylar enters the kitchen, walks right past Javon and his two daughters with out even glancing at them.

Brianna looks at her father with timidity and hopefulness.

BRIANNA
Hi daddy.

Skylar responds with his back to Brianna as he walks towards his wife and son.

SKYLAR
Brianna.

BRIANNA
Me and Molly got the unit Dad.
I'll be moving out on
Saturday.

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Skylar half turns his head, nods at Brianna than focuses his attention on Griselda and Damien.

SKYLAR
Our little boy's becoming a
kick arse trail biker.

Skylar ruffles Damien's hair.

SKYLAR
I reckon he'll be ready to
start racing in the junior
comps soon.

Brianna glares at her parents. She expresses hurt and resentment. The corners of her eyes become moist. She rushes out of the kitchen.

Javon and Meredith watch Brianna exit.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

Damien sits in between his father and mother on a three-seater lounge chair. The three of them are enthralled as they watch an episode of WORLD'S WORST DRIVERS CAUGHT ON CAMERA on Pay TV.

INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Meredith sits cross-legged on her bed, pondering her next move as she stares at the Electronic Battleship game in front of her.

Javon lies across the bed on the opposite side of the game.

JAVON
You know Meredith, most kids
can play battleship in about
forty minutes.

Meredith glances up at Javon, repositions her glasses on her nose.

JAVON (CONT'D)
Man, it takes us- what? - A
whole two hours to play it.

Meredith continues to concentrate on the game in front of her.

MEREDITH
I'll make my move when I'm
ready.

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Brianna enters the room, carrying an empty cardboard box.

She removes her clothes from the wardrobe and packs them into the box.

JAVON

Oh wow, it's so cool your moving out Brianna.

BRIANNA

Hey I've been busting to do this since I was ten.

MEREDITH

Why? By the time you spend a weeks wage on rent and food, you'll have no money to bank.

Brianna leaps onto her bed, jumps up and down on it.

BRIANNA

Oh yeah? Is that what you think sis?

MEREDITH

Hey, I'm not picking a fight with you. I'm just giving you the facts.

Brianna continues to jump up and down on the bed.

BRIANNA

Yeah? You wanna pass out facts? Great! I love playing this game. I've got a fact for you sis.

Brianna stops jumping, holds up a finger.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Fact one: I'd rather move out now and be damned with the consequences than stay here and rationalize the safety of leaving home until I'm twenty-two. How's that hey? You like that one?

Javon is impressed by Brianna's boldness, smiles with delight.

Tension thickens between the two sisters as they glare at each other.

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Brianna exits the room.

JAVON
Um . . .your sister has made a
valid point Meredith.

MEREDITH
Why do you do that?

JAVON
Do what?

MEREDITH
(Mocking)
Oh wow, it's so cool you're
moving out Brianna.

Javon reacts with a "stunned mullet" expression.

JAVON
What? No way. I don't . . .
hey, what are you getting at?

Meredith avoids eye contact with Javon. The conversation is becoming awkward for her.

MEREDITH
Nothing.

JAVON
You're trying to make a point.

Meredith bites her bottom lip as she studies the Battleship playing board.

JAVON
Well, come on. Make your
point.

Meredith snatches up a peg and makes her move on the Battle Ship game board.

MEREDITH
E-8.

The game sounds an electronic KA-BOOSH!

Javon stares at his game board with dismay.

JAVON
Ah rats.

INT. RECYCLE PLANT - DAY

The work floor of the Recycle Plant is cluttered with discarded junk.

Javon and JEFF are both dressed in full cover overalls. They sift through a large pile of tin cans and plastic bottles, sorting the plastic from the metal.

Flakka hobbles towards Javon on crutches, his left foot plastered.

FLAKKA

Oi Javon. You score yourself a dead cat yet?

JAVON

Nah mate, I'm still looking.

FLAKKA

My neighbors got a big striped cat. You want me to shoot it for ya?

JAVON

NO!

FLAKKA

It's cool. I'll use a silencer.

JAVON

FUCK FLAKKA! WAKE UP TO YA SELF!

Flakka and Jeff gape at Javon with wide-eyed shock for a beat.

JEFF

Oi! Why are ya all fired up for? Flakka is trying to help ya.

JAVON

I'm sorry Flakka. You just picked a bad time to hassle me.

FLAKKA

Why? What's up?

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JAVON

Ah, it's my girlfriend's sister. She's moving out of home.

JEFF

Yeah, so?

JAVON

She's only sixteen.

FLAKKA

What? You're pissed off because of that?

JAVON

Shit yeah I am! My girlfriend is twenty-two years old and she's still living with her parents.

Jeff and Flakka nod their heads, finally understanding.

JEFF

Ah man, that's wrong.

Javon suddenly becomes agitated.

JAVON

I've asked my girl to rent a flat with me but she keeps giving me excuses. I mean, fuck, if her sixteen-year-old sister can leave home, than why can't she?

JEFF

Whoa mate, calm down. If you feel that way about it than maybe you should talk to your misses.

Javon suddenly becomes uncomfortable.

JAVON

You mean like about feelings and stuff?

JEFF

Yeah. What else would I be talking about?

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JAVON

I . . . Um . . . ah shit. I
can't do that.

JEFF

What do you mean you can't?

JAVON

I can't talk about my feelings
with my girl.

FLAKKA

Bullshit! You can't be for
real.

Javon stares at his feet, is both ashamed and embarrassed.

JEFF

Ah Jeez. You are for real. You
poor bastard.

JAVON

Tell me about it.

EXT. PHELPS' RENTED HOUSE - NIGHT

A small car parks out the front of a stylish rented house
in the inner suburbs. Meredith gets out of the car and
walks toward the building.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Javon sits at the kitchen table. He is doing taxidermist
work on a dead hare. He carefully places a glass eye into
one of the hare's empty eye sockets.

Meredith enters the kitchen, kisses Javon on the cheek.

MEREDITH

Your taxidermy skills are
really improving Jav.

Javon addresses the rabbit as he speaks.

JAVON

Did you here that Thumper? The
lady says I'm doing a superb
taxidermy job on you. That
means you haven't died in
vain.

Meredith grins, playfully slaps Javon in the back of the
head.

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Javon inserts a second glass eye into the hare's other eye socket.

Scattered across the table next to the hare are books on mythical fairies and a sketchbook. Meredith flips through the pages of the sketchbook. In it is watercolor sketches of humanoid cat like creatures dressed in ancient woodland garbs.

MEREDITH

You're not gonna use all ten of these designs for your art exhibition are you?

JAVON

Nope. I'll just pick the best four sketches and work off them.

MEREDITH

Well I'm glad to hear that, cause realistically speaking; you'd never find ten dead cats in one hit.

JAVON

Ah, fear not my adorable little love rodent-

MEREDITH

Are you talking to me or the rabbit?

JAVON

It's not a rabbit it's a hare. Any who, as I was saying, fear not as I have devised a brilliant plan to acquire all the dead cats I will ever need.

MEREDITH

Oh yeah? This'll be interesting.

JAVON

Two words: Veterinary Clinic.

Meredith considers this for a beat, becomes dubious.

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MEREDITH

What makes you so sure they'll
give you the cats they put
down?

JAVON

Ah . . . I haven't planned
that far yet.

CONNER PHELPS enters the kitchen. He is twenty six years
old, buffed and athletic in appearance because of his
zealous commitment to being a gym junkie.

He gives his younger brother an icy glare.

CONNER

Oi, bro! Shyanne told you to
clean out her fish bowls!

JAVON

Yeah I haven't forgotten bro.
Tell her I'll do it tomorrow.
All right?

CONNER

She wants you to do it now. So
move it or you'll know what'll
happen.

Javon face scrunches up with irritation as he get up off
the chair.

JAVON

Yah. I got a shitty Cinderella
raw deal when I moved in with
you bro.

Javon storms out of the kitchen.

INT. SPARE BEDROOM - NIGHT

SHYANNE WILSON is twenty three years old, an archetypal
blonde, buxom nymph. She is dressed in pink panties and a
bra one size to small for her ample bosom. She is seated on
a large red, single seater sofa. In front of her is a
computer with a web camera mounted on top of the monitor.

Shyanne inserts batteries into a vibrator.

There is a knock on the door that is closed.

SHYANNE

That better be you Javon.

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The door opens. Javon enters the room followed by Meredith.

Shyanne glares at Javon, unashamed of her near nudity. She places the vibrator next to the keyboard in front of her. Dildos and other sex toys are lined up in a row.

Javon moves to the back of the room where two large fish bowls containing tropical goldfish sit on a side table under the window.

SHYANNE

Hurry up Javon. A dozen horny perverts have just given me their credit card details. They're waiting for me to put on a show.

Javon lifts up the two fish bowls.

SHYANNE

Make sure you wash my car tomorrow afternoon. If you don't, you can find your own place to rent.

Javon looks pathetic as he clutches the two fish bowls. Meredith studies Shyanne with contempt.

SHYANNE (CONT'D)

Oh that's right, you can't afford to rent all by yourself cause your dead end job pays you a pathetic little wage.

Javon shuffles towards the door.

Meredith pauses next to Shyanne, stares hard at her.

MEREDITH

You should be grateful you're physically beautiful. You've got nothing else going for you.

Shyanne leaps out of the sofa, glowers at Meredith.

SHYANNE

I think you should apologize Meredith.

Meredith remains composed and rigid.

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MEREDITH

I think you should get a
personality Shyanne.

Shyanne leans closer to Meredith, teeth clenched.

Javon is horrified. The fish bowls slip out of his grasp,
smash on the floor.

SHYANNE

YOU FUCKING IDIOT JAVON!

JAVON

Oh shit! I'm so sorry Shyanne.

Javon crouches down to pick up the fish flopping about on
the soaked carpet.

Conner bursts into the room.

CONNER

What's going on?

JAVON

It's my fault bro. I dropped
the fish bowls.

SHYANNE

Conner! I never want to see
Meredith in this house again.
Get her out now!

CONNER

Why? What happened?

JAVON

No bro. Please! Don't do it.

SHYANNE

Conner, either Meredith goes
now or I go.

Conner's gaze shifts between his pleading brother and his
pouting girlfriend who poses seductively in her sexy pink
knickers. His gaze remains fixed longingly on Shyanne as he
speaks in an agonized voice.

CONNER

Meredith, you better leave.
You're not welcome here.

Shyanne smiles triumphantly as Meredith rushes out of the
room.

EXT. FRONT YARD. PHELPS' RENTED HOUSE - NIGHT

Meredith opens the driver's door of her car.

Javon runs up to the car and stops.

JAVON
Meredith. I'm so sorry.

MEREDITH
It wasn't your fault Jav.

JAVON
Ah man, you didn't deserve to
be treated like that.

MEREDITH
No, I didn't.

Javon embraces Meredith.

MEREDITH
What are we going to do Jav?

JAVON
Well, you can't come visit me
here on Tuesday and Thursday
nights. So I'll have to visit
you at your parent's house on
those nights.

MEREDITH
I don't think so.

JAVON
Why not?

MEREDITH
My parents will go ape shit,
that's why.

JAVON
What? Why?

MEREDITH
Because they hate you hanging
around their house every
Monday and Friday night.
You've got no chance of seeing
me at my house four nights a
week.

Javon gazes hopefully at Meredith.

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JAVON

You know this wouldn't be an issue if we had a place of our own.

Meredith flinches at Javon's remark.

MEREDITH

That's because if we were renting together, we'd have bigger problems like how will I afford to pay my weekly car payment when I've just paid my share of the rent and groceries.

Javon leans against the car. Clearly he is disappointed.

JAVON

Yeah, I guess you're right Meredith.

INT. KITCHEN. RIXON'S HOUSE - MORNING

The kitchen is unoccupied. Dirty plates and coffee mugs are on the sink. The clock on the microwave reads 9.24 AM.

INT. FRONT DOOR - MORNING

Boxes and a suitcase sit next to the front door. All is silent.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - MORNING

Brianna stands alone in the lounge room, holds a framed picture. She displays mixed emotions of sadness and anger as she gazes at the picture of her two parents and Damien.

A tear escapes her eye, makes her angrier. She viscously rubs the tear away.

Brianna glances at the other framed photos in the room. They are photos of Damien by himself or with his parents.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

In the background, Brianna opens the glass sliding door, exits the house.

In the foreground is the kitchen table. On the table is a scrap of paper with writing scribbled on it.

INSERT - SCRAP OF PAPER

The writing on the paper is as follows:

Mum & Dad

You treat me like I don't exist. So now that I'm gone, I'll leave this parting gift for you so that you will take notice and remember me.

Go to hell

Brianna

BACK TO SCENE

Above the kitchen sink, the window is half open. A garden hose snakes through it.

EXT. KITCHEN WINDOW - MORNING

Brianna stands on a ladder that leans against the house next to the kitchen window. She feeds a garden hose through the window.

EXT. GARDEN - MORNING

Brianna reaches out to turn on the tap that the garden hose is connected to. She hesitates. Damien's Pewee 70, parked in the backyard, has caught her eye.

Brianna studies the little bike for a beat than grins wickedly.

INT. MEREDITH'S CAR - DAY

Meredith drives her car. Javon sits beside her in the passenger's seat.

MEREDITH

Sensei Miyazaki told us at the last meeting that the Regional Kendo Tournament is on in three weeks.

JAVON

Hey, what's the go with your Sensei?

MEREDITH

What do you mean?

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JAVON

Why's he speak with a Scottish accent?

MEREDITH

He's from Scotland you dag. That's why it's called a "Scottish" accent.

Javon frowns.

JAVON

Scotland? But he's . . . He looks . . . you know . . . Korean or some kind of Asian.

MEREDITH

Well that's because both his parents are Japanese, but he was born and raised in Glasgow.

JAVON

Oh.

Meredith drives her car into the driveway of her parent's house.

MEREDITH

I wonder if Brianna has left yet.

INT. FRONT DOOR. RIXION'S HOUSE - DAY

Meredith opens the front door. The screaming whine of the Peewee 70's motor is deafening. She gapes with disbelief at the tyre marks that scuff the polished wooden floorboards.

Javon hurries through the front door as Meredith dashes toward the lounge room.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

The lounge room has been trashed. Dirty, tyre marks from the Peewee streak across the floor and over the lounge chairs. The Peewee's screeching motor and thumping noises can be heard coming from the second storey of the house.

Meredith glances around the room, eyes narrowed.

INT. MAIN BEDROOM - DAY

Brianna rides the Peewee 70 over her parents' bed, jumps off the mattress and collides into the Bed Side Table.

Brianna jumps back on the bike and rides it out of the room.

INT. STAIRCASE/HALLWAY - DAY

Brianna speeds down the staircase, loses control of the Peewee. The bike flips out from under her, slides across the floor on its back wheel. It disappears through the lounge room's doorway.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

Meredith nimbly side steps out of the way of the run away bike. It crashes into the entertainment unit, its front wheel punching through the glass of the TV.

Brianna rushes into the room, her face flushed with excitement and glee. She freezes when she spots Meredith and Javon standing in the room.

Meredith kneels down to shut off the Peewee's engine, glaring critically at Brianna the whole time.

Brianna's impious joy evaporates under Meredith's stern gaze.

BRIANNA

Don't look at me like that sis! Mum and Dad had this coming. They treat us like shit!

Meredith's expression is hard, her anger visible yet controlled. She takes a step closer to Brianna.

MEREDITH

And they always will Brianna. When are you going to grow up and except that?

BRIANNA

(Hysterical shouting)
I'M MOVING OUT OF HOME! THIS DAY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME! IT SHOULD'VE BEEN IMPORTANT FOR THEM ALSO.

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MEREDITH

It doesn't work that way
Brianna, and you know it.

Brianna paces up and down.

BRIANNA

Well it should work that way.
Mum and Dad used to give us
plenty of their affection when
we were little. They should
never have cut us off.

Meredith sighs, her face and voice is softened by pity.

MEREDITH

You don't get it, do you?
Damien is what Mum and Dad
always wanted. We were just a
substitute until mum and dad
conceived a boy.

Brianna flinches with emotional pain.

BRIANNA

That's the biggest bullshit
story I've ever heard!

Through the lounge room window, a Taxi can be seen pulling
up in front of the house. A car horn beeps twice.

BRIANNA

I've got to go. That's my
ride.

There is an awkward silence between the two sisters for a
beat. Tension is high.

Javon claps his hands together, gives the two sisters a
goofy grin.

JAVON

Don't stop eating your
vegetables Brianna and -oh!-
Make sure you keep your
kitchen spotless. Unless of
course you like keeping
company with cockroaches.

Brianna smiles at Javon with tenderness, as if he has given
her something she has wanted her whole life.

Brianna hastens out of the lounge room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Meredith and Javon stand silently together, Meredith lost in thought. Javon starts to look very nervous.

JAVON

Um, can we get out of here
before your parents get home?

EXT. MOLLY'S HOUSE - DAY

The taxi pulls up out the front of a typical suburban house. Brianna climbs out of the taxi. She strides toward the house, an independent young woman puffed with pride and lust for adventure.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Brianna knocks on the front door. Her friend MOLLY opens it.

Molly is Seventeen, a Polynesian with long frizzy hair pulled back in braids. She is surprised to see Brianna.

MOLLY

Ah gee Brianna, didn't you get
my message.

BRIANNA

What message?

MOLLY

I rang up your house last
night and your dad answered
the phone.

BRIANNA

Me and my dad never speak.

MOLLY

Oh. Well I told him to tell
you that I can't move into the
unit. I'm sorry Brianna but I
just can't.

Brianna grins stupidly to hide her dismay.

BRIANNA

That's cool.

MOLLY

Yeah?

Brianna lays the false bravado on thick.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

Yeah. Hey, we would've had fun living together, right?

MOLLY

Um, are you okay Brianna?

BRIANNA

Yeah, yeah I'm fine. Look, I gotta go. Taxi waiting.

MOLLY

Okay. C'ya Brianna. I'm really sorry.

BRIANNA

C'ya Molly.

The front door closes. Brianna shuffles toward the waiting taxi. Her mask of bravado slips as her lower lip trembles and tears slide down her cheeks. She is dazed and distressed.

INT. KITCHEN. RIXON'S HOUSE - DAY

Javon sits at the dining table, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible. He watches with dread as Griselda and Skylar circle around Meredith.

Both parents are enraged.

SKYLAR

TELL ME WHERE YOUR FUCKING SISTER IS!

Meredith calmly gazes at her father.

MEREDITH

She never told me.

SKYLAR

BULLSHIT! DON'T PROTECT THAT LITTLE BITCH! TELL ME WHERE SHE IS!

Meredith shrugs, remains tight lipped.

GRISELDA

Oh she knows all right honey. She just ain't gonna tell us.

Suddenly Brianna's head appears outside the kitchen window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Meredith is startled by the sight of Brianna.

Skylar puts his fist through the wall, snarls with fury.

SKYLAR
I'll ring Brianna's fucking
neck I will!

Brianna desperately gestures to Meredith to come outside
than drops out of sight.

SKYLAR
I'm not letting Brianna get
away with this! No fucking
way.

Skylar exits the kitchen followed by Griselda.

SKYLAR (O.S.)
Fuck! I can't believe she did
this.

Meredith hurries to the glass sliding doors, opens it. She
indicates Javon to follow.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Meredith and Javon stop in the middle of the backyard.
Meredith looks around. Javon is confused.

JAVON
What's going on?

BRIANNA
(Whispering)
Oi! I'm over here sis.

Brianna hides in the garden. Meredith runs over to her.

MEREDITH
Are you insane? Dad will kill
you!

Brianna is miserable and dishevelled. Her tears have ruined
her make-up. She looks terrified.

BRIANNA
Molly's not moving out. I
can't afford the rent alone.

MEREDITH
Well you can't move back in
here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Brianna glowers at her older sister.

BRIANNA
I know that!

Brianna suddenly looks pleadingly at Javon, as if he is her only hope.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
Javon! Move in with me.
Please!

JAVON
What?

BRIANNA
Let's rent the unit together.

Suddenly Skylar charges out of the house. He guns straight for Brianna. Griselda follows behind him.

SKYLAR
YOU BITCH!

Brianna scrambles out of the garden, her eyes wide with fear. She flees.

Skylar moves fast, reaches Brianna and pushes her onto the grass. He slaps her across the face.

SKYLAR
You selfish bitch!

GRISELDA
Kick her arse good honey!

Brianna curls up into a ball, screams and cries hysterically as her father hits her again.

Javon rushes towards Brianna as Meredith dashes into the house.

Javon tries to push himself between Skylar and Brianna.

JAVON
Oi! Stop it! She's your
daughter!

Griselda spins around, grabs Javon's arm, bites his wrist.

INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - DAY

Meredith races into her room, drops to her knees in front of her Kendo equipment. She pulls out her Shinai.

MEREDITH
Forgive me Sensei.

Meredith kisses the wooden blade of the Shinai. She leaps to her feet, sprints out of the room.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Skylar grabs a hand full of Brianna's top, hoist her to her feet and backhands her across the face. Brianna flops onto the grass.

Brianna clenches her teeth, glares at Skylar with defiance and contempt.

BRIANNA
Fuck off dad you miserable
prick!

Meredith races out of the house, stops besides Skylar, strikes him in the side of the head with an lightning strike of her Shinai.

Skylar stumbles back, clutching the side of his head.

Brianna scrambles towards her sister, hides behind her. Meredith glares at her parents, takes a fighting stance as she holds her Shinai ready.

MEREDITH
Javon! Get Brianna out of
here.

GRISELDA
C'mon Skylar! You can take
her!

Skylar lunges at Meredith, his fists raised. Meredith swings her Shinai with speed and grace, hits Skylar on the nose.

He steps back, clutches his bleeding nose and glares at Meredith with rage.

MEREDITH
Now Javon! Move!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon grabs Brianna's hand and runs off. The two flee towards the side gate.

Meredith blocks their escape route, holds her Shinai in front of herself. She silently dares her parents to mess with her.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Javon rides his Vespa hard through the back streets of the suburb. Brianna rides on the back.

EXT. VESPA - DAY

Brianna has her arms around Javon's waist. She rests her head on Javon's back, tears sliding down her cheek.

EXT. PERPLEXITY GROVE - DAY

Two blocks of units sit side by side, facing each other. A driveway separates the buildings. Lush tropical plants fill the gardens that line the driveway. Next to the driveway entrance is a three-foot tall brick wall with a sign on it that reads: Perplexity Grove.

Brianna and Javon stand side by side at the entrance of the driveway, gaze up at the two buildings.

JAVON

Man, I can't believe your mother bit me.

Javon extends his arm towards Brianna.

JAVON

Check it out. I've got your mother's teeth marks on my arm.

BRIANNA

Will you do it Javon? For me? Please?

Javon hesitates then nods slowly.

JAVON

Um . . . yeah. Sure. I'll go get my stuff.

Brianna is relieved, gushes with joy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

You know what I like about you
Javon?

Javon is fixed on Brianna, completely in the moment.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

You make me feel like I'm
being noticed.

Brianna skips toward the building. Javon watches her,
mesmerized. He is the happiest man on earth.

Meredith's car pulls into the gutter and stops.

Javon's delight becomes subdued as he watches Meredith step
out of her car, walks towards him.

Meredith's expression and stance is solemn as she regards
Javon carefully.

Javon smiles weakly. He is troubled and uncertain.

JAVON

I . . . um . . . I did it.
I've decided to rent a unit
with your sister. Are you okay
with that?

Meredith does not respond, remains impassive.

JAVON (CONT'D)

You know with the unit?
Because if you're not-

Meredith hugs Javon, kisses his neck.

Javon returns the hug.

MEREDITH

Brianna's really lazy and
untidy.

JAVON

Oh. Ah well, I can handle
that.

Javon is guilt ridden. A deep furrow creases his brow. He
desperately wants to say more but can't find the words to
say it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Meredith clings to Javon. She is disappointed, frightened and troubled, not pleased with Javon's decision.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPERTITLES ON BLACK:

ONE WEEK LATER

INT. DOJO - DAY

Two kendo practitioners face each other in the centre of the Dojo, fully clad in their armor and helmet, Shinai raised.

The remaining practitioners that make up the Kendo class kneel on the floor in a row to the left side of the Dojo. All of them are clad in their armor, their helmets and Shinai besides them.

SENSEI MIYAZAKI is a forty year old Japanese. He kneels on the floor alone, his armor and Shinai beside him. He concentrates on the two practitioners in the centre of the dojo.

MIYAZAKI

HAJIME!

The two practitioners shout at each other as they move in to attack. They swing their Shinai, scoring hits to each other's bodies and heads.

MIYAZAKI

YAME!

The two practitioners stop fighting, bow to each other than remove their helmets.

One of them is Meredith. She readjusts her glasses on her nose.

Miyazaki nods his head, proud of his two students. He speaks with a thick Scottish accent.

MIYAZAKI

Aye, ya scored the most points
Miss Rixon. Well-done lass.

Meredith bows to the Sensei, humbled by his praise.

Miyazaki glances at his watch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MIYAZAKI
Ah shite! Is that the time?

Miyazaki gestures to his class to come forward.

MIYAZAKI
Right! Gather round everybody.
I got something important to
tell ya before ya all bugger
off.

All the Kendo practitioners move towards Miyazaki with their helmets and Shinai. They kneel before their Sensei who remains standing.

MIYAZAKI
Right! Ya got to promise me
you'll practice your kendo
moves every chance you get. It
is important ya do this.

Pause for a beat.

MIYAZAKI (CONT'D)
The regional Kendo tournament
will be on in two weeks. So
that means I gotta pull me
finger out me bum and pick one
of you to represent this club
at the tournament.

The kendo practitioners all glance at each other, excited by this news.

Miyazaki slaps his hands together.

MIYAZAKI
Right. I'm off home. I'll see
you all next week. Cheerio!

INT. VETERINARY CLINIC - DAY

An unconscious cat lies on an operating table.

Medical tools are set out on a tray next to the table.

FORGARTY is a tall, stoical chap, bald with big, lamb chop side burns and a bushy moustache. He is thirty four years old, puffs on a pipe as he operates on the unconscious cat.

Javon stands next to Forgarty.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FORGARTY
So you're serious about
turning dead cats into art?

JAVON
Mmm-hmm. Sort of like an
organic sculpture using
taxidermy.

FORGARTY
Fuck! I'm impressed. The only
good cat is a stuffed cat.

Javon is perplexed, uncertain how to reply.

FORGARTY
Maybe I should've studied
taxidermy. You reckon a
taxidermist would make more
money than a veterinarian?

JAVON
Um, I wouldn't know. I'm only
an amateur.

FORGARTY
How many dead cats are you
after?

JAVON
Um . . . four. Yeah, four.

FORGARTY
The next four cats I put down,
I'll deliver 'em to you for
two hundred dollars.

Javon is ecstatic.

JAVON
Sounds good. We got a deal!

FORGARTY
It'll take me about two weeks.

JAVON
Awesome! That gives me plenty
of time to save up the money.

Forgarty winks at Javon, looks smug and distinguished as he
puffs on his pipe.

EXT. VETERINARY CLINIC - DAY

Javon bursts out the front door of the clinic. He throws his arms up into the air and shouts with glee.

JAVON
I'M THE PROUD OWNER OF A DEAD
CAT! WOOHOO!

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

A public bus pulls up besides a bus stop. The door slides open and Brianna steps out. She carries a large bouquet of flowers. She is dressed in a work uniform for a florist shop.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Brianna walks along a street in the inner suburbs, carrying the bouquet of flowers.

Javon cruises down the street on his Vespa. Seeing Brianna, he pulls over to the side of the road and stops.

As Brianna approaches the Vespa, Javon revs the motor, speaks in a gruff voice.

JAVON
Hey kitten; you wanna be my
biker slut?

BRIANNA
Oh gosh. How can I resist a
man on a scooter?

Brianna sits on the scooter sidesaddle. The two of them ride off down the street and turn a corner.

EXT. PERPLEXITY GROVE - DAY

As a car drives past Perplexity Grove, a group of teenage boys, wearing white rabbit masks, leap up from behind a row of wiz bins.

The leader of the group is PUCK. He is an Asian aged nineteen, with messy, spiked hair. He wears fur pants and a red T-shirt. A pan flute is tucked into the side of his pants. He is the only one in the gang of youths not wearing a rabbit mask.

Puck and his gang toss water balloons filled with custard at the front windscreen of the car. SPLAT!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The car skids to a sudden stop. Javon, who has been riding his Vespa behind the vehicle, is forced to swerve to avoid running up the back of it.

The Vespa's front wheel bumps the gutter, the jolt throwing Javon and Brianna off the bike and onto the lawn.

The DRIVER scrambles out of his car, infuriated.

Puck and his gang flee into the safety of Perplexity Grove. The Driver pursues them.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

MISS TOBIN is the landlady of Perplexity Grove. She is in a pleasant daze as she stands in the middle of the driveway. Puck and his gang race past her, the Driver in hot pursuit.

Miss Tobin is a plump, cheery woman aged thirty eight. She has messy, curly hair and is dressed in a hippy style dress. She cuddles her big tabby cat.

JAVON (O.S.)
Oi! Miss Tobin!

Miss Tobin glances around to see who has called her.

Javon walks his scratched and dented Vespa while Brianna carries her now, limp, broken bouquet of flowers.

JAVON
Those bastards from unit 12
are at it again.

MISS TOBIN
Oh those crazy boys. (Giggles)
They're always frolicking.

Brianna frowns, annoyed.

BRIANNA
Frolicking? They're not
frolicking. They're fucking
anarchists.

Miss Tobin smiles vaguely, becomes unfocused as she scratches her cat behind the ear.

Javon kicks the stand on his Vespa, parks it next to a garden filled with lush ferns.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

You should toss 'em out on to the street Miss Tobin.

MISS TOBIN

I'm sorry. What was the question again?

JAVON

Huh?

BRIANNA

We're talking about the tenants in unit 12. You've got to get rid of 'em.

MISS TOBIN

Don't be daft girl. I can't do that. Those nice boys give me happy pills. A happy pill a day keeps my back pain away.

BRIANNA

Yeah, if you say so.

Brianna grabs Javon by the arm, drags him away from Miss Tobin.

BRIANNA

She is so drug fucked!

Javon glances back at Miss Tobin's cat with longing.

JAVON

Man, I wish her cat was dead.

Suddenly Miss Tobin jumps up and down like an excited schoolgirl.

MISS TOBIN

Oh, oh! I can answer the question you asked me.

Javon and Brianna keep walking, ignoring her.

MISS TOBIN (CONT'D)

Moo Cows! The Moo Cows have bells round their necks. That's why you can hear bells late at night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Meredith's car enters the driveway. The car stops in front of Miss Tobin, the horn beeps twice. Miss Tobin gets out of the way.

Meredith drives her car past Javon and Brianna. They both wave at Meredith.

Suddenly Puck and his gang run towards Meredith's car.

The car skids to a stop.

The gang of youths clamor over the top of Meredith's car, continue running towards the driveway's entrance.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM. UNIT 8 - NIGHT

Javon and Meredith sit together on a sofa. Both have a plate of spaghetti on their lap, eating it with a fork.

Brianna lies on the floor in front of the TV, her plate of spaghetti in front of her.

MEREDITH

I can't believe the vet agreed to do it?

JAVON

Yep. As soon as he puts down four cats he'll deliver 'em to me.

MEREDITH

Just like that?

JAVON

Um, well, it'll cost me two hundred dollars.

Meredith frowns, disapproving.

JAVON (CONT'D)

But the vet reckons it'll take him two weeks to put down four cats. So I've got plenty of time to save.

Meredith smiles warmly at Javon.

MEREDITH

Well, as weird as it may sound, I'm glad you finally found some dead cats to achieve your dream.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Brianna suddenly sits up, excited.

BRIANNA
Hey Javon! We can get some
dead cats tonight.

JAVON
How?

Meredith is instantly suspicious.

MEREDITH
Yes Brianna, how?

Brianna jumps up off the floor.

BRIANNA
While I was waiting at the bus
stop today, two school kids
were telling me about- get
this -an old woman who lives
in a house with thirty cats.

JAVON
Thirty cats? No way!

BRIANNA
Yeah way. And this old lady
lives just over in the next
suburb.

JAVON
Yeah, but her cats ain't dead.

BRIANNA
I can fix that.

JAVON
Forget it. I'm not being an
accomplice to cat murder.

BRIANNA
Ah c'mon. The old lady won't
even notice two of her cats
missing.

Javon is spellbound by Brianna's excitement.

BRIANNA
Please Javon. C'mon! Think of
how much fun it'll be. You and
me on a kick arse adventure.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon quickly warms to the idea of going on an exciting adventure with Brianna.

JAVON
Okay, we'll go check it out after dinner. But we're not killing any cats.

Brianna jumps up and down, elated.

MEREDITH
You can't be serious Jav. Everybody knows that an old lady who lives with over a dozen cats is an Urban Legend.

JAVON
It might be true.

Meredith gives Javon a stern, dubious look.

BRIANNA
Jeez sis! Why don't ya just sit here all night and rationalize it.

MEREDITH
I don't think so. I'm going home. I've got to practice my Kendo.

Javon is disappointed.

EXT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Meredith walks down the stairs followed by Javon.

JAVON
What? So aren't you even gonna come back later on to stay the night?

MEREDITH
I'll be to tired Jav. I'll stay Friday night.

JAVON
Why didn't you just bring your kendo stuff here and practice?

MEREDITH
Because there's nothing to distract me when I'm at home.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon bows his head, looks rejected.

MEREDITH
Don't be disappointed.

JAVON
I just thought . . . you know,
now that I've got my own
place, we'd spend more time
together.

The two reach the bottom of the stairs, turn to face each other.

MEREDITH
Javon, I'm not giving up my
Kendo.

JAVON
Huh? No! No! That's not what
I'm saying.

MEREDITH
Than what are you saying?

JAVON
It's just . . . I want . . .
Ah it doesn't matter.

The two lovers stare at each, frustrated by the conversation.

MEREDITH
I'll see you Friday night.

JAVON
Oh okay.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Puck sits on the roof of the right side block of units. He plays a haunting tune on his pan flute as he watches Meredith and Javon kiss each other next to Meredith's car.

Meredith gets into her car and drives off down the driveway towards the entrance.

Javon stands alone on the driveway. He thrusts his hands in his jeans pockets, walks toward the stairwell with his head bowed.

Puck watches with mild amusement.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Javon rides his Vespa through the back streets of the next suburb. Brianna sits on the back of the bike, her arms around Javon's waist.

JAVON (V.O.)
So where does this old woman
and her thirty cats live?

BRIANNA (V.O.)
The school kids couldn't tell
me her street address.

JAVON (V.O.)
Ah great. Than what's the
point of looking for her?

BRIANNA (V.O.)
Jeez Javon, calm down. They
said you have to find key
landmarks that point to her
location or something.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Javon steers the Vespa into an alleyway that is closed in by the fence line of backyards on either side.

JAVON (V.O.)
What, you mean like go on a
quest?

BRIANNA (V.O.)
Mmm, if that's what you want
to call it.

Javon and Brianna step off the Vespa, huddle close together as they study a massive tree on the other side of a wooden fence.

BRIANNA (V.O.)
First we have to climb the
tallest tree in Benson Street.

JAVON (V.O.)
Ah man, I hate climbing trees.

BRIANNA (V.O.)
That should be the easy part.
First we have to subdue the
big black dog that guards it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sudden, savage barking from behind the fence startles Javon and Brianna.

JAVON (V.O.)
Is it vicious?

BRIANNA (V.O.)
Of course it is.

JAVON (V.O.)
No way! I'm not gonna fight a
dog!

Brianna unshoulders her backpack, removes from it a Lamington wrapped in Glad wrap. She unwraps the cake than tosses it over the fence.

BRIANNA (V.O.)
You don't have to fight it.
Its weakness is Lamingtons.

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

The Lamington splatters on the lawn. A hulking Rottweiler sprints toward the cake, sniffs it than begins licking it.

Javon and Brianna scramble over the fence. They scurry past the feeding dog, head towards the trunk of the tree.

EXT. TOP BRANCHES. TALLEST TREE IN BENSON STREET - NIGHT

JAVON (V.O.)
So what do ya do in the tree?

Brianna and Javon cling to the upper most branches of the tree. Below them, the street and house lights of the suburb stretch away in a grid like pattern.

BRIANNA (V.O.)
You look for the house covered
in Christmas lights. That's
where the old lady lives.

Brianna gasps with delight, points.

BRIANNA
There it is! Over there!

Javon turns around, looks in the direction Brianna is pointing.

The Old Lady's house is several blocks away. It is literally lit up like a Christmas tree.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The two friends laugh with glee.

JAVON
Holy shit! It really does
exist!

BRIANNA
It's beautiful!

JAVON (V.O.)
Christmas lights? But it's
only April.

BRIANNA (V.O.)
This lady has her Christmas
lights on all year round. No
one knows why.

EXT. FRONT LAWN. OLD LADIES HOUSE - NIGHT

Every square inch of the old lady's house is covered in fairy lights, icicle lights, flashing lights, colored lights. It is as if all the exterior Christmas decorations of ten houses have been attached to the old lady's home.

Javon and Brianna stand side by side on the footpath, astonished as they stare wide-eyed at the decorated house.

Javon and Brianna weave their way around the outlandish decorations and Nativity sets sprawled out across the front lawn.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Javon ducks his head to avoid the hanging icicle lights as he walks up the stairs that lead to the front porch.

Both Brianna and Javon stop at the front door, glances about at their surroundings.

Javon looks perplexed.

BRIANNA
What's up?

JAVON
You'd think we would've seen a
cat by now.

BRIANNA
They're probably all inside.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON
What? All thirty of them?

Brianna knocks on the door.

A silent pause for a beat, Javon and Brianna wait patiently.

The door opens. A seven-foot tall, hairy, fat man stands in the doorway. He in his early forties, wears flannelette pajama pants and a T-shirt that is two sizes too small.

The RETARDED GIANT regards Javon and Brianna with childish wonder.

RETARDED GIANT.
Play with me!

The Retarded Giant grabs Brianna's arm, yanks her through the doorway.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

The lounge room is cluttered with Christmas decorations and ornaments.

The Retarded Giant stands in the middle of the room, skips on the spot as he stares hopefully at Brianna and Javon.

RETARDED GIANT.
Play with me! Play with me!

OLD LADY (O.S.)
(Scolding)
SAMUEL!

A frail OLD LADY, hunched over from osteoporosis, enters the lounge room. She is in her early eighties, leans on a walking stick.

The Retarded Giant is affected with chagrin under the harsh gaze of the Old Lady.

OLD LADY
I told you to never, ever open
that front door!

The Retarded Giant gives the Old Lady a pleading look as he points at Brianna and Javon.

RETARDED GIANT
Friends Mum! Play with me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The tension in the room becomes heavy.

JAVON

(Nervous)

Gosh! Wow. You've got some lovely Christmas Decorations.

OLD LADY

They keep my son happy. Can you imagine how ferocious a temper tantrum would be from a man who weighs 120kg and has the mind of a three-year old?

Javon and Brianna glance fearfully at the Retarded giant.

OLD LADY

Well now that you're here, you better play with my son. He gets very angry when he doesn't get what he wants.

The Old Lady turns to leave the room.

OLD LADY

I'll get you some milk and cookies.

The Retarded giant skips across the room, searches for something.

Javon leans close to Brianna.

JAVON

We're all the cats?

BRIANNA

I dunno? Have a look round the house.

JAVON

I can't do that.

BRIANNA

Go on! Don't be a wuss!

The Retarded Giant returns with a beach ball, throws it at Brianna.

Brianna catches the ball.

Javon leaves the room. Brianna and the Retarded Giant toss the ball to each other.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Javon creeps down the hallway, glances about. He stops at the first door in the hall.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The door swings open. Javon stands in the doorway, glances around the room. It is the Retarded Giant's room, filled with children's toys and furniture. Not a single cat can be seen.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

The beach ball bounces off the Retarded Giant's nose. Brianna catches it, chuckles with malicious delight. The Retarded Giant blinks, rubs his nose. He is perturbed.

BRIANNA
You having fun big boy?

The Retarded Giant shakes his head, grunts in a sulking tone.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
Ah, that's to bad, because I
am.

Brianna throws the ball harder, bounces it off the Retarded Giant's head. She catches the ball.

The Old Lady enters the room.

OLD LADY
Where's your boyfriend dear?

BRIANNA
He's not my . . . he had to go
to the toilet.

The Old Lady's eyes narrow as she frowns. She turns, exits the lounge room.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The old lady slides a bread knife out of a wooden knife holder.

INT. SPARE ROOM - NIGHT

Javon opens the door, switches on the light. He is shocked by what he sees.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Three shelving units are the only furniture in the room. Large pickle jars line the shelves. Inside the jars are cats, still alive.

Javon moves closer to the jars to study their content.

It is obvious by the deformity of the cats that they have been placed inside the jars as kittens so that their bodies can grow into the shape of the vessel.

Javon looks behind the jars. Behind each one is a plastic colostomy bag with a tube that runs from the bag, through a hole drilled into the back of the jar, and inserted into the cats anus. A small hole is drilled into the front of the jars where the cat's mouth is.

JAVON

Ah, no way.

The old lady stands in the doorway, her right hand hidden behind her back.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

Brianna laughs wickedly as she throws the ball hard at the Retarded Giant's head. The giant is becoming frustrated.

INT. SPARE ROOM - NIGHT

OLD LADY

I used to own thirty beautiful cats. But the RSPCA took them away from me.

The Old Lady hobbles closer to Javon on her walking stick

OLD LADY (CONT'D)

They told me that I was cruel, abusive for keeping thirty cats in this house.

The Old Lady glares at Javon with contempt, her knife still hidden behind her back.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)

So now when I bring home a kitten, I place it in a pickle jar so no ones knows it's here but me.

Suddenly the old Lady stabs Javon with the bread knife. It is a feeble effort with only the blade's tip penetrating Javon's abdomen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Ouch! Hey!

Javon steps back, the old lady takes a step forward, the bread knife thrust out in front of her.

JAVON

Are you trying to kill me?

OLD LADY

I must. No one will ever take my lovely cats away from me again.

JAVON

Look, I don't mean any disrespect, but you're way too old and feeble to be a murderer.

The Old Lady jabs Javon with the bread knife again. The effort is putting a strain on her.

JAVON

Ouch!

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

Brianna has a wicked grin on her face, takes pleasure in tormenting her playmate. The Retarded Giant ducks out of the way of Brianna's next throw. The ball strikes a Christmas ornament, shatters it.

The Retarded Giant roars a scream of anguish.

INT. SPARE ROOM - NIGHT

Javon and the Old Lady are both startled by the sound of the Retarded Giant's roar.

JAVON

Brianna!

Javon pushes past the Old Lady, exits the room.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

The Retarded Giant shoves Brianna backwards. Brianna slams into a one-seater sofa, tumbles over it and crashes to the floor.

The Retarded Giant roars with ferocity, charges after Brianna.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Brianna scurries under a table. The Retard Giant snatches the table up, flings it across the room.

Javon rushes into the room. He looks scared and helpless as he watches the giant smash up the furniture in his attempt to catch Brianna.

Brianna rushes toward the front door, flings it open and flees.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Brianna leaps off the porch onto the front lawn.

The Retarded Giant bounds down the steps; his hulking body gets tangled in the icicle lights that hang from the roof guttering. The forward momentum of the giant rips the cable of lights out of their hooks.

EXT. ROOF OF OLD LADY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The staples that pin down the Christmas lights on the roof tiles pop off, as the lights are striped away row after row.

EXT. FRONT LAWN - NIGHT

Brianna speeds across the lawn towards the road. The Retarded Giant barrels after Brianna, crashes through a nativity set. A tangled mess of lights and wiring like an illuminative, multicolored spider web stretches out from the giant to the house.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Javon skids to a halt on the front porch. He gawks in disbelief as the fairy and icicle lights are torn from the house, pulled across the lawn and onto the road in a tangled thread of wires.

Javon hurries down the steps.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The Retarded Giant is relentless in his pursuit of Brianna.

The gap between the two is narrowing.

EXT. FRONT LAWN/ STREET - NIGHT

Javon rides his Vespa across the lawn, jumps off the gutter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He follows the trail of Christmas lights stretched tight and moving as the giant runs further away from the house.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Javon rides his Vespa besides Brianna as she runs. The retarded Giant closes in, breathing down her neck as he tries to grab her.

JAVON
Quick! Jump on!

Brianna jumps onto the back of the scooter. Javon speeds off away from the giant.

The Retarded Giant, drops to his knees in the middle of the road. He shakes his fists in the air and bellows a brutal roar of dismay as the Vespa retreats down the street.

The fairy and icicle lights entangled around his body darken as they lose power.

The Retarded Giant whimpers.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM. UNIT 8 - NIGHT

The front door opens. Javon and Brianna enter the lounge room giggling, flushed with excitement.

BRIANNA
Take your shirt off. I'll go
get some band-aids.

Brianna exits the room while Javon slides off his shirt. Blood weeps from the small cuts on his stomach.

JAVON
I'm not kidding! She had a
tube up all the cats' butt
holes and bags to collect
their body waste.

BRIANNA (O.S.)
Gross! What a kooky old hag!

JAVON
Man, it was totally bizarre. I
wish you could've seen it.

Suddenly a piercing whistle and quick, sharp explosions startles Javon. The noise comes from outside.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT

Javon rushes onto the balcony followed by Brianna. She holds a box of band-aids.

A variety of firecrackers are being let off down on the driveway.

Javon and Brianna lean on the rail as they look down.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Puck and his gang, who are wearing their rabbit masks, twirl and skip about on the driveway, igniting more firecrackers.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT

BRIANNA
Those dip shits! Who do they
think they are?

Brianna jumps up and down with excited energy, complete with a wicked grin.

BRIANNA
I'm sick of putting up with
their shit! Let's go put some
shit on them!

JAVON
Not now Brianna.

Javon staggers back inside the unit.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

Brianna rushes into the lounge room as Javon flops onto the sofa.

BRIANNA
C'mon Javon! They're asking
for it!

JAVON
Ah, give it a rest Brianna.
I've suffered a knife attack
from an eighty-year-old. I
just want to sleep.

Brianna tosses the box of band-aids at Javon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

Fine! I'll go by myself.

Brianna exits the lounge room through the front door. Javon lies on the sofa, smiles dreamily at the front door, as it slams shut.

JAVON

She's so cool.

EXT. ANCIENT OAK TREE. SURREAL FOREST - DAY

Javon is in a dense forest. Pollen floats in the air as red rose petals fall like a light summer shower.

Javon stands under a massive, ancient oak tree.

Sitting on a lower branch of the oak is Brianna. She wears a tattered white dress. Strips of white cloth are wound around her wrists, feet and ankles. Flowers adorn her hair.

All evidence of Brianna's sexually charged body language and wickedness is gone. In Javon's dream, Brianna is elf like and innocent.

BRIANNA

Why are you a happy chappie?

JAVON

I'm dreaming of you.

BRIANNA

Gee, that's obvious. Why?

JAVON

Ever since I've met you, I've wanted to tell you that you're my best friend.

BRIANNA

You can tell me anytime you want. We share a unit together. Remember?

JAVON

Yeah, but what if you feel differently?

BRIANNA

There's only one way to find out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

I want to. I really do. It's just . . .you know. It's difficult.

BRIANNA

So that's why you're having this dream.

JAVON

Um . . . Yeah.

Brianna lounges back on the branch. She looks relaxed, like a mythical tree nymph from a classical painting.

BRIANNA

Cool. Well you got me here, tell me how you feel about me.

Javon sits down, leans his back against the trunk of the tree. The two smile at each with warmth and deep regard for each other.

BRIANNA

I'm waiting.

JAVON

(embarrassed)

Ah man, this is so hard.

Brianna laughs.

BRIANNA

What, is your tongue all tied up in a knot? Jeez, it's only a dream Javon. There's no pressure. Stop being so fucking yellow.

JAVON

That's it! That's what I like about you Brianna. It's like you've got no boundaries. You're so cool.

BRIANNA

You see. That wasn't so hard was it?

JAVON

No, I guess it wasn't.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

Now why can't you tell me that when you wake up tomorrow?

JAVON

Believe me. There's a lot of things I want to say to you and Meredith.

BRIANNA

Well than, say them. They're only words Javon. You seem to have a firm grasp on the English language. You've got no worries.

JAVON

Yeah I have. It's what you or Meredith will do with my feelings after I've explained them.

BRIANNA

Well, I'm sorry but I can't help you with that. That's a bit of a grey area and I'm just a figment of your dream.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - MORNING

Javon is alone in the lounge room.

He rests his foot on the coffee table, ties the lace on his work boot.

JAVON

You wanna lift to work Brianna?

BRIANNA (O.S.)

Yeah, I'd like that.

Brianna enters the lounge room dressed in her florist uniform, she stands in front of the mirror, applies lips stick.

BRIANNA

Is Meredith staying tonight?

Javon ties up the lace on his other work boot.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Nope. She's got Kendo tonight.
Her Sensei is going to pick
someone to represent his club
at that kendo tournament thing-
a-ma-jig.

BRIANNA

Cool!

Something on the coffee table catches Javon's attention.
It is a pile of wheel nuts. Javon picks one up, frowns.

JAVON

Are they what I think they
are?

BRIANNA

Depends on what you think they
are.

JAVON

I didn't see them there last
night.

BRIANNA

That's because I put them
there last night while you
were asleep in your bed.

Javon and Brianna grin at each other knowingly.

JAVON

You're so evil.

BRIANNA

Mmm-hmm.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Javon sits on his Vespa, kicks over the engine as Brianna
climbs on the back.

An old Valiant cruises down the driveway. Miss. Tobin is
behind the steering wheel. She waves with way too much
enthusiasm as she drives pass Javon and Brianna.

Brianna and Javon return the wave, watch the Valiant cruise
towards the driveway's entrance.

Suddenly Miss Tobin's cat darts out of the garden, streaks
across the driveway. The front left tyre of the car
flattens the cat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Valiant exits Perplexity Grove, drives off down the street.

Javon gawks open mouthed at the dead cat. Brianna becomes impatient.

BRIANNA

Well, what are you waiting for? An invitation?

JAVON

No way Brianna! I'm not doing it. It's her pet cat for Christ sake!

BRIANNA

It's dead Javon. It's no use to her now.

Javon wrestles with his desires and morals. Brianna becomes agitated.

BRIANNA

Go on, take it! We both know you want to!

INT. ENCLOSED PARKING SPACE - DAY

Puck and his gang open up the doors of a Torana.

They get inside the vehicle. Puck sits in the driver's seat. The doors slam shut as the motor revs out.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

The Torana drives out of the parking space on wobbly tyres. Suddenly all four tyres detach from the vehicle.

The Torana drops onto the concrete, the metal rims of the wheels sparking as the nose of the car collides into a brick wall.

The three young men scramble out of the Torana in a panic.

INT. DOJO - NIGHT

All of the kendo practitioners kneel together on the floor, backs straight with their hands resting on their thighs.

Sensei Miyazaki stands before his class, regards them with pride and respect.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MIYAZAKI

You all put on a good show
tonight. You've done me proud!

The Kendo practitioners become rigid, extra attentive.

MIYAZAKI

I have decided on who will
represent my club at this
years Regional Kendo
Tournament.

Pause for a beat as Miyazaki glances over his class.

MIYAZAKI

That'll be me.

All the Kendo practitioners gawk at their Sensei,
bewildered.

MIYAZAKI

(Chuckling)

Och, settle down will you. I'm
just fucking with you. Stand
up Miss Rixon.

Meredith stands up, steps forward. She is meek and self-
conscious under the gaze of the class.

MIYAZAKI

You will fight for my club at
the tournament. Well-done
lass.

All of the practitioners bow low to Meredith with deep
respect. Meredith blushes, remains humble as she returns
the bow.

Miyazaki kneels on the floor, gives Meredith a respectful
bow.

Meredith is pleasantly surprised by this, gushes with joy.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM. UNIT 8 - NIGHT

The front door swings open as Meredith barges into the
room. She jumps up and down, her wide grin reflecting her
excitement. This is unusual behavior for her.

Meredith stands alone in the lounge room. Her body goes
rigid; her grin vanishes as she hears the sound of giggles
and splashing water coming from the bathroom.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Meredith's harsh frown makes it apparent that she is thinking ominous thoughts.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Meredith enters the hallway. The bathroom door at the other end is open. More giggling and splashing water can be heard.

Meredith is wound up tight with dread. She slowly walks toward the bathroom doorway.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Meredith stands in the doorway, can't believe what she is seeing.

Javon and Brianna lean over the bathtub. They have begun the early stages of taxidermy on a dead cat. The tub is half filled with bloody water.

Brianna holds the carcass as Javon carefully unravels and removes the intestine and stomach.

MEREDITH
JAVON ARE YOU INSANE!

Javon and Brianna are startled; drop the cat in to the bathtub. Both spin around to face Meredith.

MEREDITH
That's Miss Tobin's cat!

JAVON
I didn't kill it! It was
already dead!

MEREDITH
That cat was a pet!

BRIANNA
Fuck sis! Get off his back! It
was my idea!

JAVON
But I went along with it so
it's not her fault Meredith.

Meredith ignores Brianna, her anger is fixed on Javon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH
If it had been my idea you
would've called me
insensitive!

Javon is ashamed, he is unable to look Meredith in the eye.

MEREDITH
Isn't that right Javon?

BRIANNA
Oi! I said it was my idea!
Leave him alone!

MEREDITH
You're both making me sick!
I've got to get out of here.

Meredith turns to leave. She pauses in the doorway.

MEREDITH
By the way, the reason I'm
here is to tell you I'm
representing my kendo club at
the Regional Kendo Tournament.

Meredith exits out the doorway.

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Meredith walks hurriedly down the stairs. She is peeved.
Javon rushes down the stairs after her.

JAVON
Meredith! Meredith!

Meredith stops, turns to face Javon. She glares at him.

Javon stops in front her.

JAVON
Ah . . . congratulations with
the Kendo thing.

MEREDITH
Why are you letting Brianna
tell you what to do?

JAVON
Get real! We just do things
together. That's what flat
mates do.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH

Oh, so now Brianna's your flat mate.

JAVON

You said you had no problems with me living with your sister.

MEREDITH

What? Why'd you bring that up for? This isn't about me.

JAVON

Yeah it is. You're the one who left me no choice but to rent with Brianna.

MEREDITH

No I didn't!

JAVON

Yeah you did!

MEREDITH

You made your own decision!

JAVON

Only because you couldn't make one!

MEREDITH

What the hell are we arguing about Javon?

JAVON

What are you arguing about?

MEREDITH

This is a waste of time.

Meredith turns to walk down the stairs.

JAVON

Wait Meredith.

Meredith pauses mid step, turns to face Javon.

JAVON

Stay tonight, please?

MEREDITH

No Javon, I can't.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON
C'mon. So far this week you've
only stayed here one night.

MEREDITH
I have to focus on my Kendo. I
can't let my Sensei down. He's
depending on me.

Javon is disappointed and upset.

JAVON
Oh. Okay than.

MEREDITH
Good night Javon.

JAVON
Yeah, night.

The two embrace and kiss. Javon is miserable as he watches
Meredith walk away.

EXT. GRASS FIELD - DAY

Brianna sits on the gentle slope of a grass hill. She is
dressed in a beautiful medieval gown. Her hair is done in
ringlets.

Several rabbits hop around Brianna. A big white fluffy
rabbit sits in her lap.

Javon walks down the slope towards Brianna, remains
standing as he stops beside her.

BRIANNA
Oi! I got no problems with you
dreaming about me, but can you
ditch the Snow White crap?

JAVON
Huh? Oh sorry.

The rabbits suddenly flee through the long grass as a fox
chases after them.

BRIANNA
Hey, did you ever have a
girlfriend in high school?

Javon blushes with embarrassment, stares at his feet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

No.

BRIANNA

What about a crush?

JAVON

Maybe.

BRIANNA

I knew it! You've got a fixation on me.

JAVON

What?

BRIANNA

Think about it, I'm sixteen? A teenager? Teenagers go to high school?

Javon looks confused.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Ah C'mon Javon! Do I have to paint a picture for you? You pretend that I'm your high school sweetheart that you never had in high school.

Javon sighs, plonks himself down on the grass next to Brianna.

JAVON

Jeez Brianna. Can't we just agree that you're my friend and leave it at that?

BRIANNA

Sure, why not. Calling a fixation a friendship makes it sound healthy.

JAVON

Is it really that obvious?

BRIANNA

Shit yeah! It's written all over you.

Javon looks sad, weighed down by a heavy decision. Brianna places her hand comfortingly on his back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Oh Jesus jumping Christ! No wonder Meredith's so agro. She's Jealous! I've got to do something.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Javon wakes up in his bed, rolls over on to his back, stares up at the ceiling. He is saddened and concerned by a decision he has made.

JAVON

Shit.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Javon stands at the kitchen bench, makes a mug of coffee. He is still in his pyjamas.

Javon looks tired and unhappy.

Brianna stops in the kitchen doorway. She wears a dressing gown, dries her wet hair with a towel.

BRIANNA

Hey, make me a coffee please.

JAVON

Sure.

Javon opens a cupboard, retrieves a second mug as Brianna walks off.

JAVON

Brianna!

Brianna re-enters the kitchen, faces Javon.

BRIANNA

Mmm?

JAVON

I was just thinking

Pause for a beat as Javon struggles to find the courage to speak what is on his mind.

BRIANNA

Thinking about what?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Maybe you should ask Molly if she's ready to move in with you.

Brianna screws up her face in disgust.

BRIANNA

To hell with that! Molly's a wimp. She missed her chance.

JAVON

Ah c'mon Brianna, Molly's your best friend. Wouldn't you rather share this unit with her?

BRIANNA

I'm sharing it with you.

JAVON

Yeah, but moving in with Molly was your original plan, remember.

Brianna glares at Javon. Her suspicion makes Javon nervous.

BRIANNA

I don't want to rent with Molly. I'm renting with you.

JAVON

We're only living together because it's convenient, you know that.

BRIANNA

(sarcasm)

Well at least we're doing it for the right reasons.

JAVON

It's not like us living together will last forever. You know I've got Meredith to think about. I'll wait until Molly moves in with you before I go.

BRIANNA

Sure you will.

Brianna storms out of the kitchen.

INT. FLORIST SHOP - DAY

Brianna stands at the counter, agitated and moody.

ALISON and MONICA also work in the shop. Both are in their early twenties. They gather around Brianna.

ALISON
What's wrong Brianna? Share your problem with us.

MONICA
Yeah, share. Think about how better it'll make you feel.

BRIANNA
It's Javon.

ALISON
I knew it! You're pregnant to your sister's boyfriend! I can't wait to tell Lisa and Kerrie when they come in tomorrow.

BRIANNA
I'M NOT PREGNANT! Shit it's not like that. Javon told me he's gonna move out of the unit.

MONICA
(Disappointed)
Oh, is that all.

BRIANNA
What do you mean is that all? I can't afford rent by myself. I'll get evicted!

ALISON
Javon doesn't seem to care.

Brianna bows her head to hide the hurt she feels.

BRIANNA
I didn't think Javon would do this to me. I'd expect it from my father yeah, but not Javon.

MONICA
What are you going to do?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Brianna pulls off her apron. She is furious and determined. A woman on a mission! She snatches up her handbag, charges toward the front door.

BRIANNA
I'm going home sick! If you
don't like it Alison- bite me!

Brianna exits the shop. The front door slams shut behind her.

EXT. DRIVEWAY. PERPLEXITY GROVE - DAY

MISS TOBIN
Puss, puss, puss, puss!

Miss Tobin searches one of the lush fern gardens alongside the driveway. Not finding her cat, she becomes downhearted, moves on.

Javon cruises up the driveway on his Vespa, parks it in the usual spot. He removes his helmet, watches Miss Tobin as she shuffles about.

MISS TOBIN
Puss, puss, puss, puss!

Javon is afflicted by guilt. He avoids eye contact with Miss Tobin as he hurries past her.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM. UNIT 8 - DAY

The front door opens, Javon enters the lounge room.

JAVON
(Shouting)
Hey honey! I'm home!

There is no response. The unit is quiet.

JAVON
Brianna?

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Javon stands in the hallway, knocks on Brianna's bedroom door. The door remains closed. All is quiet.

Javon is starting to look concerned.

JAVON
Brianna?

INT. BRIANNA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Javon opens the door to Brianna's room. He gasps, horrified by what he sees.

The room is empty. Javon is devastated.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

Javon is in a panic as he presses numbers on the cordless phone. He places the phone to his ear.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Hello?

JAVON

Meredith! Meredith! Brianna's gone!

MEREDITH (V.O.)

I don't know where she is.

JAVON

No! She's packed up her stuff and moved out. She told me nothing.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

What happened?

JAVON

Nothing happened. She's just left with out telling me.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Brianna would do that.

JAVON

I can't pay rent by myself. I'm gonna get evicted!

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Move back in with your brother.

JAVON

No way.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Than why don't you move back home with your mother?

This suggestion makes Javon winch with emotional pain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

You know I can't do that. Mum and I haven't spoken for over a year.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

What do you want me to do?

Javon hesitates. His voice is shaky with dread, fear and desperate hope.

JAVON

We could, you know, live together.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Javon, I cant . . .I'm sorry. I have to focus on training for this Kendo tournament. You have to sort this out with Brianna.

JAVON

Fine, I will.

Javon switches off the phone. He is miserable and dejected.

EXT. BALCONY. UNIT 8 - DAY

Javon leans against the balcony rail, looks over Perplexity Grove without seeing it. He suffers emotional hurt and loss.

Sudden movement catches Javon's attention. He looks up to see a bloated garbage bag hurtle through the air. The bag hits a parked car out on the street. The bag bursts open from the impact, covering the vehicle in rubbish.

Shouts of glee can be heard from the back of Perplexity Grove.

Javon is alert, frowning.

A second garbage bag takes flight. Javon watches it soar over the block of units opposite to his.

Javon gasps as he is hit by a sudden realization.

JAVON

This can't be happening!

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Javon rushes out of the building and on to the driveway.

He skids to a stop as another garbage bag is air borne, explodes on the roof of the left hand side block of units. Rubbish cascades off the roof.

The shouts of jubilation intensify.

Javon runs down the length of the driveway towards the back of Perplexity Grove.

He turns around the corner of the building.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

In the centre of the courtyard, a massive slingshot has been constructed out of metal pipes and strips of rubber tube from car tyres.

Wiz bins are scattered around it, some of them empty as they lay on their sides.

Puck and his gang are gathered around the slingshot, load a garbage bag on to the sling.

All of Puck's gang have their faces hidden behind their rabbit masks. One of them is female, wears a fox mask.

Javon gasps. It's just as he suspected.

JAVON

Brianna!

The female lifts up the fox mask to reveal herself. It is Brianna. She glares at Javon with ferocious hate.

Javon runs toward Brianna.

JAVON

Brianna! What are you doing?

BRIANNA

Well, I came to realize that you SUCK! So I've decided to live with these boys.

JAVON

Ah great Brianna. Now I'm gonna get evicted!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA
Better you than me!

JAVON
What? What are you talking
about?

BRIANNA
Just fuck off all right. I've
made some new friends that
won't stab me in the back.

JAVON
Brianna. I wouldn't-

BRIANNA
Like fuck you won't! You
already have!

JAVON
Why are you doing this? What
have I done?

BRIANNA
Just fuck off Javon!

Javon is hurt by Brianna's harsh words. He can't bear the pain, the loss.

Javon shuffles out of the courtyard, devastated and on the brink of tears.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPER TITLE ON BLACK:

ONE WEEK LATER
(The day of the Regional
Kendo tournament.)

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

The sink is full of dirty bowls and glasses. Empty packets of two-minute noodles litter the bench. The curtains on the kitchen window are pulled closed. The room is dark.

The kettle boils.

Javon is unshaven, his hair and clothes dishevelled and dirty. He breaks open a pack of two-minute noodles, dumps the content into a bowl, adds hot water from the kettle.

Javon does all this in an unfocused, state of depression.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - MORNING

The curtains on the glass sliding door are also drawn closed. The room is in murky darkness.

Javon slouches in a one-seater sofa. In front of him is a coffee table. Standing on the table is the completed taxidermy sculpture of a fairy cat based on one of Javon's sketches.

Javon glares at the sculpture, the glass eyes of the sculpture stare back.

A hissing, mocking whisper, a disembodied voice, comes from the cat.

FAIRY CAT

Oi! Stop being a sad sack!
Look at me! I'm real! I'm
physical! It's what ya always
wanted!

JAVON

Do you know how much you cost
me?

FAIRY CAT

Was I worth it?

JAVON

I can't believe I'm having a
conversation with a piece of
art.

FAIRY CAT

Get a grip shit head! I'm your
sub conscience. You're
thinking to yourself.

JAVON

Oh great. Just perfect. Eating
two-minute noddles for
breakfast, lunch and tea has
chemically poisoned me. I'm
hallucinating.

FAIRY CAT

Hallucinating? Dick head!
You're thinking out loud! Your
artistic ambitions are
fulfilled! Just shut the fuck
up and be happy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Screw you! I'm a week behind with rent cause I can't afford to pay it. So now, I'm gonna get evicted and it's all because Brianna betrayed me.

FAIRY CAT

Ah have a whinge ya big cry baby. I'm grateful you're having this crisis cause you used creating me as a diversion from your woes.

JAVON

Fuck you!

FAIRY CAT

Fuck you twice!

Javon turns his head, refuses to look at the sculpture.

FAIRY CAT

What? So ya just gonna sit there and sulk? Brianna fucked you over! Get her back!

Javon considers this for a beat. He warms up to the idea, to the possibilities.

Suddenly he becomes consumed with vengeful determination.

Javon gets up off the lounge. He moves across the room, picks up the phone book next to the telephone.

FAIRY CAT

Yeah, that's it! Get her good! Settle the score!

INT. KITCHEN. RIXON'S HOUSE - DAY

Skylar and Damien sit at the kitchen counter, eating breakfast.

Meredith enters the kitchen. Her body language is both timid and pleading as she approaches Skylar.

MEREDITH

Dad. The Regional Kendo tournament is on today. It'll mean a lot to me if you come watch my fight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Damien sits up straight, glares at his sister.

DAMIEN

No way. Dad's already promised
me that we're gonna go fishing
today.

Meredith's heart sinks. Skylar glances at his son, gives
Meredith a stern look.

SKYLAR

A promise is a promise
Meredith.

MEREDITH

This is the same reason
Brianna trashed the house Dad!

Meredith rushes out of the kitchen. Skylar sighs, stands
up.

SKYLAR

Wait here son.

Skylar exits the kitchen.

INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - DAY

Meredith is trying unsuccessfully to not cry as she packs
her Kendo gear into a gym bag.

Skylar enters the room, sits on the end of the bed.

Meredith expresses rejection and emotional pain as she
stares at her father.

MEREDITH

The only reason I took up
stupid Kendo in the first
place was because I hoped it
would get you interested in
me.

Skylar looks uncomfortable as he watches his daughter.
There is no regret or love in his expression- not even
pity.

SKYLAR

Meredith, I don't hate you or
your sister, I never have. I
just . . .I can't relate with
you two.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH

If we had been boys, would it
have made a difference?

Skylar stands up.

SKYLAR

Yeah, it would. I'm sorry
Meredith.

Skylar leaves the room.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM. UNIT 12 - DAY

TANGO the clown stands in the lounge room. He is thirty-five years old and dressed in a colorful, flamboyant costume. His costume and the balloons he holds yell FUN! However the scowl on his face and his angry body language tell a different story.

Puck, Brianna and the gang sit on the sofa or on the floor, nervous and confounded as they stare at Tango the disgruntled clown.

TANGO

Hang on. Hang on. Let me get
this straight.

Tango rubs his temple as he concentrates.

TANGO

So what you're saying is that
I'm the victim of a fucking
prank call?

PUCK

We didn't call you, honest
man.

Tango sighs with frustration, shakes his head.

TANGO

I don't believe this.

Tango's anger escalates.

TANGO

How long do you think it takes
me to get into costume? Huh?
Have a guess. Come on numb
nuts! Give it a go!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Everyone in Puck's gang glance at each other. They shrug their shoulders than shake their heads.

TANGO
Two fucking hours!

Tango clenches his teeth. He is a bomb primed to explode.

TANGO
Fuck it! I'm gonna entertain
you dip shits, so you better
pay up now or else I'll shove
my foot up your arse.

Tango lifts his leg so everyone has a clear view of the cartoonish, long clown shoes he wears.

TANGO
You don't want that to happen
cause we clowns wear really
big shoes! I'm not clowning
around!

Now the gang is really scared.

TANGO
Right! Let's get started!

Tango ties a long balloon into the shape of an animal.

TANGO
Look at that! It's a sausage
dog! Hey! Hey!

Everybody is too afraid to respond. The room is silent.

TANGO
WHERE'S MY APPLAUSE YOU STUPID
FUCKS!!

Everyone starts clapping.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Tango the clown walks down the driveway, carrying his big clown bag.

EXT. BALCONY. UNIT 8 - DAY

Javon sticks his head out of the open, sliding glass door. He smiles victoriously as he watches the clown leave Perplexity Grove.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon glances at the balcony of Unit 12.

JAVON'S POV - UNIT 12 BALCONY

Puck leans against the railing, watches Tango leave. Puck plays his pan flute.

EXT. BALCONY. UNIT 12 - DAY

Brianna steps out onto the balcony. She is peeved.

PUCK
That Bozo the psycho took all
our rent money. We can't pay
rent this week.

Brianna doesn't listen. She stares straight at Javon.

EXT. BALCONY. UNIT 8 - DAY

Javon panics, ducks out of sight.

EXT. BALCONY. UNIT 12 - DAY

Brianna shouts at Javon.

BRIANNA
TANGO THE FUCKING CLOWN! IS
THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO
JAVON!

Brianna storms into the unit.

BRIANNA (O.S.)
I'll show him!

EXT. DRIVEWAY. RIXION'S HOUSE - DAY

Meredith is sullen as she packs her gym bag into the back of her car. Competing in the Regional Kendo Tournament is supposed to be the most exhilarating moment of her life. She is too gloomy to be exhilarated.

Meredith exhales a heavy sigh as she closes the tailgate.

EXT. DRIVEWAY. PERPLEXITY GROVE - DAY

A White van stops in the middle of the driveway.

Forgarty steps out of the van, puffs on his beloved pipe. He carries a large esky. He walks towards one of the blocks of units.

INT. KITCHEN. UNIT 8 - DAY

Forgarty opens up the esky that sits on the kitchen table. It is filled with four stiff, dead cats and ice. Forgarty looks smug with himself as he puffs on his pipe.

FORGARTY
There you go. Four iced, dead
cats as requested.

Javon stands on the opposite side of the table. He is silent and impassive as he gazes at the cats.

JAVON
I haven't got the money.

Forgarty's pipe slips out his mouth.

FORGARTY
What do you mean you haven't
got the money? We agreed on
this two weeks ago.

EXT. DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE. PERPLEXITY GROVE. - DAY

Three ominous black Land Rovers screech to a halt out the front of Perplexity Grove. An RSPCA sign is on the side of each vehicle.

Uniformed men scramble out of the Land Rovers. Their uniforms are similar to what SS troops wore during the era of Nazi Germany. All of the men wear an armband with the RSPCA logo displayed on it.

The men line up in formation and begin marching down the driveway. Their black boots making a loud stomping noise.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Miss Tobin rushes out of the building to greet the RSPCA troops as they march down the driveway.

COLONEL HORN is at the front of the marching formation. He is a lean, hard-faced bastard, aged forty.

COLONEL HORN
COMPANY, HALT!

The formation stops in front of Miss Tobin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLONEL HORN

Madam, can you direct us to the owner of this establishment?

MISS TOBIN

Oh, sure she is over- wait!
That's me!

COLONEL HORN

At approximately 11:15 am digital time, we received an anonymous phone call that reported whoever is renting unit number 8 has been abusing cats.

MISS TOBIN

Unit 8? Oh, that'd be Javon. Lives with his girlfriend's sister. It's all a bit sus if you ask me.

COLONEL HORN

Thank you madam.

Miss Tobin gasps with shock, becomes concerned.

MISS TOBIN

Oh my! My pet cat is missing!

Colonel Horn places a comforting hand on Miss Tobin's shoulder.

HORN

Madam. Pray to God that your cat has not been harmed.

INT. KITCHEN. UNIT 8 - DAY

Javon and Forgarty are startled by the loud marching sound of a dozen booted feet.

Both men frown at each other, puzzled. They rush to the kitchen window, look through the smudged glass.

JAVON'S POV - DRIVEWAY

The RSPCA troops march down the driveway.

BACK TO SCENE

Forgarty backs away from the window, glares at Javon with suspicion.

FORGARTY
What the fuck are they doing
here?

Javon scowls as he is struck by a sudden realization.

JAVON
BRIANNA!

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

The RSPCA troops march swiftly up the stairwell.

INT. FRONT DOOR. STAIRWELL - DAY

The front door to Javon's unit is flung open. Forgarty barges through the doorway into the stairwell. Javon follows behind him.

The two spot the RSPCA troops marching up the stairwell. They bolt back inside the unit, slam the door shut.

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

Javon locks the front door.

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

Two of the RSPCA troops begin kicking at the front door

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

BANG! BANG! BANG! Booted feet pound against the outside of the front door.

FORGARTY
Has this place got a back
door?

JAVON
No!

FORGARTY
I didn't think so.

Javon runs out of the lounge room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON (O.S.)
There's a tree out side the
bathroom window!

Forgarty follows Javon.

The front door is kicked clean off the hinges. The RSPCA troops rush into the lounge room.

The RSPCA troops stop in front of the coffee table, offended and enraged by the sight of the fairy cat sculpture.

RSPCA TROOP
Christ all mighty! We're
dealing with a real sicko.

EXT. BATHROOM WINDOW/TREE - DAY

Javon squirms out through the open window, grabs a tree branch and pulls himself into the tree.

Forgarty slides through the window. An RSPCA troop grabs the vet's ankle, is half dragged out of the window as Forgarty tries to flee. A second troop lashes out, grips Forgarty's leg. The vet howls in anguish as the two troops pull him back into the bathroom.

Javon clings to the tree, horrified. He scrambles down the tree.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Javon bolts down the driveway towards the back of Perplexity Grove.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

Javon dashes into the courtyard, scrambles up the fence on the boarder line of the property.

Suddenly Brianna, Puck and the gang pounce on him, drag him off the fence. They pin him to the ground.

JAVON
Why are you doing this?

BRIANNA
Because of that clown shit you
pulled on us! We're one week
behind in rent.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

No! Why are we fighting!

The RSPCA troops rush in and grab Javon. Each troop clutches one of Javon's limbs, carries him out of the courtyard. Brianna follows after them.

BRIANNA

You know why!

JAVON

No I don't!

BRIANNA

Bullshit! You're the one who started it.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

The RSPCA troops carry a squirming Javon down the driveway. Brianna runs along side them.

BRIANNA

Remember that morning in the kitchen? You told me you were gonna move out?

Javon remembers. Brianna is pushing closer to the RSPCA troops.

One of the RSPCA troops pushes Brianna out of the way.

RSPCA TROOP

Please step away madam.

BRIANNA

Go blow a koala you fascist creep!

Brianna pushes closer to Javon, sneers at him.

BRIANNA

I was paranoid that you'd do it. You'd leave me alone in that unit. So I beat you to it!

JAVON

I'd never do that to you!

BRIANNA

Than why'd you say it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

I had too! Meredith was
jealous of us living together.
I panicked! I didn't know what
to do!

Brianna is astounded by Javon's response. She pulls away from the pack, stops in the middle of the driveway.

BRIANNA

(To herself.)
Why didn't you just say that
in the first place?

EXT. ENTRANCE TO DRIVEWAY - DAY

Meredith stands in the middle of the driveway.

Behind Meredith, RSPCA troops shove a struggling Forgarty into one of the Land Rovers.

Javon is carried past Meredith by the RSPCA troops.

JAVON

MEREDITH! MEREDITH!

Meredith watches with mild bewilderment and displeasure as Javon is forced into one of the Land Rovers. She lowers her head. She looks burdened with sadness and disappointment.

Brianna hurries beside Meredith. She is surprised to see her sister.

MEREDITH

(Bitter sarcasm)
I see you and Javon have been
sorting out your problems. The
RSPCA is a nice touch sis.

Brianna studies her older sister, looks suddenly concerned.

BRIANNA

What? No way! You've been
crying!

MEREDITH

No I haven't.

BRIANNA

Don't lie to me. Your eyes are
still red.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The RSPCA Land Rovers drive away in single file. Meredith turns to watch them depart, ignores Brianna.

BRIANNA
What's wrong sis?

MEREDITH
I'll tell you what's wrong! My fight at the Regional Kendo Tournament is today and everyone is too busy to come watch me.

Brianna's eyes widen. She gasps with shock and guilt.

BRIANNA
It's today? Oh shit Meredith! I'd totally forgotten about it. So has Javon.

MEREDITH
Typical. If it doesn't concern you than Javon doesn't want to know about it.

Brianna is startled.

Meredith turns her back on Brianna, walks toward her car parked out in the street.

BRIANNA
Oi! You don't say something like that than turn your back on me! Come back here and talk to me sis!

Meredith ignores Brianna.

Puck and the gang of teen boys crowd around Brianna.

PUCK
That loser got what he deserves.

TEEN BOY
Yeah, I bet he was the one that stole the wheel nuts from our Torana.

Brianna spins around to face Puck. She is charged with energy and determination

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

We can't do this! We got to
rescue Javon now!

All of the teen boys gape at Brianna.

Puck gives Brianna a stern, warning glance.

PUCK

He got what he deserved. Don't
go soft on us and change your
mind.

BRIANNA

I'm not doing it for Javon. I
have to do this for my sister.

EXT. MAIN ROAD - DAY

The four RSPCA Land Rovers cruise along the street in
single file.

INT. LAND ROVER - DAY

Javon sits in the back seat, wedged in between two RSPCA
troopers. He is anxious and frightened.

EXT. BACK STREET OF SUBURB - DAY

Puck rides Javon's Vespa full throttle down the street.
Brianna sits on the back, her arms around Puck. She carries
a shoulder bag. Her fox mask sits on the top of her head.

The rest of the gang are packed tight into Puck's Torana.
The car follows behind the Vespa.

A police car drives along the opposite side of the road. As
it passes the speeding Vespa and Torana, the police car
screeches to a halt. It spins around, lights flashing and
siren wailing as it pursues the speeding vehicles.

INT. TORANA - DAY

The boys glance over their shoulders at the pursuing police
car. They grin with glee.

TEEN BOY 1#

Sweet!

TEEN BOY 2#

This is gonna be awesome.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

All the teens reach for the rabbit masks they wear on the top of their heads, slides them down over their faces.

EXT. SHEPLAND PARK - DAY

The Regional Kendo Tournament has been set up on a large grass field in the middle of a park. Spectators fill the grand stands that have been erected on the left and right side of the grass field. Several marquees have been set up around the combat area for the judges and the waiting contestants to shelter in. Colorful banners decorate this special occasion, swaying in the gentle breeze.

The crowd cheers with enthusiasm as two kendo practitioners fight it out in the combat area. The judges sit behind a long table, watching the fight closely.

EXT. MARQUEE - DAY

Meredith walks under an open marquee where other Kendo practitioners are gearing up in their armor or discussing tactics with their Senseis.

Sensei Miyazaki greets Meredith with a bow. He is instantly concerned as he glances over her.

MIYAZAKI

Your muscles are tighter than a fish's arsehole. What's wrong lass?

Meredith unzips her gym bag, pulls out her armor.

MEREDITH

Nothing's wrong Sensei. I'm ready to fight.

Miyazaki is dubious. Meredith starts putting on her armor.

Meredith notices Miyazaki's concern, gives him a reassuring smile that fails to be reassuring.

MEREDITH

Please stop worrying Sensei.

Miyazaki bows his head. He still looks concerned. He tightens the back straps on Meredith's torso armor.

MIYAZAKI

I'm not letting you fight lass until you do some meditation. Your focus is all out of whack.

EXT. MAIN ROAD - DAY

Puck weaves the Vespa in and out of the light traffic on the road. Further up ahead is the column of RSPCA Land Rovers.

Behind the Vespa, the Torana drives in the middle lane, blocking the police car's advancement.

EXT. LAND ROVER - DAY

Puck rides the Vespa beside the Land Rover. Javon can be seen in the back seat.

INT. LAND ROVER - DAY

Javon looks out the window at Puck and Brianna on his Vespa. He is startled. What could they possibly be up to?

EXT. TRAFFIC LIGHTS - DAY

The traffic lights turn red. The column of RSPCA Land Rovers is forced to stop.

EXT. TORANA - DAY

The Torana stops behind the column of Land Rovers, The gang scramble out of the car, jump onto the bonnet of the police car that also stops.

EXT. LAND ROVER - DAY

Brianna jumps off the Vespa, stands next to the front passenger door of the Land Rover.

The RSPCA troop sitting in the front passenger seat winds down the window, glares at Brianna.

RSPCA TROOP
Step away from the vehicle.

Brianna pulls a firecracker out of her shoulder bag, lights the wick. She tosses it through the open window of the vehicle.

All of the doors of the vehicle open as the passengers leap out to escape the colorful sparks and smoke of the exploding firecracker.

EXT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Puck's gang jump up and down on top of the police car. The two police officers are trying unsuccessfully to restrain them.

The screeching noise of the firecracker catches all their attention. The teen boys hoot triumphantly.

EXT. LAND ROVER - DAY

Brianna grabs Javon's hand, pulls him away from the confused RSPCA troops.

Javon shoves Brianna aside, glowers at her with contempt.

JAVON

I can't believe you doxed me
in to the RSPCA! That was real
low.

BRIANNA

Forget that Javon! Meredith is
about to fight at that Kendo
tournament.

Javon's anger is replaced by shock.

JAVON

Oh shit! I'd forgotten about
that!

BRIANNA

Meredith is about to fight and
she's not focused.

Javon is very concerned and distraught.

JAVON

That's not good.

The firecracker dies inside the Land Rover. Thick smoke pours out of the opened doors.

BRIANNA

You were right! Meredith's
jealous of us living together.
You have to put her mind at
ease so she can focus on her
fight. You have to talk to
her!

Javon understands. He nods his head in agreement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON

Yeah! The three of us
should've done that in the
first place.

The RSPCA troops are reorganizing. They move towards Javon.

Puck lights the wick of a firecracker. He throws the
firecracker at the feet of the RSPCA troops.

The firecracker explodes. The RSPCA troops leap about in a
panic.

Brianna pulls a large firecracker out of her shoulder bag,
lights the wick.

Javon leaps onto his still idling Vespa and rides away.

Two RSPCA troops shoulder barge past Brianna as they run
after the retreating Vespa.

EXT. JAVON'S VESPA - DAY

Javon rides away, the spot where the column of RSPCA Land
Rovers sits becomes a spectacular fireworks display to
rival Sydney harbour on New Year's eve.

EXT. CREEK - DAY

Meredith kneels, her hands together, palms upward in a
cupped position. She kneels on a large flat rock in the
middle of a creek. Dozens of white roses flow past her on
the running water.

A disembodied, soothing female voice talks to her as she
meditates.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Breathe in slowly through your
nose, feel your breath nourish
your body. Good, now breathe
out slowly through your mouth.

Meredith does the breathing technique with her eyes closed.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Good, you are relaxed. Now, to
obtain focus, concentrate on
the thing that makes you most
happy.

Meredith opens her eyes, turns her head towards her left
hand side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon kneels on the rock beside her, smiles at her.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)
 You have chosen your boyfriend
 Javon. Focus on how he will
 make you happy.

Meredith punches Javon in the face with the back of her fist.

Javon tumbles off the rock into the water. Meredith pounces on him. She grapples him into a strangle hold, repeatedly bashes his head against the rock.

MEREDITH
 YOU SELFISH JERK! YOU'VE
 FORGOTTEN ABOUT MY FIGHT CAUSE
 YOU'RE ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT
 MY SISTER!

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)
 Your heart rate is up. Your
 breathing has hastened. You
 must stop this thought. It is
 unhealthy.

MEREDITH
 Stop? Are you kidding? Do you
 know how therapeutic this is?

JAVON
 Ow! You broke my nose.

MIYAZAKI (O.S.)
 Miss Rixon. Miss Rixon.

EXT. MARQUEE - DAY

Meredith's eyes open. She kneels on the floor. Her teeth are clenched; her breathing is sharp and rapid.

Miyazaki stands over her.

MIYAZAKI
 It's your turn to fight Miss
 Rixon. Let's go.

Meredith picks up her helmet and Shinai, follows her sensei out of the Marquee.

She is far from focused.

EXT. MAIN ROAD - DAY

Javon rides his Vespa full throttle.

He glances at the Vespa's right side mirror.

VESPA'S SIDE MIRROR POV - LAND ROVER

The menacing black shape of an RSPCA Land Rover closes in.

BACK TO SCENE

Javon glances over his shoulder at the pursuing vehicle.

JAVON

Don't you guys know when to
quit!

The Land Rover rumbles after the fleeing scooter.

Javon quickly turns off a side street. The land Rover
brakes, skids around the corner.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

In the centre of the grass field, a row of gym mats have
been laid out. This is the Shiajo (contest area)

Meredith and her OPPONENT are in a squatting position,
balancing their bodies on the balls of their feet. They
both face each other on opposite ends of Shiajo.

The REFEREE stands out side the Shiajo.

REFEREE

HAJIME!

Meredith roars savagely. She charges forward, slams her
full body into her opponent, knocks him off balance.

Meredith swings her Shinai in a wild arc, hits her opponent
in the head. He crashes onto the mat.

REFEREE

YAME!

Meredith stops her attack.

EXT. GRANDSTAND - DAY

The crowd of spectators jump to their feet. They are
horrified by the brutality of the fight.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

The Opponent's Sensei named CORNWELL and Miyazaki rush in to the Shiajo.

Cornwell helps his student stand up on his feet. He glares at Miyazaki and Meredith.

CORNWELL
How dare you teach a feral
skank the fine art of Kendo!

Meredith flinches at this insult.

Miyazaki glares at Cornwell with narrowed eyes as he moves closer towards him.

Both men take a fighting stance.

MIYAZAKI
Aye, you're a big lad
insulting my student. Let's
see you back it up with yer
fist. C'mon laddie, let em'
fly!

The Referee leaps in between the two men.

EXT. JUDGES' TABLE - DAY

The judges are not impressed. They shake their heads in disgust.

JUDGE 2# leaps to his feet, glowers at both Senseis.

JUDGE 2#
Sensei Miyazaki and Sensei
Cornwell! Step out of the
Shiajo now!

JUDGE 3#
Meredith Rixon! You are
disqualified!

EXT. SHEPLAND PARK - DAY

Javon jumps the gutter on his Vespa, rides through one of the gardens of the park. He crashes into a hedge, tumbles off the bike on to a grass slope, rolls down it.

The Land Rover charges through the garden, crushing plants. The vehicle skids to a stop next to Javon's Vespa.

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CONTINUED:

Javon leaps to his feet. The RSPCA troops leap out of the vehicle.

Javon runs towards the grandstands and marquees of the Regional Kendo Tournament that can be seen in the distance.

The RSPCA troops charge after Javon.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

Meredith stands alone outside the Shiajo. She watches Miyazaki in the background talk to the judges at their table.

An agreement is made between Miyazaki and the judges. Miyazaki walks toward Meredith.

Meredith is too ashamed to look her Sensei in the eye.

MIYAZAKI

I convinced the judges to drop your disqualification. You've got a second chance lass.

Miyazaki takes a step closer to his student, gives her a stern look.

MIYAZAKI

Don't stuff it lass.

MEREDITH

Thank you Sensei.

MIYAZAKI

I chose you to represent my club at this tournament because you're the most gifted Kendo disciple I have ever met. Now, start acting like one.

MEREDITH

Yes Sensei. I'm sorry Sensei.

EXT. MARQUEES - DAY

Javon hides between two marquees. He glances about, searching.

JAVON'S POV - GRANDSTAND

Across from the Marquees, the RSPCA troops stand around the side of one of the grandstands, searching for Javon.

BACK TO SCENE

Javon ducks out of sight, scampers around the back of the Marquee and slips down the side of a second one.

Javon now has a clear view of the Shiajo.

JAVON'S POV - SHIAJO

Meredith walks toward the middle of the Shiajo. She places her helmet on her head. Her opponent and the Referee stand waiting.

BACK TO SCENE

Javon panics, Meredith is about to fight!

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

Meredith and her opponent prepare to fight.

The referee glances at them both, prepares to give the order for the contest to begin.

JAVON (O.S.)
Meredith! Meredith!

The referee turns, glares at Javon as he runs onto the Shiajo.

Meredith stands, removes her helmet. Javon runs up to her.

MEREDITH
What are you doing here?
Shouldn't you be incarcerated
by the RSPCA?

JAVON
I still am. I escaped. We have
to talk Meredith.

MEREDITH
Javon, I'm about to begin my
fight.

JAVON
I know, and I'm here to stop
it. Brianna told me that
you've lost your focus. She
reckons you're jealous.

Meredith laughs uncomfortably.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH
Jealous? Of what?

JAVON
Are you kidding? You've been
narky and irritable ever since
I've rented with Brianna.

MEREDITH
I'm not jealous!

JAVON
Then what's your problem?

MEREDITH
You! You're the problem!
Because . . .because . . .
YOU'RE AN IDIOT JAVON!

Pause for a beat as Javon digests this.

MEREDITH
You follow Brianna around like
a stupid little puppy dog,
roll over every time she
clicks her fingers.

JAVON
If you've felt this way about
it, than why didn't you say
something?

MEREDITH
What's the point! You would of
denied it.

JAVON
No I wouldn't have because
you're right. I am fixated
with your sister.

MEREDITH
Fixated? That's an
understatement. You've been
acting like an immature
teenager every time you're
around her. It's pathetic.
GROW UP AND ACT YOUR AGE!

JAVON
I know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH

My sister is a teenage brat with her priorities all out of whack! I mean, my God, she trashed our parents' home with our brother's Peewee!

JAVON

I know! I know! I've experienced it first hand. Brianna dobbed me into the RSPCA, remember?

EXT. MARQUEE - DAY

The RSPCA troops spot Javon. Colonel Horn hand signals to the other troops, orders them to spread out and form a perimeter around Javon. The RSPCA troops obey.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

JAVON

I should never have shared rent with your sister. I should've moved in to a flat with you!

Meredith is uncomfortable with the direction the conversation has now taken.

JAVON

Why wouldn't you do it Meredith! I've asked and asked but you just kept throwing up excuses.

Meredith is silent.

JAVON

Why Meredith? No bullshit this time! Why won't you move in with me?

MEREDITH

I'm scared.

JAVON

Huh? You're the strongest woman I've ever met.

MEREDITH

We've never lived together. What if it doesn't work?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

What if we can't do it? I
don't want us to break up.

JAVON

That's a chance we have to
take.

EXT. OUTER RIM OF SHIAJO - DAY

The RSPCA Troops have circled around the outer edge of the Shiajo. Colonel Horn gives the order to move on the target.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

Javon sees the troops running in towards him. He becomes frantic, hastens to explain.

JAVON

C'mon Meredith, you can't keep
living like this. You can't
just rationalize everything.
You've got to take risks.

The RSPCA troops surround Javon. They grab him. Javon struggles against them, focuses on Meredith.

JAVON

Please Meredith. I beg you.
Take a risk with me. Let's
rent our own place together.

MEREDITH

I will. I will Jav!

The RSPCA troops drag Javon away from Meredith. Javon has a goofy grin on his face.

MEREDITH

I'm glad we had this talk Jav.

JAVON

We should've done this from
the beginning.

Meredith rushes forward, grabs Javon and kisses him passionately on the lip.

The RSPCA troops separate the two lovers. They continue dragging Javon away.

MEREDITH

I love you Javon!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVON
I loved you first!

Javon is dragged out of the Shiajo by the RSPCA troops. The crowds in the grandstands can be heard cheering.

Meredith is now calm and centred. Her mind is cleared. She can now focus.

She nods to the Referee. The Referee returns the nod.

REFEREE
Take your places!

Meredith places her helmet on her head.

Meredith and her opponent take positions.

REFEREE
HAJIME!

Meredith and her opponent shout out a battle roar, strike at each other. Meredith is graceful, fluid and disciplined. Her fighting is superior.

REFEREE
YAME!

The opponent staggers where he stands, rips off his helmet and gawks at Meredith with awe. Cornwell steps into the Shiajo. He too is awed.

EXT. GRANDSTAND - DAY

The crowd leaps to their feet as they clap and cheer.

EXT. SHIAJO - DAY

Miyazaki rushes into the Shiajo to stand beside Meredith.

The two Senseis study each other. Cornwell looks ashamed, bows to Miyazaki

CORNWELL
I apologize for insulting you
and your student. She is truly
gifted.

The two sensei and their students face each other, kneel on the grass, hands resting on their thighs. They bow low to each other as a sign of deepest respect.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FADE TO BLACK

SUPERTITLES ON BLACK:

ONE WEEK LATER.

EXT. DRIVEWAY. PERPLEXITY GROVE - DAY

A removal truck has reversed into the driveway of Perplexity Grove.

Javon carries a one-seater sofa. He puts it in the back of the truck.

Flakka and Jeff are helping Javon load his furniture into the truck.

Flakka and Jeff talk amongst themselves.

FLAKKA

So are you sayin' that Javon got evicted because he did taxidermy on his landlady's pet cat?

JEFF

Yep.

Flakka turns and glares at Javon

FLAKKA

You're a dumb shit Javon.

Javon is not listening. He looks down the length of the driveway.

JAVON'S POV - DRIVEWAY

Brianna and Miss Tobin stand side by side at the end of the driveway. Miss Tobin carries a cardboard box. Both women stare expectantly at Javon.

BACK TO SCENE

Flakka and Jeff notice Miss Tobin and Brianna. The two men grin at Javon.

JEFF

Ooo! You're in deep shit now Javon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FLAKKA
Your arse is gonna cop a
floggin'.

Javon ignores the remarks, begins to walk down the driveway.

JAVON
I gotta go and do something.

EXT. GARDEN. COURTYARD - DAY

Miss Tobin's pet cat, still a work of taxidermy art, is laid out in the bottom of the card board box. The box sits in a hole dug in the dirt of a garden filled with ferns.

Miss Tobin, Javon and Brianna are gathered around the hole, gazing down at the dead cat with mournful expressions.

Miss Tobin drops some flowers into the hole.

MISS TOBIN
Good bye my little furry
friend. I'll miss you.

Brianna places the lid on the card board box.

Javon shovels dirt onto the box.

MISS TOBIN
Do you reckon the fairies will
come and take his soul?

Javon stops shoveling, gawks at Miss Tobin, his mouth wide open.

MISS TOBIN (CONT'D)
You know, because of the fairy
costume you put him in. Do you
think the fairies will
mistaken him for a pixie and
take him to fairyland instead
of Heaven?

Now Javon understands. He shrugs, unsure on how to answer.

JAVON
Um . . . yeah. If that's what
you want.

A silent beat. Javon continues shoveling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRIANNA

We're so sorry for what we did
to your cat.

JAVON

We shouldn't have done it. It
was wrong.

Miss Tobin is not listening, stares into space. Suddenly
she bursts into a giggling fit.

Javon stares at her as if she is an oddity. Brianna give
her a look of disgust.

MISS TOBIN

Oh, pardon me. I just got an
image of fairies and angels
wrestling over my cat's soul.
Isn't that weird.

JAVON

No. No.

BRIANNA

Not at all. It's perfectly
normal.

Miss Tobin giggles some more, wipes her eyes.

MISS TOBIN

Oh damn these pain killers.
All I want to do is cry.

Miss Tobin laughs loudly. She moves away from the garden.

Javon finishes filling the hole with dirt, leans on the
shovel.

Brianna glares at Javon, disdain towards him clearly
expressed on her face. It is obvious that the grudge the
two hold against each other is still bloody and raw.

BRIANNA

Looks like we're all done.

Brianna walks off.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

I'm out of here.

JAVON

(sarcasm)
Yeah, have a nice life.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Brianna stops mid-step, twirls around to face Javon.

BRIANNA
You know, renting a unit with
you was the dumbest thing I
ever did.

JAVON
Yeah?

BRIANNA
Yeah.

JAVON
Well I can't say the same. It
served it's purpose.

BRIANNA
What purpose?

JAVON
It's got me exactly where I
want to be.

Brianna sneers at Javon.

BRIANNA
That's great. Go to hell! You
and my sister both.

Brianna storms off down the driveway.

Javon watches Brianna's back, sadness grips him.

JAVON
(To himself)
It's just a shame I had to pay
for it big time.

Javon walks off leaving Miss Tobin by herself.

MISS TOBIN
(calling out)
Thank you. Thanks for
attending my cat's funeral. He
would of appreciated it.

EXT. RENTED HOUSE - DAY

The rented house is a typical one story suburban home. The rental truck is parked in the driveway.

Javon and Meredith stand on the front lawn, holding hands.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Javon is elated as he gazes at Meredith. What he has wanted most has become real.

JAVON

How does it feel to be an independent woman? You excited?

MEREDITH

What's the point. The novelty will wear off within a week.

JAVON

Jeez! You can't help yourself can you. You've always got to be little Miss Practicality.

MEREDITH

You're a dag.

JAVON

Hey, I bet you feel different? You look different. You've got a healthy glow.

Meredith laughs.

MEREDITH

Shut up will ya.

The two walk toward the front door and enter the house.

FADE OUT.

THE END