

# PIN...

Screenplay  
By  
JACK REHER

Based on the novel PIN  
By  
Andrew Neiderman

&

The original film written and directed  
By  
Sandor Stern

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2012

**INSERT CARD:**

**AUTUMN 1998**

FADE IN:

**EXT. STREET - ANDOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE - NIGHT**

From the shadows a MAN dressed in a GROTESQUE MASK and black robe LEAPS OUT -

SCARY COSTUME GUY

**BOO!**

-as a sea of costumed kids scurry through the streets and sidewalks, SHRIEKING with delight.

It's HALLOWEEN.

Rows of houses are decorated with lit jack o'lanterns and Halloween decorations. SPOOKY SOUNDS blast from speakers lodged in darkened windows and grown-ups creep about trying to cause a fright for the kids.

DR. FRANK LINDEN, 40s, stands at the end of a sidewalk, watching his two kids. He has a small frame, bald, sunken eyes and is suffering from a rare and advanced case of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. His features are distinct and he wears a small amount of make-up to conceal his illness. No one knows except for his wife. His demeanor is cold & clinical.

JIMMY, a young kid, isn't paying attention as he's digging through his goodie bag and BUMPS into him.

JIMMY

Sorry, Doctor Linden.

(beat)

Look...I must have three pounds of candy here.

DR. LINDEN

You'll end up with hives and maybe even diabetes if you eat all that candy tonight Jimmy.

JIMMY

(eyes wide)

Huh?

Scary costume guy approaches Dr. Linden and Jimmy. SLIPPING the mask off his head, he RUMMAGES through Jimmy's sack, pulls out a candy bar and DEVOURS it.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Dad!

SCARY COSTUME GUY

Quality assurance.

(to Dr. Linden)

What's up Doc?

DR. LINDEN  
I've been thinking & have some  
revisions that need to be made to  
my assets.

SCARY COSTUME GUY  
Call my secretary. We'll set  
something up.

Dr. Linden NODS as his TWO KIDS RACE down the sidewalk  
towards him.

LEON, 7, with his hair slicked back, shares similar facial  
features as his father and is dressed in a tailored white  
doctor's coat. URSULA, 5, She's dressed as a ballerina.  
Their relationship is extremely strong but a bit odd at times  
in the vein of Roderick & Madeline Usher from Poe's story.  
Maybe they're a little too close.

JIMMY  
What'd you get from old Man Wiebe?

LEON  
A nutroll.

URSULA  
Same. And some change for Unicef.

JIMMY  
Come on, let's go to the  
Tolvstead's house!

Jimmy takes off as his dad tries to keep up. BEEP BEEP. Dr.  
Linden's PAGER goes off. He reads the typed message.

**OFFICE EXCHANGE SERVICE:**

**"JERRY LESHNER HAS DIED. PARAMEDICS AT THE HOUSE. CORONER  
IN ROUTE."**

No emotion crosses his face. He's distant from the message.

LEON  
I know that look.

DR. LINDEN  
I'm sorry, Leon.

LEON  
Come on Ursula. Halloween's over.

Leon takes her hand and the two walk away as Dr. Linden  
follows.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Dr. Linden drives the car. He eyes his two children in the  
rearview mirror. The two kids PEEK into their trick 'r  
treat bags and compare their amounts of candy. Leon WHISPERS  
into Ursula's ear as he GIGGLES.

DR. LINDEN  
 Secrets cause Cancer. You don't  
 want to get Cancer, do you? No  
 whispering. And no sneaking candy  
 until it's checked thoroughly by  
 your mother and me.

Leon and Ursula snap to attention. All fun has disappeared  
 from the backseat.

URSULA  
 I'm sorry father.

Dr. Linden CLEARS his throat as Leon corrects her.

LEON  
 (whispers)  
 Doctor.

URSULA  
 Doctor. I'm sorry, doctor.

DR. LINDEN  
 You're forgiven. Now what is it  
 that the two of you were  
 discussing?

URSULA  
 All the candy we got this evening.  
 We would like to share some with  
 PIN.

Dr. Linden SMILES with approval.

DR. LINDEN  
 He would very much appreciate it.

LEON  
 I don't understand why he couldn't  
 join us for some tricks and treats.

DR. LINDEN  
 You know Pin's working late at the  
 office.

LEON  
 He's always working late. Never  
 comes to dinner.

Dr. Linden eyes his son. Leon looks out the window.  
 Familiar streets with rows of houses decorated with jack  
 o'lanterns and kids running around in costume. He notices  
 them passing their own neighborhood.

LEON (CONT'D)  
 Where are we going?

DR. LINDEN  
 We have to make a stop.

**EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

The car cruises down the street.

**EXT. JERRY LESHNER RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

A FIRE TRUCK, AMBULANCE, two POLICE CARS and a BLACK VAN marked CORONER are all scattered in front of the house. The front door is wide open as EMERGENCY PERSONNEL mill about. The Volkswagon stops out front.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula sit silently waiting for their father to speak.

DR. LINDEN

This is my patient's house. Jerry Leshner. Leon, do you remember him? Everything that Pin mentioned about his case?

LEON

Yes. He's diabetic, suffers from Type two and he lost his left foot.

DR. LINDEN

Very good. Treatment?

LEON

(thinking)

Insulin therapy works with a managed diet. But Pin said that Jerry Leshner is lazy and wouldn't stick with the program.

Dr. Linden is pleased with his son's answer.

URSULA

Why are all of these people here?  
Is he sick?

DR. LINDEN

Pin was right. Jerry didn't stick with the program.

Zero empathy from the kids. They're simply cold to the notion of death. He opens the door and gets out. The kids stay put. He peeks back inside the car.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Well, are the two of you coming?  
You're both at the appropriate age to see this.

Leon's the first out of the car. He takes his sister's hand and holds tight.

**EXT. JERRY LESHNER RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

DR. LINDEN

Mrs. Leshner will be hysterical inside. She has never been able to control her emotions.

LEON  
We'll be fine.

DR. LINDEN  
I know. Just thought I should  
share with you what's going on.

They walk towards the house. Sitting on the front porch is a lit jack o'lantern. Ursula's more interested in that than what's going on around them.

CORONER BILL, 30s, walks around to the back of his truck, OPENS the door and PULLS OUT a GURNEY. Its wheels HIT the sidewalk hard and starts to ROLL as the coroner stops it.

A cop named MCGRAW, mid-forties, stands out front with MRS. LESHNER as Dr. Linden and his kids approach.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry for your loss Mrs.  
Leshner.

MRS. LESHNER  
(sobbing)  
Murderer.

Leon's ears perk up and watch as she walks over.

MRS. LESHNER (CONT'D)  
You did this to my husband. Call  
yourself a doctor?

Dr. Linden takes a moment. What would a normal person say in this situation? Definitely not this.

DR. LINDEN  
You're more than welcome to see his  
case file. I have nothing to hide.  
Your husband was diagnosed properly  
and given treatment.

MRS. LESHNER  
I'm going to have your license  
you...you bastard.

DR. LINDEN  
I'm not his candy striper. I  
wasn't here to hold his hand, watch  
his doses. Maybe if you weren't  
hitting the drink so hard-

She SLAPS Dr. Linden across the face hard. Everyone around hears the slap. McGraw hurries over and HOLDS her back.

MCGRAW  
That's enough Dr. Linden.

Leon's eyes are on fire with pride watching his father speak. She LUNGES for him again as McGraw DRAGS her away.

MCGRAW (CONT'D)  
Alright there. Let's take you over  
to your sister's house.

McGraw WAVES over a DEPUTY to escort her away. He turns his attention back to Dr. Linden and the kids.

MCGRAW (CONT'D)  
Sorry about that doctor.

DR. LINDEN  
No worries McGraw. I expected her to react like that.

MCGRAW  
What do we have here? Let's see, a doctor and an angel?

URSULA  
No, I'm a ballerina.

MCGRAW  
You three been doing some trick 'r treating with your dad?

McGraw pulls out a couple suckers for each of them.

URSULA  
Thanks McGraw!

Dr. Linden starts towards the house as Leon GRABS his sister's hand and follows.

MCGRAW  
Leon, Ursula, maybe you should wait out here with me.

DR. LINDEN  
They're fine. It's Halloween. A lot of crazies out tonight. Come on kids.

The three head up the porch and disappear inside as McGraw watches them curiously and shakes his head.

**INT. JERRY LESHNER RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

The scene is gruesome. BLOOD on the counter and floor surrounding the DEAD BODY of JERRY LESHNER. His left prosthetic foot rests a few feet away from him. The obese man seems to have over medicated himself.

Several syringes are around him and he's got a massive head contusion from when he FELL and HIT the counter. Dr. Linden walks into the kitchen. He takes a moment. Eyes grow wide. A bit peculiar reaction to seeing a dead body, even for a doctor.

**INT. JERRY LESHNER RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula behave themselves and sit quietly on the couch. Growing impatient, Leon gets up and heads to the kitchen, dragging his sister.

**INT. JERRY LESHNER RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Watching their father talk with the coroner, Leon steps closer to the body. PHOTOS are taken of the scene. Ursula holds her brother's hand tight and BURIES her face in his shoulder.

URSULA  
I don't want to see this anymore.  
Come on, Leon, let's go.

Leon can't take his eyes away. He's transfixed.

DR. LINDEN  
Leon! Get her out of here.

After a few moments, Leon walks her out of the room. Dr. Linden SIGNS the death certificate.

CORONER BILL  
...In this situation, we need to perform an autopsy.

DR. LINDEN  
I understand. I'll run his files over first thing in the morning.

CORONER BILL  
Jerry was a nice guy.

DR. LINDEN  
Terrible at poker though. As far as arrangements, give Reichart's Funeral Home a call.  
(beat)  
I'll cover the service expense. Let McGraw know and he can inform Mrs. Leshner.

CORONER BILL  
Very generous, doctor Linden.

Dr. Linden quickly walks out.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

The air is quiet. A bit awkward.

DR. LINDEN  
Don't tell your mother what you saw.

URSULA  
Why couldn't you help him?

LEON  
He was dead, Urs.

DR. LINDEN  
I tried. That's why I was his doctor. That's why I went to medical school. Try and help people.

(MORE)



DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

(beat)

At some point, everybody dies  
sweetie.

Tears well up behind her eyes.

URSULA

I don't want you or mother to die.  
Ever. Promise me.

Leon stares at his sister.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT - LATER**

The three story house with a chimney and an attic is sprawling. There's an attached garage to the house. Dr. Linden has done extremely well for his family. Their volkwagon pulls into the driveway and the kids get out.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT**

The house itself is spotless. All of the furniture down to the lamp shades are covered in plastic. There are three bedrooms upstairs and one on the main floor.

Removing their shoes anxiously, Leon and Ursula line them up neatly as their MOTHER, late 30s and beautiful with a June Cleaver way about her, stands in the hallway with rubber gloves on. Her skin is pale. She's a germ-a-phobe that is meticulous about her appearance and the cleanliness of EVERYTHING. They look up at her, proudly displaying their bags of goodies. Her eyes zero in on the rug behind them where the shoes sit.

MOTHER

I just vacuumed that rug.

Leon looks back. The rug is spotless.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Did you check your shoes before  
entering?

URSULA

Yes.

LEON

No.

MOTHER

At least you're honest. You know  
the rules, Leon.

LEON

Pin says a little bit of dirt  
doesn't hurt anyone.

MOTHER

And that's why Pin never makes it  
to the house. Outside!

LEON  
 (whispers)  
 No one else ever makes it to the  
 house. You never let us have  
 friends come over.

He looks at the bottom of his left shoe. A little bit of dirt. He FLICKS it off onto the clean entryway. His mother is mortified. She SLAPS him. Ursula stares at her defiant brother. Leon takes his shoes off and puts them outside the door.

MOTHER  
 Forgive me, Leon.

LEON  
 For what?

He's almost got a sociopathic quality and charm in his tone.

MOTHER  
 Trick 'r treat bags go in the  
 kitchen.

The kids take off as she grabs the vacuum from the hall closet.

MOTHER (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
 Dirty costumes in the hamper with  
 your socks. Be sure they're turned  
 right side out. Don't want filthy  
 lint clogging up the drains. Baths  
 and bed. It's late and a school  
 night.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Making their way towards the kitchen, passing all the furniture that's wrapped in plastic. Happy family and wedding photos on the wall table.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula set their bags down on the immaculate counter tops and head upstairs.

LEON/URSULA (O.C.)  
 Good night mother.

Leon stops for a moment, signals for his sister to go ahead and he SNEAKS back downstairs.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT**

Unbeknownst to his mother, Leon watches her from afar as she takes a moment to collect & compose herself. He's likes to simply study people's mannerisms when they're not aware.

Dr. Linden walks in carrying his dirty shoes and a large grocery bag. He smiles at his wife. It's a cold & clinical smile, but love is there none the less.

DR. LINDEN  
My shoes are clean.

She's not amused. Her OCD is getting a bit out of control. He's in denial.

MOTHER  
I may have to burn their clothes. Traipsing through the dirty streets in search of hand outs. I told you to just take them to the mall for indoor trick 'r treating.

DR. LINDEN  
That's not a Halloween.

He KISSES her on the cheek as she PEEKS inside the grocery bag and eyes all of the Halloween candy he purchased.

MOTHER  
Be sure to dump all of the candy they got tonight from their bags in the neighbor's garbage.

DR. LINDEN  
I know.

MOTHER  
The world is changing. I keep cleaning and it seems to be getting worse. I can't deal with it anymore. With Ursula & Leon maturing so quick, I'm just not being a good mother - a good parent. I can't do this.

DR. LINDEN  
You can. We can together.

She walks into the kitchen and he follows.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Mother SCRUBS her hands incessantly under steaming hot water for no apparent reason beyond fear of germs. He senses something's wrong. He is a doctor after all.

MOTHER  
I slapped Leon. It just...it just happened. I lost control. He was testing me.

No change in his expression or demeanor. Simply cold & clinical.

DR. LINDEN  
There's nothing wrong with Leon. Kids do test patience. Have you been taking your medication?

MOTHER  
Yes. Lately, I've been feeling-

DR. LINDEN  
 We'll adjust your dose. Nothing's  
 wrong with you. Trust. What we  
 have is good. We're family.

MOTHER  
 And we can't trust anyone but  
 family.

Leon agrees with his mother and disappears in the darkness.

**INT. BEDROOM - MORNING**

Leon's alarm RINGS. 6am. He RUBS the sleep from his eyes  
 and gets out of bed.

**INT. HALLWAY - MORNING**

Walking down the hall, he stops at the bathroom and peeks  
 inside. Dr. Linden is there. Shirt and tie on, he's  
 APPLYING some sort of MAKE-UP to his FACE-

Leon watches him for a moment, sees him COVERING up what  
 seems to be several slightly visible VEINS in his NECK (due  
 to the syndrome).

Dr. Linden eyes Leon and CLOSES the door. \*\*\* (This will be a  
 progressive characteristic throughout where his character  
 wears more and more facial cover-up)\*\*\*

DR. LINDEN  
 Get ready for school.

**INT. KITCHEN - MORNING - LATER**

Leon and Ursula eat their breakfast as Dr. Linden reads the  
 newspaper. Their mother is cleaning the stove. The clock  
 CHIMES 7:30am.

DR. LINDEN  
 Alright. Let's hear it. Ursula.  
 Why don't you name all the vowels.

URSULA  
 (thinking)  
 A-E-I-O...U.

DR. LINDEN  
 And how many consonants are in your  
 name?

She counts on her fingers.

URSULA  
 Three.

DR. LINDEN  
 Exceptional. Finish your cereal.  
 (beat)  
 And Leon.

(MORE)

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Why don't you count backwards from one hundred by seven's.

LEON

One hundred...ninety-three...eighty-six...seventy-nine...seventy-two...sixty-five...fifty-seven.

DR. LINDEN

Oooh...

LEON

Fifty-eight, I mean.

DR. LINDEN

Sorry.

Leon stares at his father for a moment. His dad's disappointed.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Come on Ursula. Looks like you're the only one getting a ride to school today.

(beat)

Leon, you better get walking. *One foot in front of the other.*

Without question, Leon quickly grabs his backpack and leaves the room.

**INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY**

Leon walks with his bag lunch through the crowded lunch room, eyeing the groups of KIDS having fun, laughing and yelling as they try not to look at him. He sees Jimmy, face beat red & swollen, and WAVES. Jimmy IGNORES Leon. He's the outcast. Making his way to a far away table, he finds Ursula sitting by herself. No friends either. Welcome to their grade school social experience. They eat in silence.

**EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - AFTERNOON**

Leon and Ursula sit on a bench as other kids play. Jimmy walks over to Leon and his sister.

LEON

You don't look so hot there, Jimmy.

JIMMY

My Dad's taking me to your dad's office today.

He SCRATCHES his SWOLLEN face.

URSULA

Why don't you sit with us at lunch? You never even speak to Leon in school. Aren't you guys friends?

LEON

Shut up, Ursula.

URSULA

What?

Jimmy looks back at the other boys as they stare curiously at his interaction with them.

JIMMY

Leon's my outside school friend.  
Which is way cooler.

A station wagon pulls up, scary costume guy - Jimmy's dad - is driving. Rolls down the window.

SCARY COSTUME GUY

Let's go, Jimmy. We're late.

Jimmy opens the front door and hops in.

SCARY COSTUME GUY (CONT'D)

Leon, Ursula, get in. I'll give  
you a ride too.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON**

The office is simple. An exam table on one side. Desk on the other with a LOCKED FILE CABINET behind it and a table and couch at the far end.

Dr. Linden has a tongue depressor in Jimmy's mouth as Leon and Ursula sit on a couch at the other end of the office. Jimmy's face is completely broken out and bright red. Jimmy's dad looks on nervously.

SCARY COSTUME GUY

So what is it?

JIMMY

(mouth-full)  
I don't feel so good...

DR. LINDEN

Come again there, Jimmy?

He takes the tongue depressor out.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

How much candy did you eat last  
night, Jimmy?

The kid SHRUGS.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Pin, would you like to diagnose  
this?

All eyes fall on PIN as he sits in a WHEELCHAIR with his back to them, staring out the window.

PIN

(nasally voice)  
Hives.

(MORE)

PIN (CONT'D)

You consumed too much candy for  
your little body to process Jimmy.

Jimmy LAUGHS. Dr. Linden SMILES. All the children patients  
like it when Pin diagnoses them.

JIMMY

How did you know I ate all my  
Halloween candy?

PIN

I know everything about you, Jimmy.  
With habits like that, you'll end  
up with a bad ticker.

JIMMY

Ticker?

Jimmy eyes Dr. Linden curiously. He NODS at Pin and walks  
over. SPINNING the wheelchair around, we now see Pin in the  
flesh, so to speak-

Pin is a life-size medical doll. Pin's appearance looks  
almost as if someone FILLETED a real person, thinly slicing  
the top layer of their skin and left all the veins for us to  
see. The doll has translucent skin where we can view his  
entire cardiovascular and circulatory systems.

Pin's anatomically correct and was specially modelled after  
Dr. Linden, so they share the same physical characteristics  
in appearance. Dr. Linden throws his voice through  
VENTRILLOQUISM.

DR. LINDEN

Pin will explain.

PIN

Early onset diabetes within  
children is caused by poor diet and  
lack of exercise which could then  
lead to a heart condition. You  
don't like getting shots, do you?

JIMMY

No way!

PIN

Well, you better start eating more  
fruits and vegetables and lay off  
the chips and sodas.

(beat)

Lots of water and those hives  
should go away in a few days.

SCARY COSTUME GUY

Dr. Linden's right. We'll start  
watching what we eat at home.

(to Dr. Linden)

Thank you Doctor.

DR. LINDEN

My pleasure.

LEON

What about Pin?

All eyes are on Leon as he stands next to Pin. A dead serious look on his face. Everyone knows that Pin is a doll. Maybe Ursula still questions it because of her age...

JIMMY

Thanks Pin.

Dr. Linden pushes a button on his phone and calls out-

DR. LINDEN

Nurse Spalding, can you get Jimmy's paperwork in order?

NURSE SPALDING (V.O.)

Yes, Doctor.

DR. LINDEN

I'll see you out.

He opens the door. Jimmy and his dad walk out.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Come on kids.

Ursula races out the door as Leon DROPS his backpack and his things SPILL OUT. His father's disappointed.

LEON

I'll clean this up.

Dr. Linden NODS and walks away. Leon SHAKES his head.

LEON (CONT'D)

He needs to give you more respect, Pin. Why don't you speak up for yourself? You diagnosed Jimmy. Just like you diagnosed Mr. Leshner.

He finishes putting his belongings back and looks up.

LEON (CONT'D)

Pin? I brought you some Halloween candy.

Leon reaches in his backpack and pulls out a few pieces, setting them in Pin's lap.

PIN

Your father doesn't want you speaking to me when he's not around. You and Ursula know the rules.

LEON

I know.

Dr. Linden CLEARS his throat and Leon turns to see him in the doorway.

DR. LINDEN

We need to swing by the store before dinner to pick up some milk. Let's go.



Leon walks out past his father.

LEON  
Good night, Pin.

Dr. Linden eyes the candy that was left for Pin then at Leon. He clicks the light off and closes the door.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT - LATER**

Dr. Linden and the kids walk inside.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

The smoke detector is going off in the kitchen. Dr. Linden eyes the pot boiling on the stove, looking inside, his wife seems to have been trying to STERILIZE something and now the pot is burning. He TURNS off the stove, WAVING a RAG high above him by the smoke detector-

LEON (O.C.)  
(YELLS)  
MOM!

Dr. Linden RACES out of the kitchen.

**INT. UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula stand there and stare at their BLOODY mother, her WRISTS are SLIT as she's laying NAKED in a bathtub of CLOROX BLEACH with several empty bottles beside her. Her wounds are deep.

The flesh on her body has begun to burn away due to prolonged exposure to the bleach.

BLOOD SPATTER has sprayed the tiles around her. The deep red on the immaculate white is beautiful. An Exacto knife lays on the floor beside her, resting on a towel. So considerate of her not to dirty the floor. Dr. Linden LOSES CONTROL for the first time. He's in SHOCK. He quickly switches to doctor mode.

DR. LINDEN  
Oh my GOD. Call the police!  
(beat)  
Stay with me!

**INSERT CARD:**

**WINTER 2001**

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE WAITING ROOM - DAY**

Leon, now 10 and Ursula is 8, sit patiently and watch NURSE SPALDING, 40s as she organizes things behind the desk.

NURSE SPALDING  
 Sorry your father's running late  
 kids. Can I get you juice or  
 anything?

URSULA  
 Juice.

LEON  
 Why can't we wait in his office?  
 Pin's in there.

NURSE SPALDING  
 You know how your father is about  
 his privacy. No one's allowed in  
 the office without him being  
 present. Pin is excluded.

Nurse Spalding gets up from the desk and walks around the  
 front. Leon gets up too.

LEON  
 I'm gonna wait outside for my  
 father.

NURSE SPALDING  
 Whatever pleases you, Leon. Bundle  
 up, it's cold.

Leon heads towards the front door and looks back. Ursula's  
 not paying attention and Nurse Spalding is gone. He quickly  
 walks down the hall and disappears inside his father's  
 office.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY**

Leon looks around the quiet office and sees Pin sitting in  
 the corner.

LEON  
 (whispers)  
 Hey Pin.

He waits for a response. Nothing of course.

LEON (CONT'D)  
 The doctor's on his way. Thought  
 I'd just wait in here.

Leon HEARS a SHUFFLE of feet outside the office door and he  
 quickly SLIPS into the clothes closet with a slatted door.  
 Nurse Spalding enters the room. She closes the door and  
 LOCKS it. Leon watches her walk over to Pin, TURN his chair  
 around and wheel it towards the couch.

She HIKES her skirt UP and STRADDLES Pin. MASSAGING herself  
 against the medical doll. RUBBING her pelvis against his  
 legs. CLIMBING on the couch and SITTING on Pin's SHOULDER  
 and PUMPING back and forth as she MOANS with PLEASURE as  
 Pin's head and eyes seem to be looking directly at Leon.

He's curious. Never seen this before. She finishes and puts Pin back into the position she found him, COMPOSES herself then heads out of the room. Leon waits a few moments, then steps out of the closet and stares at Pin.

LEON (CONT'D)  
What did that feel like?

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula stand at the center island on stools eating Christmas cookies and drinking milk as "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" plays on the small tv and their mother is SCRUBBING her hands furiously beneath scalding hot water.

Their mother looks a bit unhealthy - very skinny - almost too skinny at this point. She has SCARS on her wrists from the suicide attempt. Dr. Linden comes in from the outside as SNOW blows inside the door.

DR. LINDEN  
Merry Christmas!

He kisses his wife and eyes her blistered hands. She's embarrassed and pulls them away.

LEON  
Can we open presents?

MOTHER  
Now we can.

They finish up, wipe their mouths and make sure to de-crumbs over the plates. Picking up their stools, their mom quickly VACUUMS underneath where they were. Her obsessive cleaning has gotten worse.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

The fireplace CRACKLES with burning wood. The tree is decorated. Tons of presents are beneath the tree. Christmas lights TWINKLE outside the frost covered windows as soft carols play in the background. Leon and Ursula can't wait to start. Their mom and dad sit down to join them.

LEON  
Which presents are from Pin?

Dr. Linden looks at his wife then at Leon.

DR. LINDEN  
Well, let's see here.

He digs around and finds a box that reads from PIN to LEON and hands it to him.

LEON  
I hope he got me a Play Station 2!

URSULA  
Maybe it's a cell phone.

DR. LINDEN

Oh, I doubt that. You know they cause brain tumors and massive gliomas. None of you will ever have cell phones. Right Ursula?

URSULA

I forgot. Right!

Dr. Linden nods. She's happy with that answer. Leon unwraps his gift. It's a large BOOK.

DR. LINDEN

Would you look at that?

MOTHER

What is it, Leon?

He eyes the cover.

LEON

Physician's Desk Reference.

DR. LINDEN

How thoughtful is Pin? He knows you love studying my medical journals and procedures, guess he thought it was time for you to have your own PDR.

(beat)

Those are reserved only for doctors you know.

Leon smiles and digs into it. That's the only gift that matters to Leon this holiday.

**INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - DAY**

The new hour BELL RINGS. KIDS line up for their PHY-ED experience. DODGEBALL of course. The GYM TEACHER blows his whistle as looks on with a sadistic look in their eyes.

SQUEAK SQUEAK SQUEAK. The distinct sound of gym shoes on the freshly waxed court echo as the kids scatter. Leon has a ball and tries to pick a defensive position. Leon is PEGGED with balls from the opposing team. KNOCKED in the face, he gets a BLOODY NOSE.

**INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY**

Similar scene. Leon walking past all the boys and kids his age, including Jimmy as they laugh and yuck it up. He finds Ursula at a far table and sits down next to her. She looks at his face and swollen nose.

LEON

I don't want to discuss it.

He opens a notebook and starts writing as he NIBBLES on his lunch.

URSULA  
What are you writing?

LEON  
I'm starting a stanza.

Leon's trying to sound all uber-intelligent here like kids do when they encounter something new and exciting in school.

URSULA  
A stanza?

LEON  
It's part of a poem.

URSULA  
You're writing poetry?

LEON  
No. Not just a poem. It's going to be an epic poem. Like Homer's 'The Odyssey'.

URSULA  
What's it about?

LEON  
A boy named Testes.

Several empty chairs down from them, a pretty girl, MARSHA, Leon's age, sits down with her lunch box and books. A few moments pass. Ursula and Leon size her up then eye one another.

LEON (CONT'D)  
You're new here?

Marsha nods.

LEON (CONT'D)  
You can sit with us.

Marsha looks around. Takes a moment. No other offers. She slides her books and lunch box down towards them.

URSULA  
I'm Ursula. This is my brother,  
Leon.

MARSHA  
Marsha. Just moved here from Pitt.  
(beat)  
Are you both new?

Leon shakes his head. Kids know instantly who's cool, un-cool and new in school.

MARSHA (CONT'D)  
Why aren't you sitting with anyone  
else?

Leon eyes her book cover and sees doodlings of ghosts and monsters. Instantly picking up on that.

LEON  
Everyone thinks we live in a  
haunted house.

Marsha's eyes grow wide. She's excited. Intrigued.

MARSHA  
Do you?

Leon eyes his sister. She's wondering where he's going with this.

LEON  
Maybe. Why, do you scare easily?

Marsha BLUSHES. And then there were three. A real friend for Leon and Ursula.

MARSHA  
I'd love to visit some time.

Their joy fades.

URSULA  
We can't have friends over.

MARSHA  
Oh.  
(beat)  
Doesn't matter. We can still be friends.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON**

Leon sits in the corner of the office at a small table, pouring over his PDR as Pin watches over him. Dr. Linden is at his desk going over his notes.

LEON  
What's wrong with mother?

Leon looks at his father.

DR. LINDEN  
Nothing.

LEON  
Are you sick?

Dr. Linden stares at him for a moment.

DR. LINDEN  
(lying)  
No Leon.  
(beat)  
Why do you ask?

LEON  
I don't know. Guess it's the way we live. No one ever is allowed to come over. Not even our friends. Mother's worried about germs and sickness.

DR. LINDEN  
 (a bit surprised)  
 Your friends want to come over?  
 Maybe I can discuss this with her.

Leon SHRUGS. Dr. Linden thinks about it. Unable to answer directly, he uses Pin...

PIN  
 Your mother is special, Leon. She likes to keep things very clean.

LEON  
 If you lived with us, you could help her, Pin.

PIN  
 I have way too much work to do, Leon. It's just not possible for me to be at the house. But thank you for your offer.  
 (beat)  
 Besides, two men in the house is enough. It's up to you and Dr. Linden to keep the family together.

LEON  
 What about when our parents die?

PIN  
 Then it's you and Ursula.

Leon skips ahead in his PDR, searching for something in particular.

PIN (CONT'D)  
 What are you looking for Leon?

LEON  
 I was wondering if you could teach me about amputation and other surgical procedures.  
 (beat)  
 I figure it would be beneficial if I pursue medical school to be well versed ahead of time.

PIN  
 Of course, Leon.

Dr. Linden eyes his son as he carries on with Pin.

**INSERT CARD:**

**SPRING 2006**

**INT. BEDROOM - MORNING**

Leon's alarm RINGS. He RUBS the sleep from his eyes. Now 15 and maturing into a young man with a Twilight teen quality. He lays in his bed for a moment and stretches. Something's off. He looks under the sheet.

He's fully ERECT. Typical for that age. But not in this household. He sits up, SLIPS the mattress back and pulls out an issue of **MAXIM MAGAZINE** to masturbate to. Don't roll your eyes & judge this scene-we were ALL there once. It's normal.

Opening his bedroom door, he eyes the hallway. Coast is clear. No one is up. Closing the door again. He heads over to his closet and slips inside.

**INT. CLOSET - MORNING**

Leon starts masturbating to whichever girl he's attracted to that particular morning from the magazine. A few moments pass. He's about to climax as-

URSULA (O.C.)  
Leon? Something's wrong...

He FREAKS out, trying to cover himself up as Ursula, now 13, stands there watching him jerk off.

LEON  
CHRIST URSULA! You have to KNOCK!

Eyeing her from head to toe. Blood covering her legs-

LEON (CONT'D)  
Did you do this?

URSULA  
No-

He thinks for a moment. Tears well up behind her eyes.

LEON  
We have to tell Pin.

URSULA  
What about father?

LEON  
Pin first. He can break the news to the doctor.  
(beat)  
You're a woman now. He'll have to discuss the Need with you, just like Pin did with me.

URSULA  
The Need?

Leon smiles and nods.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY**

Ursula, Leon and Pin are seated around the table as Dr. Linden sits at his desk. Ursula is pouring over a LIFE CYCLE book that has diagrams of the female reproductive system and other things. She's a bit overwhelmed as every kid is with the subject matter. Leon is staring at Pin's attire today. Pin's wearing a suit. Shirt, tie, slacks. A bit strange.



LEON  
Did you give a lecture today, Pin?

PIN  
No, Leon. Why on earth would you ask?

LEON  
I'm not used to seeing you wear clothes.

PIN  
Well, I figured since we are mature here, it was time to dress appropriately so that there is no confusion.

URSULA  
What is the Need?

The room is quiet for a moment. Even Dr. Linden needs to think.

PIN  
Your body is now undergoing chemical changes. New feelings, emotions and urges will emerge towards the opposite sex or sometimes even the same sex. There is nothing unnatural about this.

(beat)  
But you must control it Ursula. The Need can be gratifying, but it's a short lived pleasure. Focus on your studies and try your hardest to overcome the feelings you're about to endure until you're much much older.

Leon nods with Pin's assessment.

LEON  
He's right.

PIN  
I'm always right, Leon.

DR. LINDEN  
You two continue your studies. I'll be right back.

Dr. Linden leaves the room.

URSULA  
(whispers)  
Leon, how do I satisfy the Need?

LEON  
Tell her Pin.

URSULA  
You tell me Leon.

LEON  
I can't. I'm not a doctor, yet.  
Pin can though.

Leon looks at Pin, waiting for an answer. Ursula plays along.

URSULA  
Father doesn't like us speaking to  
Pin when he's not around.

LEON  
That's why Pin and I never get  
caught.

Ursula's a bit taken back by his comment.

URSULA  
You have conversations with Pin  
without father being around?

Leon leans in real close.

LEON  
Several times a week. I made a key  
to the office. It was Pin's idea.  
(beat)  
Sssshhhhh!  
(beat)  
Pin has lots of great ideas. You  
just have to be willing to listen.

She stares at her troubled brother as he goes back to work like nothing's wrong.

**INSERT CARD:**

**FALL 2007**

**INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING**

Leon, a healthy 16 and Ursula, on the verge of 15 and their parents are sitting quietly having a morning breakfast. Dr. Linden is reading the newspaper as their mother continues stirring her coffee incessantly - she's zoned out on medication. Dr. Linden calmly places his hand on hers, getting her to stop stirring.

MOTHER  
I have so much to clean today.

The house is immaculate by the way. They just kind of let her do her own thing.

DR. LINDEN  
Your mother and I have been  
talking.

That's a lie. Dr. Linden has been thinking. But his wife looks at him lovingly anyway.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
 We think it's time for you, Ursula,  
 to invite a girlfriend over for a  
 sleep-over. Your sweet sixteen is  
 fast approaching.

URSULA  
 I can have Marsha sleep over?

Dr. Linden and their mother NOD their heads. Ursula is  
 ecstatic. Her smile's as big as the sky.

DR. LINDEN  
 It is your sixteenth birthday. We  
 should do something special. We  
 gave Leon the Volkswagon to use, so  
 we were trying to think of  
 something you'd really appreciate.

**INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY**

Ursula walks down the hall with Marsha who is also now on the  
 verge of hot. GUYS are taking notice as the two walk and  
 talk.

URSULA  
 ...and then all of a sudden my mom  
 and dad said that you can stay over  
 for my birthday this weekend.

MARSHA  
 That's awesome. Your mom sounds  
 like she's getting better.

URSULA  
 Yeah, I guess. A lot of  
 medication.

MARSHA  
 What's she taking?

Ursula SHRUGS her shoulders.

MARSHA (CONT'D)  
 You don't know?

URSULA  
 Our dad says it's none of our  
 business.

MARSHA  
 (thinking)  
 Who am I to criticize you? My  
 parents are divorced and hate each  
 other. Your folks seem to really  
 care about you and Leon.

SCOTT (O.C.)  
 God damn!  
 (whistles)  
 I'd strangle a dolphin to get in  
 Ursula Linden's pants.

Ursula and Marsha turn around and see SCOTT ALLEN, 17, a jock, as he stands by his locker, sizing her up. He's oblivious to Leon ROARING towards him like a lion, SLAMMING his locker shut.

LEON  
Shut the fuck up and have some respect for my sister.

SCOTT  
Oh yeah? What are you going to do?

Scott SHOVES Leon HARD against the lockers. Leon STORMS off as Marsha OOGLES him and Scott CLIMBS to his feet. Leon's old friend, Jimmy is nearby.

SCOTT (CONT'D)  
Man, that guy's a fuckin' whack job! Didn't you used to hang out with him, Jimmy?

Ursula kind of likes the attention. She and Marsha walk away.

URSULA  
You like my brother?

MARSHA  
What?

URSULA  
I saw the way you were looking at him.

MARSHA  
Shut up.

The class bell RINGS as they head down the hall.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Leon and Ursula sit on the couch, looking out the window and wait impatiently for Marsha to arrive.

URSULA  
Marsha likes you.

LEON  
What?

URSULA  
I think she may even NEED you.

LEON  
You shouldn't be talking about this here. Now. What are you thinking, Ursula?

URSULA  
I'm just sayin'.  
(beat)  
I told Pin.

He looks at her.

LEON  
You told him what?

Now she's playing him.

URSULA  
I told Pin that Marsha likes you.

LEON  
Oh yeah. And what did Pin say?

URSULA  
He said you should like her back.

LEON  
I don't know.

URSULA  
Father said you can date. But you never do.

LEON  
I don't have time. I'm working on my poem.

URSULA  
You've been working on that for years Leon. I want to hear some of it.

LEON  
No. It's very raw. Pulp. Not ready. Pin says it's very unrefined right now.

URSULA  
Well, anyway. What do you think of Marsha?

LEON  
She's cute.

URSULA  
Cute?

LEON  
Okay, hot.

URSULA  
You want to bang her?

LEON  
Ursula!

URSULA  
Leon! What is this, 1988? Have you heard how teens talk about one another? Especially about the opposite sex? Apparently, I'm worth five fingers being cut off.

LEON

You're right. But it doesn't make this right. And if I catch you...

URSULA

I know, I know...not till I'm older. But the Need is driving me crazy.

A car slowly pulls in the driveway and Marsha gets out with her overnight bag. Leon and Ursula both race to the door. It's as if Christmas has arrived early and Marsha is the gift.

**INT. DINING ROOM - LATER**

The Linden family and Marsha are having a good time celebrating Ursula's sweet 16 birthday party. Even their mom seems to be pretty well balanced. Probably a bit intoxicated. Dr. Linden is entertaining them by telling some funny patient stories. They cut the cake. Open gifts. Serious discussions.

MARSHA

I'm sure you get this a lot, but why'd you become a doctor?

LEON

He wants to live forever.

DR. LINDEN

I think everyone would like to, Leon. It's only natural. Maybe in your lifetime, with medical advances, you'll figure it out.

Leon thinks for a moment. Lighter discussions. Almost normal. Almost.

**INT. DEN - NIGHT - LATER**

They're all the original **AMITYVILLE HORROR** and eating popcorn. Marsha DROPS a small piece as their mother nearly LOSES her cool and goes BANANAS. Leon is quick to see the meltdown and quickly picks up the kernel, POPS it in his mouth and they all go back to the movie watching.

He SIPS his glass Coke bottle and notices Marsha SIPPING hers just like him. They share that moment. SIPPING together. The bottle DANCES around her lips seductively.

**INT. URSULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Ursula and Marsha lay in bed. A couple feet separating them. Normal for a friendly sleep-over at that age. Pretending to be asleep. But not really.

MARSHA

(whispers)

Your family is really cool.

URSULA

Thanks.

Ursula SHIFTS her body weight beneath the covers. Trying to get comfortable. She FLICKS the sheet off. Exposing her short-cropped pajamas.

URSULA (CONT'D)

Do you ever get the Need?

MARSHA

The Need?

URSULA

Yeah. That feeling. The warm feeling at night.

MARSHA

Ahhhh...yes. Of course. Don't call it the Need though.

URSULA

Oh.

Marsha starts TOUCHING herself beneath the covers. Ursula does the same. Moments pass. They're both enthralled. Something inside Ursula compels her to turn towards Marsha and start RUBBING on her. Marsha does the same.

Passions increase. They're really discovering one another. Ursula ROLLS Marsha over onto her belly, HIKING her shirt up, caressing her. The moment is hot. A bit provocative. Very innocent.

Ursula's bedroom door opens very slowly. Leon SLIPS into the semi-dark room. Standing at the foot of the bed, he watches Ursula and Marsha for several moments while TAPPING the empty glass Coke bottle gently against his leg. Then Ursula turns around.

Her reaction is not what we would expect. She SMILES from ear to ear. That GLIMMER in her eye. Inviting her brother to partake.

He CLIMBS into the bed as she REPOSITIONS herself and continues RUBBING and GRINDING on Marsha as he SLIPS in behind her with his fingers. Together, he and his sister continue pleasuring Marsha and she CLIMAXES.

Leon REACHES for the Coke bottle...

**INT. KITCHEN - MORNING**

Ursula and Leon eat their cereal as Dr. Linden reads his newspaper. Their mom is cleaning the counter. She opens the trash container and looks inside-

A broken and bloody Coke bottle.

MOTHER

What's this? Did one of you get cut?

Leon CHEWS his cereal slowly like a sociopath would.  
Enjoying that moment. He doesn't need to say anything.

DR. LINDEN  
Marsha doesn't want any cereal?

LEON  
Guess not.

URSULA  
She's still getting ready-

Marsha slowly walks into the kitchen and sits down. Her eyes bounce from Leon to Ursula. They're acting as if nothing happened. Leon SMILES at her.

HONK HONK. Marsha GRABS her bag and JUMPS UP.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
Thanks for coming to my birthday party.

MARSHA  
Yeah-

LEON  
See you at school?

She doesn't know what to say. Marsha turns and leaves.  
Awkward.

**INSERT CARD:**

**SPRING 2008**

**INT. HONDA ACCORD - NIGHT**

The windows are FOGGED over completely. The car's ROCKING back and forth.

Ursula, now 15, with her shirt off, mini-skirt hiked up around her waste is FUCKING the kid who wanted to strangle dolphins to get in her pants - Scott.

SCOTT  
I love your fucking tits.

He BURIES his face in her chest and THRUSTS himself even harder into Ursula as she MOANS in delight. The scene is hotter than a Joe Eszterhas film.

URSULA  
Scott...I'm cumming-

She RUNS her hands through his hair, down his exposed chest and starts KISSING the nape of his neck. Scott goes fucking crazy and loses his entire load inside her.

SCOTT  
God damn, I need to put on a -



URSULA  
I thought you had one on?

SCOTT  
Tell me you're on the pill-

From behind them, the outline of a FACE appears pressed against the FOGGED window.

BANG

The WINDOW SHATTERS above Scott's head with a THUNDEROUS EXPLOSION as a BASEBALL BAT is driven through it.

SCOTT (CONT'D)  
JESUS CHRIST!

Leon GRABS Scott by his hair, DRAGS him through the window, SLICING his back open on the JAGGED GLASS. Ursula SCREAMS.

URSULA  
LEON! NO!

**EXT. PARK - NIGHT**

Leon can barely contain himself. Other doors open from vehicles parked in the area. This is make-out point for the high school set.

SCOTT  
Fucking Linden! What in the hell are you doing?

Ursula is out of the car, pushing down her tight mini-skirt and pulling on her shirt.

A CROWD of TEENS from their high school gather around them. Most are friends of Scott's and have his back.

Scott's up on his feet. BOUNCING around, ready for a fight.

LEON  
I told you to keep your dirty hands off of her.

SCOTT  
Oh yeah? Did you get a good look? Did you see her on top? Grinding me? Fucking ME? She was begging for it.

Leon RACES towards him as Scott bears down and his friends help beat the living shit out of Leon.

SCOTT (CONT'D)  
Oops, sorry.

Scott KICKS him really hard in the face. The poor kid had no chance. Leon's on the ground getting KICKED and PUNCHED from all angles.

SCOTT (CONT'D)  
You're a fucking freak, Linden!

Ursula's SCREAMING for them to stop. She gets between the them and breaks it up.

URSULA  
Take me home Leon.

Helping Leon up, she takes him by the hand and leads him away.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
(to Scott)  
You're an asshole.

SCOTT  
Whatever slut.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Awkward silence. Leon's still enraged. His face is busted wide open, swollen, bleeding. In need of stitches.

LEON  
I'm just looking out for you,  
Ursula.

She bites her lower lip. He's the protective brother. Slowly she slides her hand over his.

URSULA  
I know, Leon.

LEON  
They're animals. All of them.  
They Need all the time. You're  
better than that.

URSULA  
Please don't tell mom or dad.

LEON  
I wouldn't dream of it. Pin said  
it was a bad idea. It's our  
secret. The three of us.

URSULA  
You, me and Pin.

LEON  
He wonders why you don't talk to  
him anymore.

URSULA  
I've been busy.

LEON  
We're all busy, Ursula. The doctor  
with work and all of his  
investments, mother with the house,  
me with school, college  
applications and the poem. Even  
Pin is busy. But he makes time for  
me.

URSULA

What are you going to tell mom and dad about what happened?

LEON

Nothing. I'll drop you off and go clean myself up. I've studied enough with Pin, I can stitch myself.

She looks out the window. Thinking about Scott. Climaxing inside of her without protection. Nerves set in.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon walks inside the office and turns on the light. He takes a moment, pretends to play doctor. Sitting behind his father's desk. Re-arranging his desktop items. He finds a key to the file cabinet in the paperclip holder.

Turning to the file cabinet, he UNLOCKS it and flips through the files. SEARCHING until he finds what he's always wondered about. A file in particular-

**FRANK LINDEN, DR.**

He pulls it out. Sits down and starts to read. Eyes growing extremely wide. A revelation. He continues in shock and disbelief. A private moment between only a son and his father.

TIME LAPSE.

Leon finishes his father's file. Gets up, puts it back and proceeds to the supply cabinet. Pulling out gauze and peroxide, sutures and whatnot. His father would be proud.

He gets to work as Pin sits in the corner. Trying to be quiet, Leon DROPS a pair of SCISSORS as it CLANGS. He CRINGES and looks back.

LEON

Sorry Pin. I didn't want to wake you. Go back to sleep. I'm just fixing myself up as good as new. No one will even notice...

He continues patching himself up.

LEON (CONT'D)

Wait. Pin, why didn't you ever tell me about my father's condition?

Silence. Leon waits, hopeful for an answer. It doesn't come.

**EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY**

Leon and Ursula make their way across the quad towards the school. Different social groups of kids mill about. As they pass, everyone seems to stare at the two of them.

Including Marsha who has changed drastically since their little encounter two years before. She's no longer the petite pretty girl, she's now the chain-smoking emo girl with too much eyeliner standing with the other Twilighters.

Leon and Ursula may have matured, but they're still just as outside the box as they were children. Ursula gives Marsha a little WAVE with no wave back.

URSULA  
Marsha sure has changed.

LEON  
Fuckin' weirdo now.

They disappear inside the school.

**INT. CLASSROOM - DAY**

Leon sits in the middle towards the front. The teacher lectures.

TEACHER  
...As we finish studying the works of Sir Frederick Treves, can anyone tell me what his friend Mr. Merrick truly wanted in life?  
(beat)  
Anyone. Mr. Allen?

SCOTT  
(flipping through his notes)  
Ahhhh...Yes, here, blah blah blah, John Merrick desired a good night's sleep? The end.

Some of the students laugh.

TEACHER  
Wow. A for effort there. Did you even bother reading the material?

SCOTT  
Yes. Cover to cover.

TEACHER  
I think you netflix'd the film.

SCOTT  
I'm hurt.

TEACHER  
So am I. A bit of movie trivia, David Lynch's 1980 classic film incorrectly names Mr. Merrick John rather than...anyone...

LEON  
Joseph.

TEACHER  
Very good Mr. Linden. And what did Joseph desire?

LEON  
He just wanted to be like everyone else.

TEACHER  
Excellent.

His attention shifts to GIGGLING as he looks around and sees Scott in the back corner LAUGHING quietly and POINTING at Leon with his friends. Leon raises his hand.

LEON  
Can I use the bathroom pass?

The teacher NODS.

**INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY**

The hallway is empty. Class is in session. One of the doors opens and Leon SLIPS outside with a bathroom pass. He heads down the hall.

**INT. BATHROOM - DAY**

Leon walks in and quickly checks beneath all of the stalls to make sure the coast is clear before he VENTS. He RUSHES over to the sink, TURNING ON the water, he SPLASHES his face. Trying desperately to calm himself down. He looks at himself in the mirror. That's when he sees it. Stepping back-

All the mirrors have the same writing in RED MARKER.

***FOR AN EASY FUCK, JUST CALL URSULA AND SAY WHAT'S UP?***

Leon SMASHES the mirror with his FIST. He PUNCHES all of them in a fit of RAGE.

**INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Leon is laying in bed reading Nietzsche. His face is back to normal. Wounds have healed.

KNOCK KNOCK. Ursula slowly opens the door.

URSULA  
Can I come in?

LEON  
Of course.

She walks in. CRAWLS onto the bed beside him and looks up at the ceiling. She eyes the STAR STICKERS that are up there.

URSULA  
I remember when dad put those up there when we were little.

A good memory.

LEON  
We'd stare at them for hours,  
glowing in the dark.

URSULA  
Then they'd fade away. We'd turn  
the light on again and-

LEON/URSULA  
He'd come down in the middle of the  
night and tell us to turn the light  
off!

They share a laugh.

URSULA  
Things used to be simple, Leon.

LEON  
They still can be. Even father  
says so. Keep the technology at  
bay, family in the foreground and  
prioritize.

URSULA  
I think I'm pregnant.

Leon looks at her.

LEON  
How late are you?

URSULA  
A few weeks.

LEON  
Have you told Pin?

URSULA  
No.

LEON  
We should tell him before father.

URSULA  
I want things to go back to normal.

Leon takes her hand.

LEON  
They will.

**INT. CHURCH - MORNING**

The Linden family is dressed in their Sunday best for the sermon. SINGING songs, PRAYING, and attempting to BOND with the good Lord.

**INT. CHURCH NARTHEX - MORNING**

Leon and Ursula hang around off to the side as various CHURCH MEMBERS say a quick hello. An older woman in particular, MS. SPARTACUS, 50s, stops near the kids.

MS. SPARTACUS

Leon, Ursula. Good to see you.  
It's about time your father brought  
you to church.

(beat)

I do believe you have a book that's  
a little bit overdue Mr. Linden?

LEON

(thinking)

I forgot. The Iliad.

MS. SPARTACUS

(snapping her fingers)

My mind is a steel trap when it  
comes to literature and the  
library.

LEON

I'll swing by the library and  
check it out again. Sorry, Mrs.  
Spartacus.

**INT. SUV - DAY**

The family is riding back to the house. Their mom is  
anxious.

MOTHER

That church was filthy. I need a  
shower.

DR. LINDEN

You know, we're going to drop you  
off and I think it's a good day for  
Ice Cream. Kids, how about it?

MOTHER

Oooohhhh. Double-scoops.

DR. LINDEN

Of course.

MOTHER

Count me in.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - DAY**

Their mother walks inside as the SUV pulls out of the  
driveway.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE WAITING ROOM - DAY - LATER**

Leon and Ursula sit there like patients. No Nurse Spalding.  
The office is closed on Sundays.

Ursula is wearing a hospital gown. Leon's thumbing through a medical journal. Dr. Linden walks out of the back and is in surgical attire.

DR. LINDEN

Ursula.

She looks up at him as a patient does waiting for their name to be called.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

I'm ready for you.

She gets up slowly. A bit nervous. Looking back at her brother for a moment.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

Well, Leon?

He looks up at his father.

LEON

Yeah?

DR. LINDEN

Are you going to assist me?

Leon LEAPS up. Excited. He heads to the door.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)

We have to get you scrubbed in.  
Pin has everything set for you in  
the procedure room.

**INT. PROCEDURE ROOM - DAY - LATER**

Ursula is on the surgical table. Leon and his father are dressed and ready to perform the abortion. The room is cold and sterile. A tray of sharp INSTRUMENTS is nearby along with a machine on wheels with a long flexible hose.

DR. LINDEN

How about a little music, Pin?

Leon looks over at Pin who also has a surgical mask on.

PIN

Great idea, doctor.

**GOLDBERG VARIATIONS by Johann Sebastian Bach** begins to play.

DR. LINDEN

You know Leon, with summer coming up before your senior year, I was thinking it's time for a job.

LEON

All the local summer jobs have been taken.



DR. LINDEN  
 With your interest in medicine,  
 I've arranged one for you at the  
 Reichart Funeral Home & Mortuary.

LEON  
 Really?

DR. LINDEN  
 You'll be assisting Mr. Reichart in  
 the day to day operations.  
 Processing the bodies. Preparing  
 them. You'll get a great education  
 before college. A leg up on the  
 rest of your peers.

LEON  
 Thank you. Thank you father.

The abortion procedure begins. Dr. Linden produces a long  
 SWAB and ADJUSTS the COVER over Ursula's knees.

DR. LINDEN  
 First I'm going to apply a topical  
 to numb you before we begin.

She NODS. He pulls out some small medical STICKS-

URSULA  
 What are those?

DR. LINDEN  
 They're called *Laminaria*. I'm  
 going to place these small sticks  
 in your cervix to dilate & help  
 keep it open while preparing the  
 area. We're a bit late in the game  
 with this being fifteen weeks in.

URSULA  
 Will this hurt?

DR. LINDEN  
 I'm not going to lie, Ursula. The  
 pain will be mild, but the  
 psychological effects will be  
 deeper.

(beat)  
 You're only fifteen years old and  
 we're removing a living, breathing,  
 being from your womb. A child.  
 Ten fingers. Ten toes.

(beat)  
 A smile. A heartbeat. Just like  
 you and your brother.

(beat)  
 But this is the price you're paying  
 for a few moments of pleasure.  
 Unless you want the child?  
 Diapers. Waking in the middle of  
 the night for the first three  
 months. Cost of baby formula.  
 Doctor visits. Schooling. Wait,  
 you're fifteen, not even finished  
 with school yourself.

Dr. Linden INJECTS her with a sedative then prepares to start the procedure.

PIN  
Adoption. Did you discuss that, Doctor?

DR. LINDEN  
Oh yes, adoption. Good point, Pin. We are pro-choice in this family. That was definitely an option here. This small town. No one would have talked behind your back. Oh no. Not at all. Not at school. The library. The burger joint. Prom. Then there would've been the overwhelming guilt you carried around for giving up a child in this world. Not knowing. Years of therapy.

A single TEAR slowly ROLLS down her cheek as Dr. Linden works feverishly. He's really DIGGING in there, maybe a bit ROUGH considering it's his own daughter. But he is venting.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
So this is the best choice. Just hope that one day you do find that true love and you remember this before engaging in sexual acts and you know deep down, that you are really in love.

He WIPES his BROW, SMEARING BLOOD across his forehead.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
Leon, I'm ready for the tube and suction.

Leon hands the VACUUM over to his father as Ursula's eyes grow in fear. The device is menacing. Dr. Linden places the device against her spread vagina and NODS to Leon as he TURNS the machine on.

PIN  
What does Ursula have planned this summer, doctor?

With a slight WHIR of a motor a CRUDE SUCTION SOUND fills the room.

DR. LINDEN  
Oh, I don't know Pin. Haven't given it much thought.

Like a giant ogre trying to SLURP a bowling ball through a garden hose, the sound is unforgettable.

PIN  
Maybe she can volunteer with one of the city's church groups for the summer vacation. Idle hands do the devil's work.

Excess vaginal TISSUE is SUCKED through the tube then finally the unborn baby itself.

**THUUUU-THUUUMP**

Dr. Linden NODS at Leon as he TURNS the vacuum off. Ursula's laying there, wide-eyed, staring at the ceiling.

**INSERT CARD:**

**SUMMER 2008**

**EXT. WINDING ROAD - NIGHT**

A convertible is speeding down the winding road at a fast clip. MUSIC BLARING as the car is jam packed with high school kids. In the distant night sky, FIREWORKS are going off and lighting up the night.

**INT. CONVERTIBLE - NIGHT**

SCOTT is driving. A bottle of LIQUOR is being passed around, everyone taking SWIGS including him as his car VEERS into the oncoming lane and-

WHAM

It's SMASHED HEAD-ON by an oncoming vehicle. Both cars stop dead in their tracks. The MUSIC continues to play.

**EXT. REICHART FUNERAL HOME & MORTUARY - DAY**

Establishing.

The funeral home is immense. A coroner's van is parked around the side and unloading a body.

**INT. EMBALMING ROOM - DAY**

Leon's dressed to make a mess in the embalming room of the mortuary. Surgical scrubs, rubber apron, gloves, etc.

REICHART, 50s, rolls in a gurney with a body bag on it.

REICHART  
Fresh meat kid.

LEON  
What do we have, Mr. Reichart?

Reichart GRABS the chart on top, flips through it and scans.

REICHART  
Drunk driving, blah blah blah,  
blood alcohol, ahhh...hey, looks  
like one of your classmates.  
(beat)  
Oh shit.

LEON  
Who is it?

REICHART  
Scott Allen.

A sparkle of happiness washes over Leon. He REACHES for the ZIPPER.

REICHART (CONT'D)  
Wait. I think there are rules against this.

LEON  
What?

REICHART  
Ethical rules.

LEON  
There are no rules against this. I'm almost eighteen and your employee.

Reichart thinks for a moment.

REICHART  
Okay. But you don't start until I get back. Promise.

LEON  
Cross my heart and hope to...

Leon eyes the body bag.

REICHART  
Smart ass.

Reichart leaves the room. Leon quickly UNZIPS the body bag and stares at the bloodied face of Scott Allen. The man who knocked up his sister and beat the shit out of him.

Leon picks up a SCALPEL and opens the deceased's shirt. About to open the victim properly, he stares at the dead boy. LEANING in close to his MANGLED FACE, Leon slowly SLICES OPEN his EYE BALL and SQUEEZES it just to see the liquid OOZE between his fingers. He's FASCINATED.

**INSERT CARD:**

**WINTER 2009**

**EXT. POND - EVENING**

The sun is setting. Snow and ice everywhere. Leon, 18 and Ursula, 16 SKATE around their private rink on the pond. Their house in the background. Acting like the kids they used to be, LAUGHING and PLAYING, even though they're almost adults.

LEON  
We should head up to the house. Early dinner tonight.

A light snow begins to fall on them as Ursula SPINS around, CATCHING FLAKES on her tongue.

URSULA  
Oh yeah. I forgot about dad's  
thing-a-ma-jig.

They pack up their stuff and walk the snow-covered trail back up to the house.

**EXT. BACK OF THE HOUSE - EVENING**

They round the corner, passing by the pile of firewood, large stump and ax lodged in it.

**INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT**

Family dinner. All seems to be a bit back to normal after puberty and the abortion. Mother is still physically present, but her mind adrift. She's now wearing WHITE GLOVES while eating dinner. Making tiny surgical incisions, eliminating crumbs, being very careful.

Ursula is fully clothed. No cleavage. Hair pulled back. Face buried in her school books. Leon is scribbling out his poem.

Dr. Linden seems to be wearing more and more facial cover-up. He is making out note cards. He's dressed in a Tuxedo for tonight's gala event.

LEON  
How's your presentation coming  
along? All set for tonight?

DR. LINDEN  
Good. Just making some last minute  
notes. And your poem? Quite a  
task in the making there...

LEON  
Homer spent years on his.

DR. LINDEN  
Well, your mother and I would love  
to hear it before we get too old.  
Isn't that right honey?

She looks at him, completely oblivious.

MOTHER  
I don't know. Are we out of honey?

Dr. Linden looks at Ursula. Hard at work. Things are still tense and awkward between the two since the procedure. They're not really speaking.

DR. LINDEN  
What's new with Ursula? Spending a  
lot of time at the library lately  
according to my patient Mrs.  
Spartacus.

URSULA  
How did she-

DR. LINDEN  
She's the librarian there. Told me you're very astute and I should be proud. Rarely surfing the internet and always with a pile of books in front of you.

URSULA  
The computer screen hurts my eyes. I like the smell of the old books.

DR. LINDEN  
Have you gone through the stack of college brochures I got for you, Leon?

LEON  
I flipped through them.

DR. LINDEN  
And?

LEON  
I'm thinking about Dartmouth.

DR. LINDEN  
(surprised)  
My alma mater.

LEON  
Yes. It's an outstanding institution.

DR. LINDEN  
It is. But I didn't know you were thinking about that college. Very difficult to get into. Your GPA must be very -

LEON  
I was accepted.

Dr. Linden wipes his mouth with a napkin. Chewing slowly. Thinking.

DR. LINDEN  
I wasn't aware that you had applied there. We discussed you going out of state. How many times did we talk about this?

LEON  
You discussed it.

DR. LINDEN  
It's important for you to experience the world, Leon. Travel. Plant new roots. Get out of this town.

LEON  
 Why? You never did. You grew up here. You and your sister-

DR. LINDEN  
 Aunt Dorothy? When was the last time I spoke to my sister? We're not very close and we live in the same state.

LEON  
 I just thought it would be good for me to be close to the family. And Pin.

DR. LINDEN  
 You're right. Your family is here. It always will be. But I've worked hard and invested so that you and Ursula could get out after high school. Choose a college out of state, make your own life. You can always visit.

LEON  
 What about Pin?

Dr. Linden doesn't answer.

MOTHER  
 I hate Pin. You're too old to be talking to that doll, Leon. And you encourage this, Frank!

He takes a moment and goes back to his own notes. Her assertiveness slices through the air. Years in the making.

LEON  
 You just don't understand.

Leon SLAMS down his utensils and STORMS out of the dining room. Realization starts to fully sink in with Dr. Linden.

DR. LINDEN  
 We'll discuss this later tonight after my lecture, Leon.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Leon HOPS in, SLAMS the door and PUNCHES the steering column several times. He starts the car and PEELS away out of the driveway.

**INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Dr. Linden is rushing around getting ready as his wife puts on her finishing touches.

MOTHER  
 Is Leon feeling well?

DR. LINDEN  
He's fine.

MOTHER  
Seems so different lately.

DR. LINDEN  
Where is...ahhh.

He finds his stack of note cards and puts them in his pocket. His wife stands up, SPINS around in her DRESS, it's a bit big for her small frame, due to her severe weight loss. But she doesn't notice. She THROWS her JACKET on the bed, COVERING UP Dr. Linden's LAPTOP.

MOTHER  
How do I look?

DR. LINDEN  
Beautiful.

He never looks at her. Too busy.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
Okay. We all set?

She nods.

MOTHER  
Where are we going?

He eyes her. Moving in. GRABBING her by the shoulders, PULLING her close, KISSING her on the forehead.

DR. LINDEN  
Tonight's important.

MOTHER  
I know.

DR. LINDEN  
Please.

MOTHER  
I'll be good.

He smiles. There is love. Even though she is sick. He looks around once more. Has everything... and he walks out. She GRABS her coat, UNCOVERING the LAPTOP, not even thinking about its importance to the evening and she turns out the light.

**INT. FOYER - NIGHT**

Putting on their jackets, Ursula stands by.

DR. LINDEN  
You have the number to the hotel where the ceremony is at?

URSULA  
Yes, yes. It's on the fridge.



DR. LINDEN  
Has Leon come back?

URSULA  
Not yet. He will. Focus.

Dr. Linden NODS.

DR. LINDEN  
Don't wait up.

They head out the door.

**EXT. HOTEL - NIGHT - LATER**

The SUV pulls into the VALET as Dr. Linden steps out and takes the parking ticket.

There's a large sign promoting the medical conference tonight with Dr. Linden's photo and caption saying KEYNOTE SPEAKER beneath it.

DR. LINDEN  
Thank you.

VALET  
Are you here for the event?

DR. LINDEN  
Yes-

He opens the back door, looks inside-

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
Where's my laptop?

Looking at his wife for an answer. She's clueless. He looks at his watch.

DR. LINDEN (CONT'D)  
Damn. Forty-minutes. Get back in sweetie. We'll swing by the office.

MOTHER  
What about your speech?

DR. LINDEN  
I need the power-point. I have it on a flash drive back at the office. Closer than the house.

They get inside and drive away.

**EXT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT - LATER**

The SUV pulls into the small parking lot and Dr. Linden hops out. Snow is falling harder now.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Dr. Linden makes his way through the darkened waiting room back towards his office.

EXT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT

About to open the door, Dr. Linden stops and listens-

LEON  
(whispers)  
I don't know what to do anymore.  
Help me Pin. You need to tell me  
what to do-

The final straw has broken the camel's back. Dr. Linden STORMS through the door and CLICKS on the LIGHT.

DR. LINDEN  
What in God's name are you doing in  
here, Leon?

Leon turns around, eyes beat red with tears.

LEON  
Talking to Pin!

True concern fills Dr. Linden's face. Heartbreak sets in. Not only is his wife a train wreck, but his kid is a schizophrenic. Denying it all these years has finally caught up to him.

DR. LINDEN  
Pin cannot help you.

LEON  
YES HE CAN!

Dr. Linden grabs the flash drive from his desk and quickly walks over to PIN. He YANKS the suit-wearing doll from his wheel chair and DRAGS him towards the door. Even Dr. Linden STRUGGLES with the weight of Pin.

LEON (CONT'D)  
(YELLS)  
Where are you taking him?

DR. LINDEN  
Away from you. You're finished  
with him.

LEON  
You did this! You brought him in  
our lives!

DR. LINDEN  
And now I'm taking him out of it.

Dr. Linden WRAPS Pin up in his white doctor's coat hanging behind the door as Leon JUMPS up and runs toward him.

LEON  
Please! I'm sorry!

DR. LINDEN  
You're stronger than this. We'll  
discuss it later.

Leon FALLS to his knees. Begging like a child.

LEON  
Let me come with you!

DR. LINDEN  
No!  
(beat)  
In fact, go out the back. If your  
mother sees you like this, it will  
kill her. You don't want that on  
your hands do you? Her death, her  
blood on your hands! What will  
Ursula think? You killing her  
mother?

Leon stops and thinks a moment. Collecting himself.

LEON  
That...that can't happen.

DR. LINDEN  
Right.

Taking DEEP BREATHS. Dr. Linden FREEZES for a moment...panic  
sets in, he's never been one to physically connect with Leon.  
He touches his head like a father would do to a young son.  
Finally, a true bonding experience.

LEON  
(calming down)  
We'll get through this.

DR. LINDEN  
Yes.

LEON  
Okay. I love you dad.

There's genuine hope here. Dr. Linden's taken aback by all  
this. It's a nice moment. He heads out the door with Pin in  
hand.

LEON (CONT'D)  
Goodbye Pin.

Reality sets in again. His son is extremely sick. A  
sociopath.

**INT. SUV - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Dr. Linden JAMS Pin in the backseat as his wife SPINS around  
and looks at it. Sitting UPRIGHT, Pin is COVERED by the  
WHITE COAT. It looks like Michael Myers dressed in the sheet  
in the original Halloween.

MOTHER  
 Why are you bringing Pin? He never  
 leaves the office? That's the  
 rule.

DR. LINDEN  
 I thought I could use him during  
 the lecture.

He gets in the car and BUCKLES UP.

MOTHER  
 That thing has always creeped me  
 out.

DR. LINDEN  
 I know. That's why he's covered  
 up.  
 (beat)  
 You're awfully chatty tonight.

She TAPS on her chest. BREATHING DEEP. MUMBLING a mile a  
 minute.

MOTHER  
 Is it hot in here?

Dr. Linden CRACKS the window. A few snow flakes fly in.

MOTHER (CONT'D)  
 It's SNOWING.

He looks at her. Something's off. CHECKING her PULSE.

DR. LINDEN  
 Your heart's racing like a jack-  
 rabbit.

MOTHER  
 I had so much to do today.  
 Cleaning wise. Couldn't forget to  
 take my pills.

DR. LINDEN  
 You took them?

MOTHER  
 Yes. All of them.

DR. LINDEN  
 What do you mean?

MOTHER  
 For the whole week. So I could  
 focus on the house.

**EXT. ROAD - NIGHT**

The SUV SWERVES a bit in the snowy conditions.

**INT. SUV - NIGHT**

She's TAPPING on her chest even faster.

MOTHER  
Can we turn the air on.

DR. LINDEN  
You took all of your pills?

MOTHER  
Yes, doctor.  
(beat)  
Oh, I don't feel good.

Dr. Linden is screwed. No cell phone.

DR. LINDEN  
We have to get you to the hospital.

MOTHER  
Why?

He checks her pulse again. Slowly the white coat slips off from Pin and Dr. Linden catches the doll staring at him in the rear-view mirror.

His wife sees the Pin and SCREAMS- UNBUCKLING her seat belt, she tries to LEAVE the vehicle, Dr. Linden LOCKS the DOORS-

She FREAKS out, GRABBING the WHEEL HYSTERICALLY-

DR. LINDEN  
NO!

**EXT. ROAD - NIGHT**

The SUV SWERVES, tries to regain control, OVER-CORRECTS and FLIPS SEVERAL TIMES. Dr. Linden's wife SMASHES through the windshield and her BODY FLIPS ACROSS the SNOWY ROAD-

Her BONES CRACKING and BREAKING with every point of contact until she finally flops like a sack of potatoes thirty feet away.

The SUV slowly SLIDES across the road on its roof to a stop. GROANING from inside as Dr. Linden STRUGGLES to UNBUCKLE himself.

PULLING himself from the wreckage. Both LEGS have been CRUSHED. His right tibia and fibula TWISTED and PROTRUDING through his tuxedo pants-

Eye-socket broken. A huge GASH across his forehead. He's a bloody-disgusting mess. Seeing his wife several yards away, he DRAGS himself towards her. Inching closer and closer.

Finally upon her. Rolling her over. Unrecognizable. This is the most horrifying victim of a car crash you could ever imagine. Dr. Linden SCREAMS at the top of his lungs.

Moments pass. The snow continues to fall. All is quiet. The Volkswagon pulls up.

Leon gets out. Walking up to the scene. Staring at his parents. Dr. Linden's wide-eyed. Staring straight towards the night sky. A light film of snow covering his face.

The way Leon's looking at them, he's got the same eery look his father had when he was looking at Jerry Leshner at the beginning of this film.

Kneeling down. Checking his mother's pulse. Than his father's. He stands up. Looking back at the over-turned SUV. He makes his way over.

LEON  
Pin...  
(beat)  
I need your help.

**EXT. SUV - NIGHT**

Leon crawls half inside the damaged SUV and DRAGS Pin out of the vehicle.

LEON  
Jesus, you're a mess too, Pin.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT - LATER**

It's dark except for the light foyer. KNOCK KNOCK RING RING. A few moments pass. RING RING KNOCK KNOCK. A sleepy Ursula makes her way through the foyer hall.

URSULA  
Alright, already. Leon, if you forgot your keys again-

She opens the door. RED & BLUE LIGHTS illuminate an older version of McGraw as he stands there in uniform.

MCGRAW  
Sweetie, there's been an accident.  
Get your clothes on.

He CLOSES the door.

**EXT. ROAD - NIGHT - LATER**

Several SQUAD CARS, an AMBULANCE, FIRE TRUCK, TOW TRUCK and a CORONER'S VAN are on the scene.

The RED & BLUE LIGHTS flashing against the falling snow is a sight to behold given the circumstance.

**INT. OVER-TURNED SUV - NIGHT**

One of the COPS is SHINING a flashlight around the inside of the SUV.

Pin is nowhere in sight.

**EXT. ROAD - NIGHT**

COPS roam about marking the skid marks and scene. Coroner Bill, now with gray hair, is LOADING the SECOND GURNEY into the VAN as Leon watches.

LEON  
Can you take them straight to Reichart's Mortuary? I'll take care of the identification paperwork with McGraw. Don't want Ursula to deal with this.

CORONER BILL  
Sure thing Leon. Your father was a decent man. Always took care of everything. Just like you're doing now.

LEON  
Thanks Bill.

Coroner Bill closes the back doors. McGraw's squad car pulls up and stops. Ursula LEAPS out and RUNS towards Leon.

URSULA  
(crying)  
LEON!

He GRABS his sister. HOLDING her tight. STROKING her hair.

LEON  
They're both gone. It's just us now.

Ursula and Leon watch the coroner van pull away. McGraw joins them.

MCGRAW  
This is a tragic night. Anything you need-

LEON  
I can get us home.

MCGRAW  
Everyone knows your father wasn't close with his sister, your Aunt Dorothy, but I've had the station make the call. She's making travel arrangements.

LEON  
Very thoughtful. Thank you McGraw.

Leon walks away with his arm around Ursula and they get in the car.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Leon starts it up.

DING DING - DOOR AJAR. He looks at the gauges. The trunk's open.

LEON  
(whispers)  
Thought I closed that...

He hops out.

**EXT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Leon goes around the back, opens the trunk, PEEKING inside, he quickly SLAMS it shut. Back to the driver's side, he WAVES at McGraw and gets back in.

McGraw WHISTLES and POINTS to the Volkswagon.

MCGRAW  
Escort to the Linden place.

One of the young COPS looks up, NODS and heads to their squad. Pulling in front of Leon's car, they're escorted home through the snowy night.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon WAVES GOODBYE to the cop as he and Ursula head inside the house and close the door.

**INT. FOYER - NIGHT**

They slowly walk through. Ursula eyes all the family photos.

URSULA  
I want to lie down.

LEON  
Good idea.

URSULA  
Will you make some tea? The kind  
mom would make when we were sick?

LEON  
Sure.

URSULA  
Don't forget the honey.

She heads to the steps and walks up. Leon goes to the kitchen.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

He looks around. Man of the house now. His domain. His first task: tea. He starts opening cupboards. Everything is perfect and alphabetized by product - pastas, canned veggies, etc.



INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ursula CRIES in her bed.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT - LATER

The kettle's on the stove. Water heating. Leon's dialing a number.

RING RING

LEON  
Hey Mr. Reichart. It's Leon.

REICHART (V.O.)  
Christ kid. Sorry for your loss.  
I don't know what else to say-

LEON  
I want to come in and prepare the  
bodies myself.

REICHART (V.O.)  
Bill just dropped them off. Still  
in the bags, I was about to  
transfer-

INT. EMBALMING ROOM - NIGHT

Reichart is standing there wearing his blue-tooth as he looks over the paperwork for Mr. & Mrs. Linden.

LEON (V.O.)  
I insist. Please. Don't  
disrespect my parents.

REICHART  
I've got extra staff, we've got  
them covered here. And don't worry  
about any of the expense.

LEON (V.O.)  
I need closure. This will help. I  
know what they want. I know what  
my father would want. Cremation.  
But I'll get all their personal  
affects.

From Leon's side, the kettle WHISTLES.

LEON (V.O.)  
Sorry, I'm making tea for Ursula.  
It's just her and me now.

REICHART  
Okay. Come by in the morning.  
I'll let you handle this.

LEON (V.O.)  
Thanks Reichart.  
(beat)  
I'm wired. Not tired.  
(MORE)

LEON (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Can you leave the receiving door  
 open? I may just head in-

REICHART  
 Sure kid. Whatever you need.

Reichart TAPS his ear. He doesn't want to wait. The morbid mortician. He prepares his tools. SLIDING his various TRAYS of medical instruments, BLADES, SCALPELS and a SURGICAL SAW over near the large metal tables with the DRAINS near the end, he gets everything situated.

He pushes the first gurney over near the first metal table. Then the second gurney. Eyeing the paperwork, he can't figure out which is which.

He UNZIPS the first body bag. The smell is already a bit ripe. Not Mrs. Linden.

The second body bag. He UNZIPS it. Repulsive. Mrs. Linden's face looks like a bloody and SMOOSHED pumpkin. He UNZIPS the bag further.

Slowly. Licking his lips. He savors the fine and ruined dress. STICKING his hand in between her bloody legs, he FEELS UP INSIDE of her. CLOSING his eyes for a moment. ENJOYING himself. Reichart MOLESTS the dead woman.

From the other body bag a BLOODY ARM FLOPS OUT.

REICHART (CONT'D)  
 Jesus Frank. Can we get a bit of  
 privacy?

Reichart LAUGHS at himself. Walks over and puts the arm back inside. He looks at it a moment. Something's off. He LIFTS the arm again, looking close and DROPS it. THWACK.

REICHART (CONT'D)  
 Weird.

From Mrs. Linden's body bag, her body lets out a bit of stored GAS as it seems to EXHALE. To the uninformed, it's almost like she's still alive. He's a bit startled even though he's a mortician and TRIPS over his own feet. FALLING FACE FIRST, REACHING for whatever he can, the TRAY OF TOOLS spilling all OVER the tile floor-

THUD.

Reichart hits the ground hard as the SURGICAL SAW hits the tile just right, TURNING ON, SPINNING WILDLY out of control and SKITTERING ACROSS THE FLOOR TOWARDS HIS FACE-

He SCREAMS once. Only once as the surgical saw blade TEARS through his flesh and bone. BLOOD SPRAYS everywhere.

**INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon walks into Ursula's room and she's passed out. He sets the tea down on her night stand and strokes her hair. Ursula COOS like a little girl and SNUGGLES up to Leon's hand. She KISSES it.

URSULA  
 Promise me you'll never leave me,  
 Leon.

LEON  
 I promise.

He TUCKS her in.

LEON (CONT'D)  
 I have to take care of some things.  
 I'll be back soon to check on you.

URSULA  
 Okay.

Turning out the light, he leaves the room.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon walks into his dad's office. GRABS the wheel chair and heads back out the door with it.

**EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT**

Opening the trunk, he peers inside. Pin is covered up in the white lab coat that his father had him wrapped in.

LEON  
 Hope you didn't freeze out here.

He gets the chair situated-

LEON (CONT'D)  
 I'm going to get you good as new.  
 You just need some time to mend &  
 recover. That was a horrible  
 accident. Traumatic. You probably  
 won't want to talk for a while.  
 Don't worry, I won't let anyone see  
 you till I patch you up.

**INT. EMBALMING ROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon walks in through the receiving door, the surgical saw is still JAMMED between what's left of Reichart's spine and the steel leg of the table. It's a disgusting mess. Bits of flesh and bone everywhere. His head's completely decapitated. Leon takes a moment and stares.

LEON  
 That's unfortunate.

He UNPLUGS the cord and goes over to the wall phone. Dials 9-1-1.

OPERATOR (V.O.)  
 9-1-1. What is your emergency?

LEON  
I'd like to report an accident.

OPERATOR (V.O.)  
What type of accident?

LEON  
(shrugging)  
Home appliance? No. Wait. Power  
tool. Sorry.  
(beat)  
Sure. The address is...

**INT. CREMATORIUM - DAY**

TWO CASKETS are rolled into the CHAMBER and sealed. FIRES IGNITE with a WHOOSH and BURN hotter than Hades. The caskets are INCINERATED.

**EXT. CEMETERY - DAY**

A small gathering of people. Leon and Ursula stand at the front as the ASHES of both their parents are laid to rest and the ground is consecrated.

Ursula drops TWO roses by their graves. The congregation disperses.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

People mill about. Patients. Friends. Nurse Spalding. Scary costume guy. McGraw. Coroner Bill. Mrs. Spartacus. A couple dozen others. And then there's AUNT DOROTHY, 60s. She looks like she wears at least TWO CANS of HAIR SPRAY a day in her do. She makes her presence known as to who she is.

Leon SIPs his coffee. Scary costume guy approaches him.

SCARY COSTUME GUY  
Your father was a good man, Leon.  
(beat)  
You know, I've been his lawyer for  
a dozen years. He invested really  
well. You and Ursula will be taken  
care of.

LEON  
Really?

SCARY COSTUME GUY  
Yep. No debt. House is paid for.  
He's got stock options, CDs, T-  
bills, college funds, anyway - I  
don't want to talk shop here, so  
swing by the office next week and  
we'll go over things.

LEON  
Sounds great.

Leon walks away and makes nice with them all. Ursula's constantly sobbing. Aunt Dorothy HUGS Ursula and tries to play the replacement mother.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Leon approaches her. Ready to play her game. Aunt Dorothy looks around the living room.

AUNT DOROTHY

(snarky)

You know, I warned your father about your mother's taste in furniture.

LEON

So how long are you in town for Aunt Dorothy?

AUNT DOROTHY

Oh, I don't know, Leon. For as long as it takes, I guess.

LEON

As long as what takes?

AUNT DOROTHY

(confused)

You just lost your parents.

LEON

And you haven't been a part of our lives for several years.

URSULA

Leon!

LEON

What? I'm just saying. Father and she never had a relationship.

AUNT DOROTHY

Maybe it's time for that to change.

LEON

I think we're fine.

AUNT DOROTHY

Excuse me? You're not even eighteen, Leon.

LEON

Less than a month, I turn eighteen.

AUNT DOROTHY

Ursula's sixteen turning seventeen. And then she has a whole 'nother year of high school.

LEON

That's fine.

AUNT DOROTHY  
What about college?

LEON  
I got into Dartmouth. I can  
commute next fall.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Impressive. What about bills?

LEON  
I called dad's lawyer and he's  
looking into their Will, and I'm  
going through his portfolio as we  
speak. He invested quite a bit.  
Stocks, T-bills, CDs...  
(beat)  
Did you know that he owns this  
house free & clear?

AUNT DOROTHY  
Yes.

LEON  
Hmmm...Do you know if you're in the  
will?

AUNT DOROTHY  
I'm his only sister. His only  
immediate family beyond the two of  
you.

LEON  
Thank you for coming today.

AUNT DOROTHY  
This isn't right, Leon. I'm going  
to come back and check on the two  
of you. You're not a legal  
guardian yet.

Aunt Dorothy walks away.

LEON  
Aunt Dorothy is such a...  
(beat)  
Bitch.

Ursula LAUGHS. They continue entertaining their guests.  
Nurse Spalding approaches Leon.

NURSE SPALDING  
I'm going to miss working for your  
dad.

**BEGIN DREAM SEQUENCE**

LEON  
And fucking Pin in my dad's office.  
She stares at him for a couple moments.

**END DREAM SEQUENCE**

NURSE SPALDING  
Did you hear me, Leon?

LEON  
I'm sorry, what was that?

NURSE SPALDING  
I'm going to miss working at the  
office for your dad.

LEON  
I'm sure.

NURSE SPALDING  
Thank goodness for technology.  
Should be easy to transfer all the  
patient files to the neighboring  
clinics. Everyone knows in town,  
but it would be good for you to  
send out a letter saying the  
practice was closed.

LEON  
Of course.

NURSE SPALDING  
And it's a nice space there.

He looks at her.

NURSE SPALDING (CONT'D)  
The office. Your father would  
always pay rent a year up front in  
advance.

Leon walks away, deep in thought. The funeral gathering  
dissipates.

**EXT. FRONT STEPS - NIGHT - LATER**

Ursula and Leon stand and WAVE goodbye to the last of the  
vehicles as they pull away.

LEON  
I guess that's it.

Ursula SHIVERS.

URSULA  
Can we build a fire?

LEON  
I'll cut some wood.

She disappears inside as Leon heads around the back of the  
house.

**EXT. BACK OF THE HOUSE - NIGHT**

Leon CHOPS wood. Looking around, he feels proud. It's his homestead now. He goes back inside.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

The fire CRACKLES as the two of them sit in silence, lost in their own thoughts. A few moments pass. Leon's SQUEEZING the PLASTIC on the couch and eyes it curiously.

LEON  
We need a change.

He stands up and PULLS Ursula to her feet.

URSULA  
What are you doing, Leon?

He TEARS the PLASTIC COVERING off of the couch. Fire in his eyes. Excitement. Something that's long overdue. Ursula stares at him. A little bit terrified of what their mother would say if she caught them. She SMILES.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
I'll get the chairs!

The two of them RIP into all of the plastic furniture coverings and take them all off. LAUGHING and SCREAMING in excitement. Rebelling from the oppression.

They run from room to room. Back and forth. Innocent fun. Stopping in the living room, out of breath. They both turn to the kitchen and look-

LEON  
Let's go mess up the cupboards a little.

URSULA  
Yeah!

They run out of the room.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT - LATER**

The counters are a mess. Food is everywhere. Dirty pots and pans. Plates and bowls piled in the sink.

**INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT**

Ursula's playing with her bowl of ice cream.

URSULA  
Who's going to clean all this up?

They LAUGH.

LEON  
Feels a little good, doesn't it?



URSULA  
She's in a happier place, right?

LEON  
I think so.

URSULA  
What about us?

LEON  
Definitely.

URSULA  
Life goes on. You're going to graduate.

LEON  
Then you'll finish school.

URSULA  
And you'll finish your poem.

LEON  
Ahhhh, yeah.

URSULA  
Then I'll go to college. Graduate.

LEON  
One foot in front of the other.

URSULA  
Dad used to say that.

Leon SMILES.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE WAITING ROOM - DAY**

Leon walks into the office with his book bag and sees Nurse Spalding sitting behind her desk.

LEON  
You're here early.

NURSE SPALDING  
Old habits die hard. Thought I'd get a jump on things.

Leon heads towards the back hall.

NURSE SPALDING (CONT'D)  
Did your dad mention anything about changing the locks on one of the procedure rooms?

He turns around.

LEON  
Why do you ask?

NURSE SPALDING  
 I tried getting into exam room  
 three to check on Pin, but my key  
 doesn't work. Strange. I called a  
 locksmith-  
 (beat)  
 But he hasn't shown up yet.

LEON  
 Cancel it. I'm sure I'll find the  
 key.

NURSE SPALDING  
 Oh. Okay.

Leon walks down the hall.

**INT. HALLWAY - DAY**

LEON  
 (whispers)  
 I wanted to see Pin. Sicko.

Leon STOPS at exam room three and pulls out a key from around  
 his neck. He looks down the hall. The coast is clear.  
 Opens the door and steps inside. Closing the door.

LEON (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
 How are you feeling today, Pin?

**INSERT MONTAGE OF SHOTS-**

*LEON FOCUSING ON HIS STUDIES. URSULA LEARNING HOW TO COOK.*

*LEON GOING TO VISIT SCARY COSTUME GUY AND GOING OVER  
 FINANCES.*

*LEON HEADING INTO EXAM ROOM THREE. LEON TESTING OUT FANCY  
 MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIRS.*

*THE SALESMAN SHOWING LEON HOW HE CAN CONTROL IT BY REMOTE  
 STANDING SEVERAL FEET AWAY LIKE A REMOTE CONTROL CAR. HE  
 PURCHASES THAT PARTICULAR MODEL.*

*LEON SITTING IN HIS DAD'S OFFICE. WRITING HIS POEM. SHARING  
 IT ALOUD WITH PIN STARING OUT THE WINDOW WITH HIS BACK TO  
 US...*

*LEON GOING THROUGH HIS FATHER'S CLOSET AND PULLING OUT A  
 COUPLE SUITS, SHIRTS, PAIRS OF PANTS AND TIES.*

*THE WHEELCHAIR BEING DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE LATE AT NIGHT.*

*LEON BRINGING THE CLOTHES FROM THE HOUSE INTO THE OFFICE FOR  
 PIN. TIME LAPSE - EVERYTHING SPEEDS UP.*

**END MONTAGE OF SHOTS**

**EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY**

The bleachers are jammed with a crush of bodies there for the graduation ceremony. Down in the middle of the field, all the GRADUATES sit in their robes Leon gives the commencement speech.

LEON  
 ...And in the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson "*Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.*"

Everyone applauds as the class stands up and CHEERS.

TIME LAPSE.

Students getting their diplomas. Leon's name being called. He crosses the platform and looks out at the crowd.

ANGLE ON-

Ursula as she stands near McGraw, Nurse Spalding and their parents' other friends.

**EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - LATER**

Leon's shaking everyone's hands.

MCGRAW  
 Outstanding job Leon. Your folks would've been proud.

LEON  
 Well you know, the school only asked me to give a speech because they felt bad about the accident. They thought I might be suicidal.  
 (beat)  
 Can you imagine?

The smile on McGraw's face fades away. Leon has a point. Even as crude and harsh as it is, he's probably right. Leon SMILES and walks away. There's something different about him.

He's assimilating. No longer the whacko. Starting to blend in. A true sociopath. He's still an odd duck though. But people, his peers, are interacting with him to a certain degree. Even slutty/emo looking Marsha walks up to him.

MARSHA  
 Great quote.

LEON  
 Oh yeah?

MARSHA  
 You have any plans for the summer?

LEON  
 Just hanging out.

MARSHA  
 (whispers in his ear)  
 I know you're a freak. Call me.

Marsha walks away just as Ursula gets close.

URSULA  
 Thought Marsha hated us.

LEON  
 Water under the bridge. We were  
 kids.

URSULA  
 Way to go Leon.

LEON  
 Let's get out of here.

**INSERT CARD:**

**FALL 2009**

**INT. BEDROOM - MORNING**

Leon stands in front of the mirror. Adjusting his tie and sport coat. He looks very astute. Grabbing his college-appropriate new bag, he heads out the door.

**INT. FOYER - MORNING**

Walking towards the door.

URSULA  
 ...I'll be fine. Today is your  
 first day at Dartmouth. It's a big  
 deal. Dad would be reeling right  
 now. Are you nervous?

LEON  
 No. Okay. Maybe a little.

Ursula HUGS her brother. He SQUEEZES her tight. Maybe a little too tight. Maybe he enjoys holding her a bit too much. Her scent. The way her hair touches his face.

URSULA  
 I love you Leon. You're the most  
 important person in my life.

She plants a big KISS on his face. He BLUSHES and heads out the door.

**EXT. CONNECTICUT RIVER - MORNING**

Two DARTMOUTH CREW BOATS pace each other as the ROWERS haul ass down river. The COXSWAIN BARKING ORDERS at the them to pick up their speed.

COXSWAIN  
Come on ladies, I don't want to see  
no crabbing today!

**EXT. QUAD - DARTMOUTH COLLEGE - DAY - LATER**

Leon eyes the map in hand then tries to figure out which building is which. It's a bit overwhelming.

TIME LAPSE. EVERYTHING SPEEDS UP and SPINS AROUND HIM LIKE A TORNADO.

**INSERT CARD:**

**6 WEEKS LATER**

**INT. STUDENT SERVICES - DAY**

The once chipper Leon looks drained and beat. He DRAGS as he heads to the student services office.

**INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Leon walks into the doctor's office and sits down behind the desk.

LEON  
I couldn't do it anymore, Pin.

Silence. A few moments pass. Leon just stares at the empty desk in front of him.

PIN  
You couldn't do what?

There it is.

That nasally voice his father used to throw through ventriloquism. The voice Leon had longed to hear for months and months. Dreamed of hearing when his father wasn't around since he was a child...

LEON  
Dartmouth.

PIN  
Didn't your father warn you about  
how difficult it was?

LEON  
Yes.

PIN  
But you didn't listen.

LEON  
I had the grades!

PIN  
Doesn't matter. You did what was  
right. Now you can focus on what's  
important.

LEON  
You're right.

PIN  
I'm lonely here, Leon.

Leon perks up.

LEON  
I think it's time you should come  
stay with us.

PIN  
How does Ursula feel about that?

LEON  
I don't know. She stopped talking  
to you long ago.

PIN  
Things haven't been right since the  
abortion.

LEON  
We can make things right. I'll  
bring you to the house. She won't  
have to know you're there right  
away. It's Tuesday, Urs is at the  
library till nine tonight. I'll  
sneak you in now.

PIN  
(whispers)  
Good idea. You always have good  
ideas, Leon.

LEON  
You always have great ideas.

PIN  
I know. But your ideas are good  
too.

Leon stands up, walks over and turns the wheel chair around.  
We finally see Pin for the first time since his father  
dragged him away.

LEON  
Your wounds healed nicely.

PIN  
You did well, doctor.

Leon PUSHES Pin out of the office and closes the door.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

Leon pushes Pin through the house towards the main level bedroom.

**INT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Turning on the light, the room is small and tidy. A bed. A night stand. A dresser and a lamp.

LEON  
It's not much but, you have your  
own bathroom in here.

Like it really matters. But Leon is polite nonetheless.

PIN  
By the window, please.

Leon backs the chair slightly into the corner and angles it towards the window just a bit so Pin can see out.

LEON  
Can I get you anything?

PIN  
Not right now.

LEON  
I'll check on you in a bit. I'm  
going to pick her up at the  
library.

Leon turns out the light and is about to close the door.

LEON (CONT'D)  
I'll keep the door locked.

PIN  
Good idea.

He leaves the room and CLICK. The door LOCKS.

**INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT - LATER**

Ursula is busy studying. FLIPPING through pages, SCRIBBLING notes, she's very studious. TAPPING her pencil between her teeth, she takes notice of a young gentleman, STAN, early 20s, with an athletic build and a slight LIMP. He's carrying a marine corps backpack and sits at the far end of the table opposite her.

They lock eyes for a moment. He SMILES. She SMILES. Love at first sight. Several moments pass as Ursula tries focusing on her work but keeps looking over and vice versa.

This game goes on for a while.

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Leon eyes the clock. 9:23pm.

LEON  
Where is she?

He gets out of the car.

**INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT**

Ursula and Stan continue to flirt with one another. Leon approaches her. He's oblivious to what's going on.

LEON  
Urs.

She looks up.

URSULA  
I'm so late!  
(beat)  
Sorry, Leon. Were you waiting long?

LEON  
It's okay. Come on.

She packs up and follows him out. Looking back, she WHISPERS so Stan can hear-

URSULA  
(whispers)  
He's my brother.

Stan LAUGHS and WAVES goodbye. It's a cute moment. Innocent.

**INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY**

Leon's pushing around a cart shopping. He's heading towards the check-out and sees Marsha SCANNING items. He PULLS in her lane and UNLOADS. Marsha is looking a bit drugged out. Still hot. But a bit zoned.

LEON  
Marsha, Marsha, Marsha.

She starts ringing his merchandise.

MARSHA  
Leon. Thought you'd be in class right now, fancy Dartmouth. What are you doing here in the middle of the day?

LEON  
I should ask you the same thing.



MARSHA  
I dropped out of college. Classes  
interfered with my drinking and pot  
smoking.

LEON  
Me too.

MARSHA  
Liar.

LEON  
Then what happened?

MARSHA  
Had to get a job. Pay rent. The  
piggly wiggly here was all that  
would hire me.

LEON  
Tragic.

MARSHA  
So, are you going to take me on a  
proper date?

LEON  
Sure. Tonight?

**INT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

Marsha is THRUSTING her pelvis into Leon's crotch. He GRABS  
her HIPS and BITES on her NIPPLES as she SQUEALS.

MARSHA  
Fuck me harder!

**EXT. VOLKSWAGON - NIGHT**

The car rocks back and forth.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

Leon CREEPS into the house. It's late. He makes his way to  
Pin's bedroom and opens the door.

**INT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM - NIGHT**

He closes it quietly.

PIN  
You're out late.

LEON  
(whispers)  
Lost track of time.

PIN  
Don't lie to me.

LEON  
I'm sorry. I had the Need.

PIN  
That's better. Tell me about her.

LEON  
Remember me telling you about  
Marsha?

PIN  
The slut?

Leon sits down on the edge of the bed and continues talking to Pin.

**INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING**

Leon YAWNS as he walks into the room and sees Ursula sitting at the table eating cereal.

URSULA  
Late night?

LEON  
Yeah.

URSULA  
Thought you had early class today?

LEON  
Cancelled.

He sits down. RUBBING his eyes.

URSULA  
Oh my God. You had the Need. I  
see it. Look at you. Train wreck.  
(beat)  
You went out with Marsha! Dirty  
dog!

LEON  
Hey. I'm legally an adult now.

URSULA  
I'm not saying anything. Do you  
love her?

LEON  
Urs!

She LAUGHS as he walks out of the room.

**EXT. STREET - EVENING**

The sun is setting. Autumn is in the air. The wind WHISTLES through the trees as leaves fall. A group of KIDS dressed in COSTUMES scurry from door to door BEGGING for Tricks and Treats.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Leon and Ursula have made a mess on the center island with pumpkin guts as they carve away.

URSULA  
You haven't been speaking too much about Dartmouth lately.

LEON  
(lying)  
It's great. Exhausting. A good challenge.

URSULA  
What are you working on?

LEON  
Generals. You know. Boring stuff.

URSULA  
You're doing really great, Leon.

LEON  
Yeah?

URSULA  
Since the accident. I was a little worried there for a while.

LEON  
Why's that?

URSULA  
You were obsessed with Pin.

Leon GRIPS the KNIFE and STABS his pumpkin.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
Dad and his doll. I don't think what he was doing was really healthy for us.

LEON  
How so?

URSULA  
I'm in this psychology class at school and I've been reading a lot at the library. Dad wasn't very good at communicating with us. Using Pin to "parent" us was not the best idea.

LEON  
But you liked Pin.

URSULA  
Yeah. When I was a kid. Everything else, I've just tried to forget.

She looks up at him. He's a bit unnerved.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
 You okay. Seem tense.

DING-DONG.

LEON  
 Little monsters!  
 (beat)  
 How does it look?

He turns the pumpkin for her to see. She gives the thumbs up. He makes his way out of the kitchen.

**INT. FOYER - EVENING**

Opening the front door, he holds up the pumpkin and YELLS-

LEON  
**BOO!**

No squeals. No screams. No laughter. He lowers the pumpkin to see Aunt Dorothy standing there with a suitcase.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Trick 'r treat!

LEON  
 Oh fuck.

Ursula pokes her head around him to see.

URSULA  
 Aunt Dorothy? What are you doing here?

Aunt Dorothy steps inside. Leon sets the pumpkin down.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Well, until this estate and will stuff is sorted out, I am staying with the two of you.

She DROPS her suitcase on Leon's foot and makes her way through the house.

LEON  
 That's kind of you to check in on us but-

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Don't test me, Leon. Your father tested me growing up. Him and his crooked teeth. He lost.

Leon eyes his teeth as they pass by a mirror.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Aunt Dorothy stops. Looking around.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 What have you two done to the  
 house? It's a mess.

Leon looks at Ursula.

AUNT DOROTHY (CONT'D)  
 Where are the furniture covers?

URSULA  
 They were dirty.

Ursula SHRUGS her shoulders as Leon tries not to laugh.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Those are going back on. We'll get  
 this place back in ship-shape  
 before it goes on the market.

LEON  
 Pardon me?

Aunt Dorothy spins around, all smiles.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Poor dear. I guess the lawyer  
 didn't call you.

LEON  
 He didn't.

AUNT DOROTHY  
 Turns out there were some  
 inconsistencies with the will and  
 they've had to revert to the  
 initial one. And I was listed as  
 his only family there.  
 (beat)  
 So, I'm here until this is all  
 straightened out.  
 (beat)  
 I thought you were going to be  
 living on campus?

Aunt Dorothy makes her way upstairs. Ursula turns to Leon.

URSULA  
 No way.

LEON  
 I'm without words.

URSULA  
 Do something.

LEON  
 (deadpan)  
 Go get a shovel.

Ursula thinks he's serious.

LEON (CONT'D)  
 I'm kidding.

URSULA  
I'm not. I can't live with her.  
We're doing great.

LEON  
I have a feeling Aunt Dorothy won't  
be here for long. I'll take care  
of it.

Ursula walks away. Leon stands there, shaking his head.

**INT. BATHROOM - MORNING**

Ursula BRUSHES her teeth as Aunt Dorothy pokes her head  
inside.

URSULA  
Good morning.

AUNT DOROTHY  
You going to be long? I need to  
have my B-M.

URSULA  
What is that, some sort of vitamin?

AUNT DOROTHY  
A bowel movement, dear.

URSULA  
Ewww.

She closes the door.

**EXT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM - MORNING**

Aunt Dorothy stands outside the closed door and listens to  
the WHISPERING.

LEON  
Well, I have no idea what to do.

PIN  
We have to do something.

LEON  
Like what? You know what she is  
like.

PIN  
She's like a cancer.

Aunt Dorothy is a bit STARTLED by hearing that and steps  
backwards.

CREAK. The floorboards make a sound. FOOTSTEPS towards the  
door. Aunt Dorothy quickly makes like a tree and leaves the  
scene. Leon opens the door and SLIPS out. Closing it tight,  
he LOCKS it. He walks UPSTAIRS.

Aunt Dorothy pokes her head around the corner. Slowly moves up to the door and tries the doorknob. It's locked. She's curious.

**INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING - LATER**

Aunt Dorothy dishes up a nice omelet for Ursula and one for Leon as he reads the newspaper. He's now sitting where his father sat. He SIPS his coffee.

URSULA  
Mmmmm...this is wonderful.

Leon COUGHS.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Thank you my dear.

She eyes Leon. The challenge is on.

AUNT DOROTHY (CONT'D)  
Thanksgiving is coming up. I'll cook a feast for the three of us!

LEON  
Ursula and me were going to deep fry a turkey. It's all the rage.

AUNT DOROTHY  
I guess we could try that.  
(beat)  
Maybe you can invite a friend. A boyfriend-  
(eyeing Leon)  
A girlfriend?

Ursula BLUSHES and thinks about Stan. Leon eyes her curiously.

AUNT DOROTHY (CONT'D)  
You're blushing, Ursula. Do you have a crush?

URSULA  
No!

AUNT DOROTHY  
How about you, Leon? Strapping young man. I bet all the ladies swoon.

URSULA  
He still has feelings for a girl named Marsha.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Invite her to Thanksgiving.

LEON  
We'll see.

He's not entertained by Aunt Dorothy's antics.

AUNT DOROTHY  
So tell me, who were you talking to  
in the first floor bedroom this  
morning?

Ursula looks at him. Concern sets in.

LEON  
Nobody. Why?

AUNT DOROTHY  
I heard voices.

Thinking on his feet-

LEON  
I'm sorry, my poem. I was  
listening to my voice as I was  
reciting my stanzas. It's the most  
quiet room in the house.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Ooooh. Impressive. Stanzas.

URSULA  
Leon's been writing this epic poem  
for years. It's like Homer's 'The  
Odyssey' but much larger in scope  
and theme and love and passion.

Happiness washes over Leon. Watching his sister praise him.

AUNT DOROTHY  
I'd love to hear it.

LEON  
It's getting there. Not quite  
ready.

Aunt Dorothy takes a bite of her TOAST and WINCES in pain.  
She quickly REMOVES her TEETH, LOOKS at them, LICKS them and  
sets them on the table-

AUNT DOROTHY  
(mumbles)  
Excuse me-

Ursula's half-chewed omelet bite FLOPS from her mouth onto  
her plate. She RACES out of the dining room as if she's  
going to vomit. Leon calmly SIPS his coffee and goes back to  
his paper.

**INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Fierce weather rattles the windows outside. Last of the  
thunderstorms. Snow and winter approaching fast. Aunt  
Dorothy TOSSES and TURNS in her bed as BRANCHES scrape  
against her windows.

CREAK.



Her eyes open. Darkness in the room. A little light shines through the drapes. Not much. Her eyes scan. The door is closed. Satisfied that all is quiet, she rolls back over.

Leon STANDS unnoticed in the far corner, LURKING in the shadows like the narrator did in Poe's "Tell-Tale Heart".

**INT. DEN - DAY**

ANGLE ON-

The TELEVISION as the MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE is broadcast. Leon and Ursula are LOUNGING around as Aunt Dorothy makes a RUCKUS in the kitchen, BANGING pots & pans all the while WHISTLING.

URSULA  
I hate turkey.

Leon LAUGHS.

LEON  
Let's get some fresh air.

URSULA  
Ice skating?

LEON  
Race you to the pond.

Ursula's up and off the couch.

**INT. DINING ROOM - DAY - LATER**

Ursula BOUNDS down the steps, all dressed to hit the rink.

AUNT DOROTHY  
What are the two of you up to?

URSULA  
Ice skating.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Sounds fun.

LEON  
You've got everything under control in here?

AUNT DOROTHY  
Sure do. Deep fat fryer is heating up in the garage, soaking the potatoes, candying the yams...

LEON  
Don't burn the house down...

It's a Mexican standoff. She pulls a pack of cigarettes from her apron. FLICKS her LIGHTER and lights one up. She takes a DRAG.

LEON (CONT'D)  
No smoking in the house.

AUNT DOROTHY  
You're a little bastard sometimes.  
(blowing smoke at him)  
Just like your daddy.

She smiles and walks away. Leon controls his temper. Ursula leads him away. They EXIT through the garage.

**INT. GARAGE - DAY**

Leon looks at the gigantic tub that's full of grease she's using to deep fry the turkey that's sitting in the middle of the garage. Ursula grabs her ice skates. They open the garage door and walk outside.

**EXT. POND - EVENING - LATER**

The sun is setting. Skating around, Leon's not feeling it. He SLOWS down.

URSULA  
What is it?

LEON  
I have to- you know-

He points to the house. She NODS.

URSULA  
Hurry up. It's getting cold.  
Might not be out here too much  
longer.

Leon takes his skates off and JOGS back to the house.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - EVENING**

He rounds the back of the house. Peeks in the window. Sees Aunt Dorothy STUFFING the turkey and basting it. She PUTS her coat on. Here's his chance. RUNNING around the front, he SLIPS inside the front door quietly.

**INT. KITCHEN - EVENING**

He passes by the garage entry near the kitchen and sees Aunt Dorothy fighting with the WEIGHT of the turkey in the garage.

He heads to the main floor bedroom. UNLOCKING it, he opens the door.

LEON  
Pin, are you awake?

PIN  
Yes, Leon.

**INT. GARAGE - EVENING**

Aunt Dorothy is really struggling with the damn bird as a cigarette DANGLES from her mouth.

AUNT DOROTHY  
God damned bird. Work with me here.

The POWER GOES OUT. DARKNESS consumes her.

AUNT DOROTHY (CONT'D)  
Shitty Pilgrim fuck.

PIN (V.O.)  
Dorothy.

AUNT DOROTHY  
Who is that?

PIN  
Doooooooooooooooooooootthhhhhhyyyyy.

A FLASHLIGHT turns on, SHINING RIGHT at her. She looks like a deer caught in the headlights. Slowly, the flashlight turns towards PIN as he slowly wheels towards the entrance to the garage.

Aunt Dorothy FREAKS OUT. She STAGGERS BACKWARDS, TRIPS and FALLS INTO the BOILING TUB OF TURKEY FRY. The cigarette IGNITES the GREASE which is now COVERING her and she BURSTS INTO FLAMES.

She SCREAMS. The LIGHTS TURN back on as the GARAGE DOOR OPENS.

Ursula stands there with her SKATES in hand as Aunt Dorothy, FULLY ENGULFED IN FLAMES RUNS FOR HER LIFE OUT OF THE GARAGE and down the driveway and into the street, RUNNING like a bat out of hell.

LEON  
Call 9-1-1!

Ursula is in SHOCK. She turns to see Leon there, CHASING after her with a FIRE EXTINGUISHER (Pin is now back and locked in the bedroom).

**INT. NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE - EVENING**

The neighbor's are enjoying a nice meal in front of the bay window and they all see Aunt Dorothy, in FLAMES, sprinting for her life down the street.

It's a very scenic Norman Rockwell holiday painting moment.

**EXT. STREET - EVENING**

Leon attempts to put out the fire but it's too late.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

Squad cars. Ambulance. Fire truck. Coroner Van. McGraw. Deja Vu. Ursula is wrapped up in a blanket on the front steps. Leon brings her some tea and a cup of coffee for McGraw.

MCGRAW

Thanks Leon.

(beat)

The M.E. says she had a heart attack. Probably caused her to stumble in the garage, catch on fire-

LEON

She was a smoker. She even smoked in the house.

MCGRAW

Your father would've killed her himself.

Ursula and Leon share a moment. It's a sick joke. But true. Scary costume guy makes his way towards them.

SCARY COSTUME GUY

Your father warned me about her. Thanks for calling me, McGraw.

MCGRAW

Is that so?

SCARY COSTUME GUY

Yeah. Dr. Linden was always worried about her moving in late in his life and declaring him incompetent. Taking control of his assets. Just never wanted you or Ursula to have to deal with her. Now you really don't have to worry.

MCGRAW

Incompetent? Dr. Linden?

SCARY COSTUME GUY

You know how old people get? Senility and all that. He was just a cautious man.

MCGRAW

But he wasn't sick?

LEON

No.

MCGRAW

Someone's looking out for the two of you.

Ursula rests her head on Leon's shoulder. Things are back to normal again. Leon smiles. He knows it's Pin looking out for them.

**EXT. CHRISTMAS TREE LOT - NIGHT**

Ursula and Leon are walking around picking out a tree for the holiday as Christmas carols play.

URSULA  
I was thinking about getting a job.

LEON  
Where?

URSULA  
The library. I mean, I already spend enough time there. Graduating in a year. I'll be able to save some money and build some work ethic. What do you think?

LEON  
You don't have to work. There's money set aside for college.

Ursula looks like she really wants a "yes".

LEON (CONT'D)  
But if that's-

URSULA  
I knew you'd see it that way. I already told Ms. Spartacus yes, if you said it was okay.

LEON  
She offered you a job? That's wonderful!

URSULA  
How about that one?

Ursula stops at a decent looking tree.

LEON  
Perfect. I'll go pay for it and you drag it to the car?

She PUNCHES him in the arm.

LEON (CONT'D)  
Okay you go pay for it and I'll drag it to the car.

Ursula SMILES and BOUNCES away.

**INT. LIBRARY - AFTERNOON**

Ms. Spartacus is going over procedures with Ursula behind one of the information desks.

MS. SPARTACUS  
...and that's how we handle late returns.

(beat)

(MORE)

MS. SPARTACUS (CONT'D)

By the way, your gentleman caller is back. He's been here every day even when you're away.

Ms. Spartacus POINTS to Stan at one of the far tables.

URSULA

He's not interested in me.

MS. SPARTACUS

Darling, the way he was looking at you several weeks ago, a woman knows.

URSULA

You think?

MS. SPARTACUS

His name is Stan. He's twenty-two. Just returned from Iraq. He's single.

URSULA

How did you find all this out?

MS. SPARTACUS

He had to apply for a card.

URSULA

Relationship status is on the application?

They both LAUGH out loud as Stan looks up. Ursula and Ms. Spartacus quickly turn away.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

The house is decked out with Christmas lights galore. Leon went all out. It looks beautiful. A light snow falls. Smoke PUFFS from the chimney. It's picturesque.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

The Christmas tree is lit. It's magnificent. Several presents are wrapped and tucked beneath the tree. Two stockings hang from the fireplace.

Christmas Carols play on the stereo system. Leon POKES at the firewood that's burning as Ursula brings in a tray of cookies and sets them down. They're both dressed for the festive evening.

URSULA

Look at all of those presents.

LEON

We made out like bandits this year. Wonder what we got?

She looks at him. An odd statement. Especially coming from him. She stands up and walks over to the tree. Bending over, he eyes her ass inappropriately and looks away quickly.

URSULA  
From Ursula to Leon.

She hands him a gift. He DIGS in and UNWRAPS it. A book.  
**KAFKA.**

URSULA (CONT'D)  
It's a first edition. Ms. Spartacus suggested it. She thought you might enjoy 'The Metamorphosis'.

LEON  
Ahhh, sweets. So thoughtful. I love it.

URSULA  
Thought it would be inspiration for your poem.

She grabs another box.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
From Leon to Ursula.

He SMILES as she unwraps it and opens the box. Lingerie.

LEON  
I was doing laundry and took some of your garments into the store. Had the employees help me pick stuff out that they thought you might like.

Ursula BEAMS.

URSULA  
Best. Brother. Ever.

LEON  
I'll admit, thought it was a bit creepy buying my sister lingerie. I insisted to the staff that we were related and not step-siblings. So they didn't think we were hooking up. I think they understood.

She stares at him.

LEON (CONT'D)  
I'm totally messing with you Ursula. Marsha went shopping for you!

Relief washes over her.

URSULA  
Should invite her over to the house.

LEON  
I can do that.

Ursula reaches for another gift and flips up the tag.

                          URSULA  
 To Ursula.  
                           (beat)  
 From...Pin?

She looks up at Leon. Excitement in his eyes.

                          LEON  
 Open it.

                          URSULA  
                           (creeped out)  
 What is this Leon?

                          LEON  
 Pin got you something.

She UNWRAPS it. A book. **TWILIGHT by Stephenie Meyer.**

                          LEON (CONT'D)  
 Oh, Pin. He knows what's popular  
 with teens. I haven't even heard  
 of that.

                          URSULA  
 How? Did Pin get this for me?

Leon stands and holds his hand up for her to wait a moment.  
 He disappears out of the room.

**CAROL OF THE BELLS** by Mykola Dmytrovych starts to play.

                          CHOIR (V.O.)  
 Hark! How the bells, sweet silver  
 bells, All seem to say, "throw  
 cares away". Christmas is here,  
 Bringing good cheer, To young and  
 old, Meek and the bold. Ding,  
 dong, ding, dong.

**INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT**

Giddy like a kid, Leon PUSHES Pin out from the bedroom, he  
 places a small Christmas Corsage in Pin's jacket and heads  
 down the hall.

                          CHOIR (V.O.)  
 That is their song. With joyful  
 ring, All caroling. One seems to  
 hear, words of good cheer, From  
 ev'rywhere filling the air.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Ursula prepares for the worst as the song comes to a climax.



CHOIR (V.O.)  
 Oh how they pound, raising the  
 sound, O'er hill and dale, telling  
 their tale, Gaily they ring, while  
 people sing. Songs of good cheer.  
 Christmas is here.

Leon emerges from the hall with Pin dressed in a clean suit.

CHOIR (V.O.)  
 Merry, merry, merry, merry  
 Christmas. Merry, merry, merry,  
 merry Christmas. On, on they send.  
 On without end. Their joyful tone.  
 To ev'ry home. Ding, dong, ding  
 dong.

The music stops.

PIN  
 Merry Christmas, Ursula.

She is horrified. Her eyes bounce from Pin to Leon & back.

**INSERT CARD:**

**PRESENT DAY**

**INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT**

Ursula PUSHES a cart of books between the stacks. She's grown out of her teens and is a young woman now. Beautiful & elegant without even trying. Her eyes roll up & down as she scans the section she needs to re-shelve books.

Unbeknownst to her, through the aisle opposite her, Stan follows. PACING with her every move. She slows. He slows. She stops. He stops. It's When Harry Met Sally cute. Ursula settles in on an area and goes to work putting books back. Stan's eyes meet hers through the spaces between. She notices him. His hundred million dollar smile.

STAN  
 Hi.

URSULA  
 Hello.

STAN  
 Busy night?

URSULA  
 Sort of.

He NODS. Pretending to look at the books in his section.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
 Can I help you find something?

STAN  
 Hmmmm....  
 (beat)  
 Just if you're not busy.

URSULA  
 It's my job.

She makes her way to his aisle.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
 So what is it tonight?

STAN  
 Love in the Time of Cholera?

She SCANS the shelves.

URSULA  
 I don't...think...that...one...is  
 for you.

STAN  
 Oh really?

She SHAKES her head and PUTS her hand on a book.

URSULA  
 This one.

STAN  
 Kama Sutra?

She NODS and SMILES. Stan PULLS her body in close and they KISS passionately.

STAN (CONT'D)  
 I love you so fucking much!

She pulls away and looks at him.

STAN (CONT'D)  
 What? I say something bad?

URSULA  
 You really love me?

STAN  
 What do you think? A year of  
 hanging out up here getting to know  
 you before two years of dating. I  
 think I'm allowed to say I love  
 you.

URSULA  
 I love you Stan!

She THROWS her arms around him and they KISS again.

STAN  
 Move in with me.

She stops cold. Backs up.

URSULA

Stan-

STAN

Bring me to the house. I think it's a little weird that I still haven't met your brother after all this time. He does know were dating right?

URSULA

Yeah. Just dating. Not so serious.

STAN

But we have been serious.

URSULA

I know.

STAN

And I think it's time to get more serious.

Stan takes her hand, locking his fingers with hers, kissing it.

URSULA

Leon is part of this package deal. I'm not leaving my brother alone. He's my only family.

STAN

I'm aware of that. So what if he's a little different. Anti-social. It's okay.

URSULA

You probably have this horrible picture painted in your head of what he's like-

STAN

No. Not at all. I'm envisioning the tubby guy from The Hangover.

URSULA

The Wolfpack?

STAN

Yeah.

They LAUGH.

STAN (CONT'D)

And then of course there's Pin.

URSULA

Damn. I try to just block that out.

STAN  
Sweetie. I get it. Leon's connection to Pin goes way back to when you were kids. And then the accident. He never mourned properly because he had you to look out for. Don't fault him for that. We'll get through this.

URSULA  
Okay.

STAN  
It's settled. I'm coming to dinner tomorrow night.

URSULA  
Let me talk to him.

**INT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

Ursula walks in and sets her keys down. **GOLDBERG VARIATIONS** is blasting through the house.

URSULA  
(yells)  
LEON!

She walks through.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Opening the fridge, she grabs a bottle of water. It's the most ORGANIZED refrigerator you've ever seen. Everything has dates written on them.

She goes to a cupboard and opens it. Categorized. Back to the way their mother had things. She pulls out a granola bar. She walks towards the first floor bedroom.

**INT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM**

The room is lit solely by a tiny desk lamp. The music is LOUDER. Leon is furiously writing at the small desk as Pin sits in the shadows of the corner. She walks in and TURNS the volume down. It's a creepy scene.

PIN  
Sssshhhh...Leon is in the middle of an important stanza. Near the climax of his poem.

URSULA  
Oh yeah?

PIN  
Yes.

URSULA  
I want to talk to him.

PIN  
Maybe tomorrow.

URSULA  
Can you give him a message?

PIN  
Sure.

URSULA  
Tell him we're having company.

PIN  
Is it Stanley?

URSULA  
Yes!

PIN  
Leon will be busy. But I'm free.

URSULA  
God damn it, Leon! Enough of this!

She TAPS him on the shoulder and he looks up. Leon's appearance has deteriorated. He looks like Johnny Depp in Secret Window sans the long hair. He's still clean-cut, he just looks "off". Leon's constantly STRETCHING his JAW MUSCLES by opening his mouth and he RUBS his cheeks. He seems oblivious to the fact that she was even there. He pulls the EAR PHONES out from his ears.

LEON  
I didn't even hear you come in.

URSULA  
Quit messing around.

Leon smiles.

LEON  
So the infamous Stanley is coming over.

URSULA  
I thought it would be fun.

LEON  
How long have I been telling you to invite him?

URSULA  
For a while.

PIN  
A long while.

LEON  
Thank you, Pin.

URSULA  
So you're okay with this?

LEON  
Of course. In fact, tomorrow being  
a special night, I think it's time  
to read my poem aloud.

URSULA  
It's really almost done?

Leon NODS. Ursula HUGS him. She's so excited.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
That's incredible, Leon. Oh my  
god. I know it's going to be  
simply amazing.

PIN  
Epic.

Leon SMILES.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - EVENING**

Stan's car pulls into the driveway. A light snow begins to fall. He gets out of the car, opens the back door, GRABS a bottle of wine, flowers and a box of chocolates before walking to the front door.

DING DONG. The door opens. Leon stands there. Well dressed. He looks like the old Leon.

LEON  
The infamous Stan.

Leon goes to shake his hand.

STAN  
Infamous?

LEON  
Forgive me. The famous Stan. A  
lot of people get that wrong.  
Ursula's right. You're clever.  
(beat)  
I'm Leon.

Stan SMILES and they shake hands as he walks inside.

**INT. FOYER - EVENING**

Leon leads Stan through the house.

STAN  
Beautiful house, Leon.

LEON  
Thank you.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING**

Leon spins around and points to the couch.

LEON

May I?

Stan hands the bottle over to Leon.

STAN

I wasn't sure what you liked. Hope this does the job.

LEON

I don't usually indulge, but tonight's a special occasion.

Leon walks into the kitchen as Stan looks around.

LEON (V.O.)

Ursula's getting all dolled up for you.

He walks back in with two glasses and a cork screw.

STAN

Ursula's not drinking?

LEON

She's not twenty-one yet, Stan.

His eyes grow wide and he shifts in his seat uncomfortably.

LEON (CONT'D)

I'm just messing with you. I only have two hands. I'll get her a glass when she comes down.

STAN

She always mentions your sense of humor.

He pours the wine.

LEON

Ahhh. Mine's just okay. Now Pin is hilarious.

Awkward moment. Ursula walks into the room. Stan gets up and beams at how she looks. You can see they're truly in love.

URSULA

Stan.

They hug & kiss. He hands her the flowers. She eyes the chocolates.

STAN

These aren't for you.

URSULA

Is that so?

Stan shakes his head.

STAN  
I heard how much Pin likes candy.  
So I brought these for him.

LEON  
Very thoughtful Stan.

URSULA  
Why don't you go and bring Pin out  
to meet Stan, Leon.

Leon NODS and walks away. Stan SIPs his wine as Ursula GRABS  
his glass and takes a BIG GULP. He tries not to laugh.

URSULA (CONT'D)  
You only brought one bottle of  
wine?

STAN  
I have another in the car. It's  
chilling out there.

URSULA  
Thank god.

Pin's wheel chair rounds the corner. Leon is controlling it  
by remote. Stan and Ursula turn around to see. It's a bit  
shocking at first for Stan. He maintains his composure.  
Leon appears several feet away.

STAN  
Well hello there, Pin. My name is  
Stan.

PIN  
Hello Stan.

Stan stares for a moment then walks the chocolates over.

STAN  
I brought these for you.

He sets them on Pin's lap.

PIN  
Why thank you. So kind.

Another awkward moment.

STAN  
Smells good.

URSULA  
Yes, it does.

PIN  
What's for dinner, Leon?

LEON  
Rack of Lamb. Shall we?

Leon turns to the dining room.



INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Quite possibly the most terrifying dinner setting since The Texas Chainsaw Massacre. Even Pin has a place at the table. Everyone's eating their meal.

PIN  
(whispers)  
Leon.

All eyes fall on Pin. Leon looks around. His plate's full. What else does he need? His wine glass is empty.

LEON  
So sorry, Pin.

Leon stands and POURS Pin some wine.

PIN  
Just a spritz.

Stan almost CHOKES. Ursula PATS him on the back. Leon notices his rudeness.

LEON  
How long were you in Iraq?

STAN  
I served three tours.

PIN  
(snarky)  
How did you lose your leg?

URSULA  
Leon!

LEON  
What? I didn't say anything.

STAN  
Well, Pin... we were on maneuvers, I was part of a convoy and we came across an IED. Woke up a week later in a German hospital.

PIN  
May I see?

URSULA  
You're being rude, Pin.

STAN  
Really, Ursula. I don't mind.

Stan pulls up his pants to reveal a titanium alloy leg.

PIN  
Fancy.

LEON  
(eyeing Pin's plate)  
You're not eating anything tonight, Pin. What's going on?  
(MORE)

LEON (CONT'D)

(beat)

Usually, he's a little piggy.

They all go back to eating their uncomfortable meal.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

The fire CRACKLES as Leon, Stan and Ursula LAUGH as they play a board game. Pin is in the corner watching. Ursula RAISES her hands.

URSULA

I WIN!

Stan and Leon throw their cards down.

STAN

She cheated.

LEON

Probably.

STAN

Ursula tells me you're a writer.

PIN

A very good one too.

LEON

Thanks Pin.

URSULA

He's writing an epic. Are you going to share it?

Leon NODS and gets up.

LEON

Let me go upstairs and get it.

He runs out of the room as Ursula KISSES Stan. Full on tongue. She SLIDES into his LAP, STRADDLING him and starts to really get into it. Stan OPENS his eyes and sees Pin staring back at him. The mood is killed. Ursula senses it. She looks back.

URSULA

Fuck. Forgot about him.

STAN

I want to spend the night.

URSULA

Oh...Stan...I don't know.

PIN

Of course you can spend the night.

Their heads whip around and see Leon standing there, STARING at them.

STAN  
Thanks Leon.

Leon NODS.

LEON  
Shall I begin?  
(beat)  
Wait, we need more wine.

Stan hops up and heads to the front door.

STAN  
I've got a white chilling in the car.

LEON  
Stan is the man with the plan!

He goes outside.

LEON (CONT'D)  
I like him a lot, Ursula.

URSULA  
I'm so glad.

LEON  
You love him. So the Need with him is okay.

URSULA  
He asked me to move in with him.

Leon's a bit surprised. Stan walks back in with the wine.

STAN  
Who needs a refill?

PIN  
I do.

Stan eyes Pin.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Ursula is cuddled up with Stan as the fire RAGES behind Leon. He PACES back & forth reading from his notebook.

TIME LAPSE.

LEON  
*...Gentle cloth night wrapped her bosom in luminous clinging moon. Testes watched from the alley darkness. She moved through the shadows, unaware that his loins were singing. The seed within him grew impatient to be planted in the fertile soil of her womb.*

TIME LAPSE.

LEON (CONT'D)

*...The touched her face so that he could not read the lines drawn there. She was nameless but that her name was woman. Her thighs would seize him in the grips of passion. And he would top her in the hope that she would house his name and pass his bloodline into another generation.*

TIME LAPSE. Stan EMPTIES the bottle of wine in his glass.

LEON (CONT'D)

*...Closer, closer, closer she came to him, moving, it seemed in silent motion. He thought to kiss the lips between her thighs. His heart beat steadily within the caverns of his bosom, driving hot blood thick down, down into the depths of his loins. He thought he caught the odor of a familiar perfume. And then like the predator he had become, he lunged from the deepest darkest passions in us all. She turned without a sound and faced him. He stopped abruptly. It was as if a knife had performed instant castration. He was looking into the eyes of his sister.*

Leon closes the notebook and sets it down. SIPS his wine. And RESTS his head against the fireplace mantle. Exhausted.

URSULA

That was incredible Leon.

Stan stares at her wide-eyed.

PIN

Breathtaking.

Leon turns around. TEARS in his eyes.

LEON

Really?

Ursula JUMPS up and HUGS him. It's a very macabre moment.

**INT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM - NIGHT - LATER**

Leon sits on the bed next to Pin as Ursula is in the doorway.

URSULA

You did a great job tonight.

LEON

Did Stan appreciate it?

URSULA

I'm sure he did. He's upstairs getting ready for bed. Are you going to sleep soon?

LEON  
 Yes. I want to hear Pin's thoughts  
 on my poem.

She CLOSES the door.

**EXT. HALLWAY - NIGHT**

Ursula listens for a moment.

LEON (V.O.)  
 (whisper)  
 Tell me what you really think.

Reality sets in. She's concerned.

**INT. URSULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Ursula and Stan lay in bed.

STAN  
 (whispers)  
 What did you think of all that?

URSULA  
 It was good.

STAN  
 The poem was about you & him as  
 lovers.

URSULA  
 No.

STAN  
 Think about it. I understand, you  
 want to protect him. But he needs  
 help.

URSULA  
 Leon is sick.

The bomb has dropped.

STAN  
 Your brother is schizophrenic.  
 You're not helping anyone by  
 staying in this environment.  
 (beat)  
 I want to marry you.

She ROLLS into him. CRYING. He holds her tight.

**EXT. URSULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Leon has his ear pressed against the door. Fire in his eyes.

**INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING**

Ursula walks into the room & sits. Leon is reading.

LEON  
You two love birds have a good  
night?

URSULA  
Stan proposed last night.

Leon's calm and cool.

LEON  
You two have been together for well  
over a year.

URSULA  
Almost two. I accepted.

She leaves the table.

**INSERT CARD:**

**THREE WEEKS LATER**

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - DAY**

A small moving truck is parked out front with the back open and a ramp leading up to it.

**INT. FOYER - DAY**

Ursula and Stan carry boxes down the steps and outside as Leon attempts to busy himself. Pin sits near the entryway.

STAN  
How many more up there, babe?

URSULA (V.O.)  
Ahhhh...four, wait, five.

STAN  
Don't go having too many ladies  
over here now, Leon. Pace  
yourself. Ursula mentioned a girl  
named Marsha...

Leon looks over at Stan as he carries another out.

LEON  
Marsha, Marsha, Marsha.

PIN  
Wow. Even though he's crippled, he  
can still move fast.

Stan BEAMS a look at him.

LEON  
Apologize Pin.

PIN  
Sorry Stan. I didn't mean it.

Leon walks away.

**INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT**

Leon sits across from Marsha who is drunker than a skunk. She's looks like a trashed out whore now. He WAVES the WAITER over.

LEON  
Can we have the check?

MARSHA  
(slurred)  
Wait, just one more.

LEON  
I think we're done.

MARSHA  
What are we going to do now?

LEON  
Thought I'd take you back to my house.

She NODS.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

The room is dark as Leon and Marsha KISS passionately. She DROPS to her knees and goes down on him. His eyes roll back in his head after several moments and he lifts her up on the counter, HIKING her mini-skirt up. She UNBUCKLES his pants. They start fucking.

MARSHA  
Where's your sister? Maybe she wants to get in on this action too.

Leon pulls away. Repulsed.

LEON  
With you?

MARSHA  
Like the first time. Remember?

LEON  
You're a fucking slut.

MARSHA  
Real nice, you piece of shit.

Marsha HOPS off the counter.

MARSHA (CONT'D)  
Where's the bathroom?

LEON  
Down the hall.

She STAGGERS away.

**INT. HALL BATHROOM - NIGHT**

Marsha finishes up and opens the door to leave. All the lights are out. Complete darkness. She looks from one end of the hall to the other.

MARSHA  
Leon?

Slowly, the bedroom door opens. Pin sits in the doorway. His eyes seem to GLOW in the dark.

PIN  
Maaaaarrrrrrssssshhhhhhaaaa.

She looks down and sees the GLOWING EYES as they move towards her.

MARSHA  
What the hell?

Walking down the hall, the wheel chair SPEEDS UP and she starts to RUN.

Rounding the corner, she BUMPS into Leon and SCREAMS.

MARSHA (CONT'D)  
Asshole!

LEON  
What?

She SPINS around. Pin is gone.

MARSHA  
Take me home.

LEON  
We're not going to fuck?

She SLAPS him. He seems to like it. Just like when his mother slapped him.

LEON (CONT'D)  
There's the door.

She STOMPS out of the house.

MARSHA  
Lose my number you fucking freak.

Leon heads to the bedroom.



INT. MAIN LEVEL BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pin looks creepy sitting with his back to the window and the moon shining in. Like Norman's mother in Psycho.

PIN  
You controlled the Need.

LEON  
I miss Ursula.

PIN  
Get her back.

LEON  
How?

PIN  
You need to get rid of Stan. For good. Close the door and I'll tell you how.  
(beat)  
Then be a gentleman and go give Marsha a ride home.

Leon CLOSES the door.

INT. STAN'S HOUSE - DAY

The house is small and quaint. Stan is dressed in a suit, heading out the door for work.

RING RING. He picks up the telephone.

STAN  
Hello?

LEON (V.O.)  
Stan. It's Leon.

STAN  
Hey Leon. I was just heading out to the office. What's up?

LEON (V.O.)  
Since you and Ursula are getting married, I thought we should discuss her inheritance.

STAN  
Inheritance?

LEON (V.O.)  
I never talked numbers with her, but the two of you will never ever have to worry about money again.

STAN  
Really?

LEON (V.O.)  
Swing by the house after work and we can talk about it.

(MORE)

LEON (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 But promise me you won't mention  
 coming over to Ursula. This is  
 supposed to be your wedding  
 present.

STAN  
 I promise. See you soon.

CLICK. Stan is about to leave. He backs up and leaves a  
 note even though Leon asked him not to.

**STOPPING BY YOUR OLD HOUSE TO TALK TO LEON AFTER WORK. LOVE S**

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - EVENING**

Stan walks up to the front door. Pushes the doorbell.  
 Waits. Again. Nothing. Once more. Nope. He tries the  
 handle and opens it. He steps inside and closes the door.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Slowly walking into the living room, Stan looks around.

STAN  
 Leon?

He sees Pin sitting there by the fire. Pin's wearing a RAIN  
 SLICKER. Stan eyes him curiously. Stepping closer. Slowly.  
 Inches away. Finally a truly close up look at the marvelous  
 wonder of Pin. The doll almost seems so...

PIN  
 Good evening, Stan.

Stan SPINS around and-

THWACK

Leon HITS him SQUARE in the FACE with a SLEDGE HAMMER. His  
 body CRUMPLES to the floor. LEGS are SHAKING uncontrollably.  
 Leon WINDS UP and SLAMS the SLEDGE down hard again.

HITTING him again. And again. PULVERIZING Stan's face into  
 a smashed pumpkin. BLOOD SPRAYING everywhere including Pin.  
 It's a good thing he's wearing that rain slicker.

Stan stops moving. Leon STARES at the BLOODY PULP where his  
 face was.

PIN (CONT'D)  
 He won't be a bother anymore.

LEON  
 You sure?

PIN  
 Maybe you're right. We need to  
 dump him in the pond. Burn his  
 leg. Should make good kindle.

Leon RIPS Stan's leg off and THROWS it in the fire. He DRAGS the body out the back door through the garage.

PIN (CONT'D)  
We'll put the body in the car and  
dump it all.

**EXT. BACK OF THE HOUSE - NIGHT**

Leon CHOPS up Stan's body and THROWS the SEVERED LIMBS in the trunk along with the ax.

**INT. STAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT**

Ursula sits at the dinner table. A nice meal cooked. Staring at the clock. It's 9:40pm. She looks at his note. Dials a number.

AUTOMATED VOICE (V.O.)  
Hi, you've reached Leon & Ursula.  
Sorry we're unable to answer the  
phone but leave a message at the  
beep.

PIN (V.O.)  
Beeeeeep.

**EXT. TRAIL - NIGHT**

Leon DRIVES Stan's car down the trail towards the pond.

**INT. CAR - NIGHT**

Ursula drives to her old house.

**EXT. POND - NIGHT**

Leon stands on the ice next to the car. He looks around. It isn't sinking.

LEON  
Fuck!

Opening the trunk, he GRABS the AX and starts CHOPPING the ICE all around it. It starts PRESSURE-CRACKING. HARDER SWINGS. FASTER. MORE. REPEAT. THWACK. THWACK. The ice begins to break apart. Leon almost loses his footing several times. Finally, the ice gives way.

GLUB GLUB GLUB. The car begins to sink. Leon heads back to the house.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT**

Ursula walks up to the front door and inside.

**INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Leon's CHOPPING tomatoes. Pin's in the living room sitting in front of the fireplace. He's all cleaned up now. Leon looks at his sister.

LEON  
Hey. Just in time for taco night.

PIN  
Taco Tuesday!

LEON  
Should we set a place?

URSULA  
Where's Stan?

Leon walks towards her and looks around innocently.

LEON  
I don't know? Is he parking your car?

URSULA  
Enough, Leon.

She holds up the note. Leon's eyes grow wide. He walks into the living room.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Leon circles around near Pin. His comfort zone.

URSULA  
What did you say to him?

LEON  
We talked. That's all. Then he left.

URSULA  
He just left?

LEON  
A couple hours ago.

URSULA  
Pin?

LEON  
Pin wasn't here. Stan and I talked.

URSULA  
What did you two discuss?

LEON  
You. I just thought he should know about the abortion and how you used to sleep around-

Ursula's ENRAGED. She PACES around the room.

URSULA  
What the fuck is wrong with you,  
Leon?

LEON  
Why? He didn't come home?

She turns around with tears in her eyes.

URSULA  
No!

Looking towards the fireplace, Stan's titanium alloy leg catches her eye. Fear consumes her. The worst kind. Her back is to Leon and Pin.

LEON  
I'm so sorry. He must be clearing  
his head-

URSULA  
What did you do to him?

She eyes the ax resting in the corner. Notices the blood. Turning to Leon. She knows. He knows that she knows what happened to Stan.

LEON  
I did it for us.

Ursula GRABS the AX. She RUNS towards Leon and Pin with the ax high above her head-

Leon SCREAMS.

LEON (CONT'D)  
NO! DON'T HURT HIM!

ANGLE ON-

URSULA as she SWINGS the ax down-

THWACK. THWACK. THWACK. THWACK.

BLOOD SPRAYS HER FACE. STAGGERING backwards as the bloody ax slips from her hands, she stares in SHOCKED HORROR.

Dead silence.

**EXT. LINDEN HOUSE - NIGHT - LATER**

SQUAD CARS & COPS everywhere. Crime scene chaos. Ursula's being led to a cop car in handcuffs as PARAMEDICS roll out a gurney with a BODY BAG STRAPPED DOWN to it.

TEARS ROLLING down her cheeks as she watches the body bag and gurney being rolled to the CORONER'S VAN. McGraw looks over at her. He's being interviewed and seems to be in shock too.

DISSOLVE TO:

**6 MONTHS LATER****EXT. COURTHOUSE - DAY**

It's springtime. Flowers in bloom. A new season. REPORTERS line the courthouse steps along with NEWS CREWS and GAWKERS.

JUDGE (V.O.)  
Jury foreman, do you have a verdict?

**INT. COURTROOM - DAY**

The BAILIFF walks the verdict from the jury box to the JUDGE and she reads it before handing it back to the JURY FOREMAN. A crush of PEOPLE are in attendance including McGraw, Coroner Bill, Ms. Spartacus, etc.

Ursula sits behind the DEFENSE table and is flanked by LAWYERS. She's somber. Staring blankly at the floor. Seems to not even care.

JUDGE  
What say you?

JURY FOREMAN  
In the matter of the State of New Hampshire versus Ursula Jo Linden for the murder of **Dr. Frank Linden**, we the jury find Ms. Linden NOT GUILTY on all counts as charged by the state.

The courtroom EXPLODES in commotion. The PROSECUTION'S table of LAWYERS is pissed. Ursula's people are ECSTATIC. She's still a bit overwhelmed. SOBBING and HAPPY at the same time.

**EXT. COURTHOUSE STEPS - DAY**

REPORTERS are interviewing everyone from Ursula's life and a medical expert, DR. BEN RICHMAN, 40s, who is waiting in the wings.

CORONER BILL  
...Call it an error in communication. We just didn't question Leon Linden at the scene of the car accident. You've got to understand, those bodies were a bloody mess.

MCGRAW  
...By the time I got on the scene, the bags were zipped up. Had no idea the kid had put his father in the trunk and the medical doll in his place. Frank Linden was catatonic at that point. No recovery in sight. I mean the guy had just lost his wife.

(MORE)

MCGRAW (CONT'D)

He was simply mentally gone according to Leon.

REPORTER

That's if your going by Leon Linden's words?

MCGRAW

Correct. We'll never know. This whole affair is tragic. The community will have a difficult time moving past this nightmare.

SCARY COSTUME GUY

...Confidentiality. I knew Dr. Linden was suffering from a rare condition. That's why Ursula didn't notice.

REPORTER

Dr. Richman, can you shed some light as to what went on in the Linden house?

DR. BEN RICHMAN

For years while alive, Dr. Linden would wear make-up due to his rare form of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. After the accident, Leon just let him be. His skin became translucent. His veins showing through, just like the very doll he created and modeled after himself. He became a new version of it...he became Pin.

(beat)

Leon was never properly diagnosed schizophrenic and had a psychotic break. But he maintained a truly functional life. Leon never had a father. He had Pin. So with his father assuming that role, everything was fine until the threat of Ursula leaving him was introduced. That's when he truly lost control. Stan was collateral damage in his mind.

**INT. MENTAL INSTITUTION - HALLWAY - DAY**

Ursula is led down the hallway by Dr. Ben Richman and two ORDERLIES.

DR. BEN RICHMAN

I'm doing this as a favor for McGraw. Typically, the courts don't allow visits like this.

URSULA

I understand.

DR. BEN RICHMAN

For what it's worth, he's been a model prisoner.

URSULA  
Thank you doctor Richman.

They stop at a door and one of the orderlies unlocks it as the door BUZZES. Ursula steps inside.

**INT. JAIL CELL - DAY**

Ursula stares at the back of Leon as he sits in a wheel chair. Dressed in clean and pressed whites. A patient of the ward.

URSULA  
Hello.

PIN  
Ursula. How's my girl?

URSULA  
Not in jail.

PIN  
I knew that you would be acquitted.

She fights back her emotion.

PIN (CONT'D)  
Does this mean that you will come and talk to me more often?

URSULA  
I don't know.

PIN  
Have you seen Leon?

She loses it. TEARS streaming down her face.

URSULA  
No.  
(beat)  
Have you?

PIN  
Not in a long time. Not since he left. I miss him.

URSULA  
Me too.

PIN  
I have a feeling he'll be back.

URSULA  
Why is that?

PIN  
He's the only one that knows where Marsha is. He likes that girl. He'll come back for her.

URSULA  
Where is she, Leon?



PIN  
Leon's not here, Ursula.

URSULA  
(beat)  
Tell me where she is, Pin!

PIN  
He didn't tell me. It was a  
secret. Sssshhhhh.

Ursula stares at what her brother has become. Pin...

**FIN**