

"QUIET"

by

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INT. KRILLEN FAMILY HOME, CHICAGO - MORNING

A scan of the living room shows a modest and clean home, with many pictures of a very happy family.

The sounds of "SPONGE BOB SQUARE PANTS" and someone cooking.

The tour continues into the kitchen.

JILL KRILLEN (34) is at the stove, her hair pulled back in a ponytail with dark smudges on her face.

Jill is dressed in an dirty old t-shirt, jeans and work boots.

Jill is scrambling some eggs to complete the breakfast banquet.

ERIC (O.S.)

Is it my birthday?

ERIC KRILLEN (34) wearing a robe walks into the kitchen.

JILL

Everyday, Baby

ERIC

Hey, Hottie, don't you look sexy?

JILL

Don't I. -- Here ya go Big Boy.

Jill hands Eric a plate of bacon with a wink.

ERIC

Thanks.

Eric takes the plate and a kiss. Then makes a scrunched face.

JILL

Come and get it!

ERIC

Oh! Smells like you worked all night.

JILL

All the more reason for us to take a shower.

ERIC

Does my baby need some lovin'?

JILL

I always need some, Big Boy.

RHYS (8) and CAITLIN (6) come running into the kitchen in their Pjs.

ERIC
I think we need to finish this
conversation later.

RHYS
Mornin' Dad.

ERIC
Mornin' big man.

Caitlin gives Eric a big hug.

CAITLIN
Mornin' Daddy!

ERIC
Good morning my perfect little angel.
When did you two get up?

RHYS
Mom woke us with the smell.

ERIC
The smell?

RHYS
Bacon!

ERIC
Oh, that smell.

JILL
Stop it! I don't smell that bad.

ERIC
I'm just kidding. So, did you finish
the second piece of the set?

JILL
Around four o'clock. Then I finished
the third piece,

ERIC
That's fantastic! The whole set is
done?

JILL
Yep.

ERIC
Can I see them before I leave for
work?

RHYS
I want to see them too.

CAITLIN

Me too!

JILL

Okay, but you have to get ready for school first.

CAITLIN

Mash browns peas!

JILL

Here you go, sweetie.

Jill puts some hash browns on Caitlin's plate.

INT. MASTER BATHROOM, CHICAGO -- MORNING

Jill is in the shower, water spraying in her face as she rinses her hair.

Eric slowly grabs her neck and starts to rub her shoulders.

Eric is rubbing soap on Jill's back.

A knock at the door, Jill and Eric jump.

Caitlin walks in quickly.

CAITLIN

Mommy! I gotta go pee-pee.

Eric grabs Jill, they muffle a giggle.

JILL

Okay baby, ... Caitlin honey, why didn't you use the other bathroom?

CAITLIN

'Cause Daddy, I think he's in there making stinky.

Eric tickles Jill.

JILL

Stop it.

Jill slaps his hand.

CAITLIN

All done.

JILL

Okay sweetie, don't...

Caitlin flushes the toilet.

Jill screams.

JILL (CONT'D)
...flush the toilet.

CAITLIN
Sorry.

ERIC
She's gone.

Eric and Jill kiss sensuously.

INT. JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO -- MORNING

The garage doors are wide open.

Jill dressed in sweats with her hair down, is standing next to three wrought iron sculptures.

Each piece is connected to the other.

JILL
Ready?

Rhys and Caitlin dressed in their private school uniforms, nod their heads.

Eric in a suit stands behind them.

ERIC
We're ready.

Jill reaches behind and turns a knob.

There's a little hiss of air.

Jill lifts a big old fashion switch.

Lights come on.

CAITLIN
Wow!

Jill turns another knob.

All three pieces come to life.

Spinning wheels and pendulums.

An artistic sculpture with clock-like movement.

Rhys and Caitlin jump up and down clapping their hands.

ERIC

That's fantastic sweetheart! It's really great. - Is it mainly air powered?

JILL

Yep. Except for the lights.

Jill turns it off.

CAITLIN

I watch more! Peas!

RHYS

Yeah! Please.

ERIC

Sorry guys. I have to get you to school. Say good-bye to Mommy.

Rhys gives Jill a big hug.

RHYS

I love it Mom. It's really cool.

Caitlin gives Jill a hug.

CAITLIN

Me too! It's coool!

ERIC

I also think it's "coool". Really. You did a great job. It's fun to watch.

JILL

Thank you all, very much. It means a lot to me.

ERIC

Okay monsters go ahead and get in the car.

Rhys and Caitlin leave.

RHYS

Bye Mom. Love you.

CAITLIN

Bye bye. Love you.

JILL

Love you, both.

ERIC

And I love my super sexy artist.

Eric grabs Jill and pulls her close.

JILL

Whoa! Down boy! Don't you have to leave.

ERIC

Yes, but I don't want to.

JILL

I'll see you this afternoon. I may or may not be up by then.

ERIC

My baby is so tired. Go get some sleep. - Bye. Love you.

Eric starts to walk out.

JILL

Love you too. Bye.

EXT. KRILLEN FAMILY HOME, CHICAGO -- AFTERNOON

A car pulls up and parks on the street.

Eric, Rhys and Caitlin exit the car laughing.

They go into the house carrying school bags and groceries.

Another car slowly creeps to a stop Across the street.

JOSEPH (43) seated in the drivers seat and WERNER (25), stare at the house.

Eric and kids can be seen in the kitchen at the back of the house through the front window.

Joseph is holding a picture of an Eric look-a-like.

JOSEPH

I don't know. You sure?

WERNER

My eyes don't lie. We found him.

Werner gets out of the passenger seat.

Werner opens the trunk to reveal that it is specially fitted for an arsenal of weapons.

Grabbing a missile launcher.

Werner puts it on his shoulder he fires it at the front window.

The missile enters the front window.

The back of the house blows upward and outward.

The car drives away calmly.

INT. JILL'S CAR - EARLY EVENING

Jill is talking on her cell phone.

JILL

(happy)

I know! I know! He said he would buy this set and commission me for another.

(beat)

He's going to put this one in the front lobby of his office building.

(beat)

I know! This is totally wild! I can't wait to tell Eric and the kids.

Jill turns the corner off the main street and sees smoke.

JILL (CONT'D)

Whoa, that's a lot of smoke!

(beat)

Yeah, there must be a fire around here. Oh man, I hope they didn't block off my street again.

(beat)

Okay. - Great! - Yeah, I'll talk to you tomorrow. Bye. - I will. - You do the same.

Jill hangs up her phone.

Jill turns toward her street and sees a police car blocking the intersection.

JILL (CONT'D)

Great, I knew it. They always block my street.

When she gets closer she sees the fire trucks are by her house.

JILL (CONT'D)

Oh my God! NO! PLEASE NO!

Jill leaps out of her car and runs toward her house.

EXT. BURNING HOME -- EVENING

The fire is out but there is still smoke everywhere.

A young FIREMAN sees Jill coming toward the house.

The Fireman tries to stop her.

FIREMAN
Hey! Wait! You can't come over
here!

JILL
My house! That's my house!

Jill stiff arms the Fireman, then runs past

FIREMAN
Whoa! Hey! Lady stop!

JILL
Where are my kids!? My husband!?
Where are they!?

FIREMAN
Captain! Over here Captain!

The CAPTAIN is talking on a wireless unit, turns and stops
Jill.

JILL
Where's my family?

CAPTAIN
Slow down. - Ma'am, what's your name?

The Captain is holding her back as she is frantically looking
around.

JILL
J-Jill-Jill Krillen! Let me go!

CAPTAIN
Oh, Mrs. Krillen I'm....

JILL
Where's my family?!

CAPTAIN
Mrs. Krillen, let's talk over here.
Okay?

The Captain tries to move Jill away from the scene.

Jill sees a black body bag and breaks away from the Captain.

JILL
OH MY GOD! NO! NO! GOD NO!

CAPTAIN
Mrs. Krillen, Wait! I need...

She runs straight to the Coroner's truck.

The Captain follows.

Seeing three body bags she drops to her knees with her arms out and passes out, falling face first. (Dark)

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

DOCTOR Jessica WILLIS stands next to Jill's bed.

Two plain clothed policemen are at the foot of the bed.

Jill is asleep.

DOCTOR WILLIS
Jill can you hear me? Jill?

Jill slowly opens her eyes.

DOCTOR WILLIS (CONT'D)
Jill, I'm Dr. Willis.

JILL
What's going on?

DOCTOR WILLIS
There's been an accident and...

DETECTIVE #1
Doctor, if I may? I'm Detective
Harris, and this is Detective Edwards.
We're with Bomb and Arson. Mrs.
Krillen we need to talk to you
about...

DETECTIVE #2
First, Mrs. Krillen, we are very
sorry for your loss...

Jill stares blankly at her door, as the color drains from her face.

DOCTOR WILLIS
Jill before they start. How are you
feeling?

JILL
What? How do I...

Jill leans over the other side of the bed and throws up.

The Doctor hands Jill a box a tissues, pushes the nurses button and checks her forehead.

DOCTOR WILLIS
 (to the Detectives)
 You're going to have to leave. Come
 back later. She needs rest.

JILL
 No, I need to know what happened.

DETECTIVE #2
 There was an explosion in or around
 the kitchen.

DETECTIVE #1
 We found metal fragments the kind
 used in welding tanks in the basement,
 where we believe it started. We
 also found welding tanks in the garage
 that match.

JILL
 My welding tanks? I use them for my
 art work. I make sculptures.
 (beat)
 Oh my god! My welding tanks! I had
 some welding tanks in the basement.
 I got a really good deal on a double
 order but I didn't have room in the
 garage for them.
 (beat)
 Oh my god, I killed my babies!

DOCTOR WILLIS
 Okay, okay! Jill! Look at me!
 Jill, look at me!

DETECTIVE #2
 Mrs. Krillen, we didn't say that.

Jill's MOTHER, (60) rushes into the room, scared and confused.

MOTHER
 Jill! Honey!

JILL
 Mom! - I killed my babies!

A look of horror on her mother's face.

MOTHER
 What?

Jill buries her face in her hands.

Her Mother holds Jill, they both cry heavily.

DOCTOR WILLIS
I'm sorry but you two have to leave.
She can't talk to you right now.

Doctor Willis opens the door for the Detectives.

JILL
My babies!

DETECTIVE #1
Let's go Edwards.

The detectives walkout into the hall and close the door.

INT. HOSPITAL HALL - NIGHT

DETECTIVE #2
What do you think?

DETECTIVE #1
Well, there are no signs of foul
play. It looks like maybe one of
the welding tanks had a leak, and
something ignited it.

DETECTIVE #2
Like what?

DETECTIVE #1
Come on, how about the clothes dryer's
gas pilot light. The one tank blows,
the other blows, and the natural gas
line blows, or the leak seeps up the
stairs into the kitchen. Dad doesn't
smell it and lights the stove.
Remember the neighbors all heard
multiple explosions. So one set off
the others.

DETECTIVE #2
That's messed up, really shitty luck.

DETECTIVE #1
An accident in the worst way possible.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Doctor Willis and Jill's Mother move to the corner of the
room.

Jill lies in bed crying.

MOTHER

Doctor, can I take her home?

DOCTOR WILLIS

Not tonight, I gave her a strong sedative, plus, I think she should stay for a few days. I'm afraid. We need to stabilize her.

MOTHER

What do you mean?

DOCTOR WILLIS

I'm putting her on a suicide watch.

MOTHER

Wait a minute Doctor. That can't be. Not my Jill.

DOCTOR WILLIS

She just lost her husband, her son, her daughter and she blames herself.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI - NIGHT

VICTOR Goffenski is a large, sharply dressed man of Eastern European descent is sitting behind a desk.

He closes his laptop and stares at Joseph and Werner standing in front of him.

VICTOR

Joseph, I was just watching the news about a horrible accident.

WERNER

Yeah, it was perfect. Nothing left to point at us.

JOSEPH

Shut up Vern. Mr. Goffenski, I know it wasn't quiet, but he never had a chance to get away this time.

WERNER

It was my idea! I saw him at the grocery store with his kids. So we followed him home and I blew him up.

JOSEPH

I started to call you, but then the house blew up.

VICTOR

As I was saying Joseph, I was just watching the news about a horrible accident and how the grieving wife and mother is taking the blame. But the police are saying it was an accident. So the widow is not going to be charged...

WERNER

See what I mean? We are clean and clear. We're fucking good!

JOSEPH

Shut up Vern!

VICTOR

Do you remember why we were after Gary Rembowski?

JOSEPH

Yeah. Gary and his wife, what's her name? I remember, Gloria. They used to work here. She saw Vern with the dead body of an old friend of yours. You told me to make her quiet. But, she must of told Gary, because, he blames you and said he would find a way to bring you down. Something about files on a CD.

VICTOR

Yes, her name "WAS" Gloria. She "WAS" a nice girl.

JOSEPH

Holy shit! You mean we killed the wrong man?

Victor stands quickly, making Joseph and Werner flinch.

VICTOR

(yelling)

Yes, you stupid fucking morons! You killed the wrong man and his kids! How the hell can you be so stupid! You know Gary! How can you kill the wrong guy! Do your fucking eyes work?! - Now, find Gary and kill him! But, this time, you better make sure first.

JOSEPH

Yes sir.

WERNER

Yes sir.

VICTOR

And don't forget I want the CD with my files on it.

(beat)

One more thing, Joseph, next time your piece of shit monkey speaks to me, cut his tongue out. Now, get the fuck out, you goddamn idiots!

Joseph and Werner leave the office.

Victor opens his laptop.

The screen shows a news article with a picture of the Krillen family.

INT. JILL'S MOTHER'S HOME - CHICAGO - MORNING

Jill wearing a robe and looking as if she had not slept in weeks, is sitting at her mother's kitchen table.

Her mother fully dressed is sitting at the table with her.

MOTHER

I was thinking that maybe you and I could go downtown and do a little shopping. You know fresh air, bargains and shoe sales.

(beat)

Sweetie, it's been weeks now since you've been out of that robe.

Jill stares quietly at her coffee

MOTHER (CONT'D)

How about a movie? We can do that instead.

(pause)

Jill, you need to talk about this. You can't just shut the world out. If you don't want to talk to me, how about Dr. Green? He really helped me when your father passed.

JILL

(sarcastically)

Really?

MOTHER

Yes, he did.

JILL

You killed Dad?

MOTHER

Stop it. You didn't kill them either.

JILL

(outburst)

Yes! I did! They were my tanks!
My tanks that blew up! Can't you
see that! I killed them!

Jill's mother holds her as they both cry.

MOTHER

Now, now. That's enough. I see
that you feel that you did it. But,
it was an accident. Just like the
millions killed in car accidents on
our highways every year. - Horrible
things happen.

Jill gives her mother a strange look.

Jill shakes her head, while she wipes her eyes and blows her
nose.

JILL

(distant)

Before Kate went back to Seattle,
she told me she had room in her studio
for my unfinished works and tools.
So, I think I'll pack up my stuff
and bring it out to her.

MOTHER

Seattle? Why go all the way out
there? Can't you stay here and work?
We can find a place for your
sculptures.

JILL

I'm not gonna start sculpting again.
Not now, not ever again. I'm just
bringing the shit to her. She can
use it, sell it or burn it. I don't
care! I never want to see any of it
again.

MOTHER

Really? All your tools and unfinished
pieces?

JILL

Why? Do you want them?

MOTHER

That's not what I mean.

(MORE)

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Honey, I just don't want you to leave or quit making art. It's always been such a large part of your life, ever since you first played with clay. You are so talented. You can't just let that go.

JILL

I can. What I can't do is stay here. - I'm sorry.

MOTHER

We can work through this.

JILL

I have to go. The police said I could leave and my lawyer has all of Kate's info. I'll come back if the cops want me.

MOTHER

Please stay with me.

JILL

I can't mom. Sorry. I'm leaving for Seattle tomorrow.

EXT. THE ALLEY OF JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO - EARLY AFTERNOON

Aerial shot of what is left of Jill's house, the back yard, garage and Jill's car with U-Haul trailer in the alley.

Drop down to the alley to view the inside of the trailer which is almost full of iron rods, boxes, tools and welding equipment.

INT. THE ALLEY OF JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO - EARLY AFTERNOON

In the garage covered in dirt and sweat Jill is on the floor leaning against her work table, chin to her chest, weeping over a small ornate wrought iron picture frame.

Over her shoulder to view her once happy family dressed in snow suits and posing in the back yard.

Jill takes the picture out of the frame, stands up and begins to smash the frame against the work table, then hurls it at the wall.

Turning she stops and looks out the window where her house and family once were.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

The reflection of a sign reading "Des Moines' Motor Inn"; is seen in the outside of Jill's motel window.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

Slowly panning the empty room except for a suitcase on the bed and clothes on the floor.

Soft music coming from the bathroom.

Entering the bathroom scanning the wall to the window.

A sign is seen that reads "TRUST FATE" (TRUST is on top of FATE) from the church across the road.

There is a radio plugged in at the edge of the tub.

Jill is laying in a full tub, completely dressed.

Jill is staring at the ceiling.

Jill slowly lifts her leg out of the water.

Jill moves her foot next to the radio and knocks it into the tub.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

There are a few cars spread out, Jill's SUV and trailer are in front of her room. The room to the right of Jill's has the curtains open to reveal a man watching TV. A couple other rooms have lights on.

There is a flash and a SCREAM from Jill's room and all the rooms go dark along with the parking lot lights.

The only light left is from a distant street light.

INT. MOTEL BATHROOM - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

The room is black except for the sign "TRUST FATE". Panicked voices (O.S.) yelling and complaining.

JILL

FUCK FATE!

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - MORNING

In the distance the sign from church "TRUST IN GOD, YOUR FATE IS WITH HIM".

Jill is putting her bag in the SUV when the motel manager walks up.

MOTEL MANAGER

Once again ma'am, I'm really sorry about last night. I don't know how we blew all the breakers at once. It's the oddest thing. Well, please accept a coupon for a free nights stay, the next time you stay with us.

Jill takes the coupon without a word and gets in her car and drives away.

Jill sees the manager in the rear view mirror shrugging his shoulders and talking to someone off to the side.

INT. DRUG STORE - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Jill has two large bottles of sleeping pills in her hand.

Joseph and Werner walk in.

Jill pays no attention.

Werner sees Jill and motions to Joseph.

WERNER

Hey, Joseph check her out, huh?

JOSEPH

What? Her? You need you eyes checked. She looks strung out.

WERNER

Maybe a little, but I bet she's still a good time for the right stuff. I got the stuff she wants.

JOSEPH

We don't have time for that. He's gotta be in this shitty little town.

WERNER

For what I want to do, I got time.

Joseph is looking out the window, between the words "OMAHA'S #1 DRUG STORE" (shown backwards).

Werner is looking at postcards.

Jill walks to the counter.

WERNER (CONT'D)
Who the fuck would want to vacation
in this shit hole?

Joseph, while staring at the parking lot, sees Gary Rembowski's reflection in the glass.

GARY (35) (*Eric look-a-like*) is looking at children's cold medicines.

Gary's daughter FRANNIE (10) walks away from Gary, moving toward the candy section by the postcards.

JOSEPH
PSST! Vern.

Joseph points down the aisle at Gary.

GARY
Sweetheart, do you think Russ would
like Cherry, Grape or New Honey
flavor?

Gary looks up from the boxes to the front of the store and sees Joseph looking at him.

GARY (CONT'D)
Frannie! Come here! Quickly!

Joseph starts to move toward Gary.

GARY (CONT'D)
FRANNIE RUN!

Frannie turns and faces Werner.

Werner grabs Frannie.

Frannie screams.

WERNER
Holy shit! You got 'em! And I got
you, little girl.

As Frannie tries to get away, Werner puts his hand over her mouth.

WERNER (CONT'D)
You and me are gonna have some fun.

A metal display tree appears, and smashes into the side of Werner's face at full force driving him to the floor screaming.

Joseph turns to see Werner struggling on the ground, and Jill is holding a display stand.

Jill turns to face Joseph.

Joseph pulls out his gun and fires at Jill.

The bullet grazes Jill's hair moving it like a gust of wind.

Jill doesn't flinch nor does she move, she just stands there waiting for the next shot to be on target.

Before Joseph can pull the trigger for the second time Gary knocks Joseph into some shelves.

GARY
COME ON BABY! LETS GO!

Jill just stares at Gary.

Gary moves to Frannie and grabs her hand lifting her from the floor.

Jill thinks she sees "Eric" helping Frannie to her feet.

She runs out the door yelling after them.

JILL
ERIC! WAIT!

EXT. DRUG STORE PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Gary and Frannie make it to their mini-van, where RUSSELL (8) just woke up from a nap and looks scared.

Gary unlocks the van.

RUSSELL
What's wrong?

GARY
Get in the car Frannie!

JILL
Eric! Wait!

Gary starts the mini-van and pulls out.

Jill runs back to her SUV with trailer and tries to follow.

Gary turns right out of the parking lot into the flow of heavy traffic.

Jill tries to follow but has trouble with the trailer and stops traffic in all lanes.

INT. DRUG STORE - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Joseph gets up off the floor, looks around for video cameras and the girl behind the counter. Finding neither he puts his gun away.

JOSEPH

Hey Vern, we gotta get out of here.
The cashier must have called the
cops by now.

Blood pouring out between Werner's fingers as he presses both hands against his face.

WERNER

(screaming)

What the fuck Joe! What the fuck!
I can't see! I need a doctor!

JOSEPH

Okay. Okay, let me think. All right,
give me your gun and wallet.

WERNER

What?

JOSEPH

Gimme your gun and where is your
wallet?

WERNER

My back pocket. Why do you want my
gun. You gotta get me to a hospital,
Joe.

Joseph leans Werner forward and takes his gun and wallet.

Joseph looks around again at the empty store, then points the gun at Werner's head.

Joseph takes a deep breath.

JOSEPH

Shit.

Joseph puts Werner's gun in his belt.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

They'll be here soon, so listen up.
You were here with that crazy bitch
who hit you, not me. Make up her
name and play stupid. Let them fix
you and I'll pick you up tonight.

WERNER

We gotta kill that bitch!

JOSEPH

Keep your mouth shut and I'll pick you up later. I'm gonna get her now.

Joseph leaves the store.

EXT. DRUG STORE PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Joseph walks to the car, as a small crowd starts to gather by the drug store.

Joseph opens his trunk and secures the guns.

Joseph starts the car and drives away just as the police and an ambulance arrive.

Joseph dials his cell phone, puts it on speaker, while scanning the road.

JOSEPH

Hey Boss, it's Joseph. I'm just calling to give you a heads up.

VICTOR (V.O.)

What is it now?

JOSEPH

Well, we found "him", but some crazy bitch took Vern out and...

VICTOR (V.O.)

What the hell are you telling me?

JOSEPH

We lost him, just for the time being. I will find him. He's here. I'll get him.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Is the idiot still alive?

JOSEPH

Yes, he's on his way to the hospital. I think he's might lose an eye.

VICTOR (V.O.)

It won't matter because if he talks, he'll lose a lot more.

JOSEPH

I know boss. He won't, he'll be fine. I'm gonna pick him up later.

VICTOR (V.O.)

I meant what I said. He talks, you both lose.

JOSEPH

I understand. I'll take care of it.

The line goes dead, Joseph turns off his phone and puts it in his pocket.

Still driving down same road Joseph spots Jill's trailer in the middle of a motel parking lot.

Joseph sees Gary pointing a gun at Jill.

Joseph slows down and stops across the street.

Gary is pointing to the road and Jill is swinging her arms around.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Get a load of this shit, Vern! This is unbelievable! What do you think Vern? Do ya think he's got the balls to shoot her? No!? I don't think so either. Boy, it's nice and quiet without your big-ass mouth going all the time, Vern. I guess I'll just watch this play out.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Gary is still pointing a gun at Jill.

The kids are in the car screaming in terror.

GARY

I said back off and leave us alone!

JILL

You don't understand! I thought you were someone else.

FRANNIE

Daddy! She saved me! She saved us!

GARY

And I saved her! We're even! Now go!

Russell, still crying, has moved to the front seat with Frannie.

Russell sneezes spraying blood and snot on Frannie's arm and his nose continues to bleed.

FRANNIE

Oh my god! Russ! That is so gross!
Dad!

Jill and Gary both look at the mess.

Jill grabs a small tissue pack out of her pocket.

Jill opens the van door, gives Frannie some tissues and begins to wipe Russell's nose.

JILL

He needs ice.

GARY

Frannie get some ice from the ice machine.

Frannie runs off for ice. Gary puts the gun in his belt.

GARY (CONT'D)

Why did you help us? I'm sure they want to kill you too, now.

Jill just shrugs her shoulders.

GARY (CONT'D)

Well, thank you for stepping in.

Frannie returns with her hands filled of ice.

FRANNIE

Here!

Gary takes out his handkerchief and grabs the ice.

GARY

Frannie, here take the key, go and get our day bag from the room. Hurry! We have to go!

FRANNIE

We just got here!

GARY

Sweetie, they just found us.

FRANNIE

Yeah, but you and her just took 'em out.

GARY

That's not going to stop them. It might not even slow them down. We have to get out of here now.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- AFTERNOON

Joseph watches Frannie run into the room.

Gary stands next to Jill facing Russell. Both with their backs to the road and Joseph.

JOSEPH

That looks like my cue. Now that that idiot, Vern, isn't here to screw it up.

Joseph gets out of his car and opens the trunk.

Grabs a 9mm with a silencer, then covers it with a paper bag.

As he closes the trunk and steps to the street.

An ambulance flies by beeping its horn at Joseph, making him leap back.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Son of bitch, VERN!

Hearing the siren and horn Jill and Gary look to the street and see Joseph with his hand inside a bag.

As he stares at Gary and Jill, Joseph steps into traffic.

A car strikes Joseph, knocking him back into his car with enough force to send his gun and bag flying underneath the car parked in front of his car.

The car skids to a stop.

Joseph gets to his feet and yells at the car.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

What the fuck! You stupid fuck!

(beat)

Go! Just go, before I kill you!

The car speeds off.

Joseph sees Frannie get in the van with their bag.

Jill gets in her SUV and Gary follows her out the back alley of the motel.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
SHIT! SHIT! SHIT!

Joseph gets on his hands and knees trying to get his gun from under the car.

After retrieving the gun, Joseph climbs back into his car only to discover that he must have dropped his keys.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
DAMN IT! SHIT! FUCK! DAMN IT!

EXT. HIGHWAY 29 OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING

Gary pulls up next to Jill and motions for her to pull over at the next diner.

Jill nods yes.

INT. ROADSIDE DINER OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING

As they enter the diner Gary leads Russell to the rest room and Frannie grabs Jill's hand.

FRANNIE
Can you please take me to the bathroom? I gotta go bad.

Jill just stares at her.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Come on. You need to look if anybody is in there.

Frannie drags Jill to the lady's room.

Jill goes in before Frannie.

INT. ROADSIDE DINER OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING

Gary and Russell are sitting in a booth.

Jill is following Frannie.

Frannie sits.

GARY
Will you join us?

Jill sits next to Frannie.

The waitress comes over.

WAITRESS

Hello there. My name is Nora. How are we today?

Gary looks up and smiles.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

Would the little ones like a kids menu?

FRANNIE

No, we're starving!

WAITRESS

Okay then, that will be four large grownup menus, and I will be right back with four grownup waters.

The waitress passes out the menus and walks away.

FRANNIE

Thank you!

GARY

Yes! Thank you.

FRANNIE

Whoa! I want to get one of everything!

GARY

Frannie, remember what we talked about?

FRANNIE

I know, I know, I'm just so hungry.

GARY

Frannie, just order a regular meal. Russell?

RUSSELL

I'm not hungry, Daddy.

GARY

You have to eat something, Buddy.

The waitress returns with the water.

WAITRESS

Ok, four tall waters. Are we ready to order?

GARY

What do you think, Russell? Grilled cheese with fries? You like grilled cheese.

RUSSELL

Ok.

WAITRESS

Drinks?

GARY

Water. We'll just have water.

FRANNIE

Um? I think the western burger with cheese. Does it come with fries?

WAITRESS

You bet Darling. Sir?

GARY

Um, nothing for me. Thanks

WAITRESS

And you ma'am?

JILL

We will have three western burgers with cheese, a grilled cheese and four orders of fries.

GARY

(to the waitress)

Would you excuse us for just a second?

The waitress walks away

Gary looks at Jill as she looks down at the table.

GARY (CONT'D)

I don't want a western burger.

Jill is still looking down

JILL

I do. And Frannie does. If you don't want yours don't eat it, save it for later.

GARY

I'm a little short on dough.

Jill looks up at Gary.

JILL

My treat.

GARY

Are you sure?

Jill nods

Gary stares at Jill for a moment

GARY (CONT'D)

Well, thanks.

The waitress returns

WAITRESS

Ready kids?

GARY

Yes. Three western burgers with cheese, a grilled cheese and four orders of fries.

JILL

Some extra napkins, please.

GARY

Thank you.

WAITRESS

You're welcome Hon.

The waitress walks away.

Frannie and Russell are busy drawing on their placemats. Jill is staring at the table and Gary is looking around the room.

GARY

I'm sorry we pulled you into this mess. I really want to thank you for stepping in like that.

Jill looks up

JILL

It's not like I had a choice.

GARY

I'm sorry, this so awkward my name is Gary, this little man is Russell and of course you've met Frannie.

Jill smiles at the kids

JILL

My name is Jill.

GARY

Very pleased to meet you, Jill.

Gary, extends his hand to Jill.

Jill takes Gary's hand.

Russell starts coughing.

GARY (CONT'D)
Oh, right your medicine.

Gary digs in his pockets.

JILL
(to Gary)
Is he okay?

FRANNIE
He's just got a bad cold.

Gary reveals three boxes of cold medicine.

GARY
Here you go, Buddy. Cherry, grape
or honey flavored?

RUSSELL
Cherry.

GARY
All right, they're chewable. But,
drink lots of water.

JILL
Well?

GARY
What? -- oh, yeah. I guess I owe
you an explanation. Where to start,
Those--they...

FRANNIE
They want to get us cause my Dad
knows they killed my Mom! And...

Russell starts crying loudly

GARY
Frannie! That's enough! Come on
Russ. Don't do that.

The waitress arrives with the food and starts to pass the
plates out.

WAITRESS
Here we go folks. - Oh, honey, are
you okay little man? Your nose is
bleeding.

Gary grabs some napkins and puts them under Russell's nose

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

I'll get ya a cold rag, and some
more napkins

The waitress leaves.

GARY

Thank you. -- Frannie, -- Frannie!
Look at me. Please don't say things
that hurt Russell.

FRANNIE

I'm sorry Russ.

Frannie starts to cry.

GARY

Come on guys just eat.

(beat)

I'm sorry, Jill. This has been very
hard on them.

(beat)

The two men in the drug store are
Joseph and Werner. They work for
Victor Goffenski. My wife and I
used to work for Victor too. We
were his accountants. One night
about a month ago, Gloria was working
late. When she come home she was
scared and crying. I asked her what
happened. She told me she saw Werner
kill someone. I asked her if anyone
saw her, but she didn't know. I
told her to never speak of this to
anyone.

FRANNIE

(crying)

They killed her anyway!

GARY

Frannie! That is enough! It was a
car accident. Anyway, I was very
upset, and I thought it was their
fault so I went to see Victor. I
told him that I have a backup set of
his financial records on a CD and I
would give them to the cops, if he
didn't confess to having my wife
killed.

Gary pauses for moment looking at the table.

The waitress starts collecting the dirty dishes.

WAITRESS

So you kids want some desert?

JILL

Ah, yeah, I think so.

FRANNIE

All right! Ice cream!

WAITRESS

All we've got is chocolate.

FRANNIE

I love chocolate.

RUSSELL

Ice cream!

JILL

Four ice creams, please.

WAITRESS

Coming right up.

The waitress leaves.

Gary looks at his watch.

GARY

I think we need to do some more miles tonight.

JILL

Which way are you heading?

GARY

Well, we were hoping to hide out in Iowa, I paid for a week in advance for our room. But now we can't stay there. That was the last of our money. I maxed out my credit cards. Actually, they were in pretty bad shape before this. The real problem is someone reported my debit card was stolen. I guess it's not too hard to find out what my mother's maiden name is. I called to fix it but they want me to come in to the bank and prove that I'm me. So I guess now, we'll head to LA, I have family there. - Oh well, I guess we'll sleep in the van tonight.

Jill looks at the kids and then Gary.

JILL

I'm going to stay on I29 heading north to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. If you want to follow, I'll pay for your room tonight. Tomorrow, you go to LA and I'll go to Seattle.

GARY

Wow, only if you let me pay you back. Deal?

JILL

Fine.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - NIGHT

Jill is standing in front of her room, Gary and the kids in front of the one next to it.

GARY

Thanks again Jill. Will we see you before you leave in the morning?

JILL

How about breakfast at nine o'clock?

Gary nods, then opens his motel room door and enters with Russell.

Frannie stops and watches Jill go into her room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALL - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - NIGHT

Joseph stops in front of room 369B, then looks around and enters.

Werner is laying in bed asleep, with half his head bandaged.

His right eye and ear are completely covered.

JOSEPH

Hey, Vern. Wake up Vern. Vern!

Werner opens his eye. Very well medicated.

WERNER

Hey Joe.

JOSEPH

How you feelin'?

WERNER

I lost my eye, Joe. They said they couldn't save it.

JOSEPH

Sorry Vern.

WERNER

Actually, the doctors did save it in a jar, and said I could have it.

JOSEPH

What?

WERNER

Yeah, in a jar. Sick fucks.

JOSEPH

That's pretty messed up.

WERNER

That bitch also ripped my right ear in two.

JOSEPH

No shit?

WERNER

They had to stitch it back together.

Joseph looks around at the door and then his watch.

JOSEPH

What did you tell the cops?

WERNER

Nothing.

JOSEPH

Vern, what did you tell them?

WERNER

I told 'em that I was on my way to California from Chicago, and I stopped in that drug store for some stuff and I was looking at the postcards, when some girl screamed. When I looked up to see what happening I got nailed by the display stand and robbed.

JOSEPH

Did they ask about me?

WERNER

No, why would they?

(MORE)

WERNER (CONT'D)

I told them I was traveling alone.
But then they wanted to know where I
parked my car and blah, blah, blah.

JOSEPH

What did you say?

WERNER

I said it was a blue four door, in
the parking lot. I think they want
to I.D. me. Then I moaned in pain
and they left me alone.

(beat)

The firm that owns the drug store is
paying for everything. They must
think I'm gonna sue them.

JOSEPH

Where are your clothes? We need to
get out of here.

WERNER

Joe, I was in a shit load of pain
before they shot me up with whatever
they gave me, and I have this button
to push for more happy juice. I
think. I'll stay for awhile.

JOSEPH

No. We have to go. I think they're
heading north.

WERNER

You go. I'll stay.

JOSEPH

You heard me! Lets go. We'll take
the I.V. drip with us and I'll get
you some more pain killers. I gotta
call Goffenski, and we better be on
the road when I do.

WERNER

Fuck him.

JOSEPH

Get up and get dressed or I'll put a
bullet in your head! Either way,
I'm walking out of here in two
minutes.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - LATE NIGHT

Jill is sitting at the end of her bed wearing shorts and a tee shirt.

She is holding the picture of her family from earlier.

She had been crying.

There is a knock at the door.

Jill looks at the clock. (2:10 am)

FRANNIE (O.S.)

Jill?

Jill stares at the door for a moment, then opens it.

Frannie dressed in her Pjs comes in without asking.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Good. You're up.

Frannie flops on the bed.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Were you crying?

JILL

Why are you still up?

FRANNIE

I asked you first.

JILL

I'm fine. Where is your Dad and brother?

FRANNIE

Sleeping. Dad gave Russell adult cold medicine so he's out.

JILL

What's wrong with him?

FRANNIE

I don't know. Dad said he has a cold.

JILL

Does he have a fever?

FRANNIE

I think so. I gave him a kiss on the forehead, like the way my Mom used to, and it was real warm and slimy.

JILL

I think your Dad needs to take him to the doctor.

FRANNIE

Are you running away from your husband? I saw your wedding ring. I've seen it on TV, it happens all the time. Does he hit you?

(beat)

Are you running from the cops?

(beat)

I know! You robbed a bank, that's why you've got lots of cash. It's okay, we won't tell on you.

JILL

How much sugar did you have?

FRANNIE

Don't you think this is messed up? I mean one minute you're on your way to Seattle, and then the next minute you're with us. I think you're nice. Quiet, but nice.

JILL

Have you ever tried being quiet?

FRANNIE

Oh my God! You're funny. Not! I know. Lets see what's on TV.

Frannie jumps off the bed and turns the TV on, and begins flipping through the channels.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Lets see, hum, no, no, what the...

Frannie clicks on an adult channel.

JILL

Change it right now!

Frannie changes the channel.

FRANNIE

What was that? I mean what were all of them doing?

JILL

Ask your Dad.

Frannie stops and looks at the floor.

FRANNIE

Dad is a little hard to talk to lately. Ever since he saw that family on the News, we've been moving. Last night Dad said he thinks we can go back in a week or so. But then those two guys showed up in the store. Now we go to LA.

JILL

What family?

FRANNIE

You know the one that blew up, like a month ago. It was really creepy cause the guy looked like my dad. Freaky huh!

Jill looking at the picture again and then the clock.

JILL

It's three o'clock. We should get some sleep.

FRANNIE

I don't sleep much anymore.

Frannie turns the TV off, then walks to the door.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Why don't you like me?

JILL

What makes you think that I don't like you?

FRANNIE

Because! You won't look at me when I talk to you.

Frannie opens the door.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Goodbye.

Frannie leaves and shuts the door behind her.

JILL

(to herself)

But, I do like you.

A minute passes as Jill sits in tortured thought.

Jill jumps with the sound of someone pounding on her door.

FRANNIE (O.S.)

Jill! Jill! He's gone!

Jill opens the door.

Frannie storms in enraged.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Dad is gone! He left us! I went in there and he's gone!

JILL

Where's Russell?

FRANNIE

Still sleeping!

JILL

What are you talking about?

FRANNIE

He just left us with you!

Frannie is waving notes in her hands.

JILL

But--

FRANNIE

Notes. He left notes. One for you.

Jill takes the note.

(Overview) The notes are short and written in haste. Frannie reads it aloud.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Frannie my sweet angel, I have to go. I have to try and talk to them, ask them to stop. If I don't they won't. Stay with Jill, and take care of Russell. I'll be back as soon as I can. I love you sweetie, Daddy.

JILL

(softly)

"Stay with Jill"?

Jill opens hers.

GARY (V.O.)

Jill, please forgive me for what I am asking for. But, I have to stop this or they will kill my children. Please protect them until I return. I know you're a good person. I swear to God I will pay you back for everything! I will be back soon. - Gary

Jill begins to shake her head over and over again.

JILL

No, no, no,---no, I can't! You don't understand. I can't. You're not safe with me. No,--- no, I can't.

Frannie starts to cry.

FRANNIE

I'm scared!

Jill finds her phone.

JILL

What's his phone number?

FRANNIE

Ah, 555-ah-8373

Jill dials, it rings, rings and rings.

JILL

He's not answering. Damn it.

Frannie is crying heavier, then moves to Jill.

Jill looks at her.

Frannie holds out her arms and Jill takes her in hers.

They both cry.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR - NORTH ON HWY I29 IA/NE BORDER - JUST BEFORE DAWN

Joseph is on the phone while driving.

Werner is in the passenger seat.

JOSEPH

Yeah okay.

(beat)

Sure all right.

(beat)

So, he really wants to meet with us?

(beat)

Yes sir, we're actually on our way there right now.

(beat)

Right. I'll call you back. After.

Joseph closes his phone and places it in his pocket.

WERNER

So?

JOSEPH

I can't believe it. The little piece of shit wants to talk to us.

WERNER

No shit?

JOSEPH

Yeah. He told Victor that he was sorry and we wants to give us the disc. He promises to never talk about us. Ever.

WERNER

Where?

JOSEPH

Some diner supposed to be right off this highway. About 20 miles or so.

EXT. ROADSIDE DINER PARKING LOT OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY MORNING

Gary is standing at the back of his van holding a CD case in his left hand.

He's watching Joseph's car pull up.

The parking lot is starting to fill up with the morning breakfast rush.

Joseph's car stops by Gary's van and they get out, both resting their arms the top of their door.

JOSEPH

Hi there, Gary. Been waiting long?

GARY

No, not really.

JOSEPH

Its been a really long day, Gary, so why don't you jump in the back seat and we'll talk.

Werner takes an exaggerated one eyed look around.

GARY

There's nothing to talk about.

Gary holds up the CD case

GARY (CONT'D)

I talked to Victor. We have an understanding now. I will never talk about him or anyone else.

WERNER

So, where are the kids? In the car sleeping?

GARY

No, they're somewhere safe.

WERNER

Where? Don't tell me, you left them in some motel room. All alone at night.

JOSEPH

Shut up. Come on Gary just get in the car.

WERNER

It can't be too hard to find two little kids all alone in motel somewhere north of here.

JOSEPH

Vern! Shut up!

GARY

Leave my kids out of this! Victor wants the disc, so here it is.

Gary throws the disc on the hood of Joseph's car and pulls his gun from his belt.

Joseph and Werner watched the disc hit the car.

Then look up at Gary holding a gun on them.

JOSEPH

Shit. - I forgot you had a gun.

WERNER

You knew he had a gun?

JOSEPH

For Christ sake Vern! Shut the fuck up!

GARY

Leave us alone!

JOSEPH

Gary, we came to talk.

GARY

Bull shit! I know how you, "talk".
I gave you the disc. Now, I'm gonna
get in my car and go.

JOSEPH

Okay,--fine.

WERNER

What?

JOSEPH

Take care Gary.

WERNER

What are you doing?

Gary slowly steps backwards to his car door.

JOSEPH

Gary. Did you make any copies of
the disc?

GARY

No. I swear. I already told Victor.
No copies.

Gary slips into his van and pulls out.

Werner draws his gun and points it at Gary's van.

Joseph draws his gun and points it at Werner.

JOSEPH

Put it away you dumb fuck!

WERNER

We can't just let him go!

JOSEPH

I'm not letting him go. I'm letting
him think I am. Now, put the gun
away and get in the car.

They both put their guns away.

Joseph retrieves the disc from the hood.

WERNER

How could you forget he had a gun?
(pause)
Wait a minute. How did you know
he'd have a gun?

JOSEPH

I saw him waving it at that crazy chick, the one who went SAMMY SOSA on your head.

They get into the car.

They pull out slowly, northbound.

WERNER

You saw that psycho bitch!?

JOSEPH

Yeah.--wait a minute. I think they drove away together.

WERNER

You mean they're together? That makes sense. They were in the store together. That's why she hit me.

JOSEPH

So, I guess he didn't leave the kids alone.

WERNER

Oh, man! It didn't take Gary long to find a new girl.

JOSEPH

Looks that way.

WERNER

Oh well. We're gonna kill 'em all.

JOSEPH

Yes, we will.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Jill is sitting on the bed across from Frannie and Russell.

FRANNIE

What are we going to do? We need to find my Dad.

JILL

I heard you the first ten times. All right now, we're going to eat and think.

RUSSELL

I'm not hungry.

Jill leans over to touch Russell's forehead.

JILL

You're burning up. We need to get you to a doctor. I don't have any of your dad's information.

FRANNIE

Information?

JILL

Russell's social security number, insurance policy number, and birth date. I don't even know your last name.

FRANNIE

My Dad kept all that stuff in a book.

JILL

What book?

FRANNIE

That book.

Frannie points to a day planner on the dresser.

JILL

Now, we need a phone book. Look around for a phone book.

RUSSELL

What's a phone book?

JILL

It's okay, just lay down. I'll find one.

FRANNIE

So, you're gonna take Russ to the doctor and I'll wait here for my Dad.

JILL

No. We stay together.

FRANNIE

But, what if Dad comes back?

JILL

We will leave him a note.

FRANNIE

What if the bad guys get the note?

JILL

Then they get a note and not you.

(MORE)

JILL (CONT'D)

I'm just going to leave him my cell number. When your Dad calls, we'll be able to recognize his number. Right?

Jill finds a phone book in a drawer.

FRANNIE

Then we tell him where we are!

INT. GARY'S CAR - I29 NORTHBOUND - AFTERNOON

Gary can still see Joseph's car in the far distance.

A sign for "PINKY'S", a strip club, in two more miles.

Gary pulls into the strip club parking lot, parks and goes in.

The music is loud, there are two girls dancing and a few customers spread out.

Gary finds a table for two and sits.

A waitress wearing a bikini comes over with a menu.

She offers Gary the menu, but he declines, she leans in to hear his order.

She smiles and leaves.

Gary looks at his watch, 2:30pm.

Gary watches the dancers.

The waitress returns with a club sandwich and a beer. Gary gives her a twenty dollar bill, she makes change, then Gary gives her a tip.

Gary takes a drink, grabs the change off the table and walks to the front door.

Gary opens the door for a peek at the parking lot. He spots Joseph's car.

Gary closes the door and moves to the pay phone, quickly looks around then drops in some coins and dials 911.

GARY

(Acting scared)

They're trying to kill me! There are these two men following me.

(MORE)

GARY (CONT'D)

They have guns and one of them is wearing a white mask. They tried to run me off the road.

(beat)

I ran into "Pinky's" on I-29 to use the phone. They followed me here! They're sitting in a brown four door in the parking lot. They want to kill me. Oh, God I'm so scared!

Gary looks around again.

No one is watching him.

GARY (CONT'D)

Oh, my name? My name is Steve - oh, no!...

Gary hangs up the phone and smiles then very calmly returns to his seat, begins eating his sandwich and watches the girls.

EXT. PINKY'S PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Joseph and Werner are parked and watching the front door.

WERNER

No, I'm serious, if you put down like two hundred grand on a seven hundred grand house with the current interest rates you would only pay like less than three grand a month.

JOSEPH

"Why would I?", Is what I asked. Not, why would anyone want to? What the hell would I do with a house? I'm never home. That's why what's-her-face left me.

WERNER

It's an investment. The rates are going to go up and you can make a big profit.

JOSEPH

So, you're liking the pain killers huh?

WERNER

They're pretty good. I could really go for a drink. I think maybe, I will go inside and have one or two.

A pair of uniformed police officers slowly appear by Joseph's car.

One by the driver's side door and the other by the passenger's door.

JOSEPH

No need to. There he is.

Gary walks out of the club and to his van.

A state police car hurriedly stops in front of Joseph's car.

An Officer jumps out with gun in hand and the other Officers make themselves known.

Werner jumps.

WERNER

Holy Fuck!

JOSEPH

Shit!

POLICE OFFICER

(forcefully)

Put your hands on the dash! Both of you put your hands on the dash! Where I can see them! Now!

WERNER

Where the fuck did they come from?

JOSEPH

Shut up.

With his gun on Joseph the Officer opens the car door.

POLICE OFFICER

Slowly step out of the vehicle. Keep your hands where I can see them.

JOSEPH

Officer, what seems to be the problem?

The other officer opens the passenger door

POLICE OFFICER

Get out and put your hands on top of the car. You in the bandages, get out slowly. Then put your hands on the car.

JOSEPH

Yes sir, I have a gun and a permit to carry it. I'm a licensed investigator. So is my partner.

POLICE OFFICER

Don't move.

The Officer removes Joseph's gun.

The other Officer removes Werner's.

The State Trooper keeps his gun drawn.

JOSEPH

My license, ID and permit are in my wallet.

Joseph slowly removes both of their wallets and hands them to the officer.

WERNER

There's my wallet. You said it was stolen.

JOSEPH

(to the officer)

My partner was in a motorcycle accident last week and is well medicated.

POLICE OFFICER

Shouldn't he be home resting.

JOSEPH

Yes, but I need to keep an eye on him.

The Officer looks at the wallets.

POLICE OFFICER

This isn't Illinois. These mean nothing here.

JOSEPH

I know, sir, we are on a case and we followed him out here. We were going to call for help if he didn't come out soon.

The Sheriff's voice on the Officer's radio.

SHERIFF (V.O.)

Dale.

POLICE OFFICER

Yes, Sheriff.

SHERIFF (V.O.)

I just talked to Big Suzie and she said she ain't had no scared men in

(MORE)

SHERIFF (V.O.) (CONT'D)
here today. And there ain't strangers
in here.

POLICE OFFICER
Thank you, Sheriff.
(beat)
(to Joseph)
Okay, why are you here?

JOSEPH
We were hired by an insurance company
to investigate a possible arson case.
I really can't tell you more than
that. Sorry.

POLICE OFFICER
You followed him here?

JOSEPH
Yes, sir. He went in there and we
were out here waiting. We're just
tailing him.

POLICE OFFICER
Well it seems, that he made you. We
got a 911 call from inside Pinky's,
stating that two men in a brown four
door were waiting in the parking lot
and were trying to kill him.

JOSEPH
Damn it. Now what are we going to
do? He knows we're on to him.
(beat)
I'm so sorry Officer. It seems that
he pulled one on all of us.

POLICE OFFICER
Sheriff. It's Dale.

SHERIFF (V.O.)
Go ahead, Dale.

POLICE OFFICER
I think our 911 caller was a
prankster.

SHERIFF (V.O.)
Looks that way, huh.

The Officer hands back Joseph's wallet and gun.

POLICE OFFICER
Why don't you give me his licence
number, make and model.
(MORE)

POLICE OFFICER (CONT'D)

Then I'll go get this little phone
prankster. Okay?

JOSEPH

I understand that you want him now
too. But, I will lose my job, if we
don't catch him. Please let us track
him down.

POLICE OFFICER

I understand. You boys take care.
Okay?

JOSEPH

Thank you. You too.

POLICE OFFICER

Which way you headin' now?

JOSEPH

I'm not sure. I think, we'll get
something to eat and figure it out.

Joseph gestures to the club.

POLICE OFFICER

You best put your guns in the trunk
beforehand.

JOSEPH

Yes, of course.

Joseph and Werner walk to the trunk.

Joseph slowly opens the trunk.

The Police Officer watches them put their guns away.

They start walking to the strip club.

All the police cars drive away.

WERNER

Damn! That little fuck.

JOSEPH

He got us good.

WERNER

He got you. You were driving.

EXT. CLINIC WAITING ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA --
AFTERNOON

Jill is trying to fill out the paperwork while Russell lays
in her lap, Jill strokes his head.

Frannie is reading an issue of "Boys Life".

NURSE #1
Mrs. Krillen?

JILL
Yes.

Jill moves Russell so she can stand, then moves to the
counter.

NURSE #1
Are you finished with the forms?

JILL
Well, I'm having trouble with his
past illnesses. I don't see the
children as much as I would like.

NURSE #1
Just tell us what you can.

Frannie looks up, puts the magazine down and gets up, moves
toward Jill.

FRANNIE
Auntie Jill.

JILL
Yes?

Jill bends down, Frannie whispers in her ear.

JILL (CONT'D)
(to the nurse)
Could you tell us where the ladies
room is?

NURSE #1
Of course. Out this door turn left
go past the elevators and its on the
right.

FRANNIE
Thank you.

Frannie leaves

NURSE #1
Well, it seems that we are having
some trouble with the insurance card.

JILL

I don't know what is what with their insurance. Gary, their father, my brother-in-law left these with me. I thought they were still good.

NURSE #1

Oh. No we had to call and check...

JILL

Would it be all right if I just paid cash? I just want my little Rhys to be better.

NURSE #1

Rhys?

JILL

Russ. I said Russ. Didn't I? I need to go and check on Frannie.

Jill exits quickly.

Jill is shaking and on the edge of another breakdown.

Frannie appears.

FRANNIE

Jill, want's wrong?

JILL

I can't do this.

FRANNIE

You have to. Please. We need you.

JILL

Go sit with Russ.

Jill walks away and Frannie returns to the waiting room.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI -- AFTERNOON

Victor is sitting at his desk talking on the phone.

VICTOR

No, I understand, I don't want ex-employees trying to use our insurance.

(beat)

Right--right. I see.

(beat)

I don't think we need the police.

(beat)

Yeah, that's good.

(MORE)

VICTOR (CONT'D)
Just as long as he can't use it.
Okay, thanks again. Okay, goodbye.

Victor hangs up the phone.

VICTOR (CONT'D)
Stupid shit.

Victor picks up and dials the phone.

Victor listens to the ringing and then voice mail.

JOSEPH (V.O.)
Leave a message at the beep.

Victor dials again.

INT. PINKY'S STRIP CLUB -- AFTERNOON

Joseph and Werner are sitting at a table with two empty plates and four empty beer bottles.

Both are staring at the girls.

The music is too loud for Joseph to hear his phone ringing at first, then he jumps when he hears it.

Werner motions to the waitress for two more beers.

Joseph looks at the caller ID and answers his phone while getting up and quickly moving to the front door.

JOSEPH
Hello!

VICTOR (V.O.)
What the hell are you doing?! I
called you three times!

JOSEPH
I'm sorry! It's a little loud in
here. Hold on a second.

Joseph exits

EXT. PINKY'S PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Joseph is standing outside the club door.

VICTOR (V.O.)
What the hell are you doing? And
where are you?

JOSEPH

We stopped to get some lunch.

VICTOR (V.O.)

It's four o'clock in the afternoon!
You lost him again, didn't you?

JOSEPH

Yes sir.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Well, I know where he is. He's in
Sioux Falls at the doctor with his
kids.

JOSEPH

What? He can't be. He was just
here. Oh, wait a minute. It's that
crazy bitch, who hit Vern. She's
got the kids. He must be on his way
there. Do you have the name and
address of the doctor?

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- LATE
AFTERNOON

Gary returns to the motel.

The kid's bags are still there but no kids.

He sees the note on the bed.

Jill's cell number "CALL ME, JILL".

He dials the number on his cell phone and hangs up before it
rings.

Gary drops on the bed.

Gary extends his arms and hits the pillow.

GARY

Shit! What am I going to do?

Gary stares at the ceiling.

Gary closes his eyes.

Gary falls asleep.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - NIGHT

Jill drives into the parking lot from the back.

Jill spots Joseph's car pulling into the lot with Joseph and Werner in it.

Gary's car is parked in front of their room.

Joseph parks with a clear view of Gary's room.

Jill dials Gary's cell phone. It rings.

Frannie and Russell are asleep in the back seat.

GARY (V.O.)

(waking)

Hell--lo?

JILL

(softly)

Gary. It's Jill I'm...

GARY (V.O.)

I'm sorry, just let me explain!

JILL

Gary! We don't have time for that right now! Those guys are parked outside your room.

GARY (V.O.)

Shit! Where are my kids?

JILL

With me. Sleeping.

GARY (V.O.)

Then just go. Take them somewhere safe and I'll meet you later.

JILL

Where?

GARY (V.O.)

Take the kids to Rapid City. I'll meet you at City Hall.

JILL

Why City Hall?

GARY (V.O.)

Because, they have to have one, right? And it can't be too hard to find.

JILL

We need to call the cops!

GARY

I did that already.

Joseph and Werner get out of the car and leave their doors open.

JILL
GARY! GET OUT NOW! THEY'RE COMING.

Joseph and Werner slowly walk to the trunk and open it.

JILL (CONT'D)
They're getting stuff from the trunk!
GET OUT! NOW!

Jill's yelling awakens Frannie and Russell just in time to see Werner take out a missile launcher from the trunk.

Werner puts the missile launcher on his right shoulder (the side that is bandaged).

A look of horror on Frannie's face as she watches Werner.

FRANNIE
Oh no! He's gonna do it again!
Just like before. Dad was right.
It was him. He blew up that house.

JILL
Gary! Gary? Can you hear me? You
gotta get out! Now!

Jill closes her phone.

Joseph looks at Werner and shakes his head.

JOSEPH
Put it back, you moron, you can't
even see the sight. Take the shotgun
and maybe you can hit something.

WERNER
Fuck you, prick! What room is he in
Mr. Prick?

Werner puts the missile launcher back and takes out the sawed off shotgun.

Joseph takes the 9mm with silencer.

JOSEPH
I don't know. You stay off to the
side and I'll knock on the door.

WERNER
Whatever, lets go.

Joseph and Werner close the trunk and start moving toward the motel.

Gary bursts out of his room with his gun.

He fires at Joseph and Werner, hitting their windshield.

Joseph and Werner seek shelter behind their open car doors.

FRANNIE
DADDY! NO! LOOK OUT!

Joseph turns and faces Frannie leaning out of the SUV's window.

Jill pulls her in and closes the window.

Gary jumps into his van.

Joseph stands and returns fire, taking out Gary's side mirror.

Gary drives away.

Werner gets up and shoots out the motel window.

JOSEPH
FOR CHRIST SAKE! VERN!

Joseph and Werner get back in their car.

Joseph looks at Frannie and Russell screaming in Jill's SUV.

Joseph locks eyes with Jill, then lips "you're all next".

Joseph drives off after Gary.

Frannie is holding Russell as they cry in terror.

Jill tries to comfort them.

JILL
It's okay! It's okay! Listen!
Your Dad is going to be fine. He is
just leading them away from us.
We're going to meet him in Rapid
City. But first we need to get our
stuff. Okay Frannie? Russell did
you hear me? We need to go now.

Jill pulls up to their room.

Frannie gets out, still crying.

JILL (CONT'D)
Frannie we have to go before the
cops get here. Let's just get our
bags and go! Hurry!

Jill runs into her room.

Frannie comes back with a bag.

Jill exits her room, bag in hand.

JILL (CONT'D)

Get in.

Sirens in the distance are getting closer.

Jill drives out the way she came in.

EXT. HIGHWAY - I29 NORTHBOUND -- NIGHT

Gary's speedometer is showing 85 mph, when he looks in the rear view mirror to see Joseph and Werner coming up fast.

Werner is reloading his shotgun.

JOSEPH

There he is. I'll kill that bean counting fuck.

WERNER

And then we kill that bitch and those kids.

Joseph and Werner get even closer.

WERNER (CONT'D)

Get right up next to him. I'm going to blow his head clean off.

Gary is switching from one lane to the other.

JOSEPH

God damn it! Shoot that little prick.

Werner leans out his window

WERNER

Can you try and drive straight.

JOSEPH

Shut-up and shoot!

Werner fires and Gary's back window explodes.

Gary almost loses control of his van.

Gary regains control and slows down.

Joseph starts to pull up next to Gary.

Gary holding the gun with his right hand crosses over his left and fires out the window.

The bullet bounces off the hood and hits the front windshield.

Joseph falls back a couple of feet.

Gary with his gun in his hand, while trying to keep the van straight is startled by his cell phone ringing.

Gary pulls the trigger shooting the front passenger floor board.

Gary's tire explodes.

Gary's van digs in and pulls off to the right then off the road into a dip and then flips into a tree.

Joseph stops, gets out and looks.

Joseph views the shape of a body on the steering wheel.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Well, that's it!

WERNER

You sure?

JOSEPH

Yeah. I saw him in there. If he ain't dead, he will be soon.

Flames and an explosion.

Joseph hears a cell phone ringing.

Joseph follows the ringing.

Finding the phone, Joseph picks it up, it stops ringing and puts it in his pocket.

Gary lays motionless and unnoticed in a ditch.

WERNER

What is it?

JOSEPH

I think it's Gary's phone.

Joseph gets back into the car.

WERNER

All right, let's catch up to that bitch. I want to take out her eyes.

JOSEPH

Let's just get out of here.

Joseph makes a U-turn across traffic. Going south.

WERNER

Where you going?

JOSEPH

Why do think Gary went north?

EXT. HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- CONTINUOUS

Road sign - Mitchell 30 miles.

Jill is on the phone, Frannie is in the front seat and Russell is in the middle of the back seat.

JILL

(calmly)

He's not answering.

Jill looks at Frannie and then Russell

JILL (CONT'D)

Your Dad is going to meet us, okay?
We have to make a quick stop for gas
and then straight to Rapid City.

(just to Frannie)

Your brother is really frightened.
When we stop, maybe you could sit
with him so he can sleep.

FRANNIE

Sure.

(pause)

Jill?

JILL

Yes?

FRANNIE

Aren't you scared?

JILL

I'm beyond scared.

EXT. - I29 SOUTHBOUND -- CONTINUOUS

Joseph is on the phone with Victor and Werner is playing with a big knife.

JOSEPH

Yeah. He was laying on the steering
wheel.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Do you know where the kids are?

JOSEPH

Well, we went by the motel to see if they were still there. But they were gone.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Did you ask the manager?

JOSEPH

No, there were cops all over the place.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Why?

Joseph looks at Werner.

Werner shrugs.

JOSEPH

Gary came out shooting.

VICTOR (V.O.)

You think the cops got the kids?

JOSEPH

No, they would have still been there when we went by.

VICTOR (V.O.)

Now, what are you going to do?

JOSEPH

I'm gonna check the truck stops and stuff. We'll find 'em.

VICTOR (V.O.)

You better.

The phone goes dead.

JOSEPH

Okay, asshole. You can lick my left nut, you jag-off. And say hi to your mom for me.

Joseph puts his phone away.

WERNER

I would laugh my ass off if he didn't really hang up the phone. You'd be so dead.

JOSEPH

Give me some of your pain killers. My head's pounding.

WERNER

Fuck you! Your head is pounding.
You can "lick MY left nut"!

EXT. TRUCK STOP ON HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- EARLY MORNING

A train passes on the other side of the road from the rest stop.

INT. JILL'S CAR TRUCK STOP ON HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- EARLY MORNING

Jill wakes up sitting in the car.

Jill looks at Frannie and Russell. They are sleeping in the back seat.

Frannie wakes.

FRANNIE

Jill.

JILL

Yeah.

FRANNIE

I gotta go.

Frannie climbs over into the front seat.

JILL

Me, too.

FRANNIE

Where are we?

JILL

Stamford. A little more than half way. I had to stop. I couldn't keep my eyes open. Russell,- Russell...

FRANNIE

RUSS!

Russell jumps.

JILL

Frannie. That's not funny. Russell we have to go to the bathroom and you need to take your medicine.

FRANNIE

And we all need to eat. And coffee.

JILL

Yes coffee. Wait, you don't drink coffee. Do you?

RUSSELL

No she doesn't drink coffee.

JILL

Russell, you speak!

Russell smiles.

JILL (CONT'D)

And you smile. So you feel better?

RUSSELL

Yes.

JILL

Are you hungry?

RUSSELL

Yes, very.

JILL

Alright, how about that place?

Jill points to the truck stop diner.

RUSSELL

Okay.

FRANNIE

I really gotta go!

Jill starts the car and drives over to the diner.

She parks, they get out and go in.

INT. TRUCK STOP DINER ON HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- MORNING

Jill is sitting across from Frannie in a booth.

Their table is filled with dirty plates.

JILL

Frannie, before Russell gets back, I need to know what you meant yesterday. You said "NOT AGAIN" when that guy pulled that thing out of his trunk.

FRANNIE

A missile launcher.

JILL

You know what a missile launcher is?

FRANNIE

Yeah, Dad said they've got some at work. And those guys sell them for Victor.

JILL

Then you said he blew up a house. What house?

FRANNIE

I don't know. But Dad saw some picture of a guy and his kids on TV and he freaked out, big time.

JILL

You mean they used a missile launcher to blow up a house.

FRANNIE

That's what Dad said. Crazy huh.

Jill pulls out the picture and shows it to Frannie.

JILL

Is this the family?

FRANNIE

Whoa! That's it! You know them?

Jill stares at Frannie.

Frannie puts her hands to her mouth.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Oh my God! Oh my god! I'm so sorry. Oh god, I'm sorry. I didn't know.

Frannie gets up and goes to Jill.

They embrace, and cry.

Russell comes and sits.

RUSSELL

Daddy called? Is he ok?

FRANNIE

No. Not yet.

RUSSELL

Why are you two crying? He's not coming back?

FRANNIE

Not now, I'll tell you later.

JILL

We need to go.

FRANNIE

Are you okay?--- you know, to drive?

JILL

(sternly)

I told your Dad, that I would get you to Rapid City. Wait by the door. I'll pay the bill and we'll go.

RUSSELL

Are you mad at us?

FRANNIE

Russ, we really should go.

Frannie moves Russell to the door.

Jill turns to them.

JILL

Russell!

Russell turns to Jill.

JILL (CONT'D)

I'm not mad at you or your sister.

Russell nods.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Jill walks in with dinner.

Frannie and Russell are watching a rerun of "MYTHBUSTERS". The "AIR CYLINDER ROCKET" episode.

FRANNIE

Did he call?

JILL

No. No calls.

Jill moves the table over to the kids and passes out the food.

FRANNIE

Maybe we should go back and see if
Dad is waiting for us.

JILL

I just came from there. There's
nobody there.

FRANNIE

He could be inside.

JILL

It's all closed up and no cars in
the lot.

FRANNIE

But, he's looking for us!

JILL

When your Dad knows it's safe, he
will call us and then we will meet.

FRANNIE

Can I call him?

Jill passes Frannie her cell phone.

Jill takes the note pad and pen from next to the hotel phone
and starts drawing.

Frannie dials, it goes into voice mail.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

Daddy!...

Russell turns to Frannie with excitement.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)

...Where are you? We're worried.
We're at the Holiday Inn, in Rapid
City, please call us. I love you
Daddy.

RUSSELL

Me too!

Frannie gives Jill back her phone.

FRANNIE

Can't we go by again?

JILL

Let's eat first.

Jill puts down the note pad to reveal a drawing of a set of
air powered guns and a list of parts.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Werner is laying on one of the beds watching porn.

Joseph is in the bathroom.

Gary's cell phone rings.

WERNER

Hey Joe, Gary's phone is ringing again.

JOSEPH (O.S.)

Is it the same number?

WERNER

Yeah. You want me to answer it?

Joseph walks out of the bathroom.

JOSEPH

No, I want to know who I'm talking to, first.

WERNER

So, that means they don't know he's dead yet.

(gasping)

Holy shit Joe. What the fuck did you do in there.

JOSEPH

Shut up. I don't smell anything.

Werner waves his hand in front of his nose.

WERNER

Come on! I still have a nose. Light a match.

JOSEPH

You're such a pussy.

WERNER

Fuck you. There are matches right there in the ash tray.

JOSEPH

Fine.

Joseph picks up the pack of "Holiday Inn" matches and strikes one.

Joseph waves it out.

WERNER
Thank you, asshole.

JOSEPH
I think I'll check with Steve and see if he's got the name for the number yet.

Joseph grabs his cell phone and dials.

He gets Steve's voice mail.

WERNER
Why do they always try to put in a plot with these movies. What's wrong with just fucking?

Werner changes the channel to the "MYTHBUSTERS". The same episode.

JOSEPH
Hey Steve, this is Joe. I really need that info. Call me when you get it.

WERNER
I need some food, booze and drugs.

JOSEPH
You know antibiotics don't work with alcohol.

WERNER
Bullshit! It just gets you higher.

Werner switches back to the porn channel.

JOSEPH
What do you want to eat?

WERNER
I'll have some of that.

JOSEPH
See, you're already high.

WERNER
How about steak?

JOSEPH
Steak sounds good. There's gotta be a dozen steak joints around here.

WERNER
With a bar.

JOSEPH
Of course. Lets go.

Werner gets up with a noticeable bulge in his pants, and heads towards the bathroom.

WERNER
Give me a couple of minutes. I gotta do something.

JOSEPH
You fucking perv.

WERNER
What?

JOSEPH
I'll be out in the car, so I can't hear you.

INT. JILL'S CAR, THE PARKING LOT OF CITY HALL -- NIGHT

Jill, Frannie and Russell are sitting in the SUV looking around.

JILL
Let's go back and get some sleep.

RUSSELL
I want my Dad.

JILL
I know, Russ.

FRANNIE
He's probably leading the bad guys to Canada.

JILL
I'm sure he's doing what he needs to do.

RUSSELL
But he's not answering his phone.

JILL
It's probably dead.

A look of terror on Frannie and Russell's faces

RUSSELL
What!?

JILL
His phone. I think we have his
charger.

FRANNIE
That's right, it's in our bag. But
he has a car charger too.

RUSSELL
Maybe it's broken.

JILL
Could be. You can ask him when you
see him. We're gonna go and get
some sleep.

On the way back to the motel Jill spots a "Running's Farm
and Fleet" (hardware store).

INT. HOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Joseph is on his back, sound a sleep, next to him a nude
woman is also sleeping.

Empty beer and Tequila bottles all over.

Werner and another nude woman are a sleep in the other bed.

Joseph's cell phone rings.

Joseph gets up disoriented then finds his phone on the table.

Werner wakes startled and confused, grabs his gun.

The girls don't move.

JOSEPH
Yeah?
(beat)
Oh! Hey, Steve, what's up?
(beat)
Okay good
(beat)
Let me get some paper

Joseph walks over between the beds, grabs the motel stationary
and pen.

Werner puts his gun away.

Joseph goes back to the table and sits.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Yeah, yeah, go ahead shoot.

Joseph tries to write down everything he is told.

"Eric Krillen 4089 N. Menard Ave. Chicago IL. 60630 (312) 555-3420."

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

What? -- You mean this information is useless. Why?

(beat)

He's dead?

(beat)

His house blew up?

(beat)

Holy shit!

(beat)

Really, the wife. That's crazy.

Joseph writes down "Jillian Krillen" on the paper and crosses out the other info.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

But you guys never charged her?

(beat)

No. I don't know her. This cell number popped up on a case I'm working on.

(beat)

Really! Rapid City -- yesterday -- great thanks.

Joseph writes "Holiday Inn Express Rapid City".

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Yeah, yeah, I don't know you, whatever, I got it. Later.

Joseph hangs up his phone.

The reflection of Werner in the mirror as he is trying to mount his girl doggie style.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Hey asshole! We don't have time for that.

WERNER

What?

JOSEPH

We gotta go, now!

WERNER

What's the rush?

JOSEPH

I found her.

WERNER

Cool!

Werner points to Joseph's girl.

WERNER (CONT'D)

Do that one first.

JOSEPH

Alright. But this one is on you.

WERNER

What? -- Fine. I'll pay. -- just shut up. I'm trying to concentrate.

EXT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Jill lifts the overhang door of a empty 20' x 20' storage unit.

Jill puts the trailer into the unit.

JILL

All right you two. Who wants to help me unload this stuff?

Frannie and Russell just stare at her.

JILL (CONT'D)

Let me rephrase that. Who wants a Ninetendo 3DS?

FRANNIE

I do!

RUSSELL

I do!

FRANNIE

I said it first!

RUSSELL

So what! I want to help.

JILL

Great? We'll unload, then we'll go to the Rushmore Mall for lunch, and buy some new clothes and a couple of 3DS's.

RUSSELL

And games?

JILL

Of course. You have to have games.

EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA --
LATE MORNING

Joseph and Werner are getting into their car.

The working girls are walking to their cars.

Joseph and Werner drive away.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- MORNING

WERNER

All I'm saying is, you could have helped me.

JOSEPH

You had what's her name to help you.

WERNER

Didn't you hear her scream?

JOSEPH

I figured you two were going at it.
Plus I was busy.

WERNER

When I took off the bandage, she screamed and then blew chunks.

JOSEPH

You could have had the other one. I would have traded.

WERNER

I tried but she wanted more money.

JOSEPH

Why didn't you just pay her?

WERNER

Fuck that. She's a whore not a nurse.

JOSEPH

Steve told me who Gary's bitch is.

WERNER

Really!

JOSEPH

Jillian Krillen, she's 34 years old and she used to live in Chicago but some "ASSHOLE" blew up her house along with her family.

WERNER

Really? Someone blew up her house?
Holy shit! Someone is copying me.

JOSEPH

No, dumb-ass

WERNER

What?

(beat)

Whoa! You're telling me, that psycho
bitch who took my eye out is the
same one who lived in the last house
we blew up?

JOSEPH

You blew up.

WERNER

That's right I did.

JOSEPH

You killed her whole family.

WERNER

Yep. And now I'm gonna kill her.

JOSEPH

What I want to know is, how did she
know we did it and that we would be
in that drug store, when we didn't
even know.

WERNER

Someone must of told her.

JOSEPH

Who?

WERNER

I don't know. Maybe Victor?

JOSEPH

No way. He's got too much to lose.

WERNER

Maybe we should ask her.

JOSEPH

Yeah. Steve said, she used her bank
card to get a room at the Holiday
Inn Express in Rapid City.

WERNER

Where's that?

JOSEPH
About 350 miles west from here.

WERNER
You think she's still with the brats?

JOSEPH
Yep. I'll bet their waiting for
Gary.

WERNER
Ha,ha, dumb fucks. Gary ain't comin'.

JOSEPH
But we are.

WERNER
Yeah baby! Lets get those little
shits.
(pause)
Don't you have to call your master,
and tell him the news?

JOSEPH
I did already. He said clean up
this mess or...

WERNER
He'll clean us up.

JOSEPH
Actually, this is our last chance.
But, this time he means it. We're
dead if we don't fix this.

WERNER
He always says that.

JOSEPH
This time he didn't yell.

WERNER
Oh, fuck.

JOSEPH
Yep.

EXT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- LATE
MORNING

Jill, Frannie and Russell are just about done unloading the
welding tanks, tools and other things that Jill needs from
the trailer.

Frannie is laughing at Russell, while they carry boxes out of the trailer.

Jill is setting up her equipment.

RUSSELL

Wait! I know! Say knock, knock

FRANNIE

Knock, knock

RUSSELL

Who's there?

FRANNIE

Dummy

RUSSELL

Dummy who?

FRANNIE

You dummy.

RUSSELL

Wait! That's not the way it goes.

FRANNIE

Yes it is, dummy.

RUSSELL

No! It isn't! Jill, tell her that's wrong.

JILL

It's not nice to call your brother a dummy. Frannie can you bring me that bag?

FRANNIE

Which bag?

JILL

That tan one over there.

RUSSELL

Are we almost done?

JILL

Almost.

FRANNIE

Why don't you just take the car to a mechanic? Like everyone else does.

RUSSELL

Dad says do it yourself and save money. Right?

JILL
That's right Russ. I like to do it
myself, my way.

Jill looks around.

JILL (CONT'D)
I think it's time for lunch. Let's
go get washed up in our room and
then go to the mall.

FRANNIE
Finally. The mall.

INT. RUSHMORE MALL - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- AFTERNOON

Jill and kids, their hands filled with clothing and "Gamestop"
bags as they exit the mall.

JILL
All right, let's see. Next, we drop
off this stuff at the room, then we
stop at the hardware store, then...

FRANNIE
We check for Dad.

JILL
You bet.

FRANNIE
Thank you for all this stuff.

RUSSELL
Yeah, thanks a lot. It's really
great. -- I hope Dad won't get mad.

JILL
Why?

RUSSELL
Dad doesn't like video games. He
thinks they're way too violent.

JILL
I'm sure it will be okay. We'll
just ask when we see him.

INT. FARM AND FLEET - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- AFTERNOON

Jill is pushing a cart filled with flex tubing, valves,
compressed air cylinders, switches and thin steel pipes.

Frannie and Russell are playing with their new games while following Jill.

Jill stops by the metal spikes.

Jill selects a few dozen small round pointed high carbon spikes.

FRANNIE

How is this stuff gonna fix your car?

JILL

By making it safer.

FRANNIE

Safer? What do you mean?

JILL

Just safer.

FRANNIE

You think they're coming back, don't you. My Dad won't let them.

JILL

I'm just making it safer.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- AFTERNOON

Joseph and Werner are driving to Rapid City.

Werner is trying to clean his 9mm automatic, but he keeps scratching his bandage.

JOSEPH

Just leave it alone.

WERNER

I can't. It itches. I think I need the inner bandage changed. You know the one inside the eye socket.

JOSEPH

That's nasty. They really put stuff inside there?

WERNER

Yeah, they packed it with antibacterial cream and something else I don't remember.

JOSEPH

We'll be home tomorrow and you can go to a real city doctor. Hey, maybe you can get a glass eye.

WERNER

Maybe, I should take one of your eyes.

JOSEPH

(laughing)

Finish cleaning your gun, tough guy.

WERNER

It's not funny! Asshole.

INT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
AFTERNOON

Frannie and Russell are sitting on the ground out side of the storage unit, playing their games.

Jill is inside setting up her welding equipment.

Russell gets up and walks over to Jill.

RUSSELL

Do you need help?

JILL

Actually, yes. Can you hold this for a minute?

Jill hands Russell a cut piece of pipe.

Russell holds the pipe while Jill threads it.

After threading the pipe she screws on a "T" section and then another pipe.

RUSSELL

If they come back, that means my Dad is not coming back, right?

JILL

Russ, honey, your Dad is coming back.

RUSSELL

But, you think those guys are coming back too.

JILL

Yes, I think so.

RUSSELL

How?

JILL

I'm not sure, but they always seem to know where we are. Don't worry we'll be ready, if they do come.

RUSSELL

What are you making?

JILL

If I tell you, will you keep it a secret?

RUSSELL

Okay.

JILL

You know what this is right?

Jill holds up a paint ball gun.

RUSSELL

Yeah. It's a paint ball gun. My friend Kevin, his brother has one.

Jill holds up the pipe.

JILL

Well, this is gonna be a real big one.

RUSSELL

Jill?

JILL

Yes, Russ.

RUSSELL

Frannie said, that those two guys killed your family. Is that true?

JILL

Yes.

RUSSELL

My Dad thinks they killed my Mom. But the Police said it was just a car accident.

JILL

I think your Dad was probably right.

RUSSELL

But why?

JILL

I don't know. You'll have to ask him. --- Now, we have a lot to do.

Russell starts to cry.

Jill kneels down and holds him.

JILL (CONT'D)

I'm going to make them pay for this. You hear me?

Russell nods.

JILL (CONT'D)

Go on and play by your sister. I'll call you when I need your help. Okay?

Russell walks over by Frannie and sits down.

Jill starts taking the paint ball gun apart.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR - HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- AFTERNOON

A road sign reads "Holiday Inn Express next exit".

WERNER

You gonna ask what room they're in?

JOSEPH

No. I don't want anyone to see us here. Especially you. You stand out and scare people.

WERNER

We can call the front desk and ask for her room.

JOSEPH

You moron, they won't tell us the room number. They'll just connect us to her room and I don't want her to know we're here.

WERNER

So, we just keep an eye out for her.

JOSEPH

(joking)
Yeah, just one.

WERNER

What? Oh, fuck you.

JOSEPH
You said it Popeye.

INT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
AFTERNOON

Some quick cuts as Jill builds her gun car.

Jill is cutting a hole through the bottom of the rear driver's side door of her SUV.

She fits the pipe in the hole.

She mounts the tanks in the back of the SUV.

Control valves being mounted into the center console.

Flex tubing connected to the valves.

EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
EVENING

Joseph's car is parked next to a large group of bushes, making it hard to see when entering the parking lot.

Jill and the kids enter the parking lot and unknowingly drive right past Joseph's car.

Joseph is stretched out in the front seat and Werner is laying in the back both are sound asleep.

RUSSELL
That was really good pizza.

FRANNIE
Yeah. Can we eat the rest for breakfast?

JILL
Sure. So, you know this hotel has a pool?

RUSSELL
Really? That's so cool!

FRANNIE
Um. We can't.

RUSSELL
What?

FRANNIE
We don't have swimsuits.

JILL
We can fix that.

RUSSELL
Yes!

Jill does a three point turn.

As she goes back the way she came in, only Jill sees Joseph's car, the bullet holes, and Joseph sleeping.

She drives off to the mall.

INT. POOL SIDE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

The pool is half full with families and two lifeguards.

Frannie and Russell are in their new swimsuits. Jill is in the same clothes as before.

JILL
Everything will be fine. Just stay together and stay in the lifeguard's view. I'll be back in about an hour. Don't talk to anyone.

RUSSELL
Jill.

JILL
Yes?

RUSSELL
You are coming back, right?

JILL
Yes. I will.

They hug.

Jill picks up her bag causing some black paper and a pair of scissors to fall out.

Jill grabs her stuff, looks around and leaves.

EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Two very loud "Harley Davidsons" drive into the parking lot.

Joseph and Werner jump from their slumber at the sound of the bikes.

JOSEPH

Holy shit!

WERNER

Were you sleeping?

JOSEPH

I was just resting my eyes.

WERNER

Bull shit. You don't rest your eyes on a stake out. She probably came and went, while you were sleeping.

JOSEPH

We didn't miss her and I wasn't sleeping.

WERNER

You were fucking sleeping. I'm starving and I really need to take a piss.

Werner opens the car and gets out.

JOSEPH

Hurry back. I gotta go too.

WERNER

Fuck you Rip Vanwinkle. I'll get back when I'm back.

JOSEPH

Listen shithead hurry the...

Jill drives by making sure not to look at Joseph and Werner.

Joseph spots Jill and the silhouettes of the kids in the back seat as she drives by.

WERNER

Holy shit. That was her wasn't it?

Werner gets back in the car.

Joseph starts the car and follows her discreetly.

Jill watches them in her rear view mirror.

Jill drives calmly in traffic.

Joseph keeps his distance.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- EVENING

WERNER

Where is it?--- Ah, here it is.
That'll work.

JOSEPH

What the hell are you doing?

WERNER

I gotta go, man. I found a juice
bottle.

JOSEPH

You better not piss in my car.

WERNER

Just keep it straight, and I'll keep
it straight.

JOSEPH

Asshole.

Jill turns off the main street to a deserted side street.

Joseph needs to change lanes and turn quickly.

Werner falls to the side.

WERNER

Jesus Christ Joe! I can't break the
flow.

JOSEPH

You asshole I can smell it.

WERNER

Learn how to drive.

JOSEPH

Cap it off. Now! We're gonna take
her out! Get ready.

WERNER

You jerk-off. You made me piss
myself.

JOSEPH

I'm gonna pull up next to her. Put
one in her ear.

WERNER

No. Drive her off the road. I want
to mess her up.

JOSEPH

Let's just get on with it. I want
to go home and get my car cleaned.
Shoot her in the head.

Jill watches as they came up closer.

Jill turns two knobs opening the air valves.

The gauges swing to read full.

Joseph punches the gas and tries to get next to Jill.

Jill sees them in the side mirror coming up.

Werner pulls his gun and readies his shot.

Joseph comes up and Werner aims at Jill.

Jill patiently waits with her finger on the first three of
nine switches on the center board.

Werner sees the silhouettes of the kids and changes his aim.

Werner fires right in the back window.

Jill's back side window explodes.

Jill mistakenly flips all three switches.

Three air cannons fire at once from the side of Jill's car.

Carbon steel spikes rip through Joseph's front tire.

Multiple holes appear in Joseph's front passengers door.

Spikes tear Joseph's shin and calf apart.

Multiple holes appear in Joseph's back passengers door.

The spikes miss Werner and stick in the other door.

Joseph loses control of his car, smashing into Jill's car.

Jill hits back to avoid a parked car.

Joseph's car pushes Jill's car up the curb.

Joseph hits the parked car.

Jill pops the curb and hits a tree, striking her head against
the steering wheel.

Nothing is moving.

Across the street a sign reads "RAPID CITY MAYORS OFFICE 300
6TH STREET".

Jill touches her broken and bloody nose.

Werner appears with fresh blood dripping from his bandages and a gun to Jill's head.

WERNER

Get out of the car you crazy fucking bitch! What the hell did you do to Joe? I said get out!

Jill leans forward on the steering wheel.

WERNER (CONT'D)

You killed Joe! You, you bitch. Look what you did to me.

JILL

You killed my babies.

WERNER

What? -- Oh, that's right. I blew 'em up. Now get out we're gonna have some fun.

Werner grabs the door handle.

Werner opens the door.

Jill leans back with a modified air gun and fires.

The spike takes the gun and a finger from Werner.

Werner screams and falls backward to the ground.

Jill steps out of the SUV, while reloading another spike into her air gun.

JILL

You took my family from me.

WERNER

And you took my eye, my ear and my hand. Look what you did to me.

JILL

You killed them for nothing. The wrong family. They died for nothing.

Jill points the air gun at Werner.

WERNER

Wait! Wait. It wasn't me. It was Joe. Joe killed your kids! Not me. Stop! Look what you did.

JILL

An artist must finish her work.

Jill fires a spike that goes into Werner's left eye and out the back of his head, burying itself in the ground.

Jill drops her gun and turns to walk away, but stops.

JOSEPH

He was a lying sack of shit.

Joseph covered in blood is holding himself up with the car door.

Joseph is trying to keep his gun level on Jill.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

He killed your family before I even knew. I never had a chance to stop him.

JILL

What about Gary's wife?

JOSEPH

Gloria. Yeah, she was a good kid. A good kid with a big mouth.

JILL

So you killed her?

JOSEPH

Yep. Gary too. Now it looks like I gotta go back and take out their kids.

JILL

You killed Gloria and Gary?

JOSEPH

What are you fucking deaf? I just told you I did.

JILL

Gary?

JOSEPH

Yes!

GARY (O.S.)

Guess again.

Joseph tries to turn around.

Gary, looking like road kill, stabs Joseph in the throat with a piece of metal.

Joseph fires his gun as he falls against his car.

The shot sparks off the curb underneath Jill's SUV igniting a fuel leak in the leaves.

Jill rushes to Gary.

JILL

We really have to go.

Jill grabs Gary they hobble a few feet.

Jill's SUV explodes multiple times.

Jill and Gary get thrown to the ground.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING POOL SIDE - LOS ANGELES -- AFTERNOON

Two months later.

Gary is watching Frannie and Russell play in the pool.

Gary starts opening a brown paper package.

Inside is an ornately carved wooden box with wrought iron fittings.

On the top of the box it says "IN LOVING MEMORY OF GLORIA".

With tears in his eyes, Gary opens the box to reveal a picture of Jill, Gary, Frannie and Russell, all together in front of the Grand Canyon. The picture is in a beautiful wrought iron frame.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI - CHICAGO -- EVENING

Victor is at his desk with a brown paper package.

He opens the package. Inside is an ornately carved wooden box with wrought iron fittings.

On the top of the box it says "IN LOVING MEMORY OF ERIC, RHYS, CAITLIN and GLORIA".

Victor looks puzzled.

He opens it.

A blast of very high pressured air.

Five spikes carrying brain matter, blood and hair strike the wall behind Victor digging in deeply.

Victor drops with a thud.

Inside the box, there are five little pipes sticking out with a small air cylinder.

The box starts to smoke and hiss.

Seconds later the box explodes.

INT. KATE AND JILL'S STUDIO - SEATTLE -- AFTERNOON

The view of the studio shows Jill's work area and work table.

On the table is the picture of her family in a new wrought iron frame.

Jill is sitting on a window seat watching the rain. On her lap, rests her laptop.

A news article from Chicago Tribune. The letters to the words "TRUST FATE" are highlighted.

INSERT - WEB PAGE

"The **R**emains of a **U**krainian **S**hipping **T**ycoon were **F**ound with an **A**mputated head. **T**he **E**vidence has given the Police no leads."

Jill moves to the next article. The letters to the words "TRUST FATE JILL HELP" are highlighted.

INSERT - WEB PAGE (CONT'D)

"Another **T**hree **R**esidential **U**nsolved abductions **S**ince **T**hursday." -
 "**F**amilies **A**re **T**errified. **E**veryone is asked to keep a watchful eye out"
 "The city of **J**asper's **I**nterim **L**ieutenant **L**awrence **H**alaska in an **E**motional **L**ast **P**lea for help to find the missing children. "Anyone with information..."

Jill closes her web browser and opens a file in her design program.

A 3D picture of a very deadly new air gun, mini-van and body armor.

THE END.