Azalea

by

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December 2020 Rev: 9/14/2024 Joshua Goldman siennafire97@msn.com 540-809-3384 INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - LOBBY - DAY

At a large desk in the center of the room, a receptionist, CASSANDRA (40s) talks on the phone with a client.

JAYDEN KIRK (late 20s), tall, blonde, thin, bright-eyed, curious, bursts through the front doors in a black suit and rushes towards the desk. A backpack bangs over his shoulders.

Cassandra sets down the phone.

JAYDEN

Sunview Marketing? I have an interview.

Cassandra points to a pair of elevators behind Jayden.

CASSANDRA

14th floor, first door on your right.

JAYDEN

Thanks.

Cassandra picks up the phone and resumes her conversation as Jayden rushes over to the elevators. He stops near it and pushes the UP button.

The doors open. Two businessman step out and walk away as Jayden squeezes his way inside. He presses the button to the 14th floor and looks up as the doors slowly close.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - ELEVATOR - DAY

Jayden sways back and forth. He checks his watch.

3:50PM.

Jayden stares intently at the 14th floor button.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - HALLWAY - DAY

The elevator doors open.

Jayden steps out and makes a left. He rushes down the hall and stops at a door labeled, SUNVIEW MARKETING and pushes it open.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - WAITING AREA - DAY

Jayden closes the door behind him and walks up to a desk to his left where, secretary, DORA TILLMAN (60s) sits, staring

down at a piece of paper.

DORA

Can I help you?

JAYDEN

I have an interview with Mitchell Graystorm? Four o'clock?

Dora peers towards a note on her computer to her left.

DORA

Mr. Kirk?

Jayden nods his head.

Dora picks up the phone next to him and dials Mitchell's number.

DORA

(into the phone)

I have the captain here for his interview?

Jayden smirks as he shifts toe-to-toe.

DORA

(into the phone)

Alright, I'll tell him.

Dora hangs up.

DORA

He'll be out for you in a minute. Feel free to make yourself comfortable.

JAYDEN

Thanks.

Dora turns back to the piece of paper in as Jayden moves towards a rather comfortable looking chair behind him. He sits down and takes off his backpack as he slowly turns and looks into an aquarium to his left.

The fish inside stare back at him.

Jayden unzips his backpack and takes out a small folder as the front door to the office opens.

Jayden turns and watches as a tall, AZALEA DRUMMOND (50s), tall, curvy, sleek brown hair, steps in, wearing a black

blouse and pencil skirt underneath a tan trench-coat, carrying a small clutch.

Jayden eyes the clutch as Azalea walks up to Dora's desk.

AZALEA

Excuse me.

Dora taps at her pencil.

Azalea clears his throat.

DORA

Yes?

AZALEA

I have an interview with a Mr. Graystorm at 4:30. I hope I'm not too late?

DORA

Name?

AZALEA

Azalea.

DORA

Really?

Azalea leans forward.

AZALEA

Yes, Azalea, Azalea Drummond.

Dora turns to another note on her computer before, once again, reaching for the phone.

DORA

I have the flower here for her interview?

Azalea whips her head around as Jayden buries his face is his folder

Dora hangs up.

DORA

You have someone ahead of you. Feel free to take a seat.

Azalea stomps towards a nearby chair.

DORA

Watch the upholstery.

Azalea's eyes darken as Dora smirks and begins writing on her paper.

Azalea sits down and takes out a small mirror and tube of lipstick from her clutch.

AZALEA

You here for one too?

JAYDEN

Hmm?

Azalea stares at herself in the mirror as she raises the tube to her lips.

AZALEA

Well, you're certainly dressed for the part.

JAYDEN

Yeah. I almost didn't make it here on time.

Azalea begins applying the luscious red lipstick to her lips.

AZALEA

Had some trouble with your car?

JAYDEN

Yes, how did you...?

Azalea puckers her lips before closing the tube of lipstick and placing it back inside her purse.

AZALEA

Well, I try to come as early as I can.

Azalea closes her clutch with a loud SNAP. Jayden flinches.

AZALEA

It helps make a good impression.

Jayden wipes a bead of sweat off his already dripping forehead as Azalea grabs a magazine off the coffee table in front of her and flips it open.

AZALEA

It's fine, really; the last one I

owned exploded.

JAYDEN

Wait, what? Seriously?

AZALEA

Oh yes, quite dramatically, actually.

JAYDEN

Well?

AZALEA

The engine caught fire while I was driving home from the club one evening.

JAYDEN

The club?

AZALEA

I'm a city girl, can't you tell?

JAYDEN

Well, by the way you wear that trenchcoat, I just assumed that, well...

Azalea tosses back her hair and quickly turns the page.

AZALEA

Too make a long story short, I called the police.

JAYDEN

And?

AZALEA

It was quite the spectacle. Reporters, everywhere...

JAYDEN

Oh?

AZALEA

I couldn't believe it...

Azalea looks up from the magazine.

AZALEA (CONT'D)

...would you believe, that they sent over the entire Jersey City fire brigade just to put it out?

Your case in point?

AZALEA

Don't buy a Yugo.

The door to Mitch's office suddenly opens as the CEO of Sunview Marketing, MITCHELL "MITCH" GRAYSTORM (50s), tall, suave, professional, steps out.

MITCHELL

Mr. Kirk?

Jayden stands up and walks over. Mitchell extends his hand.

MITCHELL

Mitch Graystorm, CEO.

JAYDEN

Jayden.

Azalea winks at Jayden.

AZALEA

Good luck.

Jayden throws his backpack over his shoulders as he enters Mitchell's office. Azalea watches from behind her magazine as Mitchell pulls the door shut.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - MITCHELL'S OFFICE - DAY

MITCHELL

Have a seat.

Jayden walks up to a chair in front of Mitchell's desk and sits down as Mitchell takes a seat in his.

MITCHELL

So, why the interest in Sunview? Not just for the view I hope?

Jayden, palms sweaty, teeth clenched, fidgets as he stares stares at a plaque on Mitchell's desk that reads MITCHELL GRAYSTORM, CEO.

Mitchell picks up Jayden's resume off his desk and slowly raises it to his face.

MITCHELL

No previous experience in marketing?

Jayden hands Mitchell his folder.

JAYDEN

I have this.

Mitchell sets down the resume and takes the folder.

MITCHELL

Nervous?

Jayden wipes his hands against his pants as Mitchell grabs a water bottle off his desk and hands it to him.

Jayden takes it and takes a sip as Mitchell opens the folder and begins reading.

MITCHELL

DECA?

JAYDEN

I was a member for about two years, while I was in still high school.

MITCHELL

And how was that for you? Stimulating I hope?

JAYDEN

Well, I wouldn't call it that, but...

Jayden shuts up.

Mitchell closes the folder and slides it aside.

MITCHELL

Well, let me just get to the point than.

JAYDEN

OK?

MITCHELL

What made you want to take this internship? Paid, of course.

JAYDEN

I just really need a job right now, so...

MITCHELL

Well, you'll be required to assist me

and the staff with handling all the extra volume we get around here from to time, calls, emails, as well as acting as my personal assistant.

JAYDEN

Assistant?

MITCHELL

Oh, just setting up for meetings, running a few checks, and grabbing my usual Caesar. It's not as scary as it sounds, trust me.

JAYDEN

That's great, I uh...

Jayden wipes his forehead as a thick sludge of sweat drips off his hand and onto on the floor.

Mitchell looks at his watch.

MITCHELL

Well, looks like were out of time.

Mitchell stands up and extends his hand.

MITCHELL

I'll let you know within a week.

Jayden shakes it.

JAYDEN

Thanks.

Jayden grabs his backpack, stands up, and quickly moves to the door. Mitchell picks up his folder.

MITCHELL

Jayden?

Jayden turns back around and trudges back towards the desk. He takes the folder from his hands and quickly exits.

INT. JAYDEN'S CAR - DAY

Jayden turns the key.

The engine flutters.

He turns again.

The car starts.

Jayden's phone rings. He answers. It's his girlfriend, LEAH HENDERSON (late 20s), smart, carefree, and with a heart of gold.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Leah?

LEAH (O.S.)

So, how'd it go?

Jayden lifts up the side of his sweat-soaked suit.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Well I think I made a good impression.

LEAH (O.S.)

Did you forget to bring your handkerchief with you?

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

You might have wanted to mention that too me before I left?

LEAH (O.S.)

Sorry, my bad.

Jayden begins panting. He unbuttons his jacket.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

God, it feels like a sauna in here.

LEAH (O.S.)

The A/C still broken?

Jayden reaches for the A/C and turns the dial.

Nothing.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Yup, figures.

LEAH (O.S.)

You know, you should really do something about your car.

(into the phone)

I'll get it fixed, eventually.

LEAH (O.S.)

What number is this now? 4?

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

5, if you count the Sunfire.

LEAH (O.S.)

You sure drove that one into the ground...

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

How was I supposed to know it was rusting?

LEAH (O.S.)

It's called an inspection, Jayden? They're required by law.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Not for the first five years, their not.

LEAH (O.S.)

Tch, Mr. Know-it-all.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Love you too, babe.

Jayden rolls down the windows.

LEAH (O.S.)

Well, we ought to celebrate.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

I'm not even sure I got the job yet!

LEAH (O.S.)

How about we go out for lunch? At The Onion?

(into the phone)

You mean that new fancy bistro that opened up on Smith Street?

LEAH (O.S.)

That's the one.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

I'll meet you there in a half hour, after I, uh...

LEAH (O.S.)

Wear something clean.

Jayden hangs up.

INT. THE ONION - DAY

Jayden stares down at a large bowl of soup in front of him as Leah glares at him from across the table.

JAYDEN

What?

LEAH

Come on, one sip.

Jayden begrudgingly picks up his spoon and spoons in a mouthful.

LEAH

Well?

Jayden puckers his face and spits it out in his napkin.

JAYDEN

What they'd put in there, garlic?

LEAH

You act like you've never tasted real soup before.

JAYDEN

And what would that be, Italian Wedding?

LEAH

Clam Chowder, Manhattan Style.

Jayden pushes his bowl aside and picks up his baguette.

JAYDEN

I think I'm more of a grilled cheese and tomato soup kind of guy.

Leah digs in.

LEAH

So, tell me more...

JAYDEN

About?

Leah flicks some soup at him with her spoon. Jayden quickly holds up his napkin, stopping it.

Leah takes another sip.

JAYDEN

Well, he seemed to like me. Kind of.

LEAH

Kind of?

JAYDEN

I was kind of dripping.

LEAH

Did you forget your mop?

Jayden grumbles, bites hard into his baguette.

JAYDEN

How's your studying going?

LEAH

I finished my report on old Salem.

JAYDEN

Oh, you mean the crazy people.

Leah throws down her spoon.

JAYDEN

What?

LEAH

They weren't all insane.

Really?

Leah raises her brow as Jayden throws another piece of bread into his mouth.

JAYDEN

Go on, I'm listening.

LEAH

Did you know that some of the convicted witches managed to escape?

JAYDEN

How? Through the back door?

LEAH

Well, rumor has it that the Reverend John Hale felt so guilty about what was happening that he snuck into the town jail one night and freed them all.

JAYDEN

That actually makes a lot of sense.

LEAH

I know right?

Leah's phone on the table vibrates. She picks it up. Her eyes go wide.

LEAH

Shit.

JAYDEN

Got to run?

Leah reaches into her wallet and pulls out her credit card as Jayden to suddenly whips out his.

JAYDEN

Relax.

Leah throws her purse over her shoulder, stands up and gives Jayden a kiss on the cheek.

She hurries to the door.

JAYDEN

Hey, need a lift?

LEAH

In that lemon?

Leah throws the door open.

LEAH

Not a chance.

Leah exits.

EXT. LIBERTY STATE PARK - DAY

Azalea, wearing a deep purple trench-coat, walks down a paved pathway near a large fountain. Her phone rings. She answers it.

AZALEA

(into the phone)

Hello?

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Azalea? Hi. This is Mitch Graystorm calling from Sunview Marketing. How are you?

AZALEA

(into the phone)

Wonderful. Just thought I'd go out for a little stroll.

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Sounds exciting.

AZALEA

(into the phone)

I take it this about the position?

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Yes. Well, you see, I regret to inform you that I've chosen someone else.

Azalea's eyes twitch.

MITCHELL (O.S.)

I'm terribly sorry.

AZALEA

(into the phone)

That's alright, really.

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Oh?

AZALEA

(into the phone)

Sorry, this might seem like a weird question to ask but uh...

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Go on.

AZALEA

(into the phone)
Might I ask who it was?

MITCHELL (O.S.)

I'm afraid I can't disclose that information. However, I sincerely wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Azalea hangs up the phone and stomps towards the fountain. She bends down and looks inside.

Azalea, teeth clenched, slices at her reflection in the water with her nails.

INT. JAYDEN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jayden carries a hamper full of clothes across the living room. A large bird cage, containing Jayden's pet bird, HAWKEYE sits near the window.

INT. JAYDEN'S APARTMENT - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Jayden tosses the clothes into the washer and shuts the door. He pushes the START button.

The machine whirls.

Hawkeye chirps.

Jayden exits.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jayden flicks on the television, leans back in the sofa as The Price of Right begins.

EXT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - DAY

A silver Bentley Continental GT pulls up in front of Jayden's

apartment and stops.

INT. AZALEA'S BENTLEY - DAY

Azalea takes off her sunglasses and pulls out a small pendant of a cross from within her blouse. She gently strokes it.

AZALEA

Well, sweetie, are you watching?

Azalea rolls down the window and stares into Jayden's living room.

AZALEA

Oculum pro oculo caecum...

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

A red hose cracks. The washing machine picks up speed.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jayden snores. His phone rings. He wakes up. He answers.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Hello?

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Hi Jayden? This is Mitch Graystorm calling from Sunview Marketing. How are you?

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

Fine, just watching a little TV.

MITCHELL (O.S.)

Good. Listen I've been going over my applications and was wondering if you'd be still interested in the job?

ROAR

Jayden whips his head towards the laundry room. A stream of water flows out from underneath the door frame.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)

What in the hell?

MITCHELL (O.S.)

I'll take that as a "no" than?

Jayden rushes towards the door.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Jayden opens the door and peers in, sees water everywhere.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

JAYDEN

(into the phone)
This really isn't a good time.

MITCHELL (O.S.)

How about you stop by tomorrow morning? It'll give you the chance to familiarize yourself with the office, meet the rest of the staff.

JAYDEN

(into the phone)
I'll be there first thing.

Jayden hangs up and rushes towards the bathroom.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

Jayden pulls out a large towel from a rack and exits.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Jayden shuts off the washing machine and pulls it away from the wall. He bends down and picks up the red hose. It's cut in half, clean, almost like it was done with a pair of scissors.

Jayden tosses the hose aside and throws the towel onto the floor.

EXT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Leah pulls up in her car, an old blue Chrysler Sebring convertible, and stops behind Jayden's Saturn. She steps out and struts up to Jayden's house.

Leah turns around and quickly spots Azalea's Bentley near the curb. The window quickly rolls up.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Jayden throws his wet clothes out from the machine and into the hamper.

The doorbell rings.

EXT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Jayden opens the front door. A pair of wet boxers cling to his jeans.

JAYDEN

Leah?

LEAH

I was bored, thought I'd stop by, maybe see what you were up too, but...

Leah spots the boxers. She crunches her nose.

LEAH

Maybe I'll come back later.

Jayden peels the boxers off his jeans.

JAYDEN

There's this little accident, I had in the laundry room...

Leah pushes herself in as Jayden closes the door.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Jayden stands next to Leah as she holds the broken red hose in her hands.

LEAH

It just snapped?

JAYDEN

I know, strange, ain't it?

Jayden bends back down and begins tossing more clothes in the hamper as Leah drops the hose and does the same.

LEAH

Well, I guess you'll need to borrow some quarters?

Mind lending me your piggy bank?

LEAH

You can use my machine, I don't mind.

JAYDEN

You sure about that?

JAYDEN

I might end up with a spare bra or two.

Leah smacks Jayden with a soggy shirt. Jayden hits her back and tosses it into the hamper.

LEAH

Hey, you weren't expecting anyone else today, were you?

JAYDEN

Besides you?

Leah stares intently at the door.

JAYDEN

No, no one.

Leah stands up and quickly exits.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Leah steps up to the window near Hawkeye's cage and pulls back the curtains.

JAYDEN (O.S.)

Leah?

Azalea speeds away her in Bentley as Jayden steps up to Leah, speedo in hand.

JAYDEN

What is it?

LEAH

I uh, forgot something.

JAYDEN

Leah?

Leah rushes to the front door.

Weren't you supposed to be free?

THUD.

Jayden bites his tongue, looks down to the speedo and stomps back into the laundry room.

INT. AZALEA'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Azalea stares at herself in the mirror as she brushes her hair with a silver brush. She brushes harder, and harder, harder, yanking out several clumps of hair.

Azalea screams and tosses the brush into the sink. Her trembling hands grip the countertop as she slowly raises her head and looks straight into her eyes.

AZALEA

Ugly bitch.

INT. AZALEA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Azalea walks towards a small tray in the living room on a coffee table and lights a small candle.

Azalea sets down the lighter and takes out a strand of blonde hair from her pocket.

AZALEA

Well, I hope your ready for your first day.

Azalea sets the hair in the center of the tray and bends down. She takes out her necklace and moves her hand over an old drawing of REVEREND SAMUEL PARRISH.

Azalea closes her eyes and raises her arms.

AZALEA

Vendi ad me spiritus immunde.

The room begins to shake.

AZALEA

Ostende mihi virtutem tuam veram.

It stops.

Azalea lowers her arms and opens her eyes to reveal a thick shade of purple.

EXT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - DAY

Jayden, wearing a collared shirt with khaki's, stands next to his car, hood open, as he watches one of the mechanics, TYLER (20s) type into his tablet.

JAYDEN

So, how long will this one last?

TYLER

About 5 to 6 years, give or take.

Jayden stares at the newly placed battery before turning to his watch.

7:50AM.

JAYDEN

Shit.

TYLER

Late for something?

JAYDEN

My first day.

Tyler hands Jayden his keys.

Jayden slams down the hood and takes them. He enters his car and starts the engine. "Something" rattles from inside of it.

Jayden rolls down the window.

JAYDEN

Is that normal?

TYLER

It should clear up once you hit the road.

JAYDEN

Thanks.

Jayden rolls up his window and drives away.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - WAITING AREA - DAY

Jayden shuts the door behind him and walks up to Dora at her computer.

DORA

Ah, it's you. Jayden, right?

JAYDEN

Am I late?

Dora shakes her head.

JAYDEN

So, where's Mitch?

DORA

He's in a meeting right now.

Jayden looks down at the mountain of "trinkets" on Dora's desk.

JAYDEN

I'm guessing you've been here long?

DORA

23 years.

Dora picks up a small figurine of Captain Kirk and shows it to him.

DORA

You've got the same hair.

JAYDEN

Heh, cute.

DORA

I'll have you know I've seen the whole series.

JAYDEN

Yeah? Who's your favorite?

Dora sets down the figure and picks up another, this time, of $\mbox{Dr.}$ Leonard McCoy.

DORA

You know, I've always wanted to be a doctor.

JAYDEN

But?

DORA

I could never all that handle that

blood.

Dora sets own the figurine as her computer suddenly makes a loud BEEP.

DORA

What in the...?

JAYDEN

Something wrong?

Dora turns to the computer and clicks on the mouse.

Nothing.

DORA

Screen's frozen.

JAYDEN

Did you try pulling up task manager?

Dora presses the CTRL key on the keyboard. It falls off.

JAYDEN

Just how old is that thing, anyway?

DORA

We got them all replaced last year.

Jayden stares at the computer as Sunview's editor in chief, RICH HOLMES (mid 30s), native Brit and sci-fi geek, strolls up to the pair carrying a stack of papers.

DORA

Ah, Rich.

Rich stops.

DORA

Why don't you show our newest intern the way to his cubicle?

JAYDEN

Cubicle?

DORA

What? Did you really think you were getting your own office?

JAYDEN

What about your computer?

Dora whacks the side of her computer. It gives her the blue screen of death.

DORA

I'll be fine.

Dora picks up the phone and dials tech support as Rich extends his hand.

RICH

Mitch's new assistant, I take it?

Jayden shakes his hand.

JAYDEN

Yeah, first day.

RICH

Follow me.

Rich leads Jayden down a hallway as Dora reaches behind her computer towards the cord.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CORPORATE OFFICES - DAY

Rich leads Jayden past several cubicles where he watches several of the companies employees talking to customers on both their phones and headsets.

JAYDEN

Is there even room to breathe in here?

RICH

Feel free to open up a window.

Jayden and Rich come to a stop near a cubicle at the far end of the room.

RICH

Well, this is yours. You can personalize it if you like, but you probably won't be using it much.

JAYDEN

And that's because?

CHEYENNE (O.S.)

Hey, Rich.

CHEYENNE HINES (late 20s), blonde, curly hair, intelligent, curious, leans forward, phone in ear.

CHEYENNE

EinCorp is on the phone for you, line one.

RICH

Again? I thought we already agreed on Tuesday?

Cheyenne shrugs her shoulders.

JAYDEN

Is she?

RICH

Cheyenne, our chief graphic designer.

Jayden spots a Wiccan flag hanging above her cubicle.

JAYDEN

Is that what I think it is?

RICH

A Pentacle?

Rich pats Jayden on the back.

RICH

Don't let it scare you too much.

Mitchell struts over on the phone.

RICH

Oh, the name's Rich; in case you haven't guessed.

JAYDEN

Jayden.

RICH

Welcome aboard.

Rich saunters away as Mitchell hangs up and steps forward.

MITCHELL

Ah, Jayden.

MITCHELL

I hope you're not having too much difficulty settling in?

You might want to have your computers checked?

MITCHELL

Not another glitch.

JAYDEN

Glitch?

THUD

Jayden and Mitchell turn to Cheyenne as she smacks her fizzling monitor with her hand.

MITCHELL

I've been on the phone with tech support all morning.

JAYDEN

And?

Cheyenne's computer shuts off. She stands up and stomps away. Jayden looks down the aisle and spots several other employees tapping, hitting, unplugging their computers.

Another employee ABBY (27), sleek, auburn hair, ambitious, easily swayed, rushes by the pair.

MITCHELL

Abby.

Mitchell takes out a set of keys from his pocket and tosses them to her.

MITCHELL

Let Jayden into the conference room, will you?

She snatches them out of the air.

MITCHELL

Show him the ropes?

Abby nods her head.

Mitchell pats Jayden on his shoulder and walks away.

ABBY

You must be the new intern.

Jayden.

ABBY

How do you like your cubicle?

JAYDEN

A little bit too small for me to be honest.

ABBY

Expecting something bigger?

JAYDEN

Maybe Cadillac-sized?

ABBY

Oh, wouldn't I wish.

Abby turns to her cubicle in front of Cheyenne's. Jayden does the same and spots a series of models surrounding it.

JAYDEN

Is that the Sears Tower?

ABBY

And the Chrysler Building next to it.

JAYDEN

You sure love your skyscrapers don't you?

ABBY

I just love these modern buildings.

Abby walks towards the wall and hits the drywall.

ABBY

So sturdy.

A BLACK CROW smashes against the back window. Jayden and Abby jump back, along with Rich and another employee RYAN (20s) in Ryan's cubicle across from Abby's.

RICH

Damn ravens.

Rich steps up to the window and closes the blinds as Jayden chuckles.

Hell of a first day.

ABBY

All that's missing is some fireworks.

A small spark ignites near the copy machine. Jayden, and Abby snicker as PATRICIA (40s) rushes over and douses it with a jug of water.

ABBY

Right, we uh, better get started.

Abby leads Jayden down the hallway towards the conference room.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - LOBBY - DAY

Azalea, wearing black stilettos and leggings, crosses the lobby in a plaid trench-coat. She stops at the desk as Cassandra looks up.

AZALEA

I have a gift...

Azalea takes out a small gift bag and slides it towards Cassandra.

AZALEA

...for Mr. Kirk.

Cassandra picks up the phone.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Jayden whistles at the long wooden desk in front of him.

ABBY

Impressed?

JAYDEN

Yeah, I'll say.

Abby walks towards a large wooden cabinet on the wall nearby and opens it.

ABBY

Well, don't feel too bad...

Jayden watches Abby as she takes out a stack of folders from within.

ABBY

Mitch always makes the new ones set up for meetings.

Abby hands Jayden half the stack.

JAYDEN

What's this one about?

ABBY

He's trying to convince some Japanese executive to run a news sales promotion.

JAYDEN

For?

Abby hands Jayden one of the folders.

He opens it.

JAYDEN

Lovely, soup?

ABBY

Zosui. Basically filled with rice.

JAYDEN

Gross.

Jayden closes the folder and sets it aside.

ABBY

Well, it's all the rage in Japan.

Abby and Jayden move around the table as they place a folder next to each chair.

Jayden peers out into the offices where he Spots Rich playing with his figurines.

JAYDEN

Is he?

ABBY

Slacking off?

Jayden turns back and watches as Rich chats with another employee, GARY (20s) in the cubicle next to him.

ABBY

Yeah, he always seems to find the time.

JAYDEN

You like him, don't you?

ABBY

What?

Jayden raises his brow.

ABBY

Rich? No way, he's such a geek.

JAYDEN

You're not fooling me.

ABBY

We dated once, about four years ago.

JAYDEN

And?

Abby quickly moves to another chair.

JAYDEN

I'm sorry, I didn't mean too...

ABBY

Oh no, it's fine, really. I'm over it.

JENNA (30s), another employee, rushes in.

JENNA

Dora's got something waiting for you in the lobby.

JAYDEN

For me?

Jenna shrugs her shoulders and exits.

ABBY

You expecting something?

Jayden exits.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - LOBBY - DAY

The bag sits on top of Dora's desk.

AZALEA

I don't see why I can't give it to him myself, after all I did walk.

DORA

We have certain policies that we follow here, Ms. Drummond, like it or not.

Azalea sneers as she turns around and walks towards the aquarium.

AZALEA

How is Mr. Graystorm? If I may ask?

DORA

I'm not sure how that concerns you?

Azalea pulls out a small, tightly wrapped bag from her pocket and drops it into the tank.

AZALEA

I just thought he could use some company, you know...

She watches it sink to the bottom.

AZALEA

...with this being such a stressful job and all.

Dora swivels around and begins typing into her computer as Azalea sways back and forth up to Dora's desk and leans in. She takes a whiff.

AZALEA

Yves Saint Laurent, Opium.

Dora freezes.

AZALEA

You know that he's married, right?

Dora whips her head around, sneers.

DORA

Get out.

JAYDEN (O.S.)

Dora?

Azalea quickly exits as Jayden steps up to Dora's desk.

THUD.

JAYDEN

What was she doing here?

DORA

I figured you'd know.

JAYDEN

You finally get your computer fixed?

DORA

For now.

Dora's computer begins making a series of strange noises as Jayden takes the bag from the table.

JAYDEN

I'm guessing this is it?

Dora stares at Jayden as Jayden reaches inside the bag and pulls out a talisman in the shape of a ribbon.

JAYDEN

A ribbon?

DORA

Talisman, by the looks of it.

JAYDEN

Talisman?

Dora jumps up.

DORA

What in the hell?

Dora rushes over to the aquarium.

JAYDEN

Dora?

Jayden follows Dora over as she stops in front of the aquarium and peers in. Jayden looks inside. The fish float on top of the red water, dead.

JAYDEN

What?

DORA

If Mitch sees this...

The tank explodes. Dora and Jayden hit the ground as glass, the dead fish, and the bloody water showers over them.

Rich, Abby, Jenna and Ryan rush in.

RICH

Where's the fire? Dora?

Jayden tries to stand up.

RICH

Jayden!

Rich helps Jayden sit up.

JAYDEN

I'm fine, where's...?

DORA

Jayden...

Jayden whips his head around to find Dora laying next to him. A large glass shard sticks out from her leg.

RICH

Abby!

Abby rushes towards Dora's desk and picks up the phone.

RICH

Hey, try not to move alright?

Dora's eyes begin to flutter.

DORA

Blood.

Dora closes her eyes.

RICH

Nuh uh uh, don't you even think about

Rich grabs onto Dora's head and shakes her awake as Mitchell barges out of his office.

MITCHELL

There better be a good reason for...

Mitchell quickly spots Dora and Jayden on the floor. He rushes forward and drops to his knees, quickly taking Dora by her hand.

MITCHELL

Dora.

DORA

Relax Mitch, I'm fine.

MITCHELL

Rich? Jayden?!

Jayden turns back to the aquarium.

RICH

The first aid-kit, Ryan!

Ryan rushes to the bathroom behind Dora's desk as Abby bends down to Jayden.

ABBY

Are you alright?

Jayden grumbles, stares intently at the destroyed aquarium as Ryan re-enters with the first-aid kit and hands it to Rich.

EXT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - DAY

Two EMT's wheel Dora out of the skyscraper lobby and into an ambulance as Rich, Abby, Jayden, Jenna and Ryan watch.

RICH

Unbelievable.

Abby puts a hand on his shoulder. He brushes it off and reenters the building.

The ambulance doors close as Abby begins pacing back and forth.

JAYDEN

Abby?

ABBY

I don't get it.

Jayden steps forward.

ABBY

Who would do something like this?

Jayden turns towards the parking lot where he spots a silver Bentley parked next to his car. His eye's quickly meet Azalea's, obscured behind a pair of sunglasses.

ABBY (O.S.)

Jayden?

JAYDEN

Look, I don't know what I saw, but...

The ambulance roars to life as it turn's on it's sirens and quickly speeds away.

Abby gives Jayden a kiss on the cheek, re-enters the building as Jayden turns back to the Bentley.

It's gone.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - MITCHELL'S OFFICE - DAY

Jayden knocks at Mitchell's door before slowly pushing it open.

JAYDEN

Mitch?

Jayden enters and shuts the door behind him as he slowly walks up to Mitchell who sits at his desk, head down.

MITCHELL

Is there something I can do you for Jayden?

JAYDEN

I just wanted to make sure you were alright.

Mitchell slowly lifts his head and turns towards a photo on his desk.

MITCHELL

You know, I remember the first day she walked in.

Jayden steps behind Mitchell's desk and peers down at the photo. In the picture, A not-to-much younger Dora stands next to Mitchell in the lobby entrance with the now-broken aquarium behind them.

MITCHELL

She was 45 years old, had two kids in

college, but I figured what the hell? she'll do.

JAYDEN

Look, Mitch...

MITCHELL

Mitchell, please, if you don't mind.

JAYDEN

What happened between the two of you?

MITCHELL

Dora was my first, if not best intern I've ever had. So good that...

Mitchell picks up his plaque.

JAYDEN

You don't mean?

MITCHELL

I'd like to think it was because of our "outings".

JAYDEN

Outings?

MITCHELL

Late night showings at the Landmark, dinner under the stars at Fire & Oak, I think you can gather the rest.

Mitchell slowly turns back to the picture.

JAYDEN

So, what happened?

MITCHELL

Well, she became so cutthroat that it nearly caused this entire company to collapse.

JAYDEN

And you still kept her around? After all that?

MITCHELL

She needed the money to help pay for her son's cancer treatments. What else was I supposed to do?

Mitchell lowers his head.

Jayden exits.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CORPORATE OFFICES - DAY

Jayden fumbles the with the talisman in his hands as a spider slowly crawls across the surface of his desk.

Jayden smashes his fist down hard on it. Jenna and Ryan peer out of their cubicles, headsets on.

Jayden waves to them as Ryan and Jenna look to each other and lean back in.

Jayden stands up and slides over to Cheyenne's desk.

JAYDEN

Hey. You got a minute?

Cheyenne takes off her headphones.

CHEYENNE

Jayden, right?

Jayden looks at Cheyenne's screen.

JAYDEN

Nice vectors.

CHEYENNE

It's just a preliminary draft I've been working on to promote Inca Kola's latest product line.

JAYDEN

That weird yellow drink that's all the rage in Peru?

CHEYENNE

One of our many "clients".

Jayden looks up at her flag before handing her the talisman.

JAYDEN

I saw that symbol on your flag so...

Cheyenne takes it and stares down at it intently.

CHEYENNE

Where did you get this?

JAYDEN

From some woman who likes trench-coats. Why?

Cheyenne's eyes move to the Kanji written on it.

CHEYENNE

It's a talisman.

JAYDEN

Dora mentioned that. What does it...?

CHEYENNE

It's a ribbon, thought to have magical powers.

JAYDEN

Well, does it?

Cheyenne stands up and looks across the office. She quickly sits back down and leans forward.

CHEYENNE

Do you know her?

JAYDEN

Ms. Azalea Drummond?

CHEYENNE

Yes, than?

JAYDEN

I met her during my interview, why?

CHEYENNE

Did you say anything to her? Maybe look at her the wrong way?

Jayden fidgets, sweats.

JAYDEN

Pfft, no.

Cheyenne raises her brow as Jayden grumblse.

JAYDEN

So, I find her a little bit attractive, alright?

CHEYENNE

Well, you must have done something to

piss her off.

Cheyenne pulls out a green gemstone and shows it to Jayden.

JAYDEN

An emerald?

CHEYENNE

Malachite, protects people from toxic energies.

Cheyenne tosses the stone to Jayden who quickly catches it.

JAYDEN

And you have this, because?

CHEYENNE

I've dealt with my own fair share of curses.

JAYDEN

Hold on, curses?

Cheyenne's eyes shift towards the talisman, her f

JAYDEN

Wait, are you trying to tell me that, Azalea, is somehow...

CHEYENNE

Like me? God no.

JAYDEN

Explain.

CHEYENNE

Us Wiccans try our best to live in harmony with nature, celebrating the four elements, Air, Earth, Water, Fire.

JAYDEN

And her?

Cheyenne parts back her hair and shows her neck to Jayden. An old scar sits on it.

CHEYENNE

Those bastards will do anything to get what they want.

JAYDEN

Witches?

CHEYENNE

I used to be part of a coven.

JAYDEN

And?

CHEYENNE

I refused to go through one of their blood rituals.

JAYDEN

Involving?

CHEYENNE

Do you own any pets?

Jayden grumbles, lifts the talisman up to his face.

JAYDEN

Maybe she's just trying to be friendly?

BANG.

Cheyenne jumps out of her chair as she and Jayden look to their right.

BARBARA (40s), another employee, frantically snatches pieces of paper out of the air as the copy machine spits them out like a fan.

CHEYENNE

Clearly she has a motive.

JAYDEN

Why go after the office than? What would that solve?

CHEYENNE

How desperate where you to get this job?

JAYDEN

Desperate?

CHEYENNE

Well?

JAYDEN

It saved me from getting evicted.

Cheyenne grabs a matchbook off her desk and hands it to Jayden.

CHEYENNE

You'll need to burn it.

Jayden takes the matchbook.

JAYDEN

Anywhere?

CHEYENNE

Preferably in a contained area.

Cheyenne's phone rings. She answers.

CHEYENNE

(into the phone)

Graphic Design, Cheyenne Hines speaking.

Jayden walks back over and sits back down at his cubicle as Cheyenne lowers the phone.

CHEYENNE

I do know this though.

Jayden flips around.

CHEYENNE

The longer you carry that thing around with you, the more you put yourself and the ones you care about at risk.

JAYDEN

At risk of what?

Cheyenne narrow's her eyes towards the dead spider on Jayden's desk. She picks back up the phone and resumes talking as Jayden clenches his fist around the talisman.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Jayden and Leah sit down on the sofa, eating, watching the TV.

LEAH

Is she going to be alright?

LEAH

Dora.

JAYDEN

I don't know, the glass cut her pretty deep.

Leah takes a bite of her chicken as Jayden reaches into his pocket and hands her a Star Trek themed card.

JAYDEN

What do you think?

LEAH

I didn't know you were a fan?

JAYDEN

It's for Dora, genius.

LEAH

Well, I'm definitely feeling up for an episode right now.

Leah reaches for the remote and quickly changes the channel to an episode of Star Trek.

JAYDEN

You remember that weird woman I told you about? Ms...

LEAH

Azalea Drummond?

JAYDEN

You remember?

LEAH

With a name like that?

JAYDEN

Well, she stopped by the office before everything went down and...

Jayden sets down his fork and pulls out the talisman. Leah jumps back.

JAYDEN

You look surprised.

LEAH

Where did you get that?

JAYDEN

Take a guess.

Leah jumps up and moves towards the window.

JAYDEN

Leah?

Leah peels back the curtains and peeks out the blinds.

LEAH

Does she drive a silver car?

Jayden stands next to her.

JAYDEN

Yeah, a Bentley by the looks of it.

LEAH

Shit.

JAYDEN

What?

LEAH

She was parked outside at the curb, yesterday.

JAYDEN

What?

Jayden throws back the curtains and peers out the blinds.

LEAH

I'm sorry. I should have told you sooner.

Jayden throws the curtains shut and locks the window.

JAYDEN

I knew it.

LEAH

Jayden?

JAYDEN

You feel like spending the night?

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Leah reads a book on witchcraft as Jayden stares down at the

talisman in his hands in his bed.

JAYDEN

Well, anything?

LEAH

I think I found it.

Leah quickly hands Jayden the book.

JAYDEN

The Invasive Curse?

Leah points to the curse.

JAYDEN

Curses the bearer by disrupting their work and home environment.

LEAH

Keep going.

JAYDEN

Until he or she is silenced.

Jayden closes the book and tosses it onto the bed in front of him.

JAYDEN

I don't get it.

LEAH

Neither do I.

JAYDEN

Could she be homeless, maybe?

LEAH

Not unless she stole that car.

JAYDEN

Another possibility.

Jayden picks the talisman back up and stares at it.

JAYDEN

Maybe it's the way I look.

LEAH

How old did you say she was, 40?

JAYDEN

Mid-50s give or take.

Jayden tosses the talisman aside.

JAYDEN

Well, I'm all out of ideas, so...

LEAH

What do you think we should do with it?

Jayden takes out the matchbook from his pocket.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jayden tosses the talisman inside his fireplace and lights a match.

LEAH

Well?

Jayden tosses the match inside. He and Leah watch as the flames dance around the talisman. It doesn't burn.

JAYDEN

Shit, really?

LEAH

That's not possible.

Jayden tosses the matchbook aside and stomps away.

THUD.

Leah grabs a fire poker and reaches inside for the talisman.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - JAYDEN'S CUBICLE - DAY

Jayden sits at his cubicle staring down at the pictureperfect talisman as Rich walks up to him with a stack of papers.

RICH

Hey, you busy?

Jayden swivels around.

RICH

Patricia from web development needs these documents filed.

Jayden snatches the papers and slams them down the desk.

RICH

Alright than.

Rich jogs away as Jayden begins shifting through the papers.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - HALLWAY - DAY

Ryan and Jenna stand near the conference room door, as Abby walks by.

ABBY

Seriously guys?

Jenna and Ryan walk away. Abby slowly places her ear against the conference room door where she hears Mitchell and ad executive, HIROSHI NAKAMURA (40s) talk.

Abby turns to leave only to suddenly catch a whiff of smoke.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - JAYDEN'S CUBICLE - DAY

Jayden places the files into a folder a she suddenly catches catches a whiff of the smoke. He turns to the conference room and stands up.

JAYDEN

Abby?

BANG

Jayden rushes over as Abby throws open the door.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Jayden and Abby enter and look towards the table. On it, smoke and flames pour out of a projector.

MITCHELL

Mr. Nakamura?

HIROSHI

(in Japanese)

What is the meaning of this?

ABBY

Mitch!

MITCHELL

The extinguisher, Jayden!

Abby unplugs the projector as Jayden breaks open the door to the fire extinguisher and pulls it out. He aims it at the flames and fires.

Foam splatters on-top of the desk and onto the board members, Hiroshi, and his assistant, MAYURI (40s). The flames quickly die out.

Jayden drops the extinguisher as Rich rushes in.

RICH

Mitch? Are you alright?

Mitchell places his hand on Hiroshi's back.

MITCHELL

Are you hurt?

Hiroshi shoves it off as he, Mayuri, and the rest of the board members brush past Rich and storm out of the office.

Rich straightens his tie.

RICH

Excuse me.

Mitchell, hands trembling, places on onto the projector.

JAYDEN

Hey, Mitch?

MITCHELL

Why don't you run down to the local coffee shop and grab us all a couple of drinks?

Jayden exits as Mitchell breaks down into tears.

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

Jayden walks inside the and steps up to the register and the cashier, VALERIE (20s). He looks up the menu.

JAYDEN

Six black's, no extras, four with cream, and two decaf.

Valerie types into the register.

JAYDEN

And a latte.

Jayden pays and steps aside as another employee, CODY (20s) cries out

CODY

Frappuccino for Azalea?

Jayden whips his head around as Azalea, wearing a black trench-coat and high heels walks forward and grabs the coffee.

Jayden follows her over to the condiment area and watches as she grabs a packet of sugar and rips it open.

Jayden sneers.

JAYDEN

You.

AZALEA

I'm afraid we haven't met?

JAYDEN

Oh, don't play dumb.

Azalea picks up a stirring stick.

AZALEA

So, how are you liking the new job?

JAYDEN

Yeah, it's great, thanks.

Azalea takes the lid off the coffee and begins swirling the stick inside.

JAYDEN

Hey, about that thing you gave me the other day, that talisman.

AZALEA

You tried to burn it?

Jayden's jaw drops.

AZALEA

And how did that go, exactly?

JAYDEN

You've been watching me, haven't you?

And what if I said I was? Hmm?

Azalea takes a sip as she turns towards the window behind her and stares out of it.

AZALEA

I like to keep a good eye on my competition.

JAYDEN

Competition?

AZALEA

Do you know how long it takes for me to get my hair done?

JAYDEN

I'm not your stylist.

Azalea walks up to Jayden as she begins pulling out at her hair strands.

AZALEA

First, I run it under some water.

Azalea twirls around a strand of hair with her finger. And breathes onto Jayden's neck.

AZALEA

Then, I grab the conditioner.

She whispers into his ear.

AZALEA

Can't you smell it?

JAYDEN

A Thousand Wishes?

AZALEA

One for each strand.

Jayden shoves her back.

Azalea sneers as she flaps her coat and walks back up to the window.

JAYDEN

Look, what do you want from me? Money?

10 million dollars.

JAYDEN

What?

AZALEA

Atlantic City has the best beach houses. You know?

Jayden stomps forward.

JAYDEN

I've done nothing to you.

Azalea turns around and walks forward. She stops near Jayden's feet and slowly tips the cup forward.

The hot scolding coffee splatters over Jayden's shirt. He jumps back.

JAYDEN

The hell was that for?

AZALEA

You looked like you could use a good shower.

Jayden, teeth clenched, growls as Azalea slowly turns back around and stares out the window.

AZALEA

It's always so rainy here in Jersey City, you know?

JAYDEN

What's that supposed to be mean?

AZALEA

It reminds me of my husband.

Azalea takes out her necklace from behind her blouse and wraps her fist around it.

AZALEA

The day he left me to rot.

JAYDEN

What?

Azalea whips her head around.

Do you know what my previous position was?

JAYDEN

Let me guess, beauty consultant, oh wait...

AZALEA

I was the chief editor of Vogue magazine.

JAYDEN

Driving a Yugo?

AZALEA

It's was the best way to save gas in the Big Apple, back than.

Jayden grumbles, sighs.

JAYDEN

What was it really?

AZALEA

Lexus SC. Green.

Azalea steps up to Jayden and begins playing with his suit jacket.

AZALEA

With the most amazing leather seats.

Jayden grabs her hand.

JAYDEN

Quit babbling already, would you?

AZALEA

I once had a relationship with one of the world's most powerful men.

JAYDEN

Your husband?

AZALEA

He was the Reverend of a small town.

Azalea tosses his arm aside.

I'm sure you've heard of it.

JAYDEN

Is it somewhere in Connecticut?

AZALEA

Close, one state over.

Azalea's hands tremble as she stares down at her coffee.

AZALEA (CONT'D)

He promised me power, a way to rule over the masses. His "Associate", if you could call it that.

JAYDEN

So, what happened?

Azalea scowls, raises her voice.

AZALEA

What do you think happened?

She turns back to the window as she grips her necklace.

AZALEA

People like me didn't have a place in society back than, even he knew that.

Azalea stares down at it.

AZALEA

So, basically he did what every other person would have done.

JAYDEN

Which was?

AZALEA

Do you know what it feels like, sitting in an cold empty cell, watching the man who claimed to love you, sleep with almost every other whore in town?

JAYDEN

Heh, I guess you weren't as special to him as you thought.

It's taken me almost 100 years to finally believe that.

JAYDEN

Why me?

Azalea sneers.

JAYDEN

What did I do to you?

AZALEA

Besides squander my opportunity to get to know Mr. Graystorm a little better?

(pause)

Nothing.

Jayden's jaw drops.

JAYDEN

What?

AZALEA

You're all just pawns on my little chess board.

Jayden rushes forward and pins Azalea against the glass.

JAYDEN

This some kind of game to you?

AZALEA

Not a game, my Intrepid young, Captain.

Azalea straightens Jayden's collar.

AZALEA

Life.

Jayden smacks the coffee out of Azalea's hands. It splatters all over coat.

AZALEA

My, my, Tsk-Tsk.

JAYDEN

What now? Angry?

I spent over a thousand dollars on this coat.

JAYDEN

I'm sure you have plenty more.

Azalea breaks out into hysterics.

JAYDEN

What's so goddam funny now?

AZALEA

You are so naive.

JAYDEN

Naive?

CLICK.

Jayden whips his head left towards a BARISTA (20s) pouring a cup of coffee.

AZALEA

Tick.

CLICK.

Jayden turns to a WOMAN (20s) snapping a picture of herself and her FRIEND (20s) with a smartphone in a table to his right.

AZALEA

Tick.

CLICK.

Jayden whips his head towards the cash register which near the counter.

AZALEA

Tick.

Jayden staggers backwards.

JAYDEN

What did you do to me?

Azalea cackles as Jayden shuts his eyes and screams.

Tock.

VALERIE

Order for Jayden!

Jayden opens his eyes and whips his head around.

Nothing, no Azalea, nothing.

Jayden rushes towards the counter.

INT. JAYDEN'S CAR - DAY

Jayden tosses the coffees into the seat next to him, and shuts the door. His phone rings. He takes it out and stares at the text.

ABBY (TEXT)

Dora's getting discharged.

Jayden looks up and spots the sign for the JERSEY CITY MEDICAL CENTER in the distance. He starts the car.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - DAY

Jayden, carrying a coffee, stops in the front of the main desk with his backpack.

JAYDEN

Dora Tillman?

The RECEPTIONIST (20s) points towards a room down a hallway.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

Jayden approaches Dora's room and walks inside.

INT. HOSPITAL - DORA'S ROOM - DAY

Jayden steps up to Dora, in bed, staring at the television on the wall.

JAYDEN

Hey.

Jayden sets his backpack down on the floor next to him.

JAYDEN

How are you holding up?

DORA

Pretty well, although you should really see how it looks now.

Dora lifts her up blanket, showing Jayden her stitched up leg.

DORA

My workers comp ought to cover most of the damages so...

Jayden takes the Star Trek card out of his backpack and hands it to her.

JAYDEN

I brought you this.

Dora takes it and opens it.

JAYDEN

Listen, Dora..

DORA

Hey, don't worry about me alright?

Dora sets the card down as Jayden shifts toe-to-toe.

JAYDEN

So, about you and Mitch.

DORA

He's told you than.

JAYDEN

Did you really do all that stuff, just to throw him out?

DORA

I was ambitious back in those days, power-hungry. Much like that, "woman".

JAYDEN

She's no friend of mine either.

A small black spider slowly crawls into Jayden's backpack.

JAYDEN

How did you know about the talisman?

DORA

Cheyenne showed me a few tricks.

JAYDEN

Anything useful?

Dora lifts her bandaged hand and shows it to Jayden. He hands Dora the coffee.

JAYDEN

I hope you don't mind an Espresso.

DORA

Just what the doctor ordered.

Jayden picks up his backpack and slings it over his shoulder.

JAYDEN

I'll let everyone at the office know.

Jayden exits the room as Dora takes a sip of the coffee.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - DAY

Jayden enters the lobby carrying the trays of coffee and walks towards the elevators. As he presses the UP button, he hears a commotion from behind him. At the desk, the new receptionist CLAUDE (late 20s) yells at a customer.

CLAUDE

(in French)

Why do you not understand? It is on the top floor!

Jayden steps inside the elevator.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - LOBBY - DAY

Jayden walks in with the coffees as two CLEANERS (40s) work on scrubbing the carpet near the chairs.

Jayden steps up to Dora's desk to find, Cassandra sitting there, on the computer.

JAYDEN

Covering for Dora?

CASSANDRA

Just until she gets back.

JAYDEN

And, that weird French guy downstairs?

Cassandra shrugs her shoulders as Jayden turns around only to

collide with Rich.

RICH

You're back.

JAYDEN

Where's Cheyenne?

RICH

At her cubicle, why?

Jayden throws the coffee's in Rich's hands and stomps away as Rich picks up a coffee.

RICH

Ristretto?

Rich shows it to Cassandra who can't help but snicker.

RICH

Bloody Americans.

Rich stomps towards the offices.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CORPORATE OFFICES - DAY

Jayden passes by the MAINTENANCE MAN (40s) who looks down at an outlet, next to a plugged in vacuum before tossing his backpack into his cubicle.

SQUISH

Jayden steps up to Cheyenne's cubicle and rips off her headphones.

CHEYENNE

Jayden?

JAYDEN

I think you owe me an explanation.

Jayden throws the talisman down on her desk.

CHEYENNE

I don't...

JAYDEN

I tried burning it in my fireplace last night.

Barbara and another employee, GINA (30s) suddenly laugh from

across the room. Cheyenne rolls her eyes and grumbles.

CHEYENNE

Look, let's get one thing straight here, alright?

Jayden leans forward.

CHEYENNE

Talisman's cursed like these cannot be destroyed through conventional means.

JAYDEN

And by conventional, you mean?

Cheyenne reaches up and pulls out a dusty old book. She plops it down on the desk, scattering dust everywhere.

CHEYENNE

You need a certain spell.

JAYDEN

Which is?

Cheyenne opens up the book and begins flipping through the pages. She stops at one and slides the book towards Jayden.

JAYDEN

Igne Cremari Mecum?

CHEYENNE

You'll need to brush up on your Latin.

Cheyenne hands the book to Jayden. He takes it as Rich steps up to the air with an Affogato.

RICH

Omnicon's on the line. They want an update on the new Lodracil promotion.

CHEYENNE

Impeccable timing Rich.

RICH

Sorry love.

Rich rushes away.

JAYDEN

I ran into her at the coffee shop.

CHEYENNE

And?

JAYDEN

Safe to say she's a little...

Jayden makes a "cuckoo" gesture.

CHEYENNE

It makes sense, considering how old she must be.

Jayden walks back over to his cubicle and sits down.

CHEYENNE

Hey, you're not doing anything this evening are you?

JAYDEN

I have a date with Drew Carey, why?

Cheyenne scribbles down an address on a piece of paper and hands it to Jayden.

CHEYENNE

The WORD, 6 o'clock.

Jayden stuffs the note in his pocket as Cheyenne picks up the phone.

CHEYENNE

(into the phone)

Hi, Jason? Yes, it's Cheyenne.

Cheyenne begins discussing the Lodracil promotion with Jason as Jayden opens the book. As he reads, a small spider crawls onto the page.

Jayden swats it away and continues reading. Not a second, later, another spider crawls onto the sheet. Jayden smashes his fist down on top of it.

His backpack shakes.

Jayden grabs the zipper and pulls it back. A swarm of black spiders spill out. He jumps back.

JAYDEN

Fuck!

Cheyenne drops the phone and stands up as the carpet of black

spiders begin scattering in all directions.

CHEYENNE

Jayden!

Abby and Rich rush forward.

ABBY

Guys?

Abby and Rich stare down at the spiders as Jenna, Ryan, Barbara step forward.

RICH

Don't panic.

The co-workers, minus Abby flee.

RICH

I said don't panic.

JAYDEN

I don't understand.

ABBY

Where are they all coming from?

Jayden looks to his backpack as Mitchell rushes forward.

MITCHELL

What the hell is going on here?

Rich points to the spiders. Mitchell gags and flees.

RICH

Dammit Mitch.

Abby swats off the spiders on her legs as Jayden crushes more underneath his feet.

CHEYENNE

Rich!

Rich turns to Cheyenne to find her surrounded by the spiders. He steps forward only to be bitten by one of them. He jumps back and grabs his leg.

RICH

Argh! Nasty little fuckers.

Abby points to Cheyenne's flag.

ABBY

Jayden!

Jayden jumps forward and pulls Cheyenne's flag off the ground and onto the floor. He throws his hand out.

JAYDEN

Come on!

Cheyenne grabs onto Jayden as he pulls her forward. She falls into Rich and Abby's arm who quickly pull her into a hug.

RICH

It's alright, we're safe now.

Jayden looks down and watches as a lone spider scurries towards him. He crushes it with his foot, with a sickening splat.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Leah stops near an aisle containing white rice and reaches up for it.

AZALEA (O.S.)

Need a hand?

Leah turns around where she finds Azalea, wearing a white trench-coat and black sunglasses.

LEAH

Yeah, the white.

Azalea reaches up and hands Leah the crumbs. She tosses them in the cart next to a packet of pork and pushes her cart away.

Azalea follows.

AZALEA

Preparing something special?

LEAH

It's just something for my boyfriend.

AZALEA

Oh?

LEAH

He's just been really stressed out about his new job lately, so I thought

that...

Azalea pulls out a small brown bag from her purse and hands it to Leah.

AZALEA

Well, I believe this ought to do the trick.

Leah takes the bag.

LEAH

What is it?

AZALEA

A special herb, imported straight from the UK; known to cure even the darkest of moods.

LEAH

It's not like illegal or anything to use, right?

AZALEA

No, of course not.

Leah stares at the bag intently.

LEAH

Hey...

Azalea is gone.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - EVENING

Jayden, Rich, and Abby step out of the elevator and turn to leave as Claude waves at them from behind the desk.

CLAUDE

(in French)

Have a nice night!

RICH

Wave back.

Jayden, Abby, and Rich wave back.

JAYDEN

Just who is that guy?

RICH

Claude, he only works part-time.

ABBY

He immigrated here a few years ago.

JAYDEN

For?

RICH

Nobody knows.

Jayden, Rich, and Abby exit.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - EVENING

Jayden, Rich and Abby stop outside the building as Jayden looks down at his now destroyed backpack in his hands.

ABBY

Well, I've got a long ride home so...

RICH

Would you care for a lift?

Abby looks towards Rich's BMW in the distance.

ABBY

Looks new.

RICH

Z4, rented straight from Enterprise.

Rich raises his finger.

RICH

Not...

ABBY

Ok, Ok, I get it.

RICH

Well?

ABBY

Why not?

Abby, Rich, and Jayden head to their cars.

JAYDEN

I can't believe I wasn't fired.

RICH

Nah. Knowing Mitch, he'll probably blame it on the weather.

JAYDEN

Seriously?

RICH

Yeah, you know? Stinkbugs.

Rich unlocks his car and holds the door open for Abby. She steps inside.

RICH

Hey, aren't you supposed to be meeting Cheyenne somewhere?

JAYDEN

Yeah, some new bookstore on Maplewood.

RICH

Well, while you're there, would you be as so kind as to check out the arts and crafts section for me?

JAYDEN

Arts and crafts?

RICH

I work wonders with a good needle.

JAYDEN

Night guys.

Rich closes the door and enters his car as Jayden takes out his keys.

Rich drives away as Jayden steps inside his car.

INT. JAYDEN'S CAR - EVENING

Jayden tosses the backpack in the seat next to him and turns the key.

CLICK

JAYDEN

Come on.

Jayden twists the key again as the engine continues to rattle.

CLICK

Jayden furiously twists the key inside the lock.

JAYDEN

Come on!

CLICK

Jayden twists the key one more time.

POP

Jayden turns to the windshield as a sea of orange and red fills his vision.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - EVENING

The car explodes.

INT. JAYDEN'S CAR - EVENING

Jayden stirs on the ground, his face covered in blood.

LEAH (O.S.)

Jayden? Jayden!

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - EVENING

Jayden opens his eyes as he finds Leah and Claude standing next to him.

JAYDEN

Leah?

Leah hugs Jayden tightly.

CLAUDE

Dieu merci! I thought you were a goner.

JAYDEN

Gee, thanks Claude. I think?

Jayden sits up as TWO PARAMEDICS (20s, 30s) bend down to Jayden and help him to his feet.

A police officer, RICHARDSON (40s), steps forward.

RICHARDSON

You alright Mr. Kirk?

One of the paramedics hands Jayden a towel before walking away.

JAYDEN

Yeah, what about my car?

RICHARDSON

It looks like the battery exploded.

JAYDEN

Exploded?

Jayden looks towards the car wreckage.

JAYDEN

You sure about that?

LEAH

Jayden?

Jayden's eye's quickly meet Richardson's.

JAYDEN

Did you rule out sabotage?

RICHARDSON

Sabotage?

JAYDEN

Trust me.

Richardson walks aways towards the car wreck.

LEAH

You really think it was her?

JAYDEN

Think? Oh...

Richardson steps up to his partner, STACY WEST (30s), staring down at the car.

RICHARDSON

What's your report for me Stacy?

WEST

Well, it looks pretty toast to be quite honest with you.

RICHARDSON

Was that your professional opinion

or...?

WEST

I'd say were good to mark it down for the scrapyard.

RICHARDSON

Get on it.

Richardson walks back towards his cruiser as Claude rushes towards him.

CLAUDE

(in French)

Officer! A minute.

Richardson stops.

RICHARDSON

Claude? Was it? Thanks for notifying us.

CLAUDE

No no, you do not understand!

Claude hands Richardson a small circular brown bag, almost the size of a golf ball.

RICHARDSON

Where did you get this?

Claude turns and points towards Jayden's wrecked car.

CLAUDE

I found it placed underneath the front seat, smushed tightly between the cushions.

Richardson takes the bag as Claude rushes away. Richardson lifts it up to his head and quickly spots a small black X on it. He picks up his radio.

RICHARDSON

(into the radio)

Station, I need you to file a report for me.

INT. MITCHELL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mitchell lounges on the sofa, watching the television in front of him as the doorbell rings. His wife, TANYA (40s)

calls out to him.

TANYA (O.S.)

Can you get that for me Mitch?

Mitchell stands up from the sofa and walks to the door. He pulls it open to reveal, Azalea, wearing a black raincoat and sunglasses.

MITCHELL

What are you doing here?

AZALEA

I was taking a walk, saw your house...

EXT. MITCHELL'S HOUSE - PATIO - NIGHT

Mitchell steps out onto the porch and closes the door behind him.

MITCHELL

You know very well, that I have a family.

AZALEA

Do you always wear such tight fitting clothes?

Azalea slowly puts her arms around Mitchell.

MITCHELL

What do you want?

AZALEA

I think you know.

Mitchell bites his tongue.

MITCHELL

I don't have any positions open right now, I'm afraid.

Azalea scowls.

AZALEA

I find that hard to believe.

TANYA (O.S)

Is someone there Mitch?

Mitchell shoves Azalea away.

MITCHELL

I think you should leave.

Azalea turns towards a pair of Azalea's on the porch and touches them.

AZALEA

That little intern of yours, Jayden, was it?

MITCHELL

What about him?

AZALEA

He's quite a spirited young man, so full of energy, life.

MITCHELL

Just what are you implying, Azalea? If that really is your real name?

Azalea plucks an Azalea out from the soil.

AZALEA

Well, It'd be quite a shame if something happened to him.

MITCHELL

Are you threatening me, Ms. Drummond?

AZALEA

Threatening? No.

Azalea presses herself against Mitchell as her eyes meet his.

AZALEA

Call it, an extortion.

Azalea reaches for his cheek. He grabs her arm.

MITCHELL

What have you done?

The front door opens as Tanya, carrying their infant son, NICHOLAS (1), steps out.

TANYA

Mitch?

MITCHELL

Sorry Tanya.

Mitchell shoves Azalea away.

MITCHELL

She was just leaving.

Azalea tightens her coat.

AZALEA

You have a wonderful husband.

Azalea steps off the porch and storms away as Mitchell steps back inside his house.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jayden turns on the light to the kitchen as Leah sets down a bag of food.

JAYDEN

So, what's on the menu for tonight?

Leah smirks as she takes out the box of rice from the bag.

JAYDEN

Come on.

LEAH

You need the carbs.

Jayden pulls out a bottle of soda from the fridge and heads towards the door.

LEAH

You going to take a shower?

JAYDEN

No peeking this time, alright?

Leah rolls her eyes as Jayden exits.

Leah sets down the bread crumbs on the counter as she pulls out the brown bag. She moves it around in her hands before placing it next to the pork.

INT. WORD BOOKSTORE - LOBBY - NIGHT

Cheyenne stares out the window as an employee, MEGAN (18) walks up.

MEGAN

We're just about to close so...

CHEYENNE

Can you give me another minute? I'm expecting somebody.

Megan turns towards another employee, BRYAN (17), near the register. He shakes his head.

MEGAN

Sorry.

Megan walks away.

Cheyenne pulls her out phone and begins dialing Jayden's number. Her finger stops over the call button. She grabs her purse and stands up. She exits.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jayden, wearing a white t-shirt and flannel pants, walks into the living room and stops near the sofa.

A tray containing two plates of Zosui sit on top of it with two cups of soda.

Jayden wrinkles his nose.

LEAH

Well?

JAYDEN

You've been talking to Abby haven't you?

LEAH

Who?

JAYDEN

Never mind.

Jayden sits down as Leah hands him his fork.

JAYDEN

Really?

Leah raises her brow. Jayden takes the fork and takes a bite of the pork as Leah begins cutting hers.

LEAH

So, what'd they say have to say about your car?

JAYDEN

Well based on what my insurance said, I'll probably have to get a new one.

LEAH

What are you considering?

JAYDEN

I saw this really nice Aztek advertised online for about \$800.

Leah's jaw drops.

JAYDEN

Kidding.

Leah turns to Hawkeye's cage where she finds him hunched over in a corner on the floor.

JAYDEN

So, about that report...

Leah whips her head around.

LEAH

Yeah?

JAYDEN

You think that maybe there's a record of the people that escaped?

LEAH

There might be, why?

JAYDEN

Well, considering what Azalea told me...

Jayden coughs.

LEAH

Jayden?

He coughs louder.

LEAH

Come on, that's not funny.

Jayden stands up.

LEAH

Jayden?

Jayden hits the ground.

LEAH

Jayden!?

Leah drops to the ground and crawls over as Jayden turns to his left and coughs out blood.

JAYDEN

Fuck...

LEAH

What did I do?

JAYDEN

Water...

Leah rushes to the kitchen as Jayden turns to the pork. He grabs it and knocks it the ground as Leah returns with the water.

Jayden takes it and gulps it down.

LEAH

Jayden?

Jayden lets out a sigh of relief and pulls himself into Leah's arms.

INT. JAYDEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jayden and Leah sit on the sofa while Richardson paces on the floor in front of them.

RICHARDSON

Poison?

JAYDEN

That's the only thing we could think of.

RICHARDSON

How?

LEAH

I ran into her at the grocery store the other day...

RICHARDSON

Azalea? And?

West steps forward and hands Richardson the brown bag.

RICHARDSON

Stacy?

WEST

Would you believe it?

Richardson takes the bag and looks inside.

RICHARDSON

Well, I'll be damned.

JAYDEN

Well, no need to keep it too yourselves.

RICHARDSON

Foxglove.

JAYDEN

Foxglove?

WEST

It's considered to be one of the world's most deadliest plants, when eaten of course.

Leah breaks down into tears.

JAYDEN

Leah?

LEAH

I'm sorry, I should've...

Jayden puts his arm around her and pulls her in.

RICHARDSON

Where else have you seen her?

JAYDEN

At work, outside my house, the coffee shop downtown, and...

RICHARDSON

And has she come into contact with you in any way that might be deemed to be

hostile?

JAYDEN

Hostile?

JAYDEN

I wouldn't call it that.

The front door opens.

RICHARDSON

You expecting somebody?

JAYDEN

Cheyenne, shit.

LEAH

Cheyenne?

WEST (O.S.)

Hey!

Cheyenne rushes into the room, followed by West from behind.

CHEYENNE

I figured I'd find you here.

JAYDEN

How'd you find out where I live?

CHEYENNE

I looked it up on Mitch's computer.

LEAH

Isn't that illegal?

Cheyenne slowly turns to Richardson and West who quickly look away.

JAYDEN

So, anyway, Leah, this is...

Cheyenne steps forward and extends her hand.

CHEYENNE

Cheyenne.

Leah sakes it and stares at Cheyenne's unusual clothing. It includes a woven striped skirt adorned with black leggings topped with a white short-sleeve resting above her chest, hidden by Cheyenne's long tangled hair.

LEAH

Nice skirt?

CHEYENNE

I sewed it myself.

JAYDEN

With Rich's kit?

CHEYENNE

Give him the right figure and he'll let you borrow anything.

Richardson stares intently at Cheyenne's legs. She slowly turns around and quickly spots the pork Tonkatsu on the floor.

CHEYENNE

Poison? Huh?

Richardson shows Cheyenne the herb.

RICHARDSON

Do you know what this is?

CHEYENNE

Foxglove, raw.

Her eyes go wide.

CHEYENNE

Where did you get this?

Richardson cocks his head towards Leah.

CHEYENNE

I didn't think she would stoop this low.

JAYDEN

Clearly we all underestimated her.

CHEYENNE

Did you try the spell?

JAYDEN

Well...

West's radio vibrates.

WEST

(into the radio)

Yes? Report?

The four watch as West lowers the radio.

WEST

(to Richardson)

They've got her.

JAYDEN

Finally.

RICHARDSON

You three plan on joining us?

Jayden, Cheyenne and Leah quickly nod their heads.

RICHARDSON

(to West)

Inform headquarters.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah, and Cheyenne stare inside the interrogation room.

Inside, Azalea sits on a chair wearing a dark purple nightgown. Her hair hangs loosely at her sides as she glares at West.

LEAH

Hey, you sure you want to go through with this?

Jayden lifts up the talisman.

JAYDEN

We don't got any other choice at this point.

West walks up to the three.

JAYDEN

Well?

WEST

Well she's refusing to cooperate.

JAYDEN

And your surprised by that?

West rolls her eyes.

LEAH

What does she want?

WEST

She's demanding a lawyer, which we will have to provide her one of course. Unless...

CHEYENNE

Unless?

WEST

Unless, she speaks with you.

Jayden turns and looks back inside the room as his eyes meet Azalea's.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Jayden enters as West shuts the door behind him. Jayden takes a seat across from Azalea as West places her hand on her pistol.

WEST

Don't try anything stupid.

West exits.

AZALEA

I take it you enjoyed the soup?

JAYDEN

What's your motive?

AZALEA

Oh, hang on, let me answer that for you.

Azalea turns away. She sniffles before slowly turning back, revealing her bloodshot eyes.

AZALEA

Oh, Jayden, I'm sorry, I didn't mean too!...

She looks towards the table, muttering under her breath.

AZALEA

It just an accident, mind you...

Azalea clears her throat and lifts her head back up.

AZALEA

I'm quite a good actress, wouldn't you say?

JAYDEN

Hmph.

AZALEA

Oh, was that not dramatic enough for you? Let me try again.

Azalea lowers her head.

AZALEA

You have my humblest apologies.

Jayden clenches his fists and stands up as West bursts through the doors. He sits back down. West exits.

JAYDEN

What will it take for you to leave me alone?

AZALEA

Well, if you can convince Mr. Graystorm to put out another opening...

JAYDEN

That's it?

AZALEA

The rest of you will fall, just like dominoes.

JAYDEN

And what if you get hired? What after that?

AZALEA

I'll simply do what I do with every job.

Azalea grabs a cup of water, gulps it, sneers, crushes the cup and tosses it aside.

JAYDEN

What makes you think he even wants you?

AZALEA

I've seen the way he looks at me.

Azalea moves her hands through her hair.

AZALEA

He can see past this...

Jayden watches as Azalea rips out a chunk of hair with her bare hands and throws it down on the table in front of her.

AZALEA

All of this.

JAYDEN

You're sick.

Azalea jumps up.

AZALEA

I was abandoned! Left to hang at the gallows!

Cheyenne and Leah's eye's go wide from outside the window.

Azalea sits back down.

AZALEA

Betrayed, by the only man I ever loved!

JAYDEN

Your dear Reverend.

AZALEA

Parrish, if you haven't already guessed.

Azalea plays with her nails.

AZALEA

I've lived in loneliness for years, until one day.

JAYDEN

OK?

AZALEA

After the Great Depression ended, I came across a want ad in the paper for a secretary's position.

JAYDEN

OK?

AZALEA

I never felt so happy in my life. Fulfilled.

JAYDEN

And?

AZALEA

I was eventually promoted, to chairman, vice president, CEO...

Azalea slowly leans forward.

AZALEA

Prime Minister.

JAYDEN

No way.

AZALEA

Did you really think I would use the same name for almost 400 years?

JAYDEN

So, what is it than?

AZALEA

I once loved a man named John Proctor, you've heard of him?

JAYDEN

No way.

AZALEA

That old witch from Barbados really was an expert.

JAYDEN

So, your Abigail?

AZALEA

In the flesh.

JAYDEN

But, weren't you the one who...

AZALEA

What else was I supposed to do to save

my friends? Myself?

JAYDEN

So, let me get this straight. You go from country to country, bleeding companies and their leaders dry, for what? It's clearly not the money.

AZALEA

It's like a rush, working. Kind of like how an alcoholic feels after taking a drink.

Azalea's hands tremble as she slowly lifts them to her face.

AZALEA

To feel, wanted...

AZALEA

Loved.

JAYDEN

And your "husband"?

AZALEA

It was a hidden affair, sacrilegious even.

Azalea takes out the necklace from underneath her nightgown.

AZALEA

For a man his age to love someone as young as me.

JAYDEN

Get over it.

AZALEA

Sometimes, I wonder if I'll ever feel that way again.

JAYDEN

Certainly not through Mitch's pants.

AZALEA

I wouldn't know, haven't gotten that far yet.

JAYDEN

You still think you've won?

Azalea sneers.

AZALEA

Once I take down that glass tower of yours.

Jayden turns red, slams his fists against the table.

JAYDEN

What the hell do you want from me?

Azalea begins nodding her head.

AZALEA

Resign.

JAYDEN

Resign?

AZALEA

And maybe I'll consider sparing you, and your friends.

JAYDEN

At the expense of Mitch's life?

Jayden grumbles, shakes his head, stands up.

JAYDEN

We're done here.

Jayden exits.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Jayden stands next to Leah and Cheyenne as they stand outside the interrogation room.

LEAH

Well?

Jayden shakes his head as Leah quickly throws herself into his arms.

Richardson steps forward.

JAYDEN

You plan on keeping her locked up?

Richardson nods.

RICHARDSON

I'll keep you three updated.

Richardson walks away.

LEAH

Now what?

JAYDEN

Well, she's not going to stop so...

Jayden reaches into his pocket and takes out the Cheyenne's book.

JAYDEN

We'll need a fire.

Cheyenne whips out her car keys.

JAYDEN

Cheyenne?

CHEYENNE

Follow me.

Jayden and Leah follow Cheyenne out of the police station.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - NIGHT

The lobby doors slam shut as Cheyenne, Leah and Jayden approach the elevators.

Claude suddenly jumps in front of them.

CLAUDE

Friends, it is closing time, no?

CHEYENNE

Step aside Claude.

Claude hastily stomps away as he mutters under his breath.

LEAH

Well, that was rude.

CHEYENNE

He'll get over it.

The elevator doors open as Leah, Cheyenne, and Jayden rush inside.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - LOBBY - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah and Cheyenne step into the lobby as Jayden spots a familiar brown bag with a black X, hiding underneath one of the chairs. He walks forward.

LEAH

Jayden?

Jayden bends down and picks up the bag.

LEAH

God, is that...?

CHEYENNE

Where did you find that?

Jayden hands Cheyenne the bag.

JAYDEN

So, that thing, it...

CHEYENNE

It's a hex bag, as the symbol implies.

LEAH

And?

CHEYENNE

It causes destruction anywhere it's placed, for one purpose.

Cheyenne slowly turns to Dora's desk.

BANG.

The three rush into the offices.

INT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - CORPORATE OFFICES - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah, and Cheyenne run quickly past the cubicles and turn into one, to find Rich sewing a blanket. A sewing basket sits next to him on the desk.

RICH

Geez. You all trying to test me or something?

CHEYENNE

What are you doing here Rich?

RICH

My girlfriend and I had a bit of an argument over dinner so...

Rich sets the needle down.

RICH

Anyway, so what brings you three cadets here? Not just to see me I hope?

CHEYENNE

You still have that match set I gave you? I ran out.

Rich pulls out a matchbox containing a logo of the Enterprise from his shelve and hands it to her.

RICH

You plan on starting a bonfire, or...?

Cheyenne snatches the matchbook out of Rich's hands and walks away. Jayden points to Rich's needle.

JAYDEN

Mind if I borrow that?

Rich hands it to Jayden. He stuffs it in his pocket and rushes away as Rich pulls out another from his basket.

Jayden and Leah step up to Cheyenne as she tosses her flag aside and begins rummaging through her shelves in her cubicle.

JAYDEN

So, why are we here again?

CHEYENNE

You said we needed a fire.

Cheyenne takes out various pieces of office equipment from the shelf and places them near the computer.

JAYDEN

You can't be serious.

EXT. SUNVIEW MARKETING - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah, Rich, and Cheyenne stand around a makeshift fire.

LEAH

You sure were not violating some kind of fire code?

Leah shivers in her coat as Jayden opens the book and takes out the talisman.

CHEYENNE

Well?

JAYDEN

You know, for all the crap I've been through, we've been through.

JAYDEN

That we've been through...

Jayden tightens his grip around the talisman.

JAYDEN

This better work.

Jayden recites the spell.

JAYDEN

Igne Cremari Mecum.

Jayden tosses the talisman inside the fire.

LEAH

Well?

JAYDEN

Cheyenne?

Cheyenne looks deep within the fire.

RICH

(in Klingon)

Gav'ot toH'va...

Leah rolls his eyes.

Rich shuts up as Jayden bends down and peers into the fire. A cold wind brushes by. Jayden whips his head towards the sky.

LEAH

Jayden?

CHEYENNE

What is it?

The sound of ravens begin filling the air.

Jayden pulls Leah close as a circle of ravens begin circling the air above them.

RICH

Maybe we ought to head back inside, eh?

Jayden shifts towards the exit.

The birds descend.

LEAH

Jayden!

CHEYENNE (O.S.)

Look out!

Jayden and co. rush towards the exit as the ravens peck at their heads. The four swat them away as Jayden pulls the door open and pushes them all inside.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah, Rich and Cheyenne rush down the stairwell and quickly exit into the hallway.

RICH

Damn. They nearly had us!

JAYDEN

Leah?

LEAH

I'm fine.

CHEYENNE

Where the hell did they all come from?

Rich slowly turns to the window across the hall. His eyes go wide.

RICH

It's the end of the world.

Jayden, Leah, and Cheyenne slowly turn around. The ravens burst through the window.

The four flee down the hallway and into another stairwell.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - NIGHT

The swarm of black ravens circle around and inside the building as the skyscraper begins to sway. It slowly teeters to the right.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - NIGHT

Jayden, Leah, Rich, and Cheyenne enter the lobby as Azalea steps forward.

Jayden, fists clenched, slowly steps forward.

JAYDEN

You...

AZALEA

Oh, don't look so surprised.

LEAH

How did you get out?

AZALEA

Walls are built so paper thin now of days, honestly.

CHEYENNE

Teleportation.

AZALEA

What else?

Azalea begins pacing back and forth.

AZALEA

I'm sure they're are all scrambling like flies right about now.

Azalea strokes the surface of a large pot as Rich charges forward.

JAYDEN

Don't!

Azalea grabs Rich by the throat and throws him aside.

AZALEA

Men like you disgust me.

AZALEA

Heroes.

Jayden snarls as Rich slowly gets to his feet.

CHEYENNE

Is this really worth it to you? All for one stupid job?

AZALEA

If it means able to sit on top of the previable corporate throne once again.

Azalea jumps up and takes a seat on the reception desk.

AZALEA

Yes, testicles and all.

Jayden sneers, grabs onto Azalea and throws her to the ground.

RICH

Jayden?

JAYDEN

Go on, get out of here!

Cheyenne, Rich, and Leah make a mad dash for the door as Azalea stands up and cracks her neck.

AZALEA

I assure you, I can hold my own.

JAYDEN

Prove it.

Azalea charges forward. Jayden does the same.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - NIGHT

Leah watches Jayden as he dodges Azalea's punches.

RICH (O.S.)

Hey, shouldn't we call for help?

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - NIGHT

Jayden slams against the elevators as Azalea slowly steps up to him and wipes her mouth. She licks her lips as Jayden turns to a piece of rubble to his left.

AZALEA

Is that it?

JAYDEN

I'm just getting started.

Azalea tilts her head as Jayden grabs a piece of rubble off the floor and chucks it at her.

Azalea falls to the ground. She pushes herself up and looks towards her now torn, nightgown.

AZALEA

Oh my, what a shame.

JAYDEN

You get that thing off the Macy's clearance rack or something?

Azalea jumps up and pins Jayden against the wall.

JAYDEN

Fuck!

AZALEA

I had it specially made by Herve Leger, mind you.

Jayden thrashes about as he grabs onto Azalea's arms and whips her into the wall. He punches her in the face as the building rumbles.

Jayden and Azalea hit the ground as a piece of rubble falls from the ceiling and crashes down onto the floor below them.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - NIGHT

Cheyenne and Rich race towards the parking lot as Leah stares up at the collapsing skyscraper.

CHEYENNE

Rich!

Rich rushes forward and grabs Leah's arm.

RICH

We've got to move.

Rich pulls Leah away.

INT. SKYSCRAPER - LOBBY - NIGHT

Azalea and Jayden roll along the ground, fighting with each other as Azalea pushes Jayden into the desk.

Jayden coughs out blood as Azalea stands up.

AZALEA

I've been to Los Angeles, Paris, Milan...

Azalea presses her foot down onto Jayden's head.

AZALEA

Johannesburg, London, Chelyabinsk...

JAYDEN

Chely, what-a...?

Azalea kicks Jayden in the face, breaking his teeth.

AZALEA

It's quite a prolific career, wouldn't you say?

JAYDEN

Fuck you!

Azalea flips Jayden around and bends down. She places her hands over his head and begins squeezing them.

JAYDEN

Ah!

Jayden whips out Rich's sewing needle and jabs it into her hand.

Azalea jumps back.

AZALEA

What is...?

JAYDEN

A gift, from a good friend of mine.

Azalea rips the needle out of hand and tosses it to the ground.

JAYDEN

I'm sorry, did that hurt?

AZALEA

You will bow down, TOO ME!

Azalea rushes forward.

Jayden closes his eyes.

SMASH.

Jayden opens them.

Azalea looks down at a the remains of a large white ceramic vase as she turns to her right. Claude stares back at her.

CLAUDE

I'm afraid it's about time for you too leave, mademoiselle.

AZALEA

You, have no idea...

Azalea steps forward and to the ground. She passes out.

JAYDEN

Were you hiding back there his whole time?

Claude nods his head and lifts Jayden off the ground.

JAYDEN

Uhm, we better...

Claude grabs Jayden's hand and pulls him towards the exit.

CLAUDE

(in French)

Let's be off!

Claude leads Jayden out of the lobby.

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - NIGHT

Jayden and Claude run towards the parking lot as Leah, Rich and Cheyenne rush up.

LEAH (O.S.)

Jayden!

Jayden rushes into Leah's hands.

ROAR

They, along with Rich, Cheyenne and Claude watch as the skyscraper tumbles to the ground.

Among the cloud of dust, the four watch as a piece of rubble

and smashes into Rich's BMW.

RICH

Ah, Christ...

Claude puts a hand on Rich's shoulder as the ravens caw in the sky. The four turn and look up as they congeal into a giant ball and fly away.

CHEYENNE

Well, looks like we'll be closed for a while.

A familiar looking piece of paper falls in front of Leah and Jayden.

LEAH

Is that what I think it is?

Jayden picks a piece and stares at the Kanji written on it. He can't help but laugh as he hugs Leah and lifts her high in the air.

The couple kiss as Rich, Cheyenne and Claude stare at Rich's car.

CHEYENNE

I'm sorry.

RICH

So, you both up for a drink or?

CLAUDE

Domaine Leroy Misugny Grand Cru on ice, my estate.

RICH

Estate?

Claude rushes towards his car.

RICH

I'm guessing he's more loaded than he looks.

CHEYENNE

Hey, isn't that supposed to be one of the world's most expensive wines?

RICH

Engage.

Rich rushes after Claude, quickly followed by Cheyenne as sirens quickly light up the night sky.

EXT. LIBERTY STATE PARK - DAY

At a large picnic table, Ryan, Jenna, Patricia, and several other employees converse with each other as Jayden hands a glass of champagne over to Leah.

LEAH

So, what'd they say about the office?

JAYDEN

They're moving us to a temporary location downtown, until they can find a permanent place.

Leah looks to Dora in her wheelchair, talking to Cassandra.

LEAH

Look's like Dora's doing well.

Jayden waves to Dora. She waves back.

JAYDEN

Yeah, she should be back sometime next week.

Jayden leads Leah over to a bench. They sit down.

LEAH

You hear anything else about "her"?

JAYDEN

No, nothing.

LEAH

I can't believe she was really a...

JAYDEN

I know, I'm still finding it hard to believe.

Jayden turns towards the horizon as the charred ruins of the skyscraper stare back at him.

Mitchell steps forward.

MITCHELL

So, how's the wine?

JAYDEN

A little bit on the heavy side, If I can complain.

MITCHELL

You tell your friend the good news?

LEAH

Good news?

JAYDEN

How does the title brand manager sound to you?

Leah jumps into Jayden's arms.

Near the picnic table, Rich steps up to Abby and clears his throat.

ABBY

I'm so glad you guys made it out alright.

RICH

Might I have a minute?

Cheyenne walks away as Rich takes a deep breath.

ABBY

Rich?

RICH

There's been something that I've been needing to tell you.

Abby's eyes quickly meet Rich's.

ABBY

Brent Spiner, Dragon Con, 2007.

Rich lifts his head as Abby takes his hands.

ABBY

You asked me, if I wanted to play the part.

Rich, blinks not once, but twice as he begins shifting toe-to-toe.

RICH

I've put on a bit of weight,

unfortunately.

Abby gives him a kiss on the lip.

RICH

Abbs?

ABBY

I can work around that.

Abby pulls Rich away, past a picnic table, where Jayden, Leah, and Cheyenne talk.

CHEYENNE

Well, to think it was Claude who saved the day after all.

CHEYENNE

I'm going to go check out the buffet.

Cheyenne walks away.

JAYDEN

Watch out for the soup!

Leah groans.

JAYDEN

You had enough to drink?

Leah sets down her drink on the table and puts her arms around Jayden.

LEAH

I am feeling a little tipsy.

JAYDEN

I know just the place.

Leah and Jayden exit the park.

INT. DISNEY STUDIOS - LOBBY - DAY

The elevator doors open as, Azalea, wearing a striped trench-coat and black sunglasses quickly walks towards the secretary, DINA's (40s) desk, carrying a large black purse around her arm.

Azalea stops as Dina looks up.

DINA

Can I help you?

AZALEA

I have an interview with a Mr.

Bergman. 2:30?

DINA

Name?

Azalea takes off her sunglasses as she looks towards a pair of irises in a vase nearby.

AZALEA

Iris. Iris McIntyre

Dina picks up her phone.

DINA

(into the phone)

I have a Ms. McIntyre here to see you?

Dina hangs up.

DINA

He'll be right out.

Azalea walks away and sits down as co-chairman of Disney Entertainment, ALAN BERGMAN (50s) walks out with an APPLICANT (40s).

ALAN

I'll be reviewing the applications next week. You can look forward to hearing from me by than.

The applicant leaves.

ALAN

Iris?

Azalea stands up and shakes Alan's hand.

ALAN

Alan Bergman. Chairman.

AZALEA

The pleasure's all mine.

ALAN

Shall we?

Azalea walks up to Alan's office as he lets out a sigh.

AZALEA

Is there a problem?

ALAN

Oh nothing, just wondering if I found the right person yet...

Azalea places her hand on his suit.

ALAN

...with this being a top of the line position and all.

Azalea strokes the fabric as she lifts her other hand up and strokes his cheek.

ALAN

Iris?

AZALEA

Well, I'm sure I'll make this an easy decision for you.

Alan smirks and pulls Azalea inside. He closes the door. Across the office, a copy machine begins jetting out pieces of paper one by one, revealing a rather, unusual image of Azalea on top of Alan with his legs open, on his desk, back turned.

END