

"THREE"

Written by

Arnaut Catalan

FADE IN:

EXT. KING'S HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

A gorgeous summer's day. BIRDS tweet, a dog BARKS somewhere and a LAWN-MOWER is heard in the distance.

The SCHOOL BELL suddenly rings for the end of the day.

Hordes of chattering STUDENTS escape into the sunshine. JOCKS, GOTHS, CHEERLEADERS and NERDS file away in their groups and are gone.

Last, comes EVA (16, plain, long hair), she keeps her eyes to the ground as she clutches her bag to her chest and tries not to be noticed.

EXT. FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD - CONTINUOUS

EWAN (16, text book good looking) sits on a low wall and larks about with FRIENDS.

Eva stops and stares at Ewan as he talks and jokes with his cronies, her crush obvious, he doesn't notice her.

Suddenly, Ewan sees Eva. He looks right at her but almost immediately turns back to his conversation. Eva's shoulders slump and she crosses the road to avoid them.

An open top, brightly colored and beaten up 1965 VW BEETLE belches black smoke as it drives past Eva. The stereo plays "ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE" by the Beatles.

INT. MATTY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

MATTY (35, hippy) is at the wheel, she SINGS along and nods her head side to side, eyes hardly on the road. Baskets of flowers fill the back seats along with a GARDEN GNOME.

Suddenly the music DISTORTS and slows down, the tape jammed.

Matty fiddles with the old 8-Track. She pulls the cartridge out along with a foot or so of unwound tape.

MATTY

No!

As she struggles with the stereo, her attention is not on the road, the car starts to drift.

Startled by a SCREECH of tires and a HORN, she urgently puts the car straight and waves an apology to the other MOTORIST.

MATTY (CONT'D)
 (Waving)
 Sorry!

She looks into the mirror at the gnome on the back seat.

MATTY (CONT'D)
 Don't you dare say a word.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - DAY

The Beetle SPLUTTERS into the driveway of a white-washed house with a picket fence around an immaculate garden.

Matty gets out, grabs an armful of flowers from the back and walks to the front door porch.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

Old mismatched furniture, probably a piece from every decade, sits against a backdrop of garish sixties wallpaper.

DAMSEL (16, tubby, homely) drinks a beer while she watches CHARLIE CHAPLIN on an old TV set straight from the fifties.

Matty enters struggling with an armful of the flowers.

MATTY
 Hey, Damsel, could you be a babe
 and help me with the flowers?

DAMSEL
 No. Chaplin. Beer. That is all.

Damsel pulls from her beer as Matty struggles through to the kitchen. Damsel rolls her eyes and shouts after her.

DAMSEL (CONT'D)
 Don't know why you're bothering
 again, Matty.

MATTY (O.S.)
 Someone might be listening, I don't
 want to let them down.

DAMSEL
 It's the same every solstice.
 Waste. Of. Time.

Damsel LAUGHS loudly at Chaplin and scratches a scalp itch. Matty comes back into the lounge.

MATTY
 You silly birdie, it's not the
 solstice for six days!
 (MORE)

MATTY (CONT'D)

It's a full moon tonight and I would just like for us to be ready this time.

DAMSEL

Whatever, you know they'll just fuck it up again, and it'll be another wasted weekend.

MATTY

Oh my days! Language, young lady!

DAMSEL

I only said "fuck".

Damsel BELCHES, reaches down the back of the sofa and recovers an old candy. She inspects it, shrugs and pops it in her mouth.

MATTY

Where's Caronia?

DAMSEL

I'm not her mother.

Matty is about to speak but is interrupted by the throb of loud HOUSE MUSIC from outside and a ROARING ENGINE.

DAMSEL (CONT'D)

There's your answer.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A SPORTS CAR is parked up, the HOUSE MUSIC blasts from its stereo and RAVER-KIDS hang out of the windows. CARONIA (70, in luminous rave-wear) stands on the driveway.

RAVER #1

Later!

RAVER #2

You rock!

Caronia waves as they SPEED away in a cloud of tire smoke.

CARONIA

See you tomorrow, guys!

Matty stands in the doorway with her hands on her hips and a disappointed expression.

MATTY

Where have you been?

CARONIA

Raving, you know I always go to Euphoria on Thursday nights.

MATTY
It's Friday. Friday *afternoon*!

CARONIA
Really? I thought it was Saturday.
I'm gettin' old.

MATTY
No, actually, it's *full-moon*
Friday!

Caronia pushes past into the house.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Caronia points at Damsel's beer.

CARONIA
Is that one of mine?

Damsel shrugs and GRUNTS.

Matty enters with another armful of flowers from the car.

MATTY
Did you hear me?

CARONIA
(To Matty)
Damsel's drinkin' my brews!

Caronia tries to snatch the beer from Damsel.

DAMSEL
Well, jees, maybe you should share
once in a while.

MATTY
Someone might need us, and I want
to be ready if they do!

CARONIA
(To Damsel)
Next time you touch my beer, I'll--

DAMSEL
You'll what?

CARONIA
Try me and find out!

Matty closes her eyes and takes a deep breath.

MATTY
Could you please chill out? This
is not good for our auras.

Caronia and Damsel glare at each other.

CARONIA
Ah, screw it, I'm going to bed.

Damsel smirks and turns back to the TV.

MATTY
But--

CARONIA
Matty, not no one has got it right since the old times and that aint' gonna' change any time soon.

MATTY
But, it's a full moon tonight.

CARONIA
And it'll be exactly the same as last time and the time before that. People don't need us anymore, not now they've got the internet and self help books and what not.

Matty looks crestfallen.

CARONIA (CONT'D)
If you want my advice, you'll retire gracefully like me and Damsel. Now, I'm going to grab some snooze as I'm goin' base-jumping tomorrow with the guys.

Matty goes to reply but is stopped by a KNOCK at the door.

DAMSEL
Somebody else get that.

Caronia smiles at Matty and leaves the room.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - PORCH - CONTINUOUS

KEVIN (36, rough but handsome) leans on the porch post.

Matty opens the door. She quickly adjusts her hair when she sees him and pulls a long piece of grass from behind her ear. She looks at it embarrassed and smiles sheepishly.

KEVIN
Hey... Matty? Right?

MATTY
Yep, all my life. How are you today, Kevin?

KEVIN

Good thanks... Hey listen, I don't mean to be a pain but, the kids in the car a moment ago, with the loud music?

MATTY

(Flustered)

Oh yeah, sorry about that, it was my... mother, she went out last night. Raving. She likes Raving.

KEVIN

Right... okay, could you ask her to tell them to keep it down next time they visit? I'm on night-shifts and trying to sleep.

MATTY

At the hardware store, right? I saw you there Monday, I bought a yard brush remember?

KEVIN

Yeah, right, if you could pass the message onto your...

MATTY

Mother.

KEVIN

Yeah, your mother, thanks.

Kevin smiles and crosses the street to his house. Matty waves as Kevin goes inside, her attraction obvious.

MATTY

Bye!

DAMSEL (O.S.)

(Mocking)

"I bought a yard brush!"

Matty turns to see Damsel, amused. Matty blushes.

DAMSEL (CONT'D)

Pathetic.

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

PAULA (35, in a suit, short hair) sits at the island of a designer kitchen on the phone, a laptop open in front of her.

PAULA

(Into phone)

(MORE)

PAULA (CONT'D)

I want the hard copy on my desk first thing in the morning or you can start clearing your desk, including all those stupid little troll dolls, is that understood?

(Beat)

Good.

She hangs up as Eva enters and walks straight through the room into the lounge. Paula doesn't look up from her laptop.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Hey, Eva honey, how was school?

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

EVA

We burnt down a shed with a pervert inside but he made this glove with knives on it and now he's going to kill all our parents!

PAULA (O.S.)

That's nice. Fix yourself something or order in, honey, I have some calls to make!

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Posters of full moons, pagan symbols and Wiccan imagery cover the walls. GLINDA, a pet RAT is in a glass tank. Eva enters and throws herself on her bed.

EVA

Ewan looked right through me again, Glinda.

Glinda sniffs the air and twitches her nose.

Eva opens her wardrobe and recovers a shoe box hidden beneath the clothes at the back. She puts the box on the bed, takes the lid off and retrieves a silver knife from inside.

EXT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eva leaves the impressive house with a back pack on her shoulders. She heads away towards some woodland, the full moon low in the sky.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

The full moon illuminates a grove walled by tall, wild ferns. The flowers bought earlier are now planted in the ground and Matty is on her knees at its centre, her eyes closed.

MATTY

We are yours this night of nights,
ye who beseech us shall have our
service, ye who cry to us shall
have our compassion, ye who tend to
us shall feel our embrace.

Damsel watches from the kitchen window.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Just as eclectic, odd and colorful as the lounge, Damsel drinks a beer as she watches Matty in the garden. She turns away and shakes her head as Caronia enters.

DAMSEL

When's she gonna' learn, Caronia?

Caronia gives Damsel an evil glare as she notices the beer. She rummages through cupboards hunting for something.

DAMSEL (CONT'D)

I mean, she's going to be out there
all night for nothing again and
we're the ones who have to put up
with her foul mood after.

CARONIA

Yeah, damn shame, have we got any
aspirin? Hangover is just kickin'
in like a bitch.

DAMSEL

She's going to totally ruin our
weekend.

CARONIA

If you take my advice, you'll just
let her have her fun. She aint'
hurtin' no one. Though this
hangover is killing me, aspirin?

DAMSEL

Top drawer.

Caronia "air pumps" as she finds the box of aspirin.

CARONIA

Wicked!

Damsel turns back to watching Matty.

EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - NIGHT

Eva kneels in the moonlight. On a small log is an unlit candle, the knife and a photo of Ewan taken from a year book.

EVA
 Goddess I beseech thee, my heart
 yearns for another.

She takes up the knife and the candle. She carves an 'E'
 into the wax before putting it back and lighting it.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

Matty opens her eyes and tilts her head as if she can hear
 something in the distance. She looks around and behind her.

MATTY
 Damsel, is that you? That's not
 funny.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Damsel and Caronia suddenly lurch as if pushed by an unseen
 force. Damsel drops her beer, it SMASHES on the floor.

EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - NIGHT

Eva takes the photo and lets the corner smoulder on the
 candle's flame.

EVA
 Maiden, I wish for a new beginning.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Damsel begins to FADE AWAY as Caronia watches with amazement.

CARONIA
 No way!

EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - NIGHT

EVA
 Mother, I request your compassion.

Eva drops the photo as it turns to ash.

EXT. MATTY'S HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

Matty looks down at her hands, the moonlight seems to get
 brighter and she also begins to fade as it engulfs her.

MATTY
 Wow!

EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - NIGHT

The moonlight seems to get brighter and more intense.

EVA
Crone, I would hear of your
infinite wisdom.

INT. MATTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

CARONIA
Shit-a-brick!

Caronia also fades, the moonlight floods into the kitchen and engulfs both Caronia and Damsel.

EVA (V.O.)
Triple Goddess come to me and heal
my heart!

There is a bright FLASH OF WHITE.

EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - NIGHT

Damsel, Matty and Caronia stand perplexed in the moonlight. Matty breaks into a huge smile and jumps with excitement.

MATTY
I told you so! I told you!

CARONIA
No one likes a gloater, Matty.

DAMSEL
Are you telling me, that after two
hundred and thirty four years some
brainiac didn't fuck it up?

Matty stops dancing as they suddenly notice Eva, a shocked expression on her face.

She feints dead away.

The three women stand over her.

CARONIA
What now?