

The Illusion

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

A small, quiet village, with a GREEN in the middle with a village PUB on one side, a small POND on the other and a FOUNTAIN in the middle. A CHURCH is situated on a hill.

A light breeze blows, a scary, creaky sound can be heard coming from the fountain.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A white washed room with a bed, a wardrobe, a cupboard with shelves.

AMANDA (16), rebellious, but honest, calm and also bold, sits on her bed. She takes her diary from the cupboard, writes.

AMANDA (V.O.)

My name is Amanda Clark. My father died two years ago and after a few weeks, my mom met another guy. They became friends, lovers. And now?

EXT. AMANDA'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

Amanda and ELLA (32) Widow, Amanda and Max's mother, mild, naive. They pack bags and boxes in the car.

ELLA

Amanda, hurry up! We don't have time all day.

AMANDA

I'm coming...

ELLA

Are there any boxes left?

AMANDA

No. What about Max?

ELLA

Gil is picking him up, They're probably home by now.

AMANDA

Right.

Amanda gets in the car.

Ella is carrying a painting of a crying boy. She gives it to Amanda.

INT. BEDROOM - MENTAL HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Amanda continues to write in her diary.

AMANDA (V.O.)

We were moving and going to live with Gil. I can't understand how my mother could forget the love of her life in the blink of an eye and fall in love with someone else so quickly. I always believed that true love happens only once and it never ends, no matter what. I probably read too many books. Now, let's get to how I ended up here in the first place.

EXT. AMANDA AND ELLA'S HOUSE - VILLAGE - DAY CONT'D

ELLA

Here, hold this please.

Amanda takes the painting and looks at it. Ella gets in the car and drives away.

INT. CAR - DAY (TRAVELLING)

AMANDA

What's with the painting? It's kind of scary...

ELLA

I saw it in a store near work. It was actually very cheap. I thought Gil would like it, since he likes art and I heard that this one is kind of famous.

AMANDA

Now that you say it, I think I've seen it somewhere before.

ELLA

You did? Then maybe you and Gil will have something to talk about. You like books, he likes to paint. They're both art!

AMANDA

Mom, just stop. I don't know that guy, so don't expect me to be friends with him.

ELLA

Okay, but you'll see, he is a good man. I'm sure you'll get to like him.

AMANDA

I don't care. I just hope he doesn't put this up anywhere.

ELLA

Oh, come on. It's a cute kid.

AMANDA

It's a scary kid.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - DAY

GIL (40) No family, mysterious, good looking, ginger hair.

Amanda and Ella arrive, they get out of the car.

Gil and Ella hug.

GIL

Let me help you with your bags.

ELLA

Wait, I have something for you.

Ella takes the painting from Amanda, gives it to Gil.

ELLA (CONT'D)

It's a present. I saw it in a store and thought you would like it.

GIL

You didn't have to do that.

ELLA

It's nothing compared to what you have done for us.

GIL

It's a good painting. Why does it look so familiar? As if I've seen it before... It's by that Italian painter if I'm not mistaken.

AMANDA

Bruno Amadio.

GIL

Bruno Amadio, right! There's a myth surrounding his paintings. Anyway, Ella, thank you babe, I love it! How are you Amanda?

AMANDA

I've been better.

Gil kisses Ella on the lips.

ELLA

I'm glad you like it.

Amanda shows disgust, she takes her bag, goes into the house.

GIL

You'll love it here. Come on, I'll show you your room.

AMANDA

I think I can find it myself.

ELLA

Amanda. Be nice.

AMANDA

Sure.

GIL

It's upstairs!

Amanda goes into the house. Gil and Ella follow.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

GIL

Should I expect some trouble?

ELLA

I'm sorry Gil, she needs some time to get used to this. She's not good with change and she always had a better connection with her dad than with me.

GIL

I understand. Don't worry. Come on, let's go upstairs, unpack your bags and find a place for this painting.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

It's Amanda's first day at her new school. She enters the class with her new TEACHER(38) Kind, in a dress, wearing red lipstick.

TEACHER

Everyone, this is Amanda. Please
make her feel welcome.

The teacher points to an empty desk, Amanda goes to it, sits down.

AMANDA (V.O.)

I was Annoyed. I never liked many
people and I had never had much
friends before. Just give me a book
and leave me alone.

LARA, a girl at the desk in front of Amanda turns around.

LARA (16) Popular, pretty.

LARA

Welcome to our creepy little
town... Amanda.

Lara turns back. Amanda gives her a puzzled look.

MARNIE (16) Curly, ginger hair, glasses, smart, kind.

MARNIE

Hey...

Amanda looks at her.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Amanda, right?

Amanda nods.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Nice to meet you Amanda. I'm
Marnie.

AMANDA

Nice to meet you.

MARNIE

Don't listen to Lara. She's...

BEAT

TEACHER

Marnie! Would you like to continue?

Marnie stays quiet. Teacher continues. Marnie and Amanda smile at each other.

MARNIE

Ups.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

A BABY, GIULIANA is asleep in a STROLLER.

Gil coos over the baby.

Amanda and MAX(10) Quiet, black curly hair. Amanda's younger brother kick a BALL to each other.

Amanda accidentally shoots the ball into the GARAGE. Max goes to retrieve it.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Max notices a flight of STAIRS that lead down, he moves closer, but can't see anything because it's dark. All around him are SPIDER WEBS and DUST.

MAX

Amanda! Amanda!

AMANDA (O.C)

What is it? Come on out already.

MAX

Come here.

Amanda enters the garage.

AMANDA

What's wrong? You all right?

Max points to the stairs.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

It's probably an old basement, Max.
Where's the ball?

MAX

It went down there! That's why I called you!

AMANDA

Oh! Okay.

Amanda takes a flashlight from a shelf, puts it under her face and turns it on, then she talks in a scary voice.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Well then, we will have to go down.

MAX

Amanda!

AMANDA

Come on Max. Don't be scared.

Max takes her hand.

The stairs leads down into darkness. There's a lot of dust and spider webs.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Looks like it's abandoned.

MAX

I'm scared.

AMANDA

Oh don't be. It's just an empty basement. See?

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - BASEMENT - DAY

Max is in front of Amanda, He touches Amanda's hand and points to a box where a doll, the size of a man, sits.

AMANDA

Max, go back upstairs. Now.

Max goes back upstairs.

Amanda moves closer to the doll, takes a better look at it. The doll has a CLOWN's face mask.

The mask is all white, dark shadows around the eyes, big red lips. Mouth is slightly open, with sharp, pointy teeth. Eyes are red.

Amanda tries to touch it, when the doll suddenly looks her in the eyes. Amanda screams and runs back up the stairs, out of the garage.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Oh, my god! What the hell was that!

GIULIANA cries. Gil touches Amanda's shoulder from behind. Amanda jumps in fright. Gil with serious face.

GIL

What are you yelling about?!
Giuliana was finally asleep and now
you woke her! What's wrong with
you?!

Gil takes Giuliana out of the stroller, tries to calm her.

Amanda tries to control her breathing, she can't speak.

AMANDA

a... ma-n and th-e m-ask...

GIL

A what? Calm down. What are you
trying to say?

AMANDA

A man! A really creepy man with a
mask is down there. And it moved!

GIL

What were you doing down there?!

AMANDA

I went in to get the ball.

GIL

It's an old basement and it's not
safe. Something can collapse
anytime, down there.

AMANDA

I know what I saw!

Gil squeezes Amanda's hand and looks her in the eyes.

GIL

Don't dare to go back down again.
Is that clear? You didn't saw
anything.

AMANDA

What the hell.

Gil puts Giuliana back in the stroller.

GIL

My poor little baby. Scaring you
like that... Amanda, take your
sister inside.

Gil waits for Amanda to go in and goes into the garage, down to the basement.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - BASEMENT - DAY

Gil look around the room, makes sure the CARPET is fixed to the floor, goes back up. The carpet is red with gold corners, circles in the middle.

GIL

Stupid.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Gil is on the sofa, reads a NEWSPAPER. Ella enters.

ELLA

Hello, love.

GIL

Welcome home honey.

Ella gives Gil a kiss on the cheek, greets Giuliana in her COT.

ELLA

Hello my baby girl! Mama missed you so much.

LATER

ELLA

Max, Amanda! Lunch!

Ella takes Giuliana from the cot, puts her in the BABY CHAIR.

ELLA (CONT'D)

Hey Giuliana, are you hungry? You are, aren't you? We're going to eat. Giuliana will eat.

Amanda and Max enter.

AMANDA

Hey, mom? Can we talk?

Max hugs Ella.

ELLA

Sure. Hello sweetie.

Amanda, Ella and Max sit at the TABLE.

ELLA (CONT'D)
Gil, come on, your lunch will get cold.

GIL
Just a second.

Gil joins the others at the table.

ELLA
What did you want to talk about?

Amanda and Gil looks at each other.

AMANDA
Um, I...

Ella feeds Giuliana. Suddenly a chair on the other side of the table moves away from the table by itself, overturns, crashes to the floor heavily.

Amanda and Ella react, Max stays seated, looks at the chair.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
What just happened?!

Giuliana cries, Ella picks her up, tries to calm her.

ELLA
Hush... hush...hush.

Gil stands up, places the chair back at the table.

GIL
That's weird. I don't know what happened. It just fell over.

AMANDA
No, I saw it.

Gil sits at the table again. Smiles.

GIL
Did you see a ghost?

AMANDA
It looked like the chair was being pulled away from the table, then thrown down.

GIL
That couldn't possibly happen.

ELLA
You must be imagining it.

AMANDA
But... Max, you saw it too didn't
you?!

ELLA
Amanda! Don't scare him! The chair
just turned over. It's nothing. It
can happen anywhere.

Amanda sits back down, continues eating while constantly
watching the chair. Everybody continues eating their lunch.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda wakes up, Everything is quiet, dark. She turns on a
LAMP on her bedside TABLE.

She gets up.

AMANDA
Why am I so thirsty.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Amanda looks at herself in the MIRROR above the SINK.

She washes her hands, drinks water from the TAP, when
finished, she turns off the tap, she shivers as though cold.

She sees the face of MAN WITH A MASK in the mirror, signaling
shushs - a finger on his lips. Behind her.

She squeaks with closed eyes, slowly turns around,
frightened, MAN WITH A MASK is gone.

She exhales, hears the door closing. Look to the hall.

Water drips from the SHOWER.

Amanda turns the light on, everything is back to normal.

AMANDA
There's something wrong with this
place.

Amanda run back to her room, locks the door behind her.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda is in bed, her CAT Bobby jumps onto the bed. Amanda strokes him.

AMANDA
All the weird things I saw today.
They were just my imagination,
right Bobby?!

She looks around the room, turns off the lamp, goes back to sleep.

INT. SCHOOL - LOCKER ROOM - DAY

The room is filled with the hustle and bustle of students going to and from their LOCKERS.

Amanda stands still by her locker, not moving.

MARNIE
Amanda? You all right?

AMANDA
Yes, yes... I'm fine.

MARNIE
Okay.

Marnie closes her locker, reaches the exit.

AMANDA
Hey, Mar...

Marnie has already left the room.

EXT. SCHOOL - COURTYARD - DAY

Amanda walks slowly home. Lara is on a nearby bench.

AMANDA
Lara?

Two other girls reach Lara first. They talk, laugh, then they all walk away.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
What was I thinking?

MARNIE
Amanda? Are you going home?

AMANDA

Oh Marnie. You're still here?

MARNIE

I left something in my locker, so I went back to get it.

AMANDA

Oh.

MARNIE

So, are you going?

AMANDA

Yes.

Amanda and Marnie leave the school grounds, walk home together.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

So, Marnie.

MARNIE

Yes?

AMANDA

When I first met Lara, she said something about this being a creepy little town, what did she mean by that?

MARNIE

Eh... nothing really. She just likes to tease people. She's one of those popular kids. It's better to just ignore her. Although, there is a story, but no one wants to talk about it.

AMANDA

Story?

MARNIE

Well... Some say that this town was once very lively. They had carnivals and parties.

AMANDA

Parties, in this town?

MARNIE

Yup, but I haven't seen anything like that at all, just heard whispers and rumors.

(MORE)

MARNIE (CONT'D)

There did used to be an amusement park, did you know?

AMANDA

No, what happened to it?

MARNIE

They closed it after the accident.

AMANDA

Accident?

MARNIE

Here's my stop, bus is coming, sorry, will tell you more another time!

AMANDA

But...

A bus arrives, Marnie gets on, the bus moves on.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What about the accident?

Amanda continues home.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda is writing in her diary.

AMANDA (V.O.)

I never liked school. I didn't know how to communicate with people, or how to fit in, so I stayed by myself. Marnie was my first real friend. I never thought anything nice could happen to me.

There's a knock on the door. A NURSE opens the door.

NURSE

Amanda? Dinner.

AMANDA

Yes. I'm coming.

Amanda closes her diary, puts it in the drawer, leaves the room.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

On the floor is the painting that Ella gave to Gil. Gil drills a NAIL into the wall.

Amanda arrives home.

GIL
Oh, it's you.

AMANDA
Are you seriously going to put that up?

GIL
Doing it right now. You have a problem with it?

AMANDA
I don't care. It's your house after all.

Gill picks up the painting, hangs it on the nail. Smiles to himself.

GIL
That's right. It's my house, my wall and my painting.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

The BELL rings for a break.

Amanda and the rest of the class pack BOOKS in their BAGS, leave the room.

EXT. SCHOOL - COURTYARD - DAY

Marnie is on the bench. Amanda sits beside.

AMANDA
Hey.

MARNIE
Oh, Amanda. Hi.

AMANDA
Are you busy?

MARNIE
Not really. Do you need anything?

AMANDA

Well, It's not that I need anything. I was just wondering if you could...

BEAT

TOMMY (16) wearing glasses, smart, nerd, suddenly rushes to Marnie, interrupts Amanda, speaks very quickly.

TOMMY

Hi Marnie! Sorry I'm late. I had to help Allan and then Maggie came and a math contests is coming up and we just finished English and I-I-...

MARNIE

Tommy sit down! Relax and stop talking. It's okay!

TOMMY

Right.

MARNIE

Tommy, this is Amanda, the new girl. Amanda this is Tommy Dean. He's my best friend and a nerd.

TOMMY

Oh, I didn't even see you there. Hello. Nice to meet you.

AMANDA

Nice to meet you too.

MARNIE

So, Amanda... what did you want to ask?

AMANDA

Oh, it's not important.

MARNIE

You sure? 'Cause you sound pretty excited about it. You can ask me anything.

AMANDA

Eh. Um.

MARNIE

You know, I don't hide anything from Tommy, so you can talk. He can keep secrets.

TOMMY

That's right. I won't tell anyone anything. Or I can go if it's one of those girls talks.

AMANDA

Oh, no. Nothing like that.

MARNIE

We once went to the amusement park together but after what happened there...

AMANDA

What do you mean? What happened?

TOMMY

Marnie... are you sure?

MARNIE

Let's leave that for another time.

TOMMY

It was so scary when we went there and it wasn't even dark!

MARNIE

You mean to say you were scared, right?

AMANDA

Yeah?! Why did they close the amusement park? I mean what happened?

MARNIE

Right. I never finished the story.

TOMMY

There was a kid. His parents were famous figures from the circus. His Mother was a beautiful trapeze artist and his father was a fire breather. It was said they were the heart and the soul of the circus. Everybody loved them.

MARNIE

That is so romantic. I want a love story like they had. They traveled all around the world and they were successful. Circuses were pretty popular in small towns like ours.

TOMMY

When lady Asgard got pregnant, they quit the circus and stayed here. He got a new job, the circus fell apart and Lady Asgard sadly died while giving the birth.

AMANDA

How come she died?

MARNIE

They said that there was some complication and that is where the mystery begins. She gave birth to a healthy baby boy, but she died. It's not really clear what actually happened.

AMANDA

Huh? And how is the amusement park connected?

MARNIE

Right! Forgot to mention. When the couple moved here, they wanted to build a playground for the kids in the village. They collected so much money that they built an amusement park instead of just a playground.

AMANDA

Okay, go on.

TOMMY

Mr. Asgard died when his son was 12 years old.

MARNIE

Or so they say... they didn't find any remains.

TOMMY

He died when the whole amusement park caught fire. Their house burnt down as well. It was never known what really happened. There is a rumor that people blamed the Asgard kid for everything. He was very aggressive and bad, people treated him badly. After the fire, he lived with several different families before he ran away for good.

MARNIE

I heard that those who treated him badly started seeing a man with a mask in weird places, but these people just disappeared. No one knows what happened to them. It's like no one ever knew them.

TOMMY

No one saw or heard from the Asgard kid ever again.

MARNIE

Or MAN WITH A MASK.

TOMMY

That's when it went quiet here, people were scared and the streets became empty. The town is dead. You saw it for yourself.

MARNIE

It's like it never happened. Or everyone just got too scared.

AMANDA

That's it?!

MARNIE

That's how far the story goes.

TOMMY

I don't know about you, but that's enough for me.

MARNIE

You seem really interested in this story.

AMANDA

I like mystery.

TOMMY

But in the end, it is just a story, right?

MARNIE

I don't know Tommy. Is it?

Tommy appears scared, they all laugh.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

We should get going. Class is about to start.

TOMMY

Oh right. I almost forgot! Math competition! See you later!

MARNIE

Okay. Try not to be late, again!

Tommy leaves.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Funny guy this Tommy, isn't he?

AMANDA

Marnie, do you like him?

MARNIE

Who, Tommy? He's my best friend, of course I... oh you mean... no! No, we're just friends.

Amanda laughs.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Stop laughing! It's not funny. You got it all wrong!

They walk across the courtyard.

ALEXANDER (16) handsome, athletic, popular. He is with some other guys, holds a soccer ball.

Amanda and Alexander exchange glances.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Wait. What was that?

AMANDA

What was, what?!

MARNIE

Alex just smiled to you!

AMANDA

Who?

MARNIE

The guy with the ball? That's Alex, the soccer star, he's famous among girls! He dated Lara for a while but soccer was always his first choice.

AMANDA

Oh, don't worry. I don't even know him.

MARNIE

Well, you will.

AMANDA

Oh, come on, we've got to go.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

Amanda is back home from school.

GIL

Hey Mandy.

AMANDA

Don't call me that!

GIL

Don't you like that nickname?

AMANDA

Only dad called me Mandy.

GI

Well I am going to be your father soon.

AMANDA

You are not my father! You will never be!

GIL

That's true, I'm not your father, but let me make something clear. You are living under my roof and you will obey my rules!

AMANDA

I can't wait to leave this house! I can't look at you!

GIL

Don't worry, I'm sure you won't be here long!

AMANDA

Just wait 'til mom hears that.

GIL
Do you think she'll believe you?
You won't break us apart.

AMANDA
Don't ever talk to me! Leave me
alone.

Amanda leaves, slams the door.

GIL
Well, well.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Gil pours himself a glass of WHISKEY, leaves the kitchen.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Ella enters the kitchen, puts Giuliana in the cot.

Amanda hurries downstairs. She stops at the bottom of the stairs.

Gil enters the kitchen, hugs Ella.

GIL
Come here, I missed you.

ELLA
Ohh, I missed you too! How was your
day?

Gil gives Amanda an evil smile. Amanda goes back upstairs.

GIL
You know, nothing special, nothing
new.

ELLA
I had a busy day. I need a little
rest.

Ella kisses Gil on the lips. Then leaves the room.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

ELLA
Is Amanda home?

GIL
She is. Not in the best mood.

ELLA
I thought you two were getting
along better.

GIL
I'm sure we'll be friends in the
end. Got to give her some more
time. Besides, she's in puberty,
it's going to take time.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDAS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda sprays her perfume in the air, smells it, Gil appears
at the door shaving.

GIL
New perfume?

AMANDA
What do you care?

GIL
I just want to get to know you
better.

AMANDA
I bet you do. There's nothing to
know about me.

GIL
So that's how it's going to be.

ELLA (O.C)
Amanda! Need your help.

AMANDA
Coming!

Gil leaves the room.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDAS ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda is asleep. She slightly opens her eyes it is very
dark. She closes and opens her eyes again. Man with a mask is
standing in her room, looking at her, smiling. She crawls and
squeeze in the corner of her bed.

She sees the changing blinking images of the man with a mask laughing in front of her face, strangling her. She closes her eyes, covers her ears and screams.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - ELLA AND GIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Giuliana cries.

ELLA
Amanda!

Gil rush in the room.

GIL
Amanda?

ELLA
Will you check on her?

Max enters. Ella takes Giuliana in her arms, tries to calm her.

ELLA (CONT'D)
There, there, it's okay.
Sssshhh...ssssshhh...

Ella sings a song to Max and Giuliana, tries to calm them.

ELLA (CONT'D)
It's okay, Amanda just had a bad
dream. Go back to bed Max.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gil enters. Amanda sits on her bed looking terrified, she's crying.

GIL
Amanda? What's wrong?

AMANDA
Go away! MOM.

GIL
Your mom is trying to calm
Giuliana! Just...

BEAT

AMANDA
Mooooooooooooom!!!!

Gil takes Amanda's wrist, pulls her.

GIL
Shut up! What's wrong with you!
I've had enough of your stupid
games.

Ella enters.

ELLA
Gil? I put Giuliana to sleep, go to
her.

ELLA (CONT'D)
Hey, baby. Had a bad dream?

Ella feels Amanda's forehead. Amanda hugs Ella. Ella tries to calm her.

AMANDA
It wasn't a dream. I saw him. I saw
him again.

ELLA
Saw who Amanda?

AMANDA
It was him. Man with a mask. Mom, I
want to go home!

ELLA
Oh Amanda. What are you talking
about? You are home.

AMANDA
It was here. He was here. I saw Man
with a mask the other day and he
was here just now. I saw him!

ELLA
Look, Amanda, there is no one here.
You had a bad dream. It's okay.

AMANDA
No! I want to go home!

ELLA
Amanda that's enough. Calm your
voice. Our home is here and nowhere
else. Look.

Ella opens the wardrobe, looks under the bed.

ELLA (CONT'D)
See? There's no one here.

AMANDA
Dad would have believed me!

ELLA
Oh honey. Go back to sleep. We will
talk in the morning.

Amanda is still scared, looks fearful at Ella.

AMANDA
Would you at least stay here till I
fall asleep?

ELLA
Of course I will.

Ella lays down next to Amanda, caresses her.

AMANDA
Mom?

ELLA
Yes?

AMANDA
Will you sing me the song daddy
used to sing to me?

ELLA
Which one was that again?

AMANDA
Hush little baby.

ELLA
Okay. Sure. HUSH LITTLE BABY, DON'T
SAY A WORD. MAMA'S GOING TO BUY YOU
A MOCKINGBIRD.

Ella continues singing.

AMANDA (V.O.)
I loved it when daddy sang to me.
He was funny while he tried to
imitate mom's voice. Daddy even
bought me a dog we named Rover. He
was my best friend.

Amanda and Ella fall asleep.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Amanda is at the table. She looks very tired. Ella is making breakfast.

ELLA

Would you like some toast?

Toast pops out of the toaster. Ella takes two slices, puts them on a plate. She gives the plate to Amanda, sits at the table with a cup of coffee, butters the toast.

ELLA (CONT'D)

Are you feeling better?

AMANDA

Do I look like I'm feeling better?

ELLA

Amanda behave. It's not my fault you have nightmares.

AMANDA

It wasn't a nightmare! What must I do to make you believe me!?

ELLA

Amanda, you should stay home today. Have some rest. I know it's hard for you to accept all the changes so suddenly.

AMANDA

It's not that.

ELLA

Then what? Is it school? Are the kids treating you badly, again?

AMANDA

Mom! It's always the same to you.

ELLA

I don't know how to help you, Amanda. You need to accept this.

AMANDA

It's Gil! I can't stand looking at his face every day, listening to his voice.

ELLA

Why do you hate him so much? He is trying really hard to be your friend.

AMANDA

My friend? Mom, you don't see how he treats me when you're not at home. He even kicked Bobby the other day!

ELLA

Amanda, stop it. I know how much you miss your father.

AMANDA

Don't you?!

Ella exhales.

ELLA

Of course I do but you must accept that Gil is going to be my husband. You're not a kid anymore. Stop acting like one.

Amanda takes her bag, puts toast in her mouth and puts on headphones.

ELLA (CONT'D)

We finally can be a real family again! Can't you be a little happy for me?

AMANDA

Why won't you believe me?

Amanda walks out.

ELLA

Oh Amanda.

Ella takes the cups and plates to the sink, washes them up.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Amanda walks to school. She crosses the road. Alexander is on the other side, he watches her. She looks at him for a moment, looks away shyly.

ALEXANDER

Good morning Amanda!

AMANDA

Morning.

ALEXANDER

Mind if I walk with you?

AMANDA

Since we're going in the same way...

ALEXANDER

Great.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)

By the way, I don't remember introducing myself. I'm Alexander, but please call me Alex.

AMANDA

Okay Alex, you know my name already. So, what do you want?

ALEXANDER

What do you mean?

AMANDA

I'm new here and you're being nice to me. I don't really get it.

ALEXANDER

I shouldn't be nice to you?

AMANDA

In my old school those... cool kids... never spoke to kids like me. Is it this town, which is weird anyway, or do you want something from me?

ALEXANDER

Woow. Okay, It's true that this town is weird, but who's to say who the cool kids are, or not? I never considered myself as one of them.

AMANDA

People like me, see those things. They think they're something more, they bully other kids, treat them like trash! Sound familiar now?

Amanda cries, Alexander puts his hand on her shoulder.

ALEXANDER

Is that how you were treated in
your old school?

AMANDA

It's pathetic. Forget it.

ALEXANDER

It's okay. I just wanted to get to
know you. I'm always here if you
want to talk. This town is small
you know. Everybody knows everyone
more or less. That's just how it
is.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - DAY

ALEXANDER CONT'D

Here we are. I have soccer
practice, so got to go! Hope to see
you again!

Alexander winks at Amanda, leaves her.

AMANDA

Sure.

Marnie and Tommy wave to Amanda from a short distance.

MARNIE

Amanda!

Amanda waves back.

Marnie and Tommy catch up to Amanda.

MARNIE CONT'D

Waiting for someone?

AMANDA

Oh, no. I was just going to class.

TOMMY

Let's go then!

MARNIE

Are you okay?

AMANDA

Yes, rough night, I had a bad
dream.

MARNIE
Sorry to hear that.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda is in bed. She breathes out and puts her hand over her eyes.

FLASHBACK

EXT. ROAD - DAY

ALEXANDER
It's okay. I just wanted to get to know you. I'm always here if you want to talk. This town is small you know. Everybody knows everyone more or less. That's just how it is.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

AMANDA
I'm so pathetic.

Amanda goes downstairs.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Amanda hears a scratching noise, goes to the hall.

AMANDA
Bobby? Was that you?

INT. GIL'S HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

Amanda listens for a few seconds. She sees that The wall under the stairs is convexed.

AMANDA
That's weird. Bobby? Are you there?

Amanda tries to remove the convex wall. There's a locked door behind it.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
That's strange.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GIL AND ELLA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda looks around the room, checks the wardrobes. She checks the cupboards on both sides of the bed.

AMANDA
The basement...

Amanda leaves the room.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

The garage door is locked.

AMANDA
What? Since when does he lock the garage? Shit!

Gil arrives.

GIL
Home already?

AMANDA
We finished early.

GIL
Is Ella home yet?

AMANDA
No.

GIL
What are you doing here?

AMANDA
Nothing. I was looking for Bobby's food!

GIL
Oh, is that so. Okay.

AMANDA
The door's locked?

GIL
Huh.

Gil takes a KEY out of his POCKET, gives it to Amanda.

GIL (CONT'D)
Be quick. You never know what may
be down there, this time.

Gil smiles and goes into the house.

AMANDA
Asshole.

Amanda unlocks the garage door, enters.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

AMANDA
Okay, let's do this, quick.

Amanda picks up the flashlight, goes down the stairs.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - BASEMENT - DAY

It's dark. Amanda can see only a few centimeters ahead with
the flashlight. A MOUSE runs in front of her, she screams,
then quickly covers her mouth.

AMANDA
Damn mouse.

She searches the shelves with the flashlight.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Nothing... wait, what's this?

She takes a small, dusty box from a shelf, opens it.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
This must be it.

In the box is a small key among some old papers. Amanda puts
the key in her pocket. As she puts the box back on the shelf,
she notices a notebook.

CLOSE ON NOTEBOOK

MADELINE'S NOTES

AMANDA
Who is Madeline?

Amanda takes the notebook. Leaves the basement.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDAS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gil enters Amanda's room, looks around. He goes to a shelf with bottles of perfume on it. He opens one.

He takes a small vial of liquid from his pocket.

CLOSE ON VIAL

ILLUSIONS

He pours the contents from the vial into the bottle of perfume, gives the perfume bottle a shake, puts it back on the shelf.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Gil whistles. Amanda enters, gives him the key.

GIL
What took you so long?

He takes the key from her hand, puts it in his pocket.

GIL (CONT'D)
Need something?

AMANDA
Not from you.

GIL
Wait!

AMANDA
What?

GIL
What's that behind your back?

AMANDA
What? Nothing!

GIL
Give it here.

AMANDA
No, it's mine!

Gil tries to take it from Amanda.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Stop it! It's my diary!

Gil grabs the notebook from Amanda.

GIL
A diary you say? Madeline's notes?
You've been in the basement haven't
you?! What did I tell you?

Gil gets the mad look, grabs Amanda at her neck.

AMANDA
Who is Madeline? Why do you have
this hidden down there?

GIL
It's none of your business. None of
it. Nothing down there has anything
to do with you! Do you understand?
You're never to go down there
again! And don't touch what's not
yours! Do you understand?!

AMANDA
Don't tell me what to do.

Amanda walks away.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Amanda runs to Tommy and Marnie at the gates.

AMANDA
Marnie, Tommy!

TOMMY
Oh, Amanda.

MARNIE
You're early today.

AMANDA
I want to ask you something.

MARNIE
Sure. Shoot.

AMANDA
Could you show me where the
amusement park is?

MARNIE

Sure, but what's the big deal?

AMANDA

I'm just curious about it. It's a mystery and I love that.

MARNIE

Sure. When?

AMANDA

After school?

MARNIE

Hum. I have some stuff to do later. Hey, can you sleep over on Friday?

AMANDA

I guess. I'll have to ask my mom, but yeah, I'd like that.

TOMMY

Are you sure about this?

AMANDA

Why not?

TOMMY

At night?

MARNIE

Don't worry, we'll be fine.

TOMMY

How can I not be? We're all going, right?

MARNIE

Well, let's meet up at eight? My house? Sounds good?

AMANDA

Great!

TOMMY

You're really serious about this aren't you?

AMANDA

Of course. It's just an old park right?

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

AMANDA

Bobby! Bobby? Where is this cat?
Bobby? Bobby !?

She sees something back in the lawn.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Bobby? Is that you? What are you-

She stops, Bobby is not moving.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Bobby? Bobby! Wake up.

She runs to him. He is not moving. He is dead.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

No, no !!!! Who did this to you !?
No!

Amanda cries, takes him in the house.

Later

Ella comes home.

ELLA

Amanda?

Amanda is downstairs crying.

ELLA (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

AMANDA

Bobby. Bobby... Someone killed him!

ELLA

What? Who would kill him?

AMANDA

It's Gil or that mask! I'm sure of it. He did not like him from the start. He wants to hurt me! make me crazy.

ELLA

Amanda stop. Just stop. there's no sign of anyone killing him. Maybe he just died because he was old. Or sick. Gil wouldn't do that. He know you loved this cat.

AMANDA

Yes, he knows.

ELLA

He didn't do it. I will talk with him okay?

AMANDA

What good would that do? He will just deny it. And you will believe him like you always do!

ELLA

I'll get you a new cat. How about that.

AMANDA

I don't want another cat! I'll go bury him.

Amanda leaves.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Amanda enters the kitchen, sits at the table where Ella checks receipts.

AMANDA

Hey, mom?

ELLA

Just a second.

Ella takes a receipt she was looking for out of the pile of papers.

ELLA (CONT'D)

What is it?

AMANDA

I'm going to sleep over at Marnie's tonight.

ELLA

Marnie?

AMANDA

She's my classmate, we've become good friends, so she invited me to her house.

ELLA

She did? I'm very happy for you, to finally have friends!

AMANDA

Mom, please.

ELLA

Okay, okay. You see? It isn't so bad here.

AMANDA

Oh no, I still hate the place and that man.

ELLA

Amanda. We talked about this. His name is Gil.

AMANDA

Whatever, I'm going to go pack for tonight. Please don't tell him I'm staying at Marnie's.

ELLA

Okay. Just be careful and don't do anything stupid.

AMANDA

You don't need to tell me that.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda packs her backpack. She takes the perfume from the shelf and sprays it in the air, smells it and looks at the perfume again. She inflates herself.

Amanda looks at herself in the MIRROR. Her reflection is a little blurry, she wipes her eyes, sees the blurry reflection of a woman standing behind her, in fright she turns around, jumps back. No one is there.

INT. MARNIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MARNIE

I'm so happy you're sleeping over.

AMANDA

Yeah, I'm glad to be out of that house.

MARNIE
Is it really that bad?

AMANDA
It is.

MARNIE
Can I get you something to drink?
Juice?

AMANDA
Sure.

Marnie leaves the room. Amanda sits on the sofa.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Where are your parents?

MARNIE (O.C)
They went to some event.

Marnie returns with JUICE and COOKIES. She puts them on the coffee TABLE.

MARNIE (CONT'D)
Here, help yourself.

AMANDA
Thanks.

Amanda takes a sip of juice, the DOORBELL rings.

MARNIE
Oh, that must be Tommy!

AMANDA
So, are we going right away?

MARNIE
I guess we can.

INT. MARNIE'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

TOMMY
You ready to go?

MARNIE
Sure, everyone got flashlights?

AMANDA
On my phone.

TOMMY
Your phone has that?

AMANDA
Yeah.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Amanda, Marnie and Tommy notice someone coming towards them.

MARNIE
Isn't that Alex?

TOMMY
Looks like him.

They all reach Alexander's house at the same time.

ALEXANDER
Hey guys!

AMANDA
Hey.

MARNIE TOMMY
Hey!

Hey!

ALEXANDER
You going somewhere?

MARNIE
Well...

TOMMY
We're going to the amusement park!

MARNIE
Tommy!

TOMMY
What?

ALEXANDER
Amusement park? You know it's
closed, right?

Amanda chuckles. Tommy and Marnie argue in the background.

AMANDA

We're going there, because I asked Marnie to take me.

ALEXANDER

Why on earth would you want to go there? Oh, wait a minute, you heard the story didn't you?

AMANDA

I did.

ALEXANDER

You sure you want to do this? At night?

TOMMY

You want to join us?

MARNIE

Tommy!

TOMMY

What? Seems like he wants to.

AMANDA

Guys, it's okay. You can come if you want. Is that okay with you two?

MARNIE

Of course.

ALEXANDER

Let me just put down my bag. I'll be right back! Alexander runs in the house.

AMANDA

He lives here?

MARNIE

Yup.

AMANDA

Are you really okay with him joining us?

TOMMY

Sure. The more, the less scarier right?

MARNIE

You know the saying doesn't go like that, right? I don't mind.

AMANDA

Hahah.

MARNIE

I knew you liked him.

AMANDA

Marnie! We're just friends.

TOMMY

What are you two talking about? Who is who's, now?

Alexander rushes out from his house.

MARNIE

Ah... I will tell you later.

ALEXANDER

Sorry for being so long.

TOMMY

Shall we go?!

AMANDA

Let's do it.

LATER

They pass by fields of corn. It's very dark, quiet, apart from the sound of the corn rustling, it's cold.

ALEXANDER

Hey guys have you watched Children of the corn?

Marnie grabs Amanda's hand.

MARNIE

Oh, shut up!

TOMMY

Everyone watched that movie. It was really scary when they tied that kid up and then something appeared from the corn.

MARNIE

Tommy!

Marnie hits Tommy on his head. Alexander and Amanda chuckles.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

What's wrong with you?!

TOMMY

What did I do now?!

MARNIE

How can you be so smart if you are so stupid!?

AMANDA

Come on, Marnie. Don't argue.

ALEXANDER

Guys, here we are.

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - NIGHT

They all stare at the closed and broken up amusement park.

The place is very big, with safety tape all around it.

They all use their flashlights to try and see as much as they can. All the rides are broken and rusty. Some broken parts creak when the wind blows.

AMANDA

Whoa, this place is huge.

MARNIE

And freaking scary.

TOMMY

Especially at night.

ALEXANDER

Must agree with that.

AMANDA

So... shall we go in?

TOMMY

Or, we can go home and come back another day and by day, I mean day, when it's still light, not night.

MARNIE

I think I will stay and guard here.

ALEXANDER

What if we split into two groups?

TOMMY

That sounds good. I'm going with
yo...

Marnie pulls Tommy Back.

MARNIE

With me! You're coming with me...
Amanda, you go with Alex.

AMANDA

You sure?

MARNIE

Come on Tommy, this way!

Marnie winks to Amanda and walks away, dragging Tommy with
her. Marnie and Tommy disappear further and further into the
amusement park.

TOMMY

What was that for?

MARNIE

Oh Tommy. We need to give them
some... alone time.

Tommy makes fun of Marnie by comically impersonating her.

TOMMY

Some alone time? What does that
mean?

MARNIE

Can't you see Alex likes Amanda?!
And she obviously likes him.

TOMMY

Oh. Oh! So that's why you're acting
like that around them.

MARNIE

Ding, ding!

Alexander and Amanda walk around the park.

ALEXANDER

What exactly are we looking for?

AMANDA

Anything that confirms the story.

ALEXANDER

Do you know how many years have passed since then?

AMANDA

Let's say I do. I just have a good feeling about this. Why haven't they moved all these broken parts and cleaned this mess up after all these years?

ALEXANDER

I'm not sure. I think someone bought it and just left it like this.

AMANDA

Things are getting weirder every minute.

ALEXANDER

It feels like a mission.

The sound of a large cracks comes from behind them. Amanda turns suddenly, falls over part of a broken swing, she screams.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)

Amanda?! You okay?

AMANDA

Hahaha-ha, I'm sorry. I'm okay.

ALEXANDER

Come on.

Alexander helps Amanda up.

AMANDA

I haven't laughed like that in years. It feels great!

ALEXANDER

You should laugh more often. It suits you.

BEAT

ALEXANDER CONT'D

Look... there.

Alexander points his flashlight to a DERELICT HOUSE that's been built from WOOD.

ALEXANDER CONT'D (CONT'D)

Do you see it?

AMANDA

It's some kind of wooden house.
Looks like only half of it is still
standing?

ALEXANDER

Looks like it. Shall we?

AMANDA

We could check it out.

The house is half demolished, but there is still furniture in
it. As they step in, the floor squeaks.

Right in front of them are Marnie and Tommy.

MARNIE TOMMY

Aaaaaa!
Help!

Marnie and Tommy drop their flashlights. Alexander and Amanda
jump back in fright.

ALEXANDER

Oh god, it's you guys!

MARNIE

Huh?! Don't scare me like that!

They all laugh. Suddenly, a door creaks, they all jump in
fright. A door slowly opens.

ALEXANDER

What the hell?

They creep, slowly to the door. The door is wide open.

Creepy music can be heard coming from inside the room.

TOMMY

Where is that coming from?

They enter the room, it is OLD and DUSTY. On a CABINET, is an
open MUSIC BOX with a BALLERINA on it. That's where music is
coming from. There is a WOODEN ROCKING CHAIR, which is
ROCKING slowly of it's own accord.

MARNIE

Oh no.

AMANDA
Now, I'm scared.

A WHEELCHAIR moves towards them. Alexander, Marnie and Tommy run out of the room.

Amanda stays. She notices the carpet is red with gold corners and circles in the middle.

Suddenly, the door slams shut, locks.

The wheelchair crashes into the wall right next to Amanda. She screams, bangs on the door.

The music plays louder, the rocking chair rocks faster.

Amanda screams.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Help me! Please, help me!!!!

ALEXANDER
Amanda!!! Amanda!!

MARNIE
Someone help!

TOMMY
Amanda!!

All of them frantically try to open the door.

AMANDA
Let me out!

Suddenly, the music stops playing, the rocking chair stops rocking, Amanda turns back and sees MAN WITH A MASK. He is just standing there, signaling hushes - a finger to his lips. The door opens. Amanda jumps into the arms of her friends. They run out of the house.

ALEXANDER
Amanda, are you okay?

AMANDA
Guys... we got to get out of here... right now.

They hurry to the exit.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Let's hurry.

EXT. ALEXANDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TOMMY

I'm not going home tonight.

ALEXANDER

If you want you can stay at my house.

MARNIE

My parents know Amanda is sleeping at ours tonight and they don't let me to have boys over.

AMANDA

We better go.

ALEXANDER

Okay, Tommy you can stay at my house.

TOMMY

I don't want to be alone after this! Whether you want me or not, I'm staying!

ALEXANDER

Marnie, let me accompany you to your house, at least.

MARNIE

Okay, let's go then.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

TOMMY

Oh man, that was the scariest night of my life.

AMANDA

I knew there was something wrong with this village.

MARNIE

I don't think I'll get any sleep tonight.

ALEXANDER

At least it's all over now.

AMANDA

Let's make this our secret. I think we should keep it to ourselves.

ALEXANDER
I agree with that. Who would
believe us anyway.

EXT. MARNIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MARNIE
Okay, it's a secret. Here we are.

AMANDA
Thanks for the company and thank
you everyone for going with me.

ALEXANDER
You okay?

AMANDA
Yeah, I will be. It's my fault that
happened.

MARNIE
Don't worry about it. It's over now
and we're all safe.

ALEXANDER
That's true.

TOMY
We wanted to go anyway.

AMANDA
Thanks guys, you're the best.

Alexander and Tommy wait till the girls are in the house.

INT. MARNIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda and Marnie are asleep. Amanda wakes up. She rubs her
eyes and looks at the time on her phone.

AMANDA
3.00 am. The demon's hour. Great.

Amanda goes to the toilet and returns.

A slight movement from outside the window grabs her
attention.

Amanda looks out the window, which looks onto the road.

On the other side of the road is a big lawn covered with
snow.

Two small girls (10) wear white dresses. They are both barefoot.

Another woman watches the girls. She also wears a white dress and she is also barefoot.

The small girls dance and run around.

The woman (16) has black hair. She stands in the middle of the lawn, raises her head, looks right into Amanda's eyes.

Her face is pale with black circles around her eyes.

Amanda looks round at Marnie.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Marnie? Are you asleep?

Amanda looks back to the window, no one is there.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
I could swear...

We see Amanda's POV as she turns back to the window.

Suddenly, the woman's face is right up against the window, she makes a terrifying sound. Amanda screams, jumps away.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Aaaaaaaaaaa!

MARNIE
What the hell was that?!

AMANDA
Did you see that?

MARNIE
I almost peed in my pajamas! See what?

Amanda chuckles, both of them laugh.

MARNIE (CONT'D)
That's not funny.

AMANDA
Sorry.

MARNIE
Are you okay?

Amanda looks through window, no one is there.

AMANDA

Yeah, I guess. Bad dream, sorry for waking you.

MARNIE

Do you need anything?

AMANDA

Nah, I'm okay.

MARNIE

Then let's get back to sleep.

AMANDA

Yeah.

MARNIE

I'll leave the lamp on.

AMANDA

Okay.

Amanda lies back down, scared to close her eyes.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Ella and Gil are in the hall.

Amanda comes downstairs, Ella and Gil kiss.

AMANDA

Seriously?

GIL

You need to get used to this.

Gil picks up his suitcase, leaves the house.

AMANDA

Stop smiling, mom... ewwwwww.

ELLA

Gil is right, you know?

AMANDA

I wonder for how long.

ELLA

What is that supposed to mean?

AMANDA

Nothing. Bye!

Ella leaves the house.

INT. GARAGE - BASEMENT - DAY

Amanda stands before the secret door.

AMANDA

I know you're hiding something.

Amanda opens the door, goes in.

INT. GARAGE - BASEMENT - SECRET ROOM - DAY

The walls of the small room are painted red, it's full of boxes, a few shelves.

Amanda checks through the boxes, finds nothing, other than dust, ordinary stuff like pencils, pendants, lots of newspapers.

She takes a book from a shelf, wipes the dust off.

AMANDA

Hm. Path to the light. Boring.

She puts the book back, notices a small, old fashioned box with roses on it. She takes it off the shelf, opens it. She finds a picture ripped apart with a little boy on it.

CLOSE ON PICTURE

In the background is the amusement park.

AMANDA

Is that Gil?

She takes a better look at the picture.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Wait, that's the amusement park.

Amanda turns the picture over.

CLOSE ON BACK OF PHOTO

22nd September 1982 - ELAZIA and ISAIAH.

AMANDA

That makes no sense.

Amanda hears the sound of a car, quickly puts the picture in her pocket, quickly puts everything else back.

INT. SCHOOL - LIBRARY - DAY

Amanda and her friends are doing homework.

MARNIE
You alright?

AMANDA
Sorry, did you say something?

MARNIE
Are you alright? You seem out of sorts.

AMANDA
I don't know. I can't concentrate.

TOMMY
Sssshhh! Trying to study here.

MARNIE
Right. Like you need to study.

BEAT

TOMMY
So, what's going on?

AMANDA
I keep thinking about that picture...

MARNIE
What picture?

Amanda takes the picture out of her pocket, puts it on the table.

TOMMY
What's this?

AMANDA
Not sure. Look at the back.

Tommy turns the picture over.

TOMMY
Elazia and Isaiah, 1982.

MARNIE

Where did you find this?

AMANDA

In Gil's secret room that I found out about recently.

MARNIE

Is this him?

AMANDA

It's weird. That carousel is the one from the amusement park, I'm sure of it. The kid should be around Gil's age if you look at the date, but Gil only moved here a few years ago. There's no way this could be him and then there are the names on the back of it.

TOMMY

And what about the other half?

AMANDA

I don't know. I found only this. I suppose there is another boy on the other half. If this isn't Gil, why would he have this picture in a secret room?

MARNIE

If this isn't Gil, who could it be?

TOMMY

Let me check something.

Tommy opens up his computer, types in amusement park, Weston, West Virginia. He opens up a few links about it. He finds a bunch of pictures of the amusement park before the accident. He finds a picture of the circus and the people who worked there.

There is also a picture of Mr and Mrs Asgard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Look, those are the Asgards.

MARNIE

She was a real beauty. Oh man he was handsome. Look at that face.

AMANDA

Tommy, go back.

They look at the links, pictures.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Wait... There. Open it.

Amanda compares the picture on the internet with hers.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Weird... there's nothing about the Asgard son.

MARNIE

It's just the circus and amusement park. It's like the accident have never happened.

AMANDA

Are you sure about the story?

TOMMY

Positive. I think someone was really trying to hide it.

MARNIE

You think someone would go that far to hide everything?

AMANDA

It must have been something serious. Wait. What about the newspapers? There must have been something written about it right? If they were famous and about the accident? Big fire? They couldn't hide all of it. There must be some proof.

MARNIE

There has to be newspapers in the library. We should do a search. What was the year?

TOMMY

It must have been around 1982 if that photo was taken then.

AMANDA

I'm going to be late for English. What if we meet up after school? I'll tell Alex.

MARNIE

I can't today, I'm helping my mom with some charity community.

TOMMY

Me neither. Debate activity.

AMANDA

Okay, will text you.

Amanda leaves the library.

LATER

Alexander sits next to Amanda, looks through old newspapers.

Marnie and Tommy join them.

MARNIE

Hey, did you actually find something?

AMANDA

Hey! Well we found some things, but haven't found much of the story yet. Here, look at these. I'm going to search for some more.

TOMMY

Let me see.

ALEXANDER

There is something about the circus, though.

LATER

Amanda is by some shelves, looks through newspapers, she takes a few of them back to the table.

LATER

Amanda sits with the bunch of newspapers, leafs through them.

AMANDA

Oh my god. Look at this. The Asgard son on the photo I found. He looks exactly the same and The date compares.

TOMMY

And the photo is complete. It looks like twins. But why is his face scratched down?

MARNIE

If there was a twin, how come there are no pictures of him, no evidence.

AMANDA

Wait. You said that lady Asgard died because of complications during childbirth. What if...

BEAT

ALEXANDER

We may have proof that there was a twin?

MARNIE

We can't be sure. His face is scratched out. And how come no one ever saw the twin?

TOMMY

Think Marnie, think! Someone was really trying to hide him.

ALEXANDER

This is getting scary!

TOMMY

And creepy.

AMANDA

Maybe he was born with something wrong with his face. This is getting crazy.

MARNIE

But the house burned down. And they found only one survivor. One son.

ALEXANDER

Which means that even if there was the second kid, he died in the fire with his father.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

Max watches television.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Gil notices the wall under the stairs is standing away in one corner. He checks the door. It's locked.

Gil unlocks the door, enters the room.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - ROOM - DAY

Gil notices the books on the shelves are not in the right places. The books were in alphabetical order. He checks the box. Notices a picture is missing.

GIL

Amanda... You've gone too far.

Gil puts the book back on the shelf. Leaves the room, locks the door.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda enters, exhausted, tired. She throws her bag on the bed, sits in front of the computer.

Amanda takes the picture out of her pocket, looks at it.

AMANDA

Why does Gil have this?

Gil appears at Amanda's door.

GIL

What are you looking at?

Amanda is surprised.

AMANDA

Nothing.

Gil moves closer. Amanda changes the picture under her desk for another one.

GIL

Show me!

Gil grabs the picture from Amanda, tries to take a look.

AMANDA

Let go! It's mine.

Gil snatches the picture, looks at it.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Why are you such a jerk!

GIL

Your dad? You need to get over this. He's dead. He can't help you anymore.

ELLA (O.C)

Hello! We're home.

Gil lightly smiles, leaves the picture on the floor, leaves the room.

AMANDA

I'm sorry dad.

Amanda picks up the other picture.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I need to do something about this.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Amanda enters, lays down on the sofa. Ella enters.

ELLA

Amanda, you need to watch your language. You're very rude to Gil. It needs to stop.

AMANDA

I told you that I don't like him and I won't change my mind!

ELLA

I don't care if you like him or not. You will change your behavior, or I will do something about it. Respect him at least. He's done a lot for us.

AMANDA

Would you kick me out? Gil would be happy about it for sure.

ELLA

Amanda! That's enough! What's gotten into you? I won't let you talk like that about Gil!

AMANDA

Why are you always on Gil's side?
Do you even know him?!

ELLA

Of course I do.

AMANDA

Have you met his family? Do you
know anything about his past?

ELLA

His parents and his brother are
dead, if you must know.

AMANDA

So he had a brother? How did they
die?

ELLA

In an accident. Amanda stop playing
your games, you won't break us
apart. I love Gil and he loves me,
that's the truth and you must
accept it. We are not to talk about
this again!

AMANDA

Was the accident a fire?

ELLA

What are you talking about? Stop
with this nonsense Amanda! and get
that story out of your head.

Amanda storms out.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Ella washes the dishes. Max enters.

MAX

Mom. I want to go to the park.

ELLA

I'm washing up. Wait till Gil gets
back, then we'll go.

MAX

But you said we'd go after lunch.

ELLA

I know honey. I thought Gil would be back by now, but he's got stuck at work.

MAX

But I want to go now!

Ella is irritated.

ELLA

Okay. Amanda will take you.

Ella goes to the kitchen door and shouts...

ELLA (CONT'D)

Amanda!

AMANDA (O.C)

What?!

ELLA

Are you studying?

AMANDA (O.C)

No. I'm reading a book.

ELLA

Okay, then take Max to the park.

AMANDA (O.C)

I'm reading. I can't.

ELLA

You can read in the park. Just don't forget to check on Max from time to time.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda closes her book. Gets up, takes the perfume bottle from the shelf, smells it, inflates herself. She covers her ears, looks around.

AMANDA

What's that noise? Max?! Are you playing games again?

Max enters.

MAX

Let's go already!

AMANDA

It's gone. Very strange. Okay, come on, let's go.

EXT. PARK - DAY

AMANDA

Promise me you'll be good, or I won't play with you ever again.

MAX

Okay. I promise.

Max runs to the swings. Amanda sits on a bench, looks at Max, reads her book.

Alexander drives by on his bike.

ALEXANDER

Amanda?

AMANDA

Oh, Alex. Hey.

Alexander parks his bike, joins Amanda.

ALEXANDER

What are you doing here?

AMANDA

I had to come with my little brother. What about you?

ALEXANDER

Going to my dad to practice for the game.

Dark clouds hide the sun, the wind blows. The swing creaks.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)

Weather just got worse, I should hurry up and so should you.

Amanda looks at the swing. The sound of a rocking swing is heard. Max is not there.

Amanda stands up, looks around. She hears laughter from people near the park, which becomes replaced by clown's laugh.

AMANDA

Max! Max! Oh, shit. Max! Where are you?

ALEXANDER
Amanda? What's wrong.

Amanda doesn't hear Alexander, starts screaming.

AMANDA
Oh no. He's taking him. Max! Noo.
Don't go. Max where are you! Did he
take him, Alex?!

Alexander grabs Amanda's hands.

ALEXANDER
Amanda! What are you talking
about?!

Everyone looks at Amanda. They whisper among themselves.

WOMAN#1
Oh my. It's exactly the same.

WOMAN#2
You mean like then?

WOMAN#1
We should go. Anthony, Maya Hurry!
We're going home.

WOMAN#2
Suzanne, let's go.

AMANDA
No. He's there! He took my brother!
I know he did! Max! Bring him back!
bring my brother back!

Amanda yells for Max, pushes Alexander away from her.

Alexander calms Amanda, holds her down in his arms.

ALEXANDER
Let me help you. We'll find him.

Police appear.

POLICEMAN#1
Everything okay here?

ALEXANDER
I... I...

POLICEMAN#1
What's with the girl.

ALEXANDER
I don't know. She just freaked out.

POLICEMAN#1
Okay. Tell me what happened.

ALEXANDER
I was driving by when I saw her on the bench, reading a book. We're from the same school, so I went to say hi. We were talking, then she suddenly started calling for Max.

POLICEMAN#1
Who's Max.

ALEXANDER
Her brother, I think.

Amanda stands up, grabs the policeman's hands.

AMANDA
It was him. He took my brother.

POLICEMAN#1
Okay, calm down. Here, sit.

Policeman#1 helps Amanda sit on the bench.

POLICEMAN#2
Hey, partner! I found a little boy by the lake. His sister should be with him.

Policeman#2 arrives with Max.

POLICEMAN#1
Is that your...

Amanda jumps to Max, falls on her knees and grabs max, hugs him.

AMANDA
Max! Oh, Max, You're safe. Thank God. You scared me. What happened to you?

MAX
I kicked my ball away. I went to get it, saw fishes in the lake and was watching them.

POLICEMAN#1

That's okay then. Can someone pick you up?

AMANDA

We're not far from home. We can walk.

POLICEMAN#2

I would rather see if someone drove you home.

AMANDA

My mother doesn't have a car and her boyfriend is working. We'll be okay. I'm really sorry for all the trouble.

POLICEMAN#1

Then we'll drive you home. Anyway, I have some questions for you.

AMANDA

I'm fine. I just couldn't see Max, so I got scared a little. It's all good now.

POLICEMAN#1

Come on. Let's go.

Policeman#1 turns to Alexander.

POLICEMAN#1 (CONT'D)

Thank you for your help. We'll take care of them.

ALEXANDER

Bye Amanda, get some rest. See you tomorrow.

AMANDA

I'm sorry for this. Please don't tell anyone what happened.

ALEXANDER

Sure, okay. Will you be alright?

AMANDA

Don't worry, I just need some rest. I'm okay.

Amanda kisses Alexander on the cheek, then leaves with the police.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Police arrive with Amanda and Max. Amanda opens the front door. Max runs in.

POLICEMAN#1
I want to speak with your parents.
Can you call your mom?

AMANDA
Please don't say anything to my
mother.

Ella comes to the door Amanda enters the house, knocks into the door on the way in.

ELLA
Amanda!

ELLA (CONT'D)
What's going on here? Is everything
okay?

POLICEMAN#1
Ma'am, can we speak with you for a
minute.

ELLA
Yeah, of course. Please, come in.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

ELLA
Please sit.

Ella offers a chair to the policemen.

POLICEMAN#1
Thank you.

ELLA
Can I get you anything to drink?

POLICEMAN#1
No. It's okay. We won't stay long.

Ella sits next to the policemen.

ELLA
Okay.

POLICEMAN#1

We were called to the park by someone, because of your... daughter.

ELLA

Amanda?

POLICEMAN#1

Because Amanda was apparently, acting strange. When we got there, she was very confused. She couldn't tell us what was wrong. She was in shock, talking about someone taking her brother away. Has this ever happened before?

ELLA

Did she mention someone, like a clown, a mask?

POLICEMAN#1

She did mention someone. Has this happened before?

ELLA

Well, not exactly. Since we moved here she's been acting strange.

POLICEMAN#1

Have you spoken to her about it?

ELLA

Well, we tried, but she doesn't like my boyfriend. Her father died two years ago. It affected her very much, so we thought that might be the reason for these so called... illusions.

POLICEMAN#1

I'm sorry for your loss. I just want to make sure you're aware of this. You might want to think about getting her some professional help.

Policeman#1 stands, shakes hands with Ella.

POLICEMAN#1 (CONT'D)

Thank you for your time. I hope you will find a solution and that Amanda is okay.

ELLA
Thank you, officer. I'm sorry you
had to deal with this.

POLICEMAN#1
That's okay.

As the policeman drives away, Gil enters.

GIL
What was that about?

ELLA
It's man with a mask again.

GIL
And the police were here because?

LATER

ELLA
I don't know what to do.

GIL
Where's Amanda now?

ELLA
Upstairs.

GIL
Okay. We need to do something about
it. This has to stop.

ELLA
I don't know.

GIL
You saw her. She's not herself
anymore. We should get her help.

ELLA
Give her a little more time.

GIL
We need to find someone to talk
with her.

ELLA
I think so too. She never acted
like this before.

GIL

That's why it would be better for her to find help and get a professional opinion.

Gill waits for Ella to reply, but she stays quiet.

GIL CONT'D

Ella. We are in this together. This has been going on for weeks now. It's only getting worse. She could have lost her brother today!

ELLA

Okay, okay.

GIL

I have a friend who works at the mental hospital, I can ask him about a psychiatrists.

ELLA

Okay. I need to talk to Amanda.

GIL

We're doing this for her own good.

ELLA

I know. I'll go talk to her.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - BASEMENT - DAY

Gil is walking around, talking like if someone is there.

GIL

It's getting worse. Good. It's time to move on.

GIL (CONT'D)

Ella is on my side and soon she will be out of our lives for good. Amanda. Stupid little girl. She won't reveal us.

EXT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - GROUNDS - DAY

It's a sunny afternoon. Amanda sits on the grass, writes her diary.

AMANDA (V.O.)

That's how my path to this place started.

(MORE)

AMANDA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Mom convinced me to see the shrink.
I told myself it's for the best.
Now I know it wasn't.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

Amanda, Marnie and Tommy whisper to each other.

AMANDA
Guys, library, after school.

MARNIE
What's going on?

AMANDA
Got to tell you something.

INT. SCHOOL - LIBRARY - DAY

Amanda and Alexander are together.

AMANDA
I can't meet you after the game
today. I just wanted to tell you
mom's going to pick me up. I have
something to do.

ALEXANDER
Okay. Is everything all right?

AMANDA
Yeah, sure. Don't worry. I'll tell
you all about it. Break a leg.

ALEXANDER
Okay, thanks. It's a big game.

Marnie and Tommy join them.

MARNIE
Finally. I thought it would never
end, maths... who needs it.

TOMMY
We need it.

AMANDA
I need to go back to the amusement
park.

MARNIE
What?! No. No, you don't mean that.

AMANDA

I don't want any of you to come with me, but I need to go back one more time.

TOMMY

What if this is your last time? Don't you remember what happened there?!

AMANDA

I know, but I need to go back to check out something I saw.

ALEXANDER

I won't let you go alone. I'm coming with you.

MARNIE

Why do you want to go so badly?

AMANDA

The carpet.

MARNIE

What?

AMANDA

When I was in that room, I saw that the carpet was exactly the same as the carpet in our basement. I'm totally sure that Gil is connected to all this.

TOMMY

I don't know. This is getting too creepy.

ALEXANDER

I'm sorry guys, but I've got to get to practice. I need to run. Call me later and tell me all about it.
'Kay?

AMANDA

Of course.

Alexander gives Amanda a kiss on the cheek, runs out.

MARNIE

What was that?

TOMMY

A kiss, Marnie. Haven't you kissed anyone ever?

MARNIE

I know what a kiss is, Tommy!

AMANDA

It's nothing, really. Forget it. Listen. There's one more thing.

MARNIE

Okay. I'm listening.

TOMMY

Wait. Me first. I found something more. Look at this.

Tommy opens a link on his computer.

AMANDA

Oh my God. I know this painting!

TOMMY

You know it?

AMANDA

It's the painting mom bought for Gil. It's creepy. Did you find something out about it?

TOMMY

Sure, I did! Look.

Amanda and Marnie look at the screen.

AMANDA

That's the one.

MARNIE

You weren't lying and this is creepy. There are a lot paintings of crying kids here.

TOMMY

So, the other day when we were looking at the newspapers, there was an article about the painting which had been rescued from the amusement park, but hadn't been destroyed in the fire. It took some searching on the internet, this is what I found.

Tommy reads the article.

TOMMY CONT'D

Legend says that Bruno Amadio, also known by other sudanims apparantly put a curse on all his crying boy paintings, It's said that the orphanage where he found his models for the paintings burned down. After that any building where the painting or copies of the painting were hung caught fire, but the paintings always survived undamaged.

MARNIE

That's enough for me.

Amanda continue reading.

AMANDA

When the paintings were sold globally, many stories were documented of the paranormal. There were cases of houses being totally destroyed after spontaneously catching fire and the paintings surviving without a scratch. At the end of the eighties, the legend spread like wildfire, pardon the pun and testimonies on the misfortunes of those who owned the paintings, multiplied by the dozens.

LARA

Ssshhhhhhhh!

MARNIE

You shhhhhhhhh!!

TOMMY

Girls... I think the family had that same picture.

They look at the computer.

AMANDA

Oh, my God and it's the only thing that didn't burn when the whole house went up.

MARNIE

Now I am freaking out!

AMANDA

I'm sure there is some kind of connection. We're getting closer guys. We got this. Now delete all of the history. No one can know about this. Our search, discoveries all about the family.

Library is empty. It gets quiet, lights goes off.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What happened?

MARNIE

Guys?

Marnie whispers, search for Amanda's hand.

TOMMY

Is anyone here?

AMANDA

Damn, let's stay together.

They slowly go to the shelves. The door creaks as they open.

MARNIE

I'm scared.

AMANDA

Shhhhs.

They hear the steps coming closer behind them. Amanda slowly turns.

LIBRARIAN

What are you doing?

They exhale and fall on the floor.

MARNIE

We thought.

LIBRARIAN

The power went out. That's all.

TOMMY

of course, it did.

AMANDA

Let's go home.

They pack their things. Amanda search for the photo.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Guys, I think the photo is gone.

MARNIE
Are you sure?

They search for it.

TOMMY
Maybe it was deliberately powered off.

AMANDA
That's mean, Gil knew I had a photo.

MARNIE
What will you do?

AMANDA
Just act like I do not know anything about it?

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - RECEPTION - DAY

Amanda and Ella enter. A NURSE (28) writes notes at a desk.
People wait on chairs to be called.

ELLA
Hello.

NURSE
Hello. How can I help you?

ELLA
I'm here with my daughter, Amanda.
We have an appointment with doctor Brown.

NURSE
Your card, please.

ELLA
Here.

Ella gives Amanda's card to the nurse.

NURSE
Okay, we'll call you, please take a seat.

ELLA
Thank you.

Ella and Amanda sit down. Ella takes a magazine from the table, Amanda looks around at the activity.

NURSE
Mrs. Clark!

ELLA
Yes... here... Come on Amanda.

NURSE
Doctor Brown is in the room which is the last door on the left.

ELLA
Okay. Thank you.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DR. BROWN'S ROOM - DAY

DOCTOR BROWN (70), short brown hairstyle, is in a wheelchair. He looks out of the window, keeping his back to Amanda and Ella through the whole consultation. The desk is empty.

ELLA
Hello.

DOCTOR BROWN
Come in, come in.

ELLA
Doctor Brown. My name is Ella and this is my daughter Amanda.

DOCTOR BROWN
Amanda, would it be alright if I spoke with you alone without your mom? I think it would be better.

AMANDA
Okay, but Mom, do I really need to do this?

ELLA
I'll wait for you outside, okay?

Ella leaves the room.

DOCTOR BROWN
So, Amanda, is it?

AMANDA

Yeah.

DOCTOR BROWN

Just lie down on the sofa and relax. Don't be afraid. We'll just talk.

Amanda lies down on the sofa.

AMANDA

I'm not.

DOCTOR BROWN

Hm. Tell me why are you here?

AMANDA

I keep seeing a freak with a mask.

Doctor Brown starts coughing.

DOCTOR BROWN

A freak you say? When was the first time you saw this freak as you call it.

AMANDA

In the basement of our house I think, but Gil said there were never clowns in his basement and I saw it only once, there.

DOCTOR BROWN

Gil?

AMANDA

My mom's boyfriend.

DOCTOR BROWN

You don't like him do you?

AMANDA

I hate him and believe me, he hates me too.

DOCTOR BROWN

Is that so? What reason?

AMANDA

He's evil. He tries to convince my mom that I'm crazy. But I know he is hiding something. He gets angry every time I do something... why are we talking about him?

DOCTOR BROWN

It's Okay. I see you're angry. Now tell me, when you see this freak, in what circumstances do you see him, could there be a particular reason why you see man with a mask?

AMANDA

I don't know. When I'm alone?

DOCTOR BROWN

Huh.. so there isn't anyone who could confirm your visions?

AMANDA

Um...no. But I know what I saw.

DOCTOR BROWN

Okay, let's say I believe you.

AMANDA

Okay.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALWAY - DAY

GIL

Hey, Max?

MAX (O.C)

What is it?

GIL

Your Mom will be home in a minute okay? Giuliana's asleep and I need to go out. I'll lock the door, so wait here for your Mom.

MAX (O.C)

Okay.

GIL

Can I trust you kiddo?

MAX (O.C)

I won't go anywhere and I'll take care of little sis.

GIL

You're a good boy Max. See you tomorrow.

EXT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - RECEPTION - DAY

ELLA

How was it?

AMANDA

Boring.

ELLA

I don't know if you're telling me the truth or not, but you must be honest with the doctor, or he can't help you.

AMANDA

Okay. I don't want to talk about it now.

ELLA

Gil is working late today and we're going to a concert tonight, so make sure you're home to watch over Max and Giuliana. Okay?

AMANDA

Sure. Mom, do you know where Gil keeps the key of the garage. I think I left my jacket in the other day.

ELLA

Okay, I'll give it to you, but make it quick. Gil doesn't want us in there. It isn't safe.

EXT. SCHOOL - YARD - DAY

Amanda is on the bench.

Alexander arrives.

ALEXANDER

Sorry I'm late!

AMANDA

It's okay.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I need to tell you something.

ALEXANDER

Okay, are you alright? You look tired.

AMANDA

Since I moved here, I've been seeing a man with a mask, everywhere.

ALEXANDER

A man in a mask? You mean like- Wait, like people in the story?

AMANDA

Yeah probably. That's why I was acting weird the other day in the park and lately in the school.

ALEXANDER

That's really bad. Are you okay? Did he do anything to you?

AMANDA

Not physically, but it's freaking me out. I'm seeing it everywhere. I can't even sleep with my lights off. I don't even know if what I'm seeing is true or not.

ALEXANDER

That really sucks. What about your mom?

AMANDA

She agrees with everything Gil says. She's completely blind to my problems. Not that she ever really cared. They sent me to a shrink.

ALEXANDER

I'm sorry about that. You can crash at my place if you like.

AMANDA

Thanks, but I'll be fine. I don't want anything to happen to any of you and please don't say anything to Marnie and Tommy. I don't want them to worry.

ALEXANDER

I'm here for you. Whatever you need.

AMANDA

Thanks. I really needed to tell someone.

ALEXANDER

You sure you don't want to tell
Marnie and Tommy?

AMANDA

Yeah. For now.

ALEXANDER

Okay. We'll will get you out of
this. I promise.

Alexander hugs Amanda.

AMANDA

I'd better go. I don't want Gil to
get suspicious or anything. I don't
want anything to happen for any of
you.

Alexander and Amanda kiss, Amanda leaves.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda sits with her laptop. She is listening to music
through big HEADPHONES on her head, She checks on Max and
Giuliana who sleep, then she leaves the house.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - NIGHT

The garage door is unlocked. Amanda enters and goes down to
the basement.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Max is awake, searching for Amanda.

MAX

Amanda! Amanda?

He opens the door and see that garage door are open. He
enters.

MAX (CONT'D)

Amanda?

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GARAGE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Amanda pulls up the carpet. There's a trap door in the floor
with two holes in it. She puts her fingers through the holes,
pulls open the trap door.

AMANDA

I knew it.

Amanda jumps through the trap door to the floor below, she finds herself in a dark tunnel.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

It's very dark in the tunnel. There are roots looking out of the wall all around, cockroaches crawling. Amanda follows the tunnel with her flashlight. She is frightened but keeps going.

AMANDA

I can't believe this. It's like a horror movie. I hope I'm the main character here. Huh...

Amanda thinks she hears something, turns back with flashlight. Nothing.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Damn. Is there an end?

Amanda goes a little further, comes to a small ladder.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Another door, as I thought.

Amanda goes up the ladder, opens the board ceiling. She can see it's the room she was trapped in when she was in the derelict house at the amusement park. She notices the rocking chair. She climbs into the room, notices the music box playing.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What the hell is this.

She sees a thin box under the space of cupboard. She opens it find a lot of different viles.

CLOSE ON VILE:

VISIONS, ILLUSIONS, HEARINGS, FORGETTING...

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What?!

Amanda is shocked. She opens the vile visions and tries to sniff just a pinch of it. Then covers her nose immediately.

FLASHBACK

Amanda packs her backpack. She takes the perfume from the shelf and sprays it in the air, smells it and looks at the perfume again. She inflates herself.

END OF FLASHBACK

Amanda takes one of the viles and slowly walks out of the house into the amusement park.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I got you.

She sees someone is walking to the house.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Oh, shit!

Man with a mask sees her. Amanda runs back in the house, back down the ladder. Man with a mask run after her.

She runs back into the derelict house, back through the tunnel, Man with a mask is right behind her, running, breathing hard. Amanda screams.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

AAAAAAA! Leave me alone! Stop this!

Amanda sees Max, standing there.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Max!? What the hell are you doing here? Run! Run!

She runs to him, takes his hand and drags him with her. She stumbles across the root. Man with a mask, right behind her, catches Max's arm drag them back. She looks fearful. Amanda start feeling dizzy, her sight gets blurry and the clowns face is everywhere.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

N-o-Max-no-

MAX

Amanda! Amanda!

Man with a mask signling hushs - a finger to his lips. Amanda falls to floor. Max is trying to break free. Man with a mask sprays Max, took him with. Starts laughing out loud.

INT. THE OPERA - NIGHT

People are watching an opera. Gil joins Ella watching.

GIL

Did I miss something?

Ella smiles to him and shakes her head, take his hand.

INT. THE TUNNEL - NIGHT

Amanda wakes up, looks around.

AMANDA

Max! Max! Where are you!? Max? Say something!

Amanda is frighten. Don't know what to do. She tries to run back to the ladder. The ladder is gone and she can't open the board ceiling. She run back home.

She hauls herself back up through the trap door to the basement.

She leaves the trap door open, goes back up the stairs into the garage.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - NIGHT

Amanda shivering, calls.

AMANDA

No, no. Why is this happening to me? It's not real, it's not real...

INT. THE OPERA - NIGHT

Ella's phone buzzes.

ELLA

It's Amanda. Excuse me.

GIL

I'm coming with you.

ELLA

Amanda? What is it?

AMANDA (V.O.)

Mom. Come home, please. Please come right now.

ELLA

What's wrong? Are you crying.

AMANDA

Max, is gone, he took him. I don't know what to do. Mom please.

ELLA

Amanda this is not funny!

AMANDA

I'm not kidding. Mom Please believe me. Please come quick!

Gil steps away from Ella, makes a call. He covers his mouth and speaks quietly. He looks worried. Hangs up.

GIL

Everything okay?

ELLA

I'm sorry but we need to go home. Something's wrong.

GIL

Okay. I left my jacket in. Wait here. I'll be right back.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - YARD - NIGHT

Amanda sees the car light, run out.

AMANDA

Mom!

Hugs Ella.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Mom, I need to show you something.

ELLA

What are you talking about Amanda? Where is Max?

AMANDA

That's why I need you to come with me. I know how it sounds, please believe me.

ELLA

Amanda, I swear, if this is some kind of a joke.

Amanda takes Ella's hand and takes her down to the basement.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Gil run down after them.

AMANDA

Mom, that man I talked about, that I saw. He is down there. There's some kind of a tunnel leading to the amusement park.

ELLA

Amanda... how many times do I need to tell you, there aren't any clowns or whatever you see.

AMANDA

Mom, look! The carpet! Same one is in the amusement park.

ELLA

How do you know that?

AMANDA

Because under it is a tunnel leading to the amusement park. See for yourself.

ELLA

Gil? Won't you say anything? What is she talking about? Why should I believe this nonsense?

Amanda removes the carpet, the opening is closed, fixed with knots.

AMANDA

What the hell?! This can't be.. I left it open.

Amanda tries to tear it off, she kicks, punches.

ELLA

Amanda! Stop this! You showed what you wanted to. There is no Clown there is no tunnel! Stop with this and let go.

GIL

Since I live here the basement's been like that. I never really used it. You see the walls aren't that stable that's why I didn't want the kids being down here.

ELLA

Of course.

AMANDA

Mom, he is lying! Believe me! Tear this up! You'll see! I'm not lying! I was down there with Max! He was there. And man with a mask took him! I swear mom! I wouldn't be lying to you! I tried to save him.

Amanda cries helpless.

ELLA

Where is Max? Amanda.

AMANDA

I'm telling you! We need to find him. The amusement park. He must be there. Please mom!

ELLA

Gil, tear this up.

GIL

Are you sure? There's nothing down there.

ELLA

How do you know?

GIL

I don't. But, it's late and dark.

ELLA

Tear it up!

Gil takes a hack. Tear up the door.

GIL

See? There's nothing down there.

AMANDA

No! No, no, no!

Amanda attack Gil. Screams!

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What did you do!? Where do you have Max? I know you do! I know you have him! Nooo!!!!

ELLA

Amanda. What did you do to Max?!
Why are you doing this to us? I
don't understand you anymore. You
are grounded! Gil will pick you up
after school, you'll go straight
home. No park. No library until we
find Max. Is that clear to you?!

Ella looks at Amanda with teary eyes, slaps her and leaves.

Gil steps to her.

GIL

What are you trying to prove? There
is nothing down there. Is it?

Gil leave the basement.

GIL (CONT'D)

Get out of here.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ella and Gil talks.

ELLA

We need to call the police.

GIL

They won't do anything for the next
24 hours.

ELLA

How can you be so calm!? I can just
sit here and wait. We need to find
him! I need to find him Gil.

Ella cries.

GIL

We will. I promise. We will find
him. What are you going to do with
Amanda?

ELLA

I don't know. I just want to find
Max first.

Amanda comes with teary eyes.

AMANDA

Mom?

ELLA
Go to your room. I can't look at
you right now.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda cries, closes her door and all the windows. Turns on
the lights, gets into bed under her blanket.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Ella is crying next to Gil which is talking to police
officers.

POLICEMAN#1
His sister was with him when he
disappears?

ELLA
Yes. But...she...

GIL
She is not herself. She is sick and
going through some mental problems.

POLICEMAN#1
You say it's not safe to talk about
it with her.

GIL
You can if you want. But she is
saying nonsense. We search for him
where she said he was but there was
nothing.

POLICEMAN#1
Could she hurt him?

ELLA
Amanda? No, he wouldn't do anything
like that. Even now.

POLICEMAN#1
Okay, thank you for now. We will
call you if we find anything.

They shake hands and leave.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gil and Ella are sleeping. Suddenly they hear a loud scream.

ELLA

Not again.

GIL

Sshhhs. It didn't wake giuliana.

Ella exhales.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda's laying in bed with headphones on, classical music is on.

Her bin is full of wipes. Her phone buzzes, she looks at it, picks up.

MARNIE (V.O.)

Hello? Amanda are you there?

AMANDA

I'm here.

MARNIE

Finally! Where are you? Why didn't you pick up your phone before?! Please don't hung up!

AMANDA

I'm sorry. I promise I'll tell you everything. Just not like that. Not through phone. Until I come back to school don't do anything about our research.

MARNIE

Do you think someone knows?

AMANDA

Not here. Just be safe and don't do anything about it. Tell the guys the same. I hope I'll be able to return to school soon.

MARNIE

Be safe.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DOCTOR BROWN'S ROOM - DAY

DOCTOR BROWN

How is school?

AMANDA

Boring.

DOCTOR BROWN

And your friends? Tell me about them?

AMANDA

There's nothing to tell. I don't have friends. Never had them. I was always a bit of a loner.

DOCTOR BROWN

Huh. What about man with a mask? Are you still seeing him?

AMANDA

No. I think those talks really helped. I haven't seen it for days. I'm feeling better now. It's all good.

DOCTOR BROWN

Are you sure? You know, you can tell me anything.

EXT. SCHOOL - YARD - DAY

Amanda is going home.

MARNIE

Hey girl! Wait! Wanna walk home together?

AMANDA

Sorry, I have somewhere to go.

Amanda notices Gil waiting in the car.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Shit.

MARNIE

Amanda!

Amanda runs off. Marnie runs after her.

TOMMY

Wait for me.

Tommy runs after them.

MARNIE
Amanda stop!

AMANDA
What?!

MARNIE
What's going on with you? You've
been avoiding us for days.

AMANDA
Nothing. Leave me alone.

Tommy catches up to them.

TOMMY
Is everything alright?

MARNIE
Amanda stop! Tell me what's up with
you!

AMANDA
I told you, it's nothing! Why are
you bothering me? Don't you have
anything else to do?

MARNIE
Why are you talking to me like
that? What happened to you?

AMANDA
I've had enough of all of this!
This fucked up village, school, my
house. I'm crazy! Why are you even
here. I knew it was a bad idea
hanging out with you!

MARNIE
Amanda... I know how hard it must
be for you, but we are here for
you. We're your friends!

AMANDA
Stop with this kind mask of yours!
You don't know a thing about me, or
my life! I don't want you!

MARNIE
Is that so? Okay, go! I thought you
were my friend, but you're a
selfish...

TOMMY

Marnie stop. Amanda, she didn't mean that.

MARNIE

Stay out of this.

AMANDA

Everyone wears a mask don't they? You finally showed yours.

MARNIE

Look who's talking. Stop being a victim. I know you're still new here and that you have problems, but it's not only you! Remember all the things we've been through together? We stand by each other and talk about our problems! Guess what! Everyone has problems! That's what friends are for!

TOMMY

Marnie...

MARNIE

We are always here for you, you know? All of us. Whatever happens. I'm not going to stand by and watch you get hurt and struggle.

Marnie cries.

MARNIE CONT'D

I won't let you suffer alone. I'll help you whether you want me to or not! 'Cause I'm your friend.

TOMMY

Me too.

Amanda looks over to the car, Gil still watches them.

AMANDA

That's enough! I don't want to see you again! Just leave me alone!

Amanda gets in the car, she cries. Gil drives away.

INT. CAR - TRAVELLING - DAY

GIL

A little fight with your friends?

AMANDA

They're not my friends. Just some
annoying people.

Amanda looks through the window, sees a paper flying by.

CLOSE ON PAPER

MAX CLARK - MISSING

EXT. SCHOOL - YARD - DAY

Alexander joins Marnie and Tommy.

ALEXANDER

What was all that about?

Marnie cries, hugs Tommy. Tommy is embarrassed, hugs Marnie
lightly.

MARNIE

Are they gone?

TOMMY

Yes. I don't understand.

ALEXANDER

We have to do something about it.
We need to help her somehow.

MARNIE

We will.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DOCTOR BROWN'S ROOM - DAY

Gil and Ella enter.

ELLA

Hello, doctor.

DOCTOR BROWN

Good morning. Come on in.

GIL

Good morning.

Doctor Brown signals for them to sit on the sofa.

DOCTOR BROWN

Please sit.

Gil and Ella sit on the sofa.

DOCTOR BROWN (CONT'D)
Would you like coffee or anything?

ELLA
I'm good, thanks.

GIL
Water will be fine.

Doctor Brown pours water from a jug into a glass.

DOCTOR BROWN
Don't be scared. My face may not look great, but my mind is in perfect working order. You can be sure of that.

ELLA
Of course. It's alright.

DOCTOR BROWN
Okay we can start. How is Amanda these days?

ELLA
She has nightmares, she sleeps with the lights on, if she gets to sleep at all. She can't concentrate and she doesn't want to talk to anyone.

DOCTOR BROWN
Do you want to add something Sir?

GIL
She never liked me, that's not a secret. I thought she would get used to me and at least act normally around me, but it's all getting worse. I tried to get closer with her, but I don't know how to help her anymore.

DOCTOR BROWN
I figured that, while talking to her.

ELLA
She was very attached to her father and she just can't accept that he's gone.

DOCTOR BROWN
I see. I spoke with Amanda about her life, family, school...
(MORE)

DOCTOR BROWN (CONT'D)
 Through that I got to know her a
 bit. The reasons for hallucinations
 can be many. Some can be scary,
 like getting mad, mentally
 unstable, mixing reality with an
 imaginary world. Amanda's case is
 not an exception.

Ella takes Gil's hand. Doctor coughs in napkin. It's blood.

ELLA
 Are you okay?

DOCTOR BROWN CONT'D
 Just a little cold. Amanda's
 problems will happen in stages.

MONTAGE

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda sees clown in the mirror.

LATER

Man with a mask is at her bed.

LATER

Man with a mask is in the basement.

DOCTOR BROWN (V.O.)
 The first stage is when
 hallucinations begin and the
 subject of the hallucination is
 seen everywhere.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Amanda is studying, but she can't concentrate.

DOCTOR BROWN (V.O.) CONT'D
 You lose concentration,

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Amanda is hurrying home from school. She walks past Marnie,
 Tommy and Alexander without acknowledging them at all.

DOCTOR BROWN (V.O.) CONT'D
Avoid people you love.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda is in her bed. She can't sleep.

DOCTOR BROWN (V.O.) CONT'D
You can't sleep.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - DAY

Amanda walks around the house, eyeing people in the house and in every corner as though she can see something in those places.

DOCTOR BROWN (V.O.) CONT'D
You are always wondering when the next illusion will happen and they become so scary that you simply can't get rid of them.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DOCTOR BROWN'S ROOM - DAY CONT'D

DOCTOR BROWN
But you already know all of this. Amanda will only get worse. I'm sorry to tell you this, but the next stage will be mixing these hallucinations with reality. She already believes they aren't just hallucinations.

Ella shifts in her seat uneasily.

DOCTOR BROWN CONT'D
It's a mess in her head right now and we can't do anything about it. She could become dangerous and even mad. It won't necessarily happen that way, but in 99 percent of cases, it does and if that does happen, it won't be safe for anyone. Not for Amanda, not for you.

ELLA
There must be something we can do to stop this.

DOCTOR BROWN

The best thing, is to put her in
mental hospital for therapy.

Ella cries. Gil hugs her, tries to calm her.

DOCTOR BROWN (CONT'D)

I know it's hard to hear this, but
I don't want to lie to you. I know
a place that is right for people
like Amanda. There are other, very
fine places that are nearer, but I
really do think this will be more
suited to Amanda's needs. It's a
big house and it has everything.
It's like a holiday house for
patients.

The doctor opens a drawer in his desk, takes out a brochure,
shows it to Ella and Gil. They flick through the pages.

DOCTOR BROWN (CONT'D)

And the doctors are nice. She would
feel safe and good there, I can
assure you.

ELLA

Will we be able to visit her and
keep in contact with her?

DOCTOR BROWN

Yes, you will be able to see her
every day, but let's not rush into
that. We'll talk about this again,
if it goes that far. For now, I'll
give you a prescription for
sleeping pills. So she will be able
to get some sleep at least and if
you can see it's getting worse,
call me and we'll go through it
together.

Doctor Brown takes his card from his pocket, gives it to Gil.

GIL

Thank you Doctor.

Gil smiles at the doctor, stares him in the eyes as though
hypnotizing him.

DOCTOR BROWN

Don't worry. She just needs some
therapy, which I am sure will help
her.

Gil and Ella stand. The Doctor and Ella shakes hands.

ELLA

Thank you.

GIL

We'll call you. Bye, doctor.

Gil and the doctor shake hands, look at each other in the eyes again.

DOCTOR BROWN

Take care and goodbye.

Gil and Ella leave. The Doctor sits back in his chair, he takes down a wig, we see his whole face for the first time. Face is distorted, with scars and burned head under his wig.

INT. ALEXANDER'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Alexander, Marnie and Tommy wait. There's a knock on the door. Alexander opens the door.

AMANDA

Alex?

ALEXANDER

Come in.

Amanda rushes to Marnie, hugs her.

AMANDA

I can't thank you enough for being my friend. I'm sorry about everything. I was lost. I doesn't want anything to happen to you after what happened in the library and all.

MARNIE

What are you talking about? It was nothing. Although, I'm still ashamed of the things I said.

AMANDA

You really got into character didn't you?

MARNIE

I'm so sorry.

AMANDA

It's alright! Thank you all of you.

MARNIE

You sure, he isn't anywhere near this time?

AMANDA

I'm sure.

TOMMY

I really don't understand girls.

They all laugh.

MARNIE

I missed you so much, but why didn't you tell us about man with the mask and the shrink? Alex told us everything.

ALEXANDER

I'm sorry.

AMANDA

No, it's okay. I'm sorry for not telling you before. I was afraid and confused. I didn't know what you would think of me.

TOMMY

We are all in this together. From the beginning to the end.

MARNIE

We are. I'm so mad at you for even thinking that we would leave you alone in this mess.

AMANDA

Let's forget about that. We have work to do.

ALEXANDER

But, selfie first!

MARNIE

Really?

AMANDA

Come here all of you! Let's take a selfie!

TOMMY

We still need to get this done.

MARNIE
Come closer, Tommy.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Amanda arrives. She takes off her shoes, looks at the painting on the wall.

AMANDA
You stupid painting. You're bad
luck aren't you?

Amanda gets really angry, shouts at the picture.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Is it you? Are you making me
insane?

Amanda takes the picture down, throws it to the floor.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Maybe it's really all your fault. I
was okay until I came here. It's
you, It's this house, It's Gil.

Ella comes downstairs.

ELLA
Amanda? Who are you talking to?
What are you doing? Stop this.

Amanda pushes Ella away. Amanda cries.

AMANDA
What am I doing? Mom!! What is
happening to me? What is wrong with
me. Make this stop, please.

Ella hugs her.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Can you let me go?

Amanda stops crying.

ELLA CONT'D
Amanda, they will take you away if
you don't stop all this! What's
wrong?

AMANDA

What's wrong? Maybe you would know how I am, or what's bothering me, if you would just ask me! All you need to do is ask mom!! Have you ever asked me how I feel since dad died?! No, you haven't! Why didn't you ask me? Because you were too busy hanging out with Gil weren't you?! And the shrink. Who came up with this?! Gil, of course.

ELLA

Don't you dare talk to me like that! I've had enough. You're not the only one who misses your dad! But it's time to leave the past behind us and move on with our lives.

AMANDA

Max too?

Ella gets a tearful eyes.

ELLA

Dont you dare to talk about Max. Amanda you'll go for a therapy. When you get better you'll return home and all will be good again.

AMANDA

Everything will be good again? Are you serious? Are you even listening to yourself?! Nothing's been okay since dad died, after that, everything went wrong!

ELLA

That's not true, Amanda. What about your friends? You finally found some friends didn't you?

AMANDA

That's one and only good thing that happened. Mom you need to come with me. For once in your life trust me and come with me to see my friends. Do this for me! Please!

ELLA

It will be better if they don't know about this. Not yet.

(MORE)

ELLA (CONT'D)
When you return, you'll be able to
see them again.

AMANDA
I hate you! I don't want to see
your face ever again! I wonder what
dad would say to you. I wish you'd
have died instead of him!

Amanda takes a mirror from the wall and throws it down.

ELLA
Amanda!

She runs up, breaks the mirror in the bathroom, locks herself
in her room.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Gil is at the front door, he can hear Amanda and Ella
fighting.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DAY

The place is beautiful, with well kept gardens, pathways and
a large forest surrounding the grounds.

The building is warm, colorful, clean.

Gil and Ella look around.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - RECEPTION - DAY

The reception area is big, employees are very polite, kind.

Doctor Brown arrives.

DOCTOR BROWN
Good morning!

GIL
Doctor.

ELLA
Doctor Brown, this place is
beautiful. It doesn't look like a
hospital at all.

DOCTOR BROWN
What did I tell you? Come on, we
have some papers to sign.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DOCTOR BROWN'S OFFICE - DAY

Doctor Brown is at his desk. He goes through the papers, hands them to Ella and Gil to sign.

DOCTOR BROWN
Sign here... and here.

Ella signs the papers, then Gil signs them.

DOCTOR BROWN (CONT'D)
How is Amanda handling it?

ELLA
Not well.

DOCTOR BROWN
You saw for yourself that this place has everything. It's a fine place with good people. She'll be fine. The treatments are very good and in time, she may forget her fears and outgrow them totally.

Ella and Gil shake hands with the doctor and leave.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - GIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gil takes the box from under his bed, opens it, puts in more pictures of Amanda. There is also an old broken mask in the box. He closes the box, leaves with the box.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Gil puts the box on one of the shelves. Leaves the basement.

GIL
I'm sorry Amanda but you shouldn't play with my family.

INT. ALEXANDER'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

MARNIE
Is Amanda coming today?

ALEXANDER
She can't. I have her on the phone.

AMANDA
Hey guys. I need to be quick. It's all settled now.

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

We know Gil is the Asgard's son and man with the mask. We got him.

MARNIE

I can't believe we did this.

ALEXANDER

All this nonsense will be finally over.

AMANDA

I'll make my mom come with me, there. Right, tomorrow! We don't have time to lose.

ALEXANDER

Alright! Take care.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

Amanda watch television, hears the sound of a big car outside. She goes to the window, looks out. A white van drives into their yard.

AMANDA

Some white van is coming in. Are you expecting someone?

GIL (O.C)

I am.

Amanda continues to watch the van. TWO MEN IN WHITE CLOTHES exit the van. Gil pours himself a glass of whiskey.

GIL (CONT'D)

We probably need to talk.

AMANDA

About what?

GIL

I think you know.

AMANDA

No. My mom wouldnt. I'll tell her everything. I know you took the photo in the library. It was you on it wasn't it? That's why you took it.

GIL

That's none of your damn business!

AMANDA

You are that boy from the story.
And you had a twin. I know all
about you.

Gil picks his glass of whiskey up, throws the glass across
the room.

GIL

You don't know anything! Don't act
like you do! You just couldn't stop
digging could you? It's your fault
for what's happening to you. It's
your fault.

The bell rings. Amanda runs upstairs.

The bell rings again. Gil opens the door.

GIL (CONT'D)

Hello. Please come in.

The two men enter. Gil closes the door.

MAN #1

So where is our girl?

GIL

She's upstairs in her room. Follow
me, I'll show you.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S ROOM - DAY

Amanda leans heavily on her door, tries to stop it being
opened.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - OUTSIDE AMANDA'S ROOM - DAY

GIL

Amanda honey, open the door! We
spoke about this and agreed that
you are going for a therapy, just
for the summer.

AMANDA (O.C)

Agreed? Are you for real? I never
agreed to this. Do you know what
you did to me?!

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - AMANDA'S ROOM - DAY

Amanda falls to her knees, Gil opens the door.

Gil and the two men enter.

The men help Amanda stand up, put her in a straight jacket.

They take her down to the car, Amanda yells back to Gil, tries to free herself.

AMANDA

You're the man with the mask aren't you? From day one in the basement? You came out after me. In the bathroom? In my room? You killed Bobby!

GIL

Oh Amanda, it's going to be okay.

Gil follows the men and Amanda. Amanda kicks and screams, tries to free herself.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

MAN IN WHITE

You'll be alright.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Some people sit at tables eating, some wait in line at the counter to be served.

Amanda joins the line. She takes a plate of food, sits down next to a woman (50) with long black hair, white skin, dark eyes, seems scared.

IRIS

Hello. Why are you here?

Amanda looks at her.

IRIS (CONT'D)

Not ready to talk about it? That's okay. If you feel like talking I'm not going anywhere.

Iris stands up, takes her plate.

AMANDA

Wait!

IRIS
Yes?

AMANDA
What's your name?

IRIS
I'm Iris.

AMANDA
I'm Amanda.

Iris smiles, gets up to leave, laughs to herself.

INT. GIL S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Gil comes home to Ella.

GIL
Hey honey. How are you holding up?

ELLA
I'm not sure.

GIL
I got you something. Open it.

Gil gives Ella a little box with a bow on it. Ella opens it.

ELLA
Thank you. Perfume? I love it.

GIL
Try it.

Ella sprays it and sniffs.

ELLA
Smells nice.

They hug.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

MADLINE, BLACK (50) creeps up behind Amanda.

Amanda stops at her door, Madeline stops behind her.

MADLINE
You saw him too, didn't you?

Amanda freezes with shock, then turns around.

AMANDA
How did you?

No one is there.

AMANDA CONT'D
What the hell just happened.

FLASHBACK

Amanda remembers being taken away by the men in white coats from the house.

END OF FLASHBACK

AMANDA
This can't be happening to me.
Isn't it enough already?!

Amanda enters her room.

EXT. SCHOOL - HALL - DAY

Whole school is gathering in the hall for presentation. The room is full of hustle and bustle of students. They find their seats. Marnie and Tommy are in the middle.

TOMMY
Have you seen Alex?

MARNIE
He said he has a meeting for scholarship with some important man and his dad.

TOMMY
Oh, that's today. I hope he returns before Amanda brings her mom.

Something like a light smoke comes from grates.

MARNIE
What's that?

TOMMY
What?

MARNIE
That smell.

TOMMY

You re right. Something smells.

People coughing, smelling the weird smoak. Teachers go to open the windows.

TEACHER

Open all the windows!

The smell slowly disappears.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

Alexander enters.

ALEXANDER

Hey guys. Is Amanda here yet?

MARNIE

Who?

ALEXANDER

Amanda?

TOMMY

You must be in the wrong class. We don't have an Amanda in our class.

ALEXANDER

What are you talking about?

MARNIE

Alex, are you alright?

ALEXANDER

But, you're her best friends!

MARNIE

Although... I have heard that name somewhere before.

TOMMY

Now that you say it... the name does sound familiar.

Alexander goes to his desk, sits, whispers to himself.

ALEXANDER

What the hell's going on?

EXT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - GROUNDS - DAY

Some patients, nurses mill about. Amanda notices Madeline on a bench, she's alone.

AMANDA
Oh, what the hell! I've already
lost everything.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Hey.

MADELINE
Oh. It's you.

AMANDA
I'm Amanda.

MADELINE
I know. I heard you talking in the
canteen.

Madeline signals for Amanda to sit with her.

MADELINE (CONT'D)
Come on, sit.

Amanda sits next to her.

MADELINE (CONT'D)
Don't be scared of me. I'm just
like you.

AMANDA
I'm going to ask you straight. How
did you know that I'd seen man in a
mask?

MADELINE
Man in a mask? I always thought
it's a clown. Those illusions. You
remind me of me back then.

AMANDA
I knew I wasn't the only one. What
happened to you?

MADELINE
I had just started work as a
journalist when the fire at the
amusement park in Weston happened.
It was a mystery to me and I
thought this could be my big break.

(MORE)

MADELINE (CONT'D)
I went there to find out what
really happened. And I did.

AMANDA
You were a journalist? Wait... Are
you Madeline?

MADELINE
How do you know that?

AMANDA
I found a notebook with your name
on it, but didn't have a chance to
read it. Were you there when the
myth started?

MADELINE
I was. And I am Madeline. Haven't
heard that name for a really long
time.

Madeline looks around.

MADELINE (CONT'D)
Come closer.

Amanda moves closer.

MADELINE CONT'D
I'm pretty sure that man with a
mask was the Asgard father. I wrote
everything in that notebook.

AMANDA
What?

MADELINE
It makes sense! Look, you know
those people who were rude to that
kid all saw man with a mask. I
tried to find out the truth about
the family and then I saw it too. I
saw it because I wanted the truth.
I was stupid and kept digging into
it.

AMANDA
So, man with a mask was actually...

BEAT

MADELINE
Protecting his son.

AMANDA

That can't be. His father died in the fire.

MADELINE

That's what they thought. But, they never found the body. No one believed me, but I saw the twin too. Alive and well. His face, was scarred.

AMANDA

That makes sense, but then... if man with a mask you saw was the father, he would be really old by now. Which means, someone else took the role of man with a mask. And if the twin is alive.

BEAT

MADELINE

He must be. How ironic. They came from the circus in the first place. It's like they never left.

AMANDA

Oh my God... We thought wrong. I need to find my friends. They need to know.

NURSE (O.C)

Amanda! It's time for your medicine! Frank Dean! Your's too.

FLASHBACK

MARNIE

Tommy, this is Amanda, the new girl. Amanda this is Tommy Dean. He's my best friend and a nerd.

END OF FLASHBACK

AMANDA

Dean?! Do you know-

Amanda turns to Madeline, but no one is there.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Where did she go?

Amanda follows the nurse who takes her to a room in the hospital.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - ROOM - DAY

NURSE

Wait there.

AMANDA

It all makes sense now. The whole story and his face, covered with scars. I need to protect my friends.

LATER

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - COMMUNAL LOUNGE - NIGHT

Amanda searches for Madeline. Notices her with bunch of other patients, they watch a movie. Amanda sits down next to her.

MADELINE

You feeling better?

AMANDA

I need to get out of here.

MADELINE

You can't.

AMANDA

What do you mean? I'm okay.

MADELINE

It's been years since I had those illusions and have been locked up here.

AMANDA

How many years?

MADELINE

28 years.

AMANDA

What?! That can't be. I need to find my friends!

MADELINE

How long have you been here now?

AMANDA

A few days.

MADELINE

Have you had any visitors, since you got here?

AMANDA

No...

MADELINE

Have you ever asked yourself why? Why your family, your friends never come to see you?

AMANDA

I told my mom I didn't want to see any of them ever again and my friends probably don't know where I am. I hope they are okay.

MADELINE

They never come because they don't remember you.

AMANDA

Now you're making this up.

MADELINE

Why would I do that? Why would I still be here?

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

The doorbell rings, Gil comes to the door, opens it.

Alexander is on the doorstep.

GIL

Yes?

ALEXANDER

Is Amanda home?

GIL

Amanda? There is no Amanda in this house.

ALEXANDER

How...

Ella joins Gil at the door.

ELLA
Gil? Who is it?

GIL
This boy is searching for, Amanda?

ELLA
Amanda?

ALEXANDER
I'm sorry, I must have the wrong house.

GIL
Wait! What is your name?

ALEXANDER
Ale... Alan!

Alexander leaves. Gil closes the door.

GIL
Alan. How did I missed you?

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - COMMUNAL LOUNGE - NIGHT CONT'D

AMANDA
Why are you so calm?! I need to find a way out. You should come with me.

MADELINE
Don't you think I've tried?

AMANDA
There has to be a way out and I will find it!

MADELINE
Do you really want to? To go back to that crazy village, to illusions? When was the last time you have a good sleep? Last time you weren't scared? It's been awhile right?

AMANDA
But I know the whole truth now. I can... I can save you too.

MADELINE

Maybe I'm already safe. I feel free here, I can sleep, I don't need to worry about anything. There is nothing for me out there. It's been 28 years.

AMANDA

I'm sorry. But I have friends out there. I need to find them.

MADELINE

Good luck.

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda stuffs her pillow under the blanket so it looks like she is in bed.

She slowly opens her door, leaves.

LATER

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - RECEPTION - NIGHT

Amanda hides behind the desk for a few seconds.

She slowly opens a drawer, takes a bunch of keys. She runs through the hall to the main door. She looks around, then unlocks the door.

EXT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - GROUNDS - NIGHT

Amanda runs to the fence. She climbs over it with difficulty, runs into and through the dense forest.

She can hear creepy voices from all around her.

AMANDA

Come on Amanda, run!

LATER

Amanda is tired from running but scared.

AMANDA

It shouldn't be much further now!

Her clothes are ripped, she sees scary shadows, hears scary voices, but keeps running. Eventually, the forest ends, a bright light shines ahead.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

That's it!

INT. SCHOOL - LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Kids are putting things in and taking things out of lockers, then going to class.

Alex closes his locker, notices Amanda's locker slightly open.

He opens the locker fully, notices the picture of the selfie glued on the inside of the locker door.

He takes the picture out of the locker, joins Marnie and Tommy at their lockers.

ALEXANDER

Hey guys...

Alexander shows the picture to them.

CLOSE ON PICTURE of Amanda, Tommy, Marnie and Alexander.

Alexander turns the picture over.

CLOSE ON back of photo

Best day ever - 28.3.2018

EXT. STREET - DAY

Ella walks along with a bag. Marnie runs after her.

MARNIE

Mrs. Clark?

Ella stops, turns to see Marnie.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

I'm Marnie. Amanda's friend.

Ella looks uncertain.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Your daughter?

ELLA
Giuliana? She's just a baby.

Marnie shows Ella the picture of Amanda.

MARNIE
This is Amanda. She is your
daughter.

ELLA
I think I've seen her before, but
I'm pretty sure she is not my
daughter.

Marnie grabs Ella's arm, tries to pull her along.

MARNIE
Come with me.

ELLA
What are you doing? Wait! Stop.
What do you want?

MARNIE
I need to show you something.
Please come with me. Just for a
minute. Please!

ELLA
Okay, but just for a minute.

INT. ALEXANDER'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Marnie and Ella enter. Alexander and Tommy are already there.

MARNIE
This is Ella. Amanda's mom.

ALEXANDER
Nice to meet you. Alex.

TOMMY
Tommy.

ELLA
What's this? Where are we?

MARNIE
Look at these pictures. This is
Amanda. She is your daughter.

ELLA

Kids, I don't know you and I don't know what you're trying to do.

ALEXANDER

We want you to remember. To help us find her.

TOMMY

We are Amanda's friends. She trusts us and we are going to save her.

MARNIE

You need to remember her!

ELLA

I think you have the wrong person. I don't have time for this.

Alexander puts more pictures from newspapers on the table.

ALEXANDER

What about this?! Man with a mask! Does that sound familiar?

Ella Looks at them closely.

ELLA

What is this? Is that Gil?!

TOMMY

You heard about the story of this village?

ELLA

I think I heard of it, but is it true?

MARNIE

It is. We have proof.

ALEXANDER

More importantly, we are very sure that one of those kids is Gil and that he is man with a mask, that scared Amanda.

MARNIE

He changed his name, so no one in the village would recognize him.

ELLA

What? This can't be.

TOMMY

The proof is right before you and Amanda is locked up somewhere. No one knows what happened to her, or where she is.

ELLA

Oh my God... Oh God... Amanda... my baby?

MARNIE

You remember. Don't worry. We have a plan, but you need to trust us. We need you.

ELLA

I can't believe he would do that.

MARNIE

Amanda found the truth that's why he got rid of her.

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - NIGHT

Alexander is on his way home from training. He goes by the amusement park. He stops when he hears someone talking. He hides behind the trees, watches. He can see Gil with a man wearing a clown mask.

MAN WITH A MASK

(distorted voice)

How is father doing?

GIL

You see him more than I do. He was good last time I saw him. You know him. He has everything but a pretty face.

MAN WITH A MASK

I guess you're right.

GIL

It is all good now. You don't need to hide anymore.

ALEXANDER

No. That can't be. Gil's not who we think he is.

Gil takes the mask off of the man. His face is full of scars.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)
It's the twin? He's alive?

Alexander quickly takes some pictures. His phone rings. The man hears it, looks in Alexander's direction.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)
Shit.

Gil runs into the derelict house, clown puts on his mask and runs towards Alexander. Alexander runs out of the house and away through the corn fields, stumbles, falls.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Ella enters. Trying to stay calm.

GIL
Hey honey. You alone?

ELLA
We need to talk.

GIL
Is everything okay?

ELLA
Not really. Gil or should I say Elazia? I know everything.

GIL
What are you talking about?

ELLA
I think it's about time you tell me the truth. All of it. Without any lies.

GIL
You know me. Honey?

ELLA
Stop with the honey. The story, MAN WITH A MASK, all of it, it is true isn't it?

GIL
Who told you this nonsense? I thought we got over this!

ELLA
It doesn't matter.

GIL
Would you believe some kids, over
me?

ELLA
Yes. This time I think I will. They
have proof! All of it. Those
pictures of you, your brother? You
can't hide it. What kind of sick
game are you playing? And where is
Amanda? What did you do to Max?!

GIL
Who're they?!

ELLA
Amanda's friends. Don't dare touch
them. I should have believed Amanda
from the start.

GIL
It was those two nerds wasn't it?!
But how did they...

BEAT

ELLA
Such a monster. Was she right the
whole time? Was it all true? Did
you do this? Are you man with a
mask?! The cat? And Max?

Ella is about to cry.

GIL
Ella, I love you! She was trying to
ruin everything. I swear I didn't
do anything to Max!

ELLA
What are you trying to do Gil? I
loved you. I really did! How could
you lie to me?! I'm going to stop
this once and for all. You won't
hurt anyone ever again.

Gil slaps Ella.

GIL
Shut up!

ELLA

I think we're done! I'm taking
Giuliana. Don't come near us ever
again! I'll call the police. You're
not getting out this time.

GIL

You are not taking anyone. I'm
sorry Ella, I can't let you do this
to my family.

Ella attacks Gil, he pushes her into the hall.

INT. GIL'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Gil grabs Ella, shoves her hard against the wall. She hits
her head, passes out.

The painting falls down. The hallway spontaneously bursts
into flames. Ella is on the floor.

The flames very rapidly spread throughout the whole house and
everything melts and burns very quickly.

Gil runs upstairs.

The ceiling collapses on top of him.

He is trapped, he can't move.

GIL

Guil..

Gil dies.

EXT. GIL'S HOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY

Marnie and Tommy arrive.

TOMMY

The house is on fire.

Marnie and Tommy can hear crashing as the interior of the
house collapses.

MARNIE

OMG.

TOMMY

We're too late.

MARNIE

Call 911, they may still be alive.

Tommy calls 911.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Miss Clark!! Are you in there?!

Miss Clark! Shit!

Marnie notices someone running away from the burning house.

MARNIE (CONT'D)

Tommy! Did you see that?

TOMMY

See what?

Marnie runs to the street, Tommy runs after her.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

MARNIE

Miss Clark!?

TOMMY

Marnie, talk to me.

MARNIE

I thought I saw someone.

TOMMY

She wouldn't just run away.

Marnie notices a notebook, old, burned and dirty on the ground. She picks it up.

MARNIE

Madeline's notes?

TOMMY

What's this?

MARNIE

It's burnt. A note.

EXT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - DAY CONT'D

AMANDA

That's it. I see it! I can finally see it! The light! It's real. I'm so close to being free!

She cries, laughs at the same time.

AMANDA (CONT'D)
It's like the sun. It's shining, no
more trees, just grass.

She notices a group of people in white clothes. As she approaches them, she recognizes them.

She moves closer. She is recognizes their faces. A nurse calls out to her.

NURSE
Amanda! Amanda! Where were you? We
missed you at breakfast.

Amanda notices Madeline.

MADELINE
I told, you didn't I?

NURSE
Look at you Amanda. You're all
dirty...

Amanda looks blankly at the nurse.

LATER

INT. MENTAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda is writing her diary.

AMANDA (V.O)
As I said... there's no way out.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Tommy is on his way home. He comes to the corner of the street. It's dark. There are street lights every few meters. They turned off, of one in the middle.

Tommy stops and stares at it. Man with a mask shows up under the light. He starts laughing to Tommy.

INT. ANOTHER HOSPITAL - DAY

Ella is in bed, on a ventilator, wired up to machines that constantly beep. Max and Marnie stand by the bed.

MARNIE

Max. It's time to go. Say goodbye
to your mom for now.

Max hugs Ella lightly. He takes Marnie's hand, they leave.

INT. A DARK HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

The man with a mask sits in a creaky rocking chair. The photo of Amanda and her friends are on the desk next to Alexander's phone.

On the wall is the painting of the crying boy.

He is wearing white gloves.

He whistles to himself. He goes to Giuliana asleep in a crib, takes off his gloves, puts them on a table.

His hands are badly scarred from being burned.

MAN WITH A MASK

Everything is going to be alright.
I will take care of you now.

His face is full of scars.

THE END