The elevator

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#### PROLOGUE

EXT. BUILDING. DAY

A massive 50-story building dominates the skyline. Its sleek glass facade dominates the setting sun.

INT. BUILDING. V&K COMPANY. CEO'S OFFICE EVENING

We're on the 49th floor. As we open the door, we see a middle aged woman, sitting at her desk, reading some documents when her phone chimes.

Meet VICTORIA KENSINGTON, she is 43, she has blue eyes, dark brown hair and a huge satisfied smirk on her face. She's CEO of the V&K COMPANY.

VICTORIA flips through the documents, smirking. The phone buzzes. She blinks, glance at her watch: 8.47 p.m.

#### VICTORIA

#### Damn

She grabs the documents, she slides them into a manila folder and she puts them into the drawer under her desk. She gets up, walks to the door, she grabs her coat and purse near the door and she heads out.

INT. BUILDING. V&K COMPANY. CORRIDOR. EVENING

VICTORIA walks along the corridor, she's the only one left in the office, until she stands in front of one the three elevators. She presses all of three buttons, the elevators are too slow according to her standards, they're wasting her time. Finally, the elevator in the middle reaches her floor. The door slides open and VICTORIA steps in.

INT. ELEVATOR. EVENING

VICTORIA presses the ground floor button. As the door closes she grabs her phone from her pocket, she sends an audio.

#### VICTORIA

Hey Sarah, I know I'm late, uhm, Chinese is fine. Again, sorry I'll make it to-

When

BOOM! A thunderous explosion shakes the elevator. VICTORIA gasps as the floor trembles beneath her. A deafening ring fills her ears. There's a sudden explosion. What the hell just happened? Was it a bomb? An earthquake?

The elevator blocks between 46 and 45 floors, and the emergency signal turns on. VICTORIA falls on the floor, her phone slips from her hand.

The electricity goes off, while the emergency signal is still on.

VICTORIA CONT'D This is unacceptable

The elevator is completely in the dark. VICTORIA's eyes struggle to adjust, but there's nothing to see. Her hands tremble as she fumbles for the phone in the dark. She finds it.

# VICTORIA CONT'D Splendid

She uses her phone's torch to light around, until the backup generators are activated, the emergency signal goes off.

VICTORIA slowly rises to her feet. She turns off the light of her phone and she puts it back into her pants. She moves to the door, she tries to open them but they are completely sealed and they do not open.

> VICTORIA CONT'D Not now, not today

She walks to the button panel, she taps the emergency button multiple times but no one answers. She hits it one more time, stronger.

VICTORIA CONT'D Hello, is anybody here

No answer. She walks to the doors again, she hits them but no one seems to notice she's gone missing. Also, if there's been an explosion/earthquake why are the alarms not working?

VICTORIA tries to maintain her composure, but it's not easy, she takes deep breaths but she's sweating. She unbuttons the neck's button of her shirt.

VICTORIA pulls out her phone again and she sends another vocal text.

VICTORIA CONT'D

Sarah, it's me again, I think it might take a little longer than I thought

She realizes that this text and the previous one are not delivered, plus, the battery is running out of juice, it's at 12%.

When

Another explosion, the elevator plummets from floor 45 to 39. VICTORIA slams against the wall, gripping the handle, but it's useless. The impact sends her sprawling. Her head hits metal. Darkness swallows her hole.

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT ONE

INT. ELEVATOR. NIGHT

After what feels like an eternity, VICTORIA is still trapped inside. Blood covers her left face due to the impact. VICTORIA still lies on the floor, a deafening whistle fills her ears, she touches her face, she grimaces in pain. She finally opens her eyelids, everything's still blurred, she slowly sits against the wall, when she notices a woman dressed in total black standing before her. VICTORIA gasps, afraid, she wants to scream but it's like she has lost her voice.

#### Woman

#### Are you hurt

VICTORIA tries to flatten against the wall, but given the small space... it's useless.

## VICTORIA

## Who... who are you

The woman kneels in front of VICTORIA, her motions are deliberately slow, maybe she doesn't want to scare VICTORIA, she doesn't seem to have bad intentions at the moment.

# VICTORIA CONT'D How did, how did you get in here

The woman indicates a hole on the ceiling, definitely big enough to get out of there. The hole in the ceiling is a jagged tear in the metal, edges sharp and glinting in the dim light. Twisted wires dangle from the opening, swaying gently. Looking up, Victoria could see only blackness.

# VICTORIA CONT'D Okay good so we can get out of here

VICTORIA tries to stand on her feet, but her head is pounding too much.

VICTORIA CONT'D Damn it She tries one more time, but she's too weak.

# VICTORIA CONT'D Helping would be much appreciated

The woman ignores VICTORIA's request.

# Woman How's the head

# VICTORIA

## It hurts

The woman steps closer to VICTORIA, VICTORIA looks at the woman. It's like she's seeing herself in a mirror. The woman has the same features of VICTORIA, the only thing different is that her head is not bleeding, but there's a scar covering her left part of her face.

VICTORIA's eyes widen in disbelief, her pupils dilate, the woman, instead, smirks back at her, it's the same smirk VICTORIA used to have. So far the woman didn't do anything, didn't harm VICTORIA, but there's definitely something fishy going on.

VICTORIA barely swallows.

# VICTORIA whispering Who… are you

The woman touches VICTORIA's forehead.

#### Woman

I think we should do something about that cut

VICTORIA's eyes are filled with tears, she's so afraid. She closed them.

# Woman CONT'D It's super nasty

The woman sits in front of her.

# VICTORIA

Who are you

Woman

# I thought you had already figured it out by now, and they say you're smart

#### VICTORIA

#### I don't understand

The woman stands up to her feet, she walks around the small place. Her walk is slow, every now and then she looks at VICTORIA, she is just trying to make her upset. VICTORIA feels like an animal trapped in a cage, she looks around trying to find a potential weapon for personal defence, but there's nothing useful. With trembling hands she pulls out her phone, battery is still at 12%, but what's interesting is that it's 08.55 pm. VICTORIA looks at the time again, she blinks her eyes repeatedly, but still, her phone indicates 08.55 pm. After everything that happened it's impossible that only eight minutes have gone by. She gently taps the phone against her leg but the time doesn't change. VICTORIA touches her chest, she listens at her heartbeat. The woman looks at VICTORIA, she smiles at first, until she bursts

out laughing.

Woman Time is such a funny thing, isn't it

## VICTORIA

### It's not funny

#### Woman

VICTORIA, you can't even figure it out who am I, it's hilarious

VICTORIA gathers all of her strength, she grabs the handle and she screams in pain until she stands up. She steadies herself, it seems like someone who had too many drinks and tries to walk, but at least, she's standing on her feet.

#### VICTORIA

For the last time, who are you

#### Woman

Sounds like we should do something about it, won't we

VICTORIA balls her hand in a fist, she lurches against the woman to hit her, but the woman rapidly scoots on her right and VICTORIA hits the panel buttons of the elevator.

The woman laughs again, VICTORIA with all the strength left tries to hit the woman one more time but this time the woman blocks VICTORIA's hand trapping her hand into hers. VICTORIA pales, she is totally screwed. The woman at first, squeezes VICTORIA's hand gently, she almost brushes them with her lips, it feels like she wants to take away the pain.

# Woman Such a delicate thing

But then, with the most innocent and candid smile, while she stares at VICTORIA right in the eyes, she squeezes it, she wants to break VICTORIA's hand. VICTORIA cries and grimaces in pain.

#### VICTORIA

## Please, just let me go

The woman ignores VICTORIA's plea, she squeezes the hand once more until she lets her go. VICTORIA takes a step back holding her hand in pain. The woman walks toward her, she grabs her injured hand and she kisses VICTORIA's knuckles.

## Woman

VICTORIA, VICTORIA...

#### VICTORIA

I'll give you anything you want, as long as you let me go

The woman scoots over and she shows the metal door.

Woman

I'm not the one holding you here, you're free to go

VICTORIA with unsteady steps she walks to the door. She wedges her fingers into the narrow gap between the door and the frame and pulls with all her might. It doesn't budge. Not even a millimetre, her nails scrape against the cool metal surface. Discouraged, VICTORIA cries as she hits the metal door repeatedly. The woman steps right next to her, she puts her hands on VICTORIA's shoulders.

> VICTORIA grimacing Don't touch me

Woman Shh... stop whining The woman leans close to VICTORIA, VICTORIA can feel her hot breath against her face, the woman flips VICTORIA so now they are face to face, VICTORIA closes her eyes, she doesn't want to see her, she shakes under her touch, she's afraid like she's never been in her life.

Woman CONT'D

I am your worst fears, your worst nightmares, I am everything you'll never be

VICTORIA

You're lying

Woman Why would I, I don't need to

Woman I am a better version of yourself

VICTORIA This is just a nightmare, you're not real

Woman

But I am real, I'm very real just ... inside your head

The woman touches VICTORIA's cut on her forehead, then she takes a step back looking at VICTORIA. The woman lights a cigarette, she offers one to VICTORIA.

> Woman Cigarette

VICTORIA I quit

Woman It won't last

The woman starts pacing around, VICTORIA can't move, she seems paralysed after what she just told her. Her face is whiter than a snowflake, her eyes are so wide open, she doesn't even blink them. She tries to move away from the door but her muscles are numb. She wants to take a step further but her feet are glued to the floor.

> VICTORIA Wait

The woman stops pacing right away. Her attention focused on VICTORIA.

# VICTORIA CONT'D You just said you're just in my head right

## Woman Yeah

# VICTORIA

How do I get you out of my head

## Woman

Oh sweetheart, you tell me

AKA there's no way out.

The woman smiles at VICTORIA, it seems an authentic one, even if her teeth are way too white almost disturbing. VICTORIA's heartbeat is so fast, she can't breath, she's gasping for air, the woman stands in front of her, she's a bit disappointed by VICTORIA's reaction. She crosses her arm in protest while she shakes her head. VICTORIA gasps for air, she touches her neck, as if someone is choking her, she barely sits on the floor. VICTORIA looks at the woman, begging her to stop, she thinks she's the one who caused it.

## VICTORIA

Help… me

The woman just looks at her.

## VICTORIA CONT'D Please

The woman raises her hand in resignation.

## Woman So pathetic

VICTORIA unbuttons another button of her shirt.

VICTORIA 100, 99, 98, 9...97

The woman kneels in front of VICTORIA. Her eyes are fixed on her, unblinking, devoid of any warmth or emotion.

# VICTORIA CONT'D 94, 93,

# Woman Brighton 2013

VICTORIA stops panicking, she stares at the woman in disbelief, her mouth is open for the shock.

The woman knows exactly where to hit her.

VICTORIA

How ... what did you just say

Woman

I told you, I know everything

The woman stares at her VICTORIA, she touches VICTORIA's face, briefly.

Woman

#### Cigarette

VICTORIA tries to fight the urge of smoking at first, but then she nods, while she looks on the ground.

VICTORIA

Yes please

The woman promptly gives her a cigarette.

Woman

I knew it

VICTORIA lights the cigarette, she coughs when she first inhales the smoke, but then she gets used to it again quickly. VICTORIA looks at the cigarette.

> VICTORIA I quit smoking three years ago, expect for that one-

> > Woman Time, while you were in Vegas

VICTORIA smirks.

VICTORIA Right

# VICTORIA CONT'D How do I get out of here

# Woman You just don't VICTORIA There must be a way

The woman shrugs, she gets up then she immediately sits again, this time, right next to her. VICTORIA takes her phone back into her hand, she looks at the time it's still 08.55 pm. VICTORIA is losing it, she looks at the screen and bursts out laughing, hysterically, nervously. She looks at her phone one last time and she launches against the opposite wall, the phone hits the wall and then the ground. It smashes into little tiny pieces. The woman looks at VICTORIA, tilts her head, is she sorry for her?. VICTORIA turns and looks at her. For the first time VICTORIA gently touches the woman's arm.

## VICTORIA

## Help me please

The woman smiles wholeheartedly.

Woman Let's play a game

The woman stands up, happy and cheerful.

VICTORIA

I don't want to play with you!

The woman's look hardens instantly. She kneels down in front of VICTORIA, she puts her arm around VICTORIA's neck, choking her. VICTORIA gasps, she tries to stop her, but she is way more powerful than her.

Woman You will play a game and you will like it

VICTORIA nods lightly. The woman loosens the grip around her neck, letting VICTORIA breath again, she eventually lets her go. VICTORIA lights another cigarette, the woman smiles. The woman stands on her feet and walks around. VICTORIA still sits against the wall.

#### Woman CONT'D

I'll ask you some questions and you'll tell me truth, I know when you're lying, so please, just take it seriously

# VICTORIA

What if I refuse to answer

The woman looks around.

# Woman I guess we'll be stuck in here forever

VICTORIA swallows. The idea of being trapped in that elevator forever with that monster is too much. She takes a deep breath, and lights another cigarette.

## VICTORIA

Let's play

## Woman Yes!

The woman is so happy she jumps.

## VICTORIA Don't!

VICTORIA braces her arms around her legs, ready for the impact. The woman jumps a second time.

VICTORIA looks around, the elevator doesn't move.

# VICTORIA CONT'D

I thought we would fall but it didn't, how's that possible

The woman shrugs, and helps VICTORIA stand on her feet. They face each other in the center of the elevator.

Woman Hands or eyes

> VICTORIA What

#### Woman

# Come on VICTORIA! Pick something! It's not funny if you slow things down

# VICTORIA Eyes

The woman nods appreciatively.

Woman Let's start with something... simple

> Woman CONT'D Summer or winter

# VICTORIA

Winter

Woman

# Right answer

VICTORIA is sweating, her forehead is pearly with drops of sweat and blood, the woman, on the contrary, is perfectly fine, she stands tall with her empty ice eyes looking at poor VICTORIA.

#### Woman

Dog or cat

## VICTORIA

Both, but I slightly prefer dogs

The woman smiles, grateful for VICTORIA's honesty. Given the kind of questions, VICTORIA seems to ease herself a little bit.

## Woman

Have you ever hurt someone

VICTORIA tenses, she bites her bottom lip. The questions are not as easy as the previous ones, the woman was just warming up, trying to make VICTORIA comfortable before making her uncomfortable again.

# VICTORIA

Yes

Woman When you look at yourself in the mirror, do you wish you're someone else

# VICTORIA Most of the time, yeah

# Woman Do you feel guilty

VICTORIA is a terrible liar, she looks on the ground.

#### VICTORIA

No

VICTORIA swallows. The woman takes a step toward her.

> Woman My, my... You were doing great so far

VICTORIA takes a few steps back until she touches with her back the wall of the elevators.

Woman CONT'D I thought we were bonding, for real

The woman walks until she touches VICTORIA's body, VICTORIA squeezes herself against the wall, she refuses to look at the woman, she turns her head on her right. The woman leans close to VICTORIA.

Woman CONT'D This will hurt

# VICTORIA No, please, you don't have-

The woman keeps staring at VICTORIA with her blue iced eyes, and with the most serious look, she grabs VICTORIA's right hand. VICTORIA looks at the woman, with pleading eyes, When We hear a terrible noise, bone cracks. VICTORIA screams in pain, she moves away from the woman while she holds her right hand in pain.

## VICTORIA CONT'D

You just broke my finger, you son of a bitch!

The woman takes a deep breath, she closes her eyes, her mouth is closed in a serious line, but she seems satisfied with what she just did. Slowly, she opens her eyes and turns to face VICTORIA.

> Woman I told you, don't lie to me

VICTORIA lights another cigarette.

VICTORIA I'm done playing with you

She looks at her index fingers, and it's pretty bad. Woman Okay, but I'll ask you questions, after all, you still have nine fingers left

VICTORIA

You're sickening

Woman

I'm sure they told you so many times you don't count them anymore

VICTORIA You tell me, you know everything

> Woman Brighton 2013

VICTORIA I don't want to talk about it

> Woman Brighton 2013

VICTORIA I'm done with you

Woman Brighton 2013!

VICTORIA walks in front of the woman, she is upset, she is not sure if this is real or head is playing some dirty game, but she is tired of being trapped in the shit hole. VICTORIA holds out her injured hand to the woman.

# VICTORIA Break them

The woman still stands in front of her, but doesn't flinch, not even a bit.

#### VICTORIA CONT'D

You know what, I said eyes, so take it out before I do it

The woman doesn't move.

## VICTORIA CONT'D

Fine

With a challenging look, VICTORIA meets the woman's gaze. Then, with a sickening squelch, she pushes her left thumb into her left eye socket.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. ELEVATOR. NIGHT

The woman is sitting against the walls, VICTORIA is curled up against the woman's legs, unconscious, we don't see her face at the moment, the woman is stroking VICTORIA's hair. VICTORIA suddenly jolts.

> Woman Finally, I thought you were dead

VICTORIA with her eyes still closed, and with an insecure and shaking hand, she touches her left eye, with sudden surprise, she realizes her eye is still intact. She opens them and she sits in front of the woman.

## VICTORIA

I can see

# VICTORIA CONT'D You… you helped me, why

## Woman

I'm the one who makes the rules, and you don't get to break them

# VICTORIA

Thanks, I guess

Woman I won't be that lenient next time

## VICTORIA

Got it

The woman pulls VICTORIA in for a tight hug. VICTORIA, froze, her body stiff and resistant at first, but then she finds herself

hugging her back, after all she has got nothing left to lose, giving things if she could die right now it would be better.

They pull apart, but VICTORIA doesn't let her go.

VICTORIA CONT'D You're… so beautiful

Woman

#### You are

VICTORIA raises her hand against the woman's face, but before touching her, she asks for her permission.

#### VICTORIA

Can I

The woman slightly nods, VICTORIA touches the scar on the woman's left face. The woman pretends to be fine, but when VICTORIA touches her skin she seems to be afraid her body is rigid, but then she seems to appreciate VICTORIA's touch.

VICTORIA CONT'D Did it hurt

Woman I... it's been a long time, I don't even remember it

> VICTORIA Were you alone when it happened

Woman You and I, we always have been lonely, don't you think

VICTORIA

I like being alone

Woman

Do you, for real, or you just got used to it

VICTORIA

I guess I just got used to it

The light flickers before it dies for a second, when it goes on again the woman who has been torturing VICTORIA for all this time has finally gone, but she has been replaced by another woman, who sits right in front of her.

# VICTORIA KATHERINE

# KATHERINE VICTORIA

VICTORIA chuckles nervously.

VICTORIA I can't believe it, this is my worst nightmare

> KATHERINE It's been a long time

VICTORIA Yeah, since the divorce

KATHERINE We never spoke since that

VICTORIA

Why would I, we have a lawyer, a real expansive one, best money ever spent

KATHERINE You never change

KATHERINE CONT'D We have a daughter, it would be nice if you could talk like two consenting adults

VICTORIA

I know we have a daughter, thank you for the reminder

KATHERINE

Sometimes it seems you forget you have one

VICTORIA takes a deep breath, she looks around and then she stands up on her feet.

VICTORIA

If this is one of your sick games, it's not funny

But of course, there's no answer back. Just the noise of the light.

KATHERINE Who are you talking to

## VICTORIA No one

KATHERINE gets up, she walks right next to VICTORIA.

## KATHERINE

What happened to your head, it seems pretty bad

VICTORIA touches her forehead.

# VICTORIA

It's nothing

KATHERINE Jesus, you can talk to me

VICTORIA lights another cigarette.

KATHERINE CONT'D I thought you quit

> VICTORIA Yeah, I did

KATHERINE And then what happened

> VICTORIA I started again

KATHERINE Did you ever quit or was it just a lie like our marriage

> VICTORIA It wasn't a lie, I loved you

KATHERINE You've been having an affair for two years, how can you say you really loved me

> VICTORIA We were unhappy

KATHERINE Oh what was I supposed to do, I got home and saw you between someone else's leg VICTORIA I know and I told you I'm sorry, it just happened

> VICTORIA CONT'D Anyway, we're happier... divorced

# KATHERINE Says who

VICTORIA I gave you everything you asked for, money, houses, cars, our daughter, everything

> VICTORIA CONT'D You took everything from me, including our dog

KATHERINE It wasn't enough considering how you hurt us

> KATHERINE CONT'D How old was she

> > VICTORIA 22

# KATHERINE 21

VICTORIA Seems like you remember it way better than I do

> KATHERINE I remember it very well

 $\label{eq:VICTORIA} \mbox{Listen, shut up and help me get out of here}$ 

VICTORIA walks closer to the nearest wall, she puts her face onto the wall, she wants to hear if there's someone else or something else beyond the walls.

> KATHERINE What are you doing, there's no one here

> > VICTORIA

#### There must be a way

She pulls away from the wall.

# KATHERINE Who are you dating now, anyway

Again, she's a terrible liar, she looks on the ground before answering.

# VICTORIA I'm not dating anyone KATHERINE You're still a bad liar

KATHERINE CONT'D Plus, JOEY told me she saw you kissing a girl

# VICTORIA Her name's Sarah

KATHERINE Is she young

# VICTORIA Very

# KATHERINE

You never change

VICTORIA smirks.

# KATHERINE CONT'D Are you in love with her

VICTORIA shakes her head.

# VICTORIA

Not really

# KATHERINE

Does she know, have you been honest with her

## VICTORIA

She knows I care about her, a lot

VICTORIA sits down on the floor, KATHERINE follows her, she sits right next to her.

KATHERINE touches VICTORIA's forehead, VICTORIA lingers under her touch.

KATHERINE Let go VICTORIA, come on

VICTORIA I'm tired, my heart hurts

KATHERINE You just need to let go and everything will be over soon

> KATHERINE CONT'D You will not suffer anymore

VICTORIA puts her head on KATHERINE's shoulder.

VICTORIA My head is spinning

KATHERINE cups VICTORIA's in her hands.

KATHERINE Look at me, VICTORIA

VICTORIA meets her gaze with her.

VICTORIA I think I need to lie down

KATHERINE gently shakes VICTORIA's face.

KATHERINE VICTORIA stay with me, stay with me

> VICTORIA I just want to rest

> > KATHERINE You will soon

KATHERINE CONT'D You just need to tell me what happened

VICTORIA What do you want to know, you already know it

# KATHERINE

You know you can talk to me

VICTORIA I just want to sleep

KATHERINE You will, but first tell me what happened

VICTORIA I… she was my colleague we were flirting for a while and it just happened-

> KATHERINE VICTORIA, VICTORIA stop

> > VICTORIA What is it

KATHERINE I already know about it

> VICTORIA I know

## KATHERINE

I need to know what happened in Brighton 2013

VICTORIA stops abruptly, she grabs KATHERINE's hands while she looks right into her eyes.

VICTORIA You're not KATHERINE

KATHERINE Of course I am, who else would I be

> KATHERINE CONT'D VICTORIA, you're paranoid

VICTORIA I know KATHERINE and she would never hurt me, she's not like me

> KATHERINE And I don't want to hurt you

> > VICTORIA It's you, isn't it

## KATHERINE

It's me KATHERINE

VICTORIA steps away from her.

# VICTORIA It's not you, I know it

VICTORIA KATHERINE would never do something like that, even if I made her suffer a lot

KATHERINE VICTORIA, please, we can work this out together

VICTORIA Stop it

KATHERINE VICTORIA, I still love you, just talk to me

VICTORIA closes her eyes and covers her ears so she won't hear KATHERINE's voice anymore.

VICTORIA

Go away!

# KATHERINE VICTORIA listen to me

# VICTORIA Stop it! Leave me alone!

She screams with all the strength she has left.

VICTORIA CONT'D Leave me!

VICTORIA opens her eyes. We see VICTORIA and the woman talking, while they sit on the floor.

> Woman Do you, for real, or you just got used to it

> > VICTORIA I guess I just got used to it

The light flickers before it dies for a second, when it goes on again the woman is still sitting in front of VICTORIA. VICTORIA looks around the room, what just happened? Was it a hallucination?

> VICTORIA CONT'D What just happened

Woman What are you talking about

#### VICTORIA

I was talking to you and then you were gone and, and, then I was talking to my ex wife KATHERINE

Woman

But I never left

Woman CONT'D I stayed here with you the whole time

> VICTORIA You… you never left

Woman I don't want to leave you

VICTORIA Everybody leaves me, sooner or later

> VICTORIA CONT'D I push people away

Woman I would never do that to you

The woman gently touches VICTORIA's face.

VICTORIA You'll stay with me

The woman nods.

VICTORIA Promise

#### Woman

#### Promise

VICTORIA hugs the woman tight, the woman hugs her back. VICTORIA closes her eyes, she's tired. Instead, the woman's eyes do not show any compassion or sweetness, they are cold, determined, she did manage to drive VICTORIA crazy and now she can finally put an end to it.

Woman We better do something, you're almost out of cigarettes

#### VICTORIA

We need to get out of here

VICTORIA CONT'D I'm just so tired, I can't keep my eyes open

> Woman You can rest, I'll be right here

# Woman CONT'D Nothing bad can happen if I protect you

The woman hugs tighter VICTORIA, she strokes her hair. When She hums something, a simple, haunting melody, but after a minute she sings the same melody.

> Woman CONT'D You and I Against the world You and I We're-

VICTORIA freezes, she recognises the song immediately, she wants to pull away but the woman holds her, VICTORIA can't move. VICTORIA looks at the woman, scared, afraid, how is it possible that she knows that song? The woman keeps on hugging her.

> Fun, cool Brighton here we come

VICTORIA How do you know it Victoria tries to free herself, but the woman is too strong, she could break her back with the blink of an eye if she just wanted to

VICTORIA CONT'D Let me go!

Woman VICTORIA and AUDREY Against the world

VICTORIA I'm losing my mind

VICTORIA CONT'D This can't-

Woman VICTORIA, stop fighting, stop fighting me

With a shaky tone of voice.

VICTORIA How do you know that song

Woman Because I know everything

Woman CONT'D And now you'll tell me what happened in Brighton with AUDREY, or I'll drive you mad

The woman leans against VICTORIA, her hot breath against her ear,she whispers something, VICTORIA's eyes widen, her blood runs cold, and then she screams, terrified, afraid.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. ELEVATOR. NIGHT

The woman leans against VICTORIA, her hot breath against her ear,she whispers something, VICTORIA's eyes widen, her blood runs cold, and then she screams, terrified, afraid.

The woman smiles at her, her white teeth shining.

Woman Come on VICTORIA, just let it out

The woman gets up, leaving VICTORIA sit alone in the middle of the room. The woman starts circling around VICTORIA while she sings the song.

Woman You and I Against the world You and I We're Fun, cool Brighton here we come VICTORIA and AUDREY Against the world

The room spins around her, the woman walks faster and faster. She is so fast VICTORIA doesn't even understand if she is spinning clockwise or counterclockwise or maybe she's doing both. VICTORIA while crying.

> VICTORIA Please, stop it

The woman burst out laughing, it's a monstrous laugh.

Woman You and I Against the world You and I We're Fun, cool Brighton here we come VICTORIA and AUDREY Against the world

Woman CONT'D There's only one way to stop all this

VICTORIA clenches her fists as she hits the floor.

Woman CONT'D You and I Against the world You and I We're Fun, cool Brighton here we come VICTORIA and AUDREY Against the world

> VICTORIA I can't tell you

The woman keeps circling around VICTORIA.

Woman Do you feel guilty

VICTORIA wants to answer but it seems like she can't say just "yes", it's like her voice doesn't let out of her mouth.

Woman CONT'D Do you feel guilty

Woman CONT'D Who is AUDREY, VICTORIA

This time VICTORIA screams in rage, she screams so much her lungs burn. She has to breathe for a moment, before she starts talking.

## VICTORIA

Yes! Yes! I feel guilty

The woman stops spinning, she sits right in front of her. She did it, the woman broke her and she's ready to confess everything.

> Woman Better hurry up, we don't have much time left

The woman indicates the hole on the ceiling, if it was big enough to let her out, now it is reduced to a quarter of it. VICTORIA takes a deep breath, after all what she has been through she is ready to talk. The woman takes VICTORIA's hands in hers but she pulls back, the woman lifts an eyebrow but she doesn't push her further.

VICTORIA

AUDREY was ... the love of my life

VICTORIA CONT'D

She was everything I wanted to be, funny, smart, generous. She was incredibly beautiful

VICTORIA wipes a tear away from her face.

VICTORIA CONT'D We were spending our summer in Brighton, we were young, wasted and madly in love

> Woman Keep going, you're doing fine

VICTORIA We decided to go clubbing, took some pills, but uhm, she-

> Woman She what VICTORIA

VICTORIA She felt sick right away

VICTORIA looks at the ground not able to meet the woman's gaze.

VICTORIA CONT'D She overdosed

VICTORIA CONT'D

And she died alone, I was scared and I left her, to die alone

VICTORIA CONT'D I run away like I alway do

VICTORIA CONT'D

I never loved anyone like her, I... barely survived ever since

Woman

I know

This time the woman's answer seems honest and sincere.

VICTORIA

I lied to you before, people don't leave me. I run away from them

Woman

I already knew it

The woman lights a cigarette, she offers one to VICTORIA and she lights it too.

VICTORIA

If you already knew, why you wanted me to say it

Woman

VICTORIA, my dear VICTORIA, it was time for you to let her go

VICTORIA I can't

VICTORIA CONT'D

It's all my fault if she's dead. She had a bright future ahead and I took it away from her

Woman Do you feel guilty

VICTORIA Totally, it's all my fault

Woman

You know, as much as heartbreaking the story is, I'm not quite sure you told me everything

VICTORIA I... I don't think I understand The woman touches VICTORIA's chest until she makes her lie down on the floor, the woman crawls on her, they are face to face. The woman licks her neck. VICTORIA is disgusted, she tries to move but the woman holds her steady.

## VICTORIA

What are you doing

Woman AUDREY was much more intelligent than you, she was the brilliant one, isn't it true

> VICTORIA Tr... true

Woman What's the name of your company

> VICTORIA V&K

Woman What do they stand for

VICTORIA They are AUDREY's and mine last names

> Woman Remorse will eat you alive

Woman CONT'D Look at the hole, VICTORIA, it's closing real fast

The hole is basically reduced to a few inches. VICTORIA jumps scared.

#### VICTORIA

We need to get out of here or we'll be stuck in here forever

Woman Not yet

Woman CONT'D Not so fast

VICTORIA

#### What more do you want

VICTORIA CONT'D I lost, I told you the truth

Woman Who gave the pills to AUDREY

VICTORIA I paid a guy to mix them wrong for her

The woman whispers into her ear.

Woman That's right, my pet

#### Woman CONT'D

You were so jealous you couldn't stand her anymore, she would have been the bright talented one and you would always have been second choice

> VICTORIA That's why I decided to-

> > VICTORIA/Woman Kill her

The hole closes for good. Now the ceiling is covered with grey metal walls. The woman whispers into VICTORIA's ear.

> Woman Brace for the impact

VICTORIA and the woman hug themselves, just right before the elevator plummets from floor 39 and it stops in time before it smashes on the ground, the walls are still on but they are dented. However, the impact is still relevant, VICTORIA hits her head, she grimaces in pain and a trickle of blood comes out of her face.

> VICTORIA Is this the end, right

Woman You tell me, is it the end

VICTORIA

I deserve it, I can finally sleep now

Woman It's up to you but... you have to know there's still a way

VICTORIA How, the whole is closed

Woman Can you stand on your feet

> VICTORIA I don't know

Woman We should try

The woman stands on her feet, she helps VICTORIA to stand. It takes a while for VICTORIA to gain her balance again, she is cupping her head between her hands as if it is of any help.

Woman CONT'D What if I tell bithet beyond that walls you could make it right

Woman CONT'D Open the door and you'll find AUDREY waiting for you

> VICTORIA But I couldn't open them before

Woman CONT'D Because you were lying to yourself

Woman CONT'D This is your chance to make things right, come on VICTORIA, I know you want it too

> Woman CONT'D Do you want it VICTORIA

VICTORIA nods.

VICTORIA More than everything.

Woman Time to change your destiny

## Woman CONT'D

Open this damned door and walk out, tell AUDREY how sorry you are

VICTORIA Will you stay with me after

The woman takes VICTORIA's hand.

Woman I'll always be with you, no matter what

> Woman CONT'D You have no idea how proud I am

VICTORIA nods to the woman, she walks toward the door, she hits it with her shoulder. Not the best move, the hit echoes inside her head, she stumbles, she has to hold her head as a disturbing whistle bursts inside her head.

> Woman CONT'D Don't give up now, VICTORIA

> > Woman CONT'D You can do it!

VICTORIA wedges her fingers into the narrow gap between the door and the frame and pulls with all her might. VICTORIA screams in pain as her nails break, but this time she doesn't walk back, she keeps on pushing until... The door slightly moves, there's a small ray of light coming from the other side of the elevator.

> Woman CONT'D You did it, VICTORIA! Keep going!

VICTORIA keeps pulling the door, and, finally, she opens the wall. A powerful light irradiates the room, the woman and VICTORIA have to step back because the light is too powerful, they cover their eyes as they have to adjust to the light.

VICTORIA

So what now

Woman Now you get out

Angelic voice V.O. VICTORIA VICTORIA could recognise that voice between millions of people.

VICTORIA AUDREY, is that you

## AUDREY

It's me

# Woman Go now, be with her

VICTORIA walks toward the light, she turns one last time and looks at the woman before walking to AUDREY. VICTORIA walks out into the light.

END OF ACT THREE

EPILOGUE

INT. HOSPITAL. ROOM. DAY

The woman walks into the room, this time she's not dressed entirely in black, she is a surgeon.

Woman What do you have here

The woman approaches the gurney where VICTORIA lies. She's wearing a cervical collar holding her head and face. Her forehead is covered in blood, she's spilling blood from her mouth and her left eye is pretty messed-up.

#### Paramedic V.O.

VICTORIA KENSINGTON, 43, she's under the effect of drugs. She crossed the street without looking and she was hit by a woman. CCTV shows the impact happened between 8.47 p.m. and 8.55 p.m.. the woman who hit her, AUDREY, is in the other room, she's in shock

Her nails are covered in blood and her right index finger is broken. The woman looks at VICTORIA, her eyes are still cold.

> Woman VICTORIA, can you hear me

Woman CONT'D I've got you, don't worry everything will be fine

> VICTORIA whispering I... found her

The woman leans close to her, she brushes a strand of blood matted hair from VICTORIA's face.

Woman Then why do you look so lost

VICTORIA's eyelids flutter, as if she wants to answer, but before she can she closes her eyes.

END OF EPILOGUE

The end