

USE MY BODY

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SCENE ONE- INT. CLEARY RESIDENCE- NIGHT

DUSTIN, 20's male, stares wide-eyed, puffing on a vape. He's staring at two fedoras. DUSTIN chooses a fedora and turns to his dresser. He glances around the corner before pulling out a canister of Axe Body Spray from a drawer. He douses himself and puts it back in the drawer. DUSTIN picks up the glass cologne bottle on the dresser and sprays himself twice. DUSTIN uncaps a canister of cocaine.

DARY, 20's female, stands in the hallway by the front door wearing sweats and headphones. She's holding a lit lighter under a set of keys dangling from a wall hook. She puts the lighter away and strolls back toward the living room. DUSTIN rounds the corner. She hugs him.

DARY
Brother! We're staying in tonight.

DUSTIN
Get the fuck off of me.

DARY releases DUSTIN and moves into the living room. DUSTIN moves toward the front door.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Stoner bitch.

DARY
I made tea, do you want some?

DUSTIN grabs his keys, burning his hand.

DUSTIN
Fuck! What the fuck!?

DARY
I said we're staying in.

DARY'S dipping a cell phone in a mug of water as if it were a tea bag.

DARY (CONT'D)
Sure you don't want some tea?

DUSTIN stomps over to DARY, rips off her headphones, and slams them onto the ground. He stomps on them. DARY flicks the lighter at DUSTIN'S face. DUSTIN flinches.

DUSTIN
If you ever touch my shit again, I will kill you. Fucking psychopath.

DUSTIN moves to the kitchen. DARY takes a sip of the cell phone tea. It's not enjoyable. She puts the lighter on the desk.

DARY

Just relax. She'll be here any minute.

The faucet runs. DARY picks up a framed picture from the desk in the adjacent den. The water turns off. DUSTIN passes her on the way back to his room, mumbling.

DUSTIN
Fucking psycho.

DARY
We're going to talk to mom tonight.

DUSTIN stops and turns around.

DUSTIN
Sorry to kill your high, Dary, but your mom is dead.

DARY
I know our mom is dead. I hired a medium. She'll be here any minute.

DUSTIN
Oh, this is fun.

DARY
Dustin, she's legit. You'll see.

DUSTIN
Oh my god, why do you want to do this to yourself?

DARY
Just give it a try with me. I really want you to do this.

DUSTIN
You are a depressing level of stupid.

DARY
I'll give you the company.

DUSTIN
Fuck off.

DARY
Dustin, I'm serious! If you could just hear her talk to you--

DUSTIN
SHE'S DEAD, DARY!

Gestures pouring a bottle of pills into his mouth.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)

NOM-NOM-NOM-NOM! UGH! Vomit!
Shitting blood! Dead, bitch!
Scene.

DARY
After tonight, if you don't believe
that mom loved you, if you think
the entire thing is still bullshit,
I will sign my half of the company
over to you. Tonight. And you can
have the estate. You can have
everything. I swear. Everything.

DUSTIN
You're full of shit.

DARY
Nope.

DUSTIN
So what do you think is going to
happen? This psychic is going to
summon the ghost of your insane,
abusive mom, she's going to tell us
a bunch of personal shit, we'll all
cry and suck each other off?

DARY
Yup!

DUSTIN
She fucking hated you.

DARY
She was sick.

DUSTIN
She said you made her sick.

DARY
She was projecting. Now that she's
rid of the mess that was her brain,
she's pure soul--

DUSTIN
Wow--

DARY
And now she'll be able to tell us
things, things that she couldn't
let out when she was alive--

DUSTIN
You're so sad--

DARY

Things that her brain wouldn't let her let out. This makes sense, Dustin!

DUSTIN

Nope.

DARY

After tonight, you'll be able to let go of all your resentment, your detachment, the jealousy.

DUSTIN

Jealousy, Jesus. Jealousy is a bullshit word that poor people use. What does that even mean? Wrong wanting???

DARY

Yes! Wrong wanting, wanting things you have no way of attaining- like biology, heritage.

DUSTIN

I have everything I want, Dary. Besides your half of the company, I literally have everything. Fuck, Dary, if I was actually a genetic part of this family, I'd imagine I'd be as fucked up as you and your mom--

DARY

Our mom.

DUSTIN

Like it's no wonder dad went the way he did.

DARY

He was sick too.

DUSTIN

You're all fucking sick. But it was different for him.

DARY

How?

DUSTIN

Because you two were like a contagion for him. He felt himself going literally insane because of you both, so he said fuck it. *Begged* me to unplug him. So, I don't want to let go of my detachment. That's what I learned from him. Detachment is the only

way out of the shitstorm of a family. And when I have the company fully, I'll be fucking gone. That's what I want, it's the only thing I want, Dary. Besides a fucking phone now.

A beat.

DARY throws DUSTIN to the floor and gets on top of him.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
What the fuck!?

DARY smiles into DUSTIN'S ear.

DARY
I know you're afraid, big brother.
But I'm not going anywhere.

DARY gets off of DUSTIN.

DARY (CONT'D)
So don't worry! And don't be detached!

DARY sips from a different cup on the desk.

DUSTIN
If we're staying in for ghost hunting, maybe you should take it easy on that shit tonight.

DARY
You know it's all natural.

DUSTIN
I'm not concerned with your health. I'm concerned with you fucking pouncing on me every time you get excited.

DARY
You know what I call it?

DUSTIN
What?

DARY
Do you wanna know what I call it--

DUSTIN
What, call what what?

DARY
The tea! I call it CeeLo. Because it's made with psilocybin and it'll make you craaazaay!

DUSTIN

Jesus.

DARY

You know what I call it when I put weed in it?

DUSTIN

CeeLo Green.

DARY

I love you so fucking much.

There's a knock at the door.

DUSTIN

Let's get it over with.

DARY

She's legit, Dustin! Be respectful.

DUSTIN opens the door. O'DELL, a severe looking woman in an old, long dress and a duffle bag stands in the doorway.

DUSTIN

Dary, did you order a stripper?

O'DELL does not smile.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)

Kidding, come on in.

O'DELL enters.

O'DELL

There's a lot of bad energy in this house.

DUSTIN

No shit. So how many ghosts have you caught?

DARY

O'Dell! I'm Dary, I'm the one who called you. Do you want some wine or anything?

O'DELL

No.

DARY

Okay, well, make yourself at home. Move whatever you need, uh. How long does it take you to set up?

O'DELL

Not long. Who is he?

DUSTIN
You really don't know?

DARY
This is my brother Dustin, Dustin,
O'Dell, O'Dell, Dustin.

DUSTIN
Charmed.

O'DELL
Have you two discussed what you
want out of tonight?

DUSTIN
In a sense.

O'DELL
You need to be certain. You need
to have one goal, and you both need
to be focussed in achieving that
goal. This is crucial. Otherwise
the spirit will get confused and
leave or worse. What's the name of
the one we'll be contacting?

DARY
Margaret.

O'DELL
I'll give you some time alone to
discuss what you want with each
other while I set up.

DUSTIN
Oh, so you can... never mind. Yup,
let's go talk, Dary. Let's go
discuss our goals. O'Dell, how
long do you need?

O'DELL
Like five minutes?

DUSTIN
Great. My room. Go-go-go.

DUSTIN and DARY go into DUSTIN'S room.

DARY
Okay. So I think we need to just
focus our energies toward love, you
know? She's going to have so much
to say unencumbered by her old
brain, we just need to stay
receptive, stay listening. Let's
avoid asking questions about her
suicide or dad's death... although

maybe they're together... Do you think--

DUSTIN exits his room.

DARY (CONT'D)
Dustin? Dustin!

DUSTIN enters the den, catching O'DELL rigging a remote light.

DUSTIN
What a pro!

DARY
Dustin! Get back in here!

O'DELL
Please don't. I'm sorry, I--

DUSTIN
Dammit, Dary, get in here!

O'DELL
No refunds.

DUSTIN
She paid up front?

DARY
She said she needs five minutes,
I'm giving her five minutes!

O'DELL
Think of your sister. If she knows
this is bullshit, she'll fall
apart, okay? I'll be fast, just,
just let me help her. Please.
Please.

DUSTIN
Help her?

O'DELL
She needs closure. Dustin, that's
all I do is provide closure to
those who need it. I'm not a... a
whatever. I provide a service
people don't realize they need.
Okay?

DUSTIN
All right. You have to tell her
that her mom hated her. Tell her
that it really was Dary's birth
that made her go insane. Don't
hold back.

O'DELL
I can't do that.

DUSTIN
Then I'll have you arrested for
fraud.

DARY
Dustin! Come on, I want to get
started! Let her set up!

DUSTIN
Don't disappoint me, O'Dell.

O'DELL
Just give me a minute.

DUSTIN exits back into his room. DARY is meditating on his
bed.

DARY
Whatever you saw her doing in
there, it doesn't matter. Don't
tell me. Mom is going to speak to
us tonight, even if O'Dell doesn't
realize it. She will.

DUSTIN
Oh, she realizes it. How much did
you pay her?

DARY
Doesn't matter.

DUSTIN
Did you shop around, do some
comparative pricing--

DARY
It doesn't matter. It doesn't
matter.

DUSTIN
Dary.

DARY
IT DOESN'T MATTER!!!

A beat.

DUSTIN
Shit. Okay, whatever.

DARY
It doesn't matter. It doesn't...
What? What's happening?

DUSTIN

No more tea. Come on.

DUSTIN and DARY join O'DELL in the den. She has a light set up on a chair across from the couch.

O'DELL
Please sit.

DARY
Okay.

DUSTIN
I'm good.

O'DELL
There is a concentration of powerful energy in this house. She wants to talk to you.

DARY
I knew it.

O'DELL
Focus your questions toward the light on the chair. I have made it visible to other realms, so Margaret can see it and interact with it. Are you both ready.

DUSTIN
Yup.

A beat.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Dary?

DARY takes a couple deep breaths, smiling, excited, focusing. O'DELL shakes her head at DUSTIN.

DARY
I'm ready.

O'DELL
Silence, please! ... Margaret. My name is O'Dell. I am a mediator between the living and the spirit world. I am here with Dustin and Dary, who would like to speak with you.

O'DELL throws a pinch of glitter into the air. DARY claps her hands, elated.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Margaret, focus your energy on the light. On for yes. Off for no.

Off then on again for a consecutive
yes. Margaret, do you understand?

A beat.

DARY
Mom, please?

The light on the chair flicks on.

DARY (CONT'D)
She hears me! She's here and she
can hear me! Mom, can you hear me?

The light flashes off then on.

DARY (CONT'D)
Oh my God! Dustin! I told you! I
fucking told you!

DUSTIN
How do we know that's Margaret and
not another spirit who wants to
fuck with us?

O'DELL
Ask her a question.

DUSTIN
A yes or no question, they have a
50/50 shot.

O'DELL
Then ask a number question.

DUSTIN
That's a good idea.

DARY
How many children do you have?

DUSTIN
Seriously? Don't answer that. How
many times did you try and kill
yourself, including the time that
worked?

DARY
Dustin!

DUSTIN
Watch the light.

DUSTIN holds up three fingers to O'DELL. The light clicks
off then on three times.

DARY

Three. It's her. I told you.
Mom, are you happy where you are
now?

DUSTIN nods at O'DELL. The light turns off then on.

DARY (CONT'D)
Good! That's so good, Mom. We
miss you so much. So you have a
quiet mind in the state that you're
in now?

DUSTIN nods. The light switches off then on.

DARY (CONT'D)
Good. Do you love us?

DUSTIN contains a smile. The light remains on. DUSTIN
looks to O'DELL. The light turns off.

DUSTIN
Oh, bummer.

DARY
Wait, it's going to turn back on.

DUSTIN
I don't think so.

DARY
Mom, turn the light back on if you
love us. We love you.

DUSTIN
I don't. I think this fucking
light might have made a better mom
than you did.

DARY
They didn't have to adopt you, you
know. You selfish prick. They
should've left you to get eaten by
a dog in a third-world gutter!

DUSTIN
Oh, don't be so jealous, miracle
baby. You're still an only child
as far as I'm concerned.

O'DELL
We're losing her.

DUSTIN
No, we are not. You keep her here,
O'Dell.

O'DELL
She's fading.

DUSTIN
Then throw some more glitter, we're
not done here!

O'DELL
I'm sorry. She's gone.

DARY
But... something went wrong. The
light must've shorted out or
something. She was here!

DUSTIN
O'Dell, can I talk to you?

DARY
This is your fault! You stupid
asshole!

O'DELL
I think I should go.

DARY
No! You're staying. We're going
to get her back. No one is going
anywhere.

DUSTIN
Let me talk to O'Dell. Dary. Let
me talk to her. You need to get
centered. Your energy is...

DARY
Taking from the spirit realm.
You're right. It was my energy
that drove her away.

DUSTIN
Definitely.

DARY
Don't let her leave. You saw that
it's real, right?

DUSTIN
Sure, yeah.

DARY
Don't let her leave.

DUSTIN
I won't.

DARY sits in the middle of the den to meditate. DUSTIN
turns to find O'DELL almost out the door.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
O'Dell! O'Dell, hold on.

O'DELL
This is fucked up! We are messing
with that poor girl's head, and
it's not right.

DUSTIN
\$5,000. Ten more minutes and I'll
give you \$5,000.

O'DELL
She's your sister! Why the hell
would you want this?

DUSTIN
She needs to let go of Margaret.
Right?

O'DELL
Right, but--

DUSTIN
The only way for her to do that, is
to turn them against each other.
Trust me, I know her. She'll
obsess and obsess until the thing
is ruined. \$5,000, O'Dell.
Tonight.

DARY starts repeating a word in Sanskrit from the den. DARY
is wearing her broken headphones, writhing erratically.
DUSTIN takes the headphones off of her head. DARY jumps up
and clutches his neck.

DARY
Hey, brother.

The remote light turns on. She releases him.

DARY (CONT'D)
Look! Dustin, look! She's back!
Oh, thank you, Mom! Thank you!
O'Dell, you're staying?

O'DELL
I'm staying.

DARY
Oh, thank you! I know she's a
powerful spirit. I can't imagine
how taxing this must be for you, so
really, thank you.

O'DELL
Sure.

DARY

And I'm calm now, really. I'm
sorry about before, Mom. O'Dell,
I'm sorry.

O'DELL
It's fine.

DARY
I'm ready now. Dustin?

DUSTIN
I'll be good.

O'DELL throws another pinch of glitter.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Jesus.

O'DELL
Margaret. We thank you for
rejoining us. We are committed to
your comfort. If there is anything
you need from us, let it be known.
If you are willing to continue,
please, flash the light.

The light turns off then on.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Thank you, Margaret.

DARY
Yes, thank you, Mom. Thank you.

O'DELL
Ask her something.

DARY
Mom. Do you love us?

The light turns off.

DUSTIN
Do you love me?

The light turns on then off again.

DARY
Do you love me only?

The light turns on. DARY smiles at DUSTIN. The light turns
off again.

DARY (CONT'D)
Goddammit, Mom! That's not fucking
funny!

DUSTIN
Do you regret adopting me?

The light turns on.

DARY
Do you regret having me?

The light turns off then on.

DARY (CONT'D)
But I'm your miracle baby. You
don't remember? Do you remember?

The light turns off then on.

DUSTIN
Do you still feel the pain?

The light turns off then on.

DARY
Do you still blame me?

The light turns off then on.

DARY (CONT'D)
Why? I didn't do anything! It's
not my fault! I didn't do
anything!

DUSTIN
She's still sick, Dary. It
followed her. It's not your fault.

DARY
Shut up! Mom, what can I do? What
can we do?

O'DELL
I'm losing her again.

DUSTIN
No, you're fucking not.

DARY
Do you want me to give my half of
the company to Dustin?

The light turns off. DUSTIN glares at O'DELL.

DARY (CONT'D)
Do you want Dustin to give me his
half?

The light remains off.

DUSTIN
Wait, for no, does it turn on then
off again, or does it just remain
off?

DARY
On for yes, off for no, Dustin,
it's not fucking complicated. Mom,
do you hate Dustin more than you
hate me?

The light turns on.

DUSTIN
(Whispering to O'DELL) Give me the
fucking remote. Give it to me.

O'DELL
No!

DARY
No what?

DUSTIN
Nothing!

DARY
Mom, do you want Dustin here?

The light turns off.

DUSTIN
Careful, Dar.

DARY
Mom, do you want Dustin to leave?

The light turns on then off.

DUSTIN
I'm not leaving. Was that a no?
I'm still unclear on the repeated
no's.

DARY
Do you want Dustin to die?

DUSTIN
Dary, what the hell?

The light turns on.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
(To O'DELL) What the fuck is wrong
with you?

O'DELL is rapidly pressing the remote button, pointing it
directly at the light. The light will not turn off.

DARY looks back at O'DELL and DUSTIN.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
It's a remote controlled light,
Dary. It's fake. She's a fake.

DARY
No.

DUSTIN
Dary, look, she's holding the
damned remote.

O'DELL
Batteries must be dead.

DARY
You're just saying that. Mom wants
you dead.

DUSTIN
Probably! Big fucking surprise!

DARY
Shh! Shut up... Do you guys feel
that?

DUSTIN
I mean, be realistic, she wants
both of us dead.

DARY
Shh!

DUSTIN
She wants you dead for causing her
chronic lifelong pain--

DARY
Dustin--

DUSTIN
She wants me dead for being the
only one who thinks she's full of
shit.

DARY
Yeah, that. And you killed her
fucking husband!

DUSTIN
He wanted the cord pulled, Dary!
He begged me! I should've done it
sooner!

O'DELL
Guys. Something's...

O'DELL goes stiff and gasps for air. She drops to her knees. Then all goes quiet.

A beat.

DUSTIN
What. The fuck. Was that?

DARY
I don't feel good. I think we need to stop.

O'DELL
Stop?

O'DELL straddles DUSTIN.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Sweetie, I haven't even started.

DUSTIN
Oh. Haha! Okay, get the hell off of me.

O'DELL grabs DUSTIN'S throat. DUSTIN struggles, but can't free himself.

O'DELL
Oh my God, this body. I feel unstoppable, like a goddamned tiger tank. (To DARY over her shoulder) You know the feeling, baby? (To DUSTIN) I know you do. No pain. No fear. It's freedom!

O'DELL releases DUSTIN.

DUSTIN
Get the fuck off of me!

DUSTIN pushes O'DELL to the floor.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Sheezus. The lady knows her business!

O'DELL laughs from the floor. She grabs DARY'S broken headphones.

O'DELL
Oh, I thought you'd like that.

O'DELL stands with the headphones and takes a step toward DARY.

O'DELL (CONT'D)

You ever try it, Dary? Getting off
with sweaty hand around your neck?
That's how Dusty likes it.

DARY
What's happening?

O'DELL drapes the headphone cord around the back of DARY'S
neck and pulls her in close.

O'DELL
I walked in on you one time, Dusty.
Stroking your cock to a black and
white. Tears running down her
cheeks, eyes popping out of her
head. Bloody lips.

DUSTIN looks to the laptop on the desk.

DARY
Dustin?

DUSTIN
She looked at the browser history
when we were in my room.

O'DELL
Let's make a memory.

O'DELL wraps the cord around DARY'S neck and pulls her down
to the floor. O'DELL sits on the couch behind DARY as she
strangles her. DUSTIN jumps up.

DUSTIN
O'Dell, come on.

DARY
(Gasping) Help me--

DUSTIN
Let her go!

DUSTIN lunges toward O'DELL. O'DELL tightens the cord,
cutting off all of DARY'S air.

O'DELL
Stop! She's going to pass out
unless you do as I say. Lay down
on the floor.

DUSTIN
This is too far.

O'DELL
You're losing her.

DARY begins kicking desperately.

DUSTIN

This is a bad move for you, O'Dell.
This won't end up good for you.

DUSTIN lays on the floor. O'DELL loosens the cord and DARY gasps for air.

O'DELL

This tough parenting stuff works
like a charm! You were always so
disobedient, the two of you.

DARY

I'm sorry. I'm sorry, Mom, just
let me go!

DUSTIN

Dary, listen to me. It's not
Margaret, it's a very scary, very
sad woman, who needs clinical help.

O'DELL

If only you were so kind to
describe me as such. It was
usually attention-starved bitch or
dramatic old cunt. What were some
of the other hits? Dary?

DARY

We didn't mean to hurt you.

O'DELL picks DARY up by the shoulders and throws her on the
couch.

O'DELL

You DID hurt me, Dary! YOU did.
Not this prick. Not your father.
It was you.

DARY

I know. I know.

O'DELL

You know, but you did nothing.

DUSTIN sits up.

O'DELL (CONT'D)

STAY DOWN!

DARY

I didn't know what to do. What can
I do? How can I help you?

O'DELL

Now you ask me.

DARY

I've always asked you! Every fucking day I asked you and you never talked to me! You just glared at me in silence!

O'DELL
You asking how you can help me is like a tumor asking how it can help a cancer victim.

DARY
No. No, you said that it was Dustin. Just a second ago, you said you wanted Dustin dead.

O'DELL
The bitch with the magic light said that, not me. Although... I'm sure the world would be less of a shit parade without him in it.

DUSTIN
Dary, this is a robbery. As soon as she finds a weapon, she intends to kill us. And we let her right into our fucking house.

O'DELL
YOUR house???

DUSTIN leaps up and runs to the desk. He gets a letter opener out of a drawer.

DUSTIN
Get the fuck out! NOW!

O'DELL
You think I care about this bitch?

DARY
Dustin don't. Just let her tell us what she wants.

DUSTIN
If she had demands, she would've shared them with us by now.

O'DELL
I can't wait to see the face you're going to make, Dustin, when you realize this is all for real. And the face you make shortly after that when you realize this is the end.

DUSTIN
I'm in my legal right to cut you throat to clit if you don't start

backing out of this house right
now.

DARY bites DUSTIN'S hand.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Goddammit!

DUSTIN drops the opener and pushes DARY off of him. O'DELL
picks up the opener. DUSTIN grabs DARY by the shirt collar.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
What the hell are you thinking!?

O'DELL holds the point of the opener to DUSTIN'S neck.

O'DELL
Your threats are a waste of time,
Sweetie. I told you. I don't care
about his bitch.

O'DELL drives the opener through her palm and drags the
blade through her hand.

DUSTIN
Wow. That's disgusting.

DARY gasps for air, dropping to her knees.

O'DELL
Oh my god. Oh my god, my hand!

O'DELL drops the letter opener.

DUSTIN
Haha! Went further than you knew
you'd go? Okay, get the fuck out
now please. If you pass out, I'm
just going to let you bleed.

O'DELL removes a bandanna from her head and wraps it around
her hand.

O'DELL
I couldn't control it. She was
inside of me and I couldn't do
anything. I couldn't stop, I'm so
sorry.

O'DELL opens the door to leave.

DARY
O'Dell!

O'DELL stops.

DARY (CONT'D)

I'm not done with you, Sugar.

O'DELL
What?

DARY
You think you can just walk into my house, lure me in here, and walk out? No. You're in this now.

DUSTIN
Dary, shut up.

DARY AND O'DELL
This is far from over, Dustin!

DUSTIN
Ya'll must've rehearsed.

DARY AND O'DELL
I'm going to make you pay for what you made me live through! All the pain, all the loneliness, tonight you will repent!

DUSTIN
Very biblical. You know--

DUSTIN gasps and falls to his back and begins to shake. He stops and sits up. DARY and O'DELL stare, confused.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Dary, Dary, Dary. You're doing it all wrong, Dary Darling. Is that really how you see me? A delusional psychopath who wants nothing, but to inflict harm on her children?

DUSTIN approaches DARY and caresses her face.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Please. You know that I love you.

DARY
Dustin, we know it's you.

DUSTIN
But, you've gone and used my name and spirit to wrench Dustin's half of the company out of his hands, and that's just down-right immoral. Isn't it, Piggy.

DARY
What did you call me.

DUSTIN

I know about your little videos, Darling. C plus for creativity, but I have to say the appeal is lost on me. And have you noticed that as the videos progress, your little plush piggy has gone from pretty pink to this acrid tope color. You hadn't considering laundering your co-actor?

DARY

How do you know?

DUSTIN

Oh, Piggy. Just because you wear a snout and a mask, that doesn't mean you've hidden your identity. That Picassian, misshapen mess of a body is one-of-a-kind. Everybody knows, baby. No one is disappointed. No one is surprised. In fact, Dary, when you finally decide to follow me through the exit, I doubt anyone will bat an eye.

A beat.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)

(Now as DUSTIN) Scene. Well. It's been fun playing pretend with you all, but what say we call it a night. O'Dell, you should get to a hospital. Give them your real name though. Hope you spend less than you were paid.

O'DELL

(Whispering to DARY). Sorry.

DUSTIN

Move away from the door, so I can get my keys.

DARY

I'm going to fucking kill you.

DUSTIN

I'm going to get my keys now. If you touch me, I will hurt you.

The door slams behind O'DELL. The lights flicker. A low bass rumble shakes the room. Objects fall from the shelves. O'DELL takes DUSTIN and DARY by the throats. She leads them slowly to the den, behind the sofa. She pushes them over so they're laying upside down. She walks around and sits against the sofa with DUSTIN and DARY'S head on each shoulder. She plays with their hair and sings.

O'DELL
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Leave your worries on the storm
bank, your cares in the breeze.
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Quiet and slow, and so sweet shall
we be.

DUSTIN
I'm tired.

O'DELL
Me too, baby. Me too. But we'll
wake up soon. Thank you for
inviting me, both of you. We're
going to have fun.

DARY
You left us.

O'DELL
You left me first.

O'DELL and DARY sit upright on the couch. DUSTIN stands.
They both stare at him.

O'DELL AND DARY
I'm not just here for a visit am I?

DUSTIN
It's just for a couple of days.

O'DELL AND DARY
Is this your version of helping me?

DUSTIN
They're going to figure out what's
wrong with you. This place is like
a resort, you're on vacation. You
should be happy.

DARY
I already told you what's wrong
with me. Where's your father?

DUSTIN
In the hall with Dary.

O'DELL
Send him in.

DUSTIN
If he wanted to talk to you, do you
think I'd be here? Just have some
space away for a bit.

O'DELL

You don't think I know what this is?

O'DELL AND DARY
It's a vacation for you. Away from me.

DUSTIN
Margaret--

O'DELL AND DARY
Send! Him! In!

DUSTIN
Dary wants to talk to you.

O'DELL
You're going to send her in here--

DARY
Alone with me?

DUSTIN
It'll be fine. She just wants to clear the air.

O'DELL
How long, Dustin? How long do you intend to keep me here?

DUSTIN
What do you mean?

O'DELL AND DARY
Don't play that shit with me!

DARY
I have a secret. You're going to love this.

DUSTIN
What?

DARY
When your father dies, you don't get the company.

DUSTIN
Uhuh, and when you die?

O'DELL AND DARY
The company goes to you and Dary.

O'DELL
You split it right down the middle.

DARY
Unless.

O'DELL AND DARY
I give all of it to you.

DUSTIN
Fine. What do you want from me?

DARY
That old fool is going to start to decline rapidly while I'm institutionalized.

O'DELL
He watched me as I ingested pill after pill, never breaking eye contact, until my stomach began hemorrhaging--

DARY
Foaming blood from my mouth.

O'DELL
He has outlived his use for me, and so--

DARY
While I am here, he will begin to die.

O'DELL
Pull the plug as soon as they'll let you.

O'DELL AND DARY
Promise me.

DUSTIN
Sounds like a win/win.

DARY backs off of the couch, horrified, as if waking from a nightmare.

DARY
You killed him. Oh my god, you killed him! Both of you!

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
And you killed me, Dary, one agonizing day at a time!

O'DELL crosses behind the desk.

O'DELL
And I could have ended it. It would have been final and merciful and poetic.

O'DELL gets out a bottle of pills from a desk drawer.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
He prescribed these to me, to
alleviate the pain, the pain that
you had been causing since your
dismal little seed was squirted
into my womb. He knew there was
only one way.

O'DELL takes the cap off the bottle.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
No, I don't know if it was out of
mercy...

O'DELL takes a pill.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Or if he was just utterly exhausted
with living with me.

O'DELL takes another pill.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Probably both.

DARY advances on O'DELL.

DARY
Stop!

DUSTIN strikes DARY'S face. DARY goes down.

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
Look at her. Watch her like your
father watched me.

DARY
O'Dell has nothing to do with this.
Please, leave her out of it.

DUSTIN restrains DARY in front of O'DELL. O'DELL takes
another pill.

DARY (CONT'D)
It wasn't me, Mom! You were sick.
There wasn't any pain, it wasn't my
fault. You were sick.

O'DELL holds DARY'S head with her hands.

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
There wasn't any pain?

DARY
What's happening?

O'DELL
I'm going to show you, Dary.

DUSTIN
I'm going to show you what it felt
like.

O'DELL
What it still feels like.

DUSTIN
I'm going to show you what it feels
like--

O'DELL
To be hollowed out by it.

DUSTIN
To lose everything you are to it.

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
Don't you want to understand me?

DARY
Yes.

DUSTIN leads DARY to lay facedown on the desk. She does not
resist. DUSTIN steps back.

O'DELL
First it was just a pressure.

O'DELL presses down on DARY'S head with her hands.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
In the head.

DARY
Dustin. Help me. I can't move.

O'DELL picks up the lighter and a shot glass from the desk.
She rests her forearms on DARY'S head while holding the shot
glass in her bandanna-wrapped hand. She holds the lighter
to the glass.

O'DELL
He can hear you. He can even help
you. But he's not. He's just
going to watch.

DUSTIN
She's lying, Dary. I can't move
either.

O'DELL
He's just going to stand there and
watch. You know his compulsion
towards women in pain, right.
Something Oedipal.

DARY

Dustin, please, she's hurting me.

DUSTIN
Dary, I can't move.

O'DELL
Between us girls, I think he always had a little bit of a miracle baby crush behind all the jealousy. Was the feeling mutual? Confess.

DUSTIN
Just indulge her, Dary.

O'DELL
Oh, please do.

DARY
No.

O'DELL
Nonsense. Dusty and I had our playtime. Twice actually, when I realized the pain wasn't going away and the meds had me a tad loopy.

DUSTIN
Mom, shut up!

O'DELL
Mom? Oh, it's only when we're talking about playtime that you call me "mom?" Why don't you save your sister? Little difficult to maneuver? All the blood in all the wrong places? What if I broke her skull right here, right now, in front of you and your insatiable erection? Would that do anything for you?

DUSTIN
What do you want from us?

O'DELL
From you? Oh, I'm the one in the giving mood at the moment. I'm helping Dary understand the way she made me feel for twenty-seven years.

DARY'S eyes begin to roll back in her head. O'DELL stands up straight. DARY gasps. O'DELL sets the lighter down and rolls DARY onto her back.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
So where were we? Yes, the pregnancy.

O'DELL unwraps her hand and shoves the bandana into DARY'S mouth.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
As soon as you were conceived,
Dary, there was a burning.

O'DELL presses the heated glass into DARY'S abdomen. DARY screams through the muffling fabric.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
An excruciating, scorching stab.

O'DELL presses the shot glass into another part of DARY'S belly.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I could feel you invading my body
like a parasite, eating my life
away.

DUSTIN
Please, stop. Whatever you want,
please.

O'DELL
This IS what I want. Why don't you
tell me what it is you want?

DUSTIN
I want you to stop.

O'DELL presses the shot glass into DARY again. DARY screams through the bandana. O'DELL pushes down harder and twists the glass.

O'DELL
Oh! It stings! Does it not? You
just want to scream! You just want
to cry out to anyone for help,
anyone who has ears and a brain.

O'DELL wraps the bandanna around the shot glass and holds it over the lighter again.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
And I did. I cried. And cried.
And cried. But no one listened.
It was as if I was unable to speak
at all.

O'DELL pinches DARY'S cheeks, opening her mouth. O'DELL shoves the shot glass in. Steam spires from DARY'S mouth. Blood runs down her cheek. Her eyes slosh back as she begins to pass out from the pain.

O'DELL (CONT'D)

Oh, stay with us, Dary. I know it hurts, but I really want you to feel this next part.

O'DELL gets a heavy book from the shelf.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Dustin. I'm going to hit your sister with this book. I'm going to hit her under her chin, repeatedly until either her teeth break or the glass breaks.

DUSTIN
I want her.

O'DELL
Say again?

DUSTIN
You asked me what I want. I want Dary.

O'DELL picks up the letter opener.

O'DELL
Say it once more.

DUSTIN
I want her. I do. Okay? I've wanted her forever.

O'DELL
I knew it.

O'DELL takes out the shot glass and puts the handle of the letter opener in DARY'S mouth.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Bite.

DARY bites down.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Good girl. All right, Dusty. Come get her. Come kiss her. Just kiss her, and I will let her go.

DUSTIN
Okay. All right.

DUSTIN walks over to DARY.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Look, you've tortured us. We're irreparably damaged, inside and out. So you can either kill us. Or you can leave in peace, now that

you have revenge or whatever you're calling it. No more torture. Win/win.

O'DELL
Kiss her or I go back to plan A.

DARY shakes her head, pleading no. DUSTIN lowers his face over the blade and slips it into his mouth so their lips are touching. O'DELL puts her hand on the back of his head.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Stay. Drink each other in... Good.

O'DELL slams the book down on the back of DUSTIN'S head. DUSTIN falls to the floor, blood gushing from his mouth, he goes into shock. DARY gasps and cries, falling to the floor next to her brother.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Oh my god, I'm so sorry! What did I do? Oh my god what did I fucking do? Is he dead? He's fucking dead! I don't know what's happening--
I have to get out of here. I have to go.

O'DELL takes a step toward the hallway. DARY grabs O'DELL's arm with a determined rage.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I can't let her in again, I can't take it. I can't. Oh shit.

O'DELL stumbles dizzily backwards. DARY points to the bottle of pills on the desk. O'DELL collapses onto the couch.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
What do I do?

DARY gestures for O'DELL to throw them up.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I can't. I can't. I'm too tired.

DARY gestures for O'DELL to wait there and starts to leave. O'DELL grabs her.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
If a spirit has enough power to control how you enter the afterlife, you'll basically become their eternal slave. If I lose consciousness, you have to kill me. Please. Don't let her have this.

DARY runs to the kitchen. She grabs a bottle of mustard from the fridge and squirts several ounces out into a glass. She mixes it with water. She finds a large, plastic bowl in a lower cupboard.

DARY re-enters the den. O'DELL is gone. DARY looks down the hallway. Nothing. She turns back to the den. O'DELL is standing behind the desk, holding the bottle of pain pills.

DARY drops the bowl. The light goes out. DARY sets the mustard water down by the bowl and creeps into the dark den.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
You feel it now, don't you? That love and understanding for me that you had, withered away. It's the first thing the pain takes from you, depending on how weak you are. Guess you're no Olympian. I do realize that poor O'Dell has little to nothing to do with our situation, but she just feels so good to be in. I'm hollowing her out, just like you did to me.

The remote light clicks on. It's fallen by DUSTIN, illuminating his body. DARY picks up the light and shines it in front of her where O'DELL is now standing. O'DELL grabs DARY'S lower jaw.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
It's too late. You've already let me in.

O'DELL throws DARY into the desk, knocking her dizzy.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
We don't have much time, Dary. My little tank is shutting down.

O'DELL grabs the pills from the desk and sits on the top.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I'll make it easy for you. How does that sound? You'll just go to sleep. We'll both just go to sleep. Doesn't that sound pleasant?

DARY stands to run, still dizzy. O'DELL grabs DARY and pulls her down across her lap. She wrenches DARY'S jaw open.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Open. Open up, I'm fading away. There. There we go, baby bird.

O'DELL pours the remaining pills into DARY'S mouth and pinches her nose shut.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Swallow. Swallow it all gone.

DARY pushes off of O'DELL to the floor, gasping, chocking.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Good baby bird. I'll see you soon.

O'DELL slouches on the desk as she fades away.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Leave your worries on the storm
bank, your cares in the breeze.
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Quiet and slow, and so sweet shall
we be.

DARY crawls toward the mustard water in the hallway. She collapses, reaching, as her body shuts down. She looks back to DUSTIN on the floor, the light has dropped by his face. DARY crawls over to him and slips the knife out of his mouth. She holds it to her throat, breathing heavily, closing her eyes.

DARY falls on the knife. The lights flash off, then on.

After a beat...

DARY sits up. DUSTIN is sitting, in the middle of the floor, looking at DARY. O'DELL is nowhere to be found.

DUSTIN
What's the most pain you've ever
been in?

DARY touches her mouth and feels her neck. No injuries.

DARY
Dustin?

DUSTIN
What do you think?

DARY
I think Dustin's gone.

DUSTIN
No, he's in here. He can feel,
hear, and see everything I do.
That's what makes this so
exceptional. So, what do you
think? The most pain you've ever
been in, aside from the fun we just
had. I have a couple guesses. The

options aren't many, as you've led a very short, privileged life.

DARY
Fuck you, you didn't kill me. You can't control me.

DUSTIN
Honey, that doesn't matter very much. It's a bit of a pity, but big picture, not a big concern.

DARY
What?

DUSTIN
Where do you think you are? I'm going to show you something.

DUSTIN picks up the headphones from the floor and wraps the cord around his neck. DARY tries to fight the cord from him. O'DELL restrains her. DUSTIN puts the headphones over his ears. Audio cuts out. DARY yells DUSTIN'S name as he pulls the cord tighter. He smiles contentedly, turning purple. DUSTIN drops to his knees then falls to his side. The sheets flutter around DUSTIN- his eyes remain open, staring forward.

A beat.

The lights brighten. DUSTIN pulls the headphones off. Audio fades back in. DUSTIN blinks, confused. He sits up and unwraps the cord from around his neck. DARY sits against the desk. The desk and the sofa are covered in the blood-streaked sheets. O'DELL is gone.

DUSTIN sits up.

DUSTIN
Dary? Dary, what's happening?

DUSTIN looks down in his hand to find a power cord. One end is plugged into the wall. The other end is going into DARY'S pant leg.

DARY
Your sister hasn't come to torture me in two weeks. It's been a goddamned vacation. Are you high?

DUSTIN
You said you would save me.

DARY
Your sister hasn't come to torture me in two weeks. It's been a goddamned vacation. Are you high?

DUSTIN
A little.

DARY
Why are you here?

DUSTIN
No. You said you would save me,
why are we here? Did you take us
here? Why did you take us here?

DARY
You know what to say, so say it.
Why are we here?

DUSTIN
No.

DARY
Look at your hands, look at what
you're holding. Now. Why are you
here?

A beat.

DARY (CONT'D)
Dustin!

DUSTIN
It's over, Dad.

DARY
So go and fucking do it. The
longer you wait, the harder it
gets, come on. Fucking coward.

DUSTIN
Did you know?

DARY
Know what? Yes, I knew everything.
I knew all the horrible things that
happened to you, couldn't give less
of a shit. Good? Pull the cord.

DUSTIN
Did you? Did you really know?

DARY
Fine. Why don't you tell me all
the sad stories. I will laugh in
your spoiled, little face, then
will you pull this fucking cord?

DUSTIN
We never talk.

DARY

No, we never talk. We've never talked.

DUSTIN sits next to DARY.

DUSTIN
So talk to me.

DARY
Pull the cord or go fuck yourself, how's that?

DUSTIN
I'm all you got, Dad. Come on, talk to me.

DARY
Sell me.

DUSTIN
Okay. Let's have a conversation. Doesn't matter about what or for how long, necessarily. But I promise you, when we're done talking, before I leave this room. I will make sure you die.

DARY
I'm splitting everything. Right down the middle, you and Dary. 50/50.

DUSTIN
She'll kill our name.

DARY
It confounds me how it's survived this goddamned long to begin with.

DUSTIN
Well, what the hell am I supposed to do?

DARY
Dustin. I took every chance I could to get out of this fucking house, to get away from you. I stood by and watched your mother molest and abuse you for years. What are you supposed to do? Get your mother to face-fuck you to death for all I care! I want all of it dead- reduced to nothing. The company, the name, the family- it's all an infectious heap of shit. Don't you see that, son? I'm cutting off the head.

DUSTIN

No you're not. If you die, everything goes to Margaret. You should have talked with Mom when we sent her away.

DARY

I had nothing to say to her. If I did, I would've said it as I watched her eat pills until she drooled blood.

DUSTIN

She told me you would start to deteriorate.

DARY

She what?

DUSTIN

She's been killing you.

DARY

Fuck. How?

DUSTIN

Don't know. She told me to pull the plug as soon as I got the chance. Then she would give everything to me.

DARY

It's in my will. 50/50. She's trying to con you into killing me, Dustin. Dumb bitch. Suppose we both are.

DUSTIN

Give me 100% and I'll pull the plug.

DARY

That wasn't the deal, Dustin. You promised me death for a conversation, not 100% of a multi-billion dollar company.

DUSTIN

What hurts more: your organs shutting down one by one or the hate you feel for yourself?

DARY

The boredom. The vast tedium is what hurts the most, by far. How about you, son? What hurt more: the humiliation of getting taped up and sprayed upon by your mother or

the fact that I did nothing, even though I knew?

DUSTIN looks down at the cord in his hand.

DARY (CONT'D)
Pull it... You pull the cord. You pull the cord and I die, so pull it.

DUSTIN
This isn't right.

DARY
It's right, Dustin, this is exactly how it was. Pull. It.

DUSTIN
No, something's off. The tea.

DUSTIN points to DARY'S cup of tea on the desk. He gets up and holds the cup.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
This tea wasn't here. We're in a hospital room. Dary's tea wouldn't be here.

DARY
I love you so fucking much. Shut the fuck up! Pull the cord! Now!

DUSTIN
Let's get it over with.

DARY
I love you so fucking much.

DUSTIN
Let's get it over with.

DUSTIN takes a sip of the tea and whips the sheets off the desk and sofa.

DARY
This isn't going to work, you little prick. I love you so fucking much.

DUSTIN
Let's get this over with.

There's a knock at the door.

DARY
Don't answer it!

DUSTIN

Let's get this over with.

DUSTIN runs down the hall toward the front door. He answers. O'DELL answers. She's holding a reel of scotch tape. DUSTIN backs away, running into DARY. DARY turns DUSTIN around to face her. She puts the handle of the letter opener in DUSTIN'S mouth. O'DELL tapes the letter opener in place from behind him.

DARY
It's hard to fight it. I know.
But it's already happened. It's
already happened.

DUSTIN sinks to his knees.

DARY (CONT'D)
This is what it's going to be now.
You fighting, you losing, me dying.
This is all there is now.

DARY pulls DUSTIN'S head into her chest. The letter opener stabs into her. She does it again. DARY closes her eyes and rocks with DUSTIN. DUSTIN drops to the floor. DARY stands, eyes still closed.

A beat.

DARY collapses down on the couch. DUSTIN sits in an easy chair across from her. After a beat, DARY gasps, waking.

DUSTIN
Oh, there you are, Dary. Wakey,
wakey. Fancy a cupcake?

DARY
The doctors said I might get dizzy.

DUSTIN
Absolutely, Darling. The doctors.
I also brought it upon myself to
supplement your medication. What
you're on is what you and your
brother and your father insisted I
prescribe to for the pain.

DARY
You drugged me?

DUSTIN
You're not in pain are you? No.
It's actually worse than pain isn't
it? You can't think a single
complete thought. You feel the
neurons firing off into
nothingness. It makes you realize
we really are just a series of
chemical processes giving off heat

until they don't. How could you
not kill yourself?

DARY cries, clutching her stomach, she falls off the couch.

DARY
Please call someone. Please.

DUSTIN
The doctors are done with you,
Dear. They said you were a
complete bitch, I heard them
talking. Excuse me, *dumb* bitch is
what the called you. They said,
"Why would you become an anorexic
if in the end you still looked like
that?" Like that. What do you
think they meant?

DARY continues to cry.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Oh dear. Those medications aren't
playing nicely together are they?
Do you need help throwing them up?

DUSTIN laughs.

DARY
No! You're lying. They helped me.

DUSTIN
Dary, they'll help anyone who pays
them. The dietician, the
nutritionist, the doctors-- it's a
business. They'll help you as long
as you pay them. Well, as long as
I pay them. When it comes down to
it though, you can only help
yourself. Haven't they told you?
Like now. You will only live
through this if you vomit up those
pills I ground into your
applesauce.

DARY
No! No more throwing up.

DUSTIN
Be courageous, Darling. Not to
mention, that greasy hospital food
has done something sinister to
those corpulent, little cheeks of
yours. Go on. Throw it up.

DARY
No! It'll pass.

DUSTIN
Should I help you. Or better yet,
how about Mr. Piggy?

DUSTIN throws down a plush pig wearing a strap-on.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Go on. I'm sure you're familiar.

DARY
You went in my room.

DUSTIN
How long did you think you could do
this without me finding out?

DARY
I don't care that you found out.

DUSTIN
I've watched all the videos. How
much money have you made from this
depravity?

DARY
I just need some water.

DUSTIN
Throw it up or you will die. Use
the pig.

DARY
Fuck you!

DUSTIN
Would it be easier for you if I
filmed it?

DARY
If I die, everyone will know it was
you.

DUSTIN
Oh the hell they will. Now throat
that piggy's cock or I'll pop that
chubby tummy of yours.

DARY
Fuck you.

DUSTIN kicks DARY in the stomach. DARY slowly gets up and
sits up against the couch. O'DELL is sitting on the couch
upside-down.

O'DELL
You passed out from the pain. I
was never so lucky.

DARY
I should've told them about you.

O'DELL
You should've eaten less sugars and
fats in the first place.

DARY turns to look into O'DELL'S eyes.

DARY
I'm sorry she's doing this to you.
It's my fault.

O'DELL
About time you took some
responsibility for someone else's
pain.

DARY
I'm going to get us out of here.

O'DELL
Here is all there is.

O'DELL stands facing DUSTIN.

DARY
That can't be true.

DUSTIN
(To Dary) You shouldn't even be
here.

O'DELL
Duuuustiiiiin.

DUSTIN
Go! I don't want you to see this,
Dary. Please go somewhere else,
I'll find you.

O'DELL
There you are!

DUSTIN
What did you give me?

O'DELL
Like you don't know.

DUSTIN
I'm telling Dad.

O'DELL
Who do you think gave them to me?
They were supposed to be for the
pain, but they just made me woozy.

Not a great feeling, is it,
Darling?

DUSTIN
Please, leave me alone. I don't
want to do this again.

O'DELL pulls DUSTIN'S hood up and sticks the end of some
scotch tape to DUSTIN'S head. She begins to circle him,
wrapping his head in tape.

O'DELL
(To DARY) I leave the mouth open,
don't worry. I mean how could you
not with those lips?

DARY
This has nothing to do with Dustin.

O'DELL
Oh, but Dustin has a thing or two
to do with you, little sister,
doesn't he? For all you took from
him?

DARY
Did you ever love him? I mean, you
wouldn't have adopted him if you
didn't.

O'DELL
I lost interest quickly. Then I
got pregnant with you. Your father
should've gotten me a puppy- on
both accounts come to think of it.
Stupid man.

DUSTIN
I did tell him. Wait, this already
happened. I told him and he...

O'DELL
Couldn't give two shits? Yes,
Dear, that's him to a T. No wonder
you didn't hesitate to pull that
plug when you had the chance.

DUSTIN
This already happened, why is this
happening again?

O'DELL
Look at you, Dustin. So smooth.
Shapeless. Mm, you could be
anyone. What do you think, Dary:
Would you rather fuck your adopted
brother in private or Mr. Piggy in
front of me. Or better yet...

O'DELL picks up the pig with the strap on and holds it up to DUSTIN.

DUSTIN
I'm telling Dad. I'm telling Dad
what you're doing to me. They'll
put you away.

O'DELL
Do you honestly believe what I'm
doing to you is any worse what your
father did to me? Do you know what
it's like to have his toxic seed
spewed into your bleeding, aching
body?

O'DELL picks up the letter opener.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
It's like this.

O'DELL stabs DUSTIN in the stomach and pushes him onto his back. O'DELL lifts the pig over DUSTIN and plunges the strap-on into the wound. DUSTIN screams, his arms tremble, paralyzed.

DARY
Stop! He has nothing to do with
this! I am your pain! I turned
you into this! I am why you're
here, so leave Dustin out of this
and face me yourself!

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
If you want me to stop, come and
stop me, bitch!

O'DELL pulls the strap-on out of DUSTIN'S wound. It's covered in blood. She plunges it in again and pulls it out. DARY takes DUSTIN'S arms and pulls him away.

DUSTIN
Wait! No! I didn't cum yet!

O'DELL
Don't be greedy, Dary, there's
plenty to go around.

DUSTIN grabs DARY and pulls her down. DARY tries to pull herself away.

DARY
Dustin, stop! Fight her!

DUSTIN holds DARY'S arms behind her as O'DELL brings the bloody pig closer to her face.

O'DELL

Hold him there, Dustin. I want it
to be you. I want what happens
next to be because of you.

DARY
This never happened. This isn't a
memory, this is happening now. We
can fight it. We can fight it.

O'DELL gently bats DARY'S face with the pig.

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
That's right. You fight it.

The pig flies out of frame from O'DELL'S hand. DUSTIN
releases DARY and backs away. DARY stands. Lights change
to something brighter and warmer. DARY walks into the
kitchen. There's a ukulele on the counter next to a cup of
tea. DARY picks up the instrument and plays. DUSTIN
follows her in to get the tape off his face and make a cup
of coffee as she sings slowly.

DARY

Somewhere swamp bugs hold their candles
above the water by tiny handles
kissing the water good, good night
with a fragility that you might
Kiss me with someday
Kiss me, confound me
Let's be like bugs
in a universe made of love
in a universe made of love.
Let's be like bugs.
Sometimes moths mistake a porch light
for the glory of the moonlight
It becomes their lighthouse
They feel at home but when it goes out
They lose their minds.
Kiss me, confound me
Let's be like bugs

in a universe made of love
in a universe made of love.
Let's be like bugs.
Somehow fireflies in certain regions
Can often converse in legions
With a symphonic fire
In breaths of swelling light
one slow explosion at a time.
So let's be like that.
Kiss me, confound me
Let's be like bugs
in a universe made of love
in a universe made of love.
Let's be like bugs.

DUSTIN takes a sip of coffee, staring off. DARY puts down
the uke and sips her tea.

DUSTIN
Can I go back?

DARY
No.

DUSTIN
Then can you keep me here?

DARY
I'll try.

O'DELL stares at them from the den, standing.

O'DELL
I don't belong here. I didn't want
this.

O'DELL scratches her arm. The end of a string is sticking
out from her skin. She pulls it. Her skin splits as she
pulls the string out inch by inch down her arm.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I don't belong here. I didn't want
this.

The string leads through her neck. O'DELL continues to pull it, splitting the skin across her throat. She continues to pull.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I don't belong here. I didn't want this.

The string leads to DUSTIN'S stomach in the kitchen. It tightens as O'DELL continues to pull. DUSTIN winces in pain as he's pulled.

DARY
No! Dustin, you have to stay here. You're safe here.

DUSTIN
I'm sorry.

DUSTIN lunges as the string is tugged.

DARY
No! Stay here, I need more time, just a little more time.

DARY clings to DUSTIN'S arms as he's pulled in the direction of the string coming from his stomach. He cries out in pain.

O'DELL
I don't belong here. I didn't want this.

DUSTIN
Let go of me!

DARY
No!

DUSTIN
Dary, let go!

DARY
No, don't let her do this.

The string tightens.

DUSTIN
It's inside me, Dary, you have to let me go. Please. Please. Let go. Please.

DARY releases him. DUSTIN walks as the string tied to his insides leads him back into the den.

O'DELL

I don't belong here. I didn't want this. Oh, DAAAARY! Dustin needs you!

DUSTIN falls to his knees.

DUSTIN
What the fuck is in me? What the fuck is that!

O'DELL
Oo, that looks bad. That needs to come out.

O'DELL picks up the letter opener.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Lay down.

DUSTIN
Fuck you.

DUSTIN falls back clutching his stomach as another bolt of pain slices through him. O'DELL throws a sheet over his legs. She gives the string a yank.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Pull it out! Jesus Christ, pull it out!

O'DELL
Only Dary can do that for you.

DUSTIN
Dary! Dary, help me!

O'DELL
He's in pain, Dary, don't let it hollow him out! Like you did with me!

DARY runs back into the den. O'DELL hands DARY the string.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Pull.

DARY pulls the string. DUSTIN'S mouth hinges open in silent pain. He gasps and clutches the carpet.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Keep pulling, you're losing him.

A rope of intestines is pulled from under the sheet, tied to the end of the string. DARY drops the string.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Keep pulling.

DARY
I can't.

O'DELL
It needs to come out.

DARY
I'm in the kitchen. I'm learning a song and Dustin is drinking coffee.

O'DELL
If you go back there, you'll lose him. You're losing him, Dary.

DUSTIN
Get it out. Please, just get it out.

DARY grabs the intestines and pulls them out. The string continues into DUSTIN.

O'DELL
Keep pulling. Almost.

DARY pulls the string. On the other end, a bloody, plush piglet is tied. DUSTIN collapses completely, gasping for air.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Aw! It's a little piglet girl! Do you know the father?

DARY
I'm in the kitchen learning a song.

O'DELL
No! Don't leave me again! Don't leave me alone with her! Please. Take me too.

DARY
I can't, you weren't in the memory.

O'DELL
Then take us to a memory we're both in. I can't take this.

DUSTIN
(Sitting up) Not having fun yet?

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
Go ahead and go. I'll find you.

DARY pushes DUSTIN back down to the floor and leans over him.

DARY

I know you're afraid, big brother.
But I'm not going anywhere.

DARY gets off of DUSTIN.

DARY (CONT'D)
So don't worry! And don't be
detached!

DARY sips from a large cup on the desk.

DUSTIN
If we're staying in for ghost
hunting, maybe you should take it
easy on that shit tonight.

DARY
You know it's all natural.

DUSTIN
I'm not concerned with your health.
I'm concerned with you fucking
pouncing on me every time you get
excited.

DARY
You know what I call it?

DUSTIN
What?

DARY
Do you wanna know what I call it--

DUSTIN
What, call what what?

DARY
The tea! I call it CeeLo. Because
it's made with psilocybin and it'll
make you craaazaaay!

DUSTIN
Jesus.

DARY
You know what I call it when I put
weed in it?

DUSTIN
CeeLo Green.

DARY
I love you so fucking much.

There's a knock at the door.

DUSTIN

Let's get it over with. The door.
Can we leave?

DARY
No, Dustin, we can't leave. We
didn't leave, you have to stay
here.

DUSTIN
What if we could just open the door
and go?

DARY
We can't.

O'DELL
(Still sitting on the floor)
Dustin, open the door. Let me in.

DUSTIN
Who are you?

O'DELL
O'Dell.

DARY
She's legit, Dustin! Be
respectful.

DUSTIN slowly walks down the hall to the front door. He
opens it. O'DELL stands in the doorway.

DUSTIN
Dary, did you order a stripper?

O'DELL does not smile. A beat.

O'DELL
You let me in.

A beat.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
Dustin, let me in.

DUSTIN
You can leave.

O'DELL
Let me in. She's close.

DUSTIN
You can turn around and go.

O'DELL
You'll leave me alone with her,
Dustin. Don't do this.

DUSTIN
She doesn't know where we are. Go!

O'DELL
She'll find me!

DARY
Dustin, you have to let her in.

DUSTIN
She's right, I can't leave. I
can't, but you can. It's the
house.

O'DELL
There's a lot of energy in this
house.

DUSTIN
I'm not letting you in.

O'DELL
Please.

DUSTIN
I'm saving you. You'll see.

DUSTIN closes the door, leaving O'DELL outside.

O'DELL
Dustin! Dustin! ... Okay. Don't
let her in. Just don't let her in.
She doesn't know where I am. I'm
okay.

O'DELL takes out a talisman necklace and begins to pray.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
We are the hands of the Goddess
And to Her we offer these...
Images made sacred
by the spirit in our hearts
We are people of the Goddess
in Her honor we celebrate...
Joining together in community
Pagan peoples of the Earth
We are the hands of the Goddess
And to Her we offer these...

The door opens. DUSTIN stands in the doorway.

DUSTIN
Maddie. Come in.

O'DELL
What?

DUSTIN

It's time, come on in.

O'DELL enters. There is a sheet hung up in the den like a backdrop. The office chair is in the center of the room. The couch is set askew. DUSTIN sits with a notebook and pen.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Sit. Get comfortable.

O'DELL
What's happening?

DUSTIN
How was your week?

O'DELL
Difficult.

Small noises click and drag behind the sheet.

DUSTIN
What made your week difficult,
Maddie?

O'DELL
Just... the processes of things.

DUSTIN
Processes?

O'DELL
What?

DUSTIN
You seem distracted today. Do you
feel unfocussed? Anxious?

O'DELL
Wasn't I doing something else? I
feel like--

DUSTIN
Have you been up on your
medication?

O'DELL
I don't like the medication?

DUSTIN
Why?

O'DELL
I like to hear her.

DUSTIN
Jill?

O'DELL
Jill likes to talk to me. I can't
hear her when I'm on the... on...

A streak of blood swells down the sheet. A book falls from
the shelf onto the floor.

DUSTIN
Maddie?

O'DELL
What?

DUSTIN
Maddie, are you with me?

O'DELL
Yes. Sorry.

DUSTIN
Jill is gone. Do you know that
Jill is gone?

O'DELL
I know.

DUSTIN
How can Jill talk to you if she's
gone?

O'DELL
I don't know, but she can. She
does.

DUSTIN
Do you know that Jill is gone,
Maddie? Do you really know? Think
about what I'm asking.

O'DELL
Yes.

DUSTIN
Then tell me.

A buzzing sound rises and falls on the other side of the
curtain. Something kicks the couch, causing it to jolt.

O'DELL
Tell you what?

Another streak of blood falls down the sheet. Blood pours
from DUSTIN'S mouth onto his notebook.

DUSTIN
Tell me what happened.

O'DELL

I'd rather not talk about it again.

DUSTIN
You have to.

O'DELL
I already told you. I shouldn't
have to.

DUSTIN
Maddie, you need to tell me again.
Tell me now, please. NOW!

A cord whips across the floor. O'DELL looks at her hands.
It looks like the skin is starting to peel from her palms.

O'DELL
I'm thirsty.

DUSTIN
You can have some water after you
tell me what happened.

O'DELL
All of this happened.

DUSTIN removes one of his molars.

DUSTIN
What do you mean, all of this?

O'DELL
All of this, all of what you're
saying, everything that's happening
has already happened.

DUSTIN
You need to ground yourself,
Maddie. You're losing your
footing.

O'DELL
I need to ground myself.

DUSTIN removes another molar.

DUSTIN
Tell me something you can see right
now.

O'DELL
I can see your teeth.

DUSTIN
Tell me something you can hear.

Someone begins heaving deep breaths behind the sheet.

O'DELL
I hear... the air conditioning.

DUSTIN
Something tangible you can feel?

O'DELL
My hands itch.

DUSTIN
Tell me what happened to Jill. The truth as you know it.

O'DELL
We were...

DUSTIN begins to aggravate a fingernail.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
We were in the bathroom.

DUSTIN
Good. That's good.

DUSTIN peels up the tip of the fingernail.

O'DELL
We were playing house. I was the mommy and she was the daddy.

O'DELL finds a knife next to her on the couch. She does not touch it.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I plugged in the curling iron.
Jill wanted to shave like Daddy.
She found his razor.

DUSTIN pulls off the fingernail.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
She cut herself.

DUSTIN
And then what happened?

O'DELL
I wanted to wash her because there was a lot of blood.

DUSTIN
You put Jill in the bathtub.

O'DELL
I put her in the bathtub and turned on the water. It was too hot then too cold. She couldn't make up her mind. And she died.

DUSTIN
Maddie. Jill didn't die because
she couldn't make up her mind.
What happened?

A camera flashes out of frame.

O'DELL
I dropped the curling iron into the
water. I didn't know it would...

DUSTIN
Did she get electrocuted to death?

O'DELL
No.

DUSTIN
I dropped the curling iron into the
water. I didn't know it would.

O'DELL
I didn't mean to.

DUSTIN
I dropped the curling iron into the
water. I didn't know it would.

O'DELL
I was annoyed, I thought it might
just.. I don't know, I was seven.

DUSTIN
I dropped the curling iron into the
water. I didn't know it would. I
dropped the curling iron into the
water. I didn't know it would.

O'DELL
I didn't know it would kill her.

DUSTIN
It didn't kill her.

O'DELL
No.

DUSTIN
Tell me what killed Jill.

O'DELL
She drowned.

O'DELL looks to the hallway to see a sheet pulled over the
entry way, encircling them. The sheet is streaked with
blood.

O'DELL (CONT'D)

I don't feel good.

DUSTIN
You're off your medication. What did she look like in the water?

O'DELL
I don't remember.

DUSTIN
What did Jill look like in the water, Maddie? She cut herself, she went into the tub, you dropped the curling iron. Did she change colors?

O'DELL
Yes.

DUSTIN
What colors?

O'DELL
Pink at first, from the blood in the water.

DUSTIN
Did she stay pink?

O'DELL
I don't remember.

DUSTIN
You said she turned pink at first, which means you do remember. She turned another color. What color did Jill turn after she turned pink?

O'DELL
Like a... a red.

DUSTIN
Were her eyes open or closed?

O'DELL
Closed.

DUSTIN
And her mouth?

O'DELL
What about her mouth?

A gust of wind blows through the room and dies down.

DUSTIN
Was Jill's mouth open or closed?

O'DELL

Open.

DUSTIN

Did she stay red or did she then
turn another color?

O'DELL

Why are you asking me this?

DUSTIN

You need to remember. What color
did she turn?

O'DELL

Blue.

DUSTIN

NO! Think, Maddie! She did not
turn blue! Don't tell me what you
think I want to hear. Don't say a
usual thing. Think. Remember.
Look at Jill in the water, with her
closed eyes and open mouth and
auburn hair and little ears. What
color were her ears?

O'DELL

Purple.

DUSTIN

Purple.

O'DELL

Grayish purple.

DUSTIN

Purple Jill. Good, Maddie.

O'DELL

I don't feel good.

DUSTIN

You need to take your medication.

O'DELL

No, I need to hear her.

DUSTIN

If she were alive, Maddie, Maddie,
look at me. If Jill were alive and
she could talk to you, she would
tell you that she's very
disappointed by you. She would be
smart enough to know that those
voices in you brain are not hers,
they're yours! And they are toxic!
And the only way to neutralize them

is to take your medication. Don't you think Jill would be smart enough to know that?

O'DELL
Jill was very smart.

DUSTIN
So you don't think she was stupid.

O'DELL
No, Jill was smart.

The sheets surrounding them begin to circle. There's breathing and mumbling, small crying.

DUSTIN
And how about you, do you think you're stupid?

O'DELL
I don't know. When did you change the walls?

DUSTIN hands O'DELL the bottle of pain pills.

DUSTIN
I need you to focus, Maddie. You are hurting me by not taking your medication. You are hurting your sister by not taking your medication. And you are hurting yourself. Do you want to hurt me?

O'DELL
No.

DUSTIN
Do you want to hurt your sister? Again?

O'DELL
No.

DUSTIN
Isn't that enough?

O'DELL
I want to go home.

DUSTIN
This is now your home. This is it now. Take these pills.

O'DELL eats a pill.

O'DELL
But this is how I die.

DUSTIN
You need to take your medication.
Take another. Drink them.

O'DELL
I have to leave, I have to...
where's the door?

DUSTIN
There is no door. There are only
doors outside of here, and there is
no way to get outside.

The sheets stop circling and begin to inch in towards DUSTIN
and O'DELL.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
Take the pills and the walls will
stop.

O'DELL
This is a memory. This is the
worst memory I have, but it ended.
There was a door and I walked out
and it was over.

DUSTIN
Yes it was. And now it's not.

O'DELL
But you're not my psychiatrist.
You're Dustin.

DUSTIN
I am Dustin's image. You can't
remember what your psychiatrist
actually looked like because as
I've said, Maddie, there's nothing
outside of here.

O'DELL
But I don't belong here.

DUSTIN
You do belong here. You belong
here because I say you belong here.
Did you think I wouldn't find you?

The sheets collapse down on DUSTIN and O'DELL.

O'DELL
Get this off of me! Get off of me!

The sheets ripple and thrash until they are pulled off to
reveal DARY getting up off of DUSTIN. DUSTIN'S face is
clean, no blood. The following dialog is sad and mechanic.

DARY

You know it's all natural.

DUSTIN
I'm not concerned with your health.
I'm concerned with you fucking
pouncing on me every time you get
excited.

DARY
You know what I call it?

DUSTIN
What?

DARY
Do you wanna know what I call it--

DUSTIN
What, call what what?

DARY
The tea! I call it CeeLo. Because
it's made with psilocybin and it'll
make you craaazaaay! You should've
let her in.

DUSTIN
Jesus. This is all your fault.
You invited Margaret into us.

DARY
You know what I call it when I put
weed in it?

DUSTIN
CeeLo Green. She won't find her.

DARY
I love you so fucking much. We'll
see.

O'DELL
(Singing in the doorway)
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Leave your worries on the storm
bank, your cares in the breeze.
Oh, little firefly, fly home to me.
Quiet and slow, and so sweet shall
we be.

DUSTIN
Let's get it over with.

O'DELL enters.

O'DELL
I'm afraid that's not really an
option for you, Sweetie.

DARY
Goddammit, Dustin.

O'DELL
I do hope you got all you wanted
out of your ghost-hunting
experience. I'm sorry to say your
guide has left the building, so to
speak.

DUSTIN
What did you do to her?

O'DELL
Oh, she's doing it to herself at
this point. You'll see, Dustin. I
don't imagine you'll last much
longer.

DARY
What do you want? There has to be
something. Something else.

O'DELL
Nope. Just this.

DUSTIN turns to DARY.

DUSTIN
What do you think, Dary? Should I
make him pull out his eyes and eat
them?

DARY
Where's O'Dell?

O'DELL
You mean Maddie? Having a clinical
psychotic breakdown in her
psychiatrist's office for eternity.

DUSTIN
I took her from you, just like I'm
about to take Dustin from you. I'm
going to take everything. And
you'll be alone. Do you have
anything to say to your brother,
something he can take with him into
the infinite abyss of pain I'm
going to pull him through?

DARY
I'll save you, I swear to god. I
won't let her do this.

A light swells and diminishes behind DARY.

DARY (CONT'D)

We're going to keep fighting.

The light swells and diminishes. O'DELL walks over to the light's edge, looking directly into it.

O'DELL
Fighting and losing and dying
inside, over and over again.

DARY
So is that it then? Is this all
you want, all there is?

The light swells and diminishes.

O'DELL
Close, Darling. Very close.

DARY
Then what else? What's left?

O'DELL
You. Your skin, your eyes. I want
you. You're still breathing. If
you walk past that light, you'll be
back in your body.

The light swells and diminishes. DARY turns to face the light.

O'DELL (CONT'D)
I can't come in unless you invite
me. We have a connection. We can
share.

DARY
Then let them leave and I'll take
you with me.

O'DELL
Let them leave?

DARY
Let them go. Dustin and O'Dell,
stop tormenting them, just leave
them to rest, and I'll take you
back with me.

O'DELL
It's one life for one body, Dary.
You can't have both of them. I'll
only let one go. You have to
choose.

DUSTIN joins DARY and O'DELL to stare at the breathing light.

DUSTIN

Then again, you could just say to hell with all three of us. No one would blame you there.

O'DELL AND DUSTIN
I'm going to let them plead to you.
Be fast. You're bleeding.

DARY
Okay.

O'DELL and DUSTIN both gasp as Margaret leaves them.

DUSTIN
You said you would save me.

DARY
Shh. Neither of you have to say anything.

DARY takes O'DELL'S hands.

DARY (CONT'D)
You're innocent in this. I have to choose you. You can rest.

O'DELL
Thank you.

DARY
Go wait by the door..

DUSTIN
How could you do this?

DARY
I hope she's watching.

DARY hugs DUSTIN close to her, and says in his ear:

DARY (CONT'D)
Don't mess this up. I love you so fucking much.

DARY throws DUSTIN toward the light behind the couch. He disappears. The light continues to swell and diminish. DARY crosses down the hallway, takes O'DELL'S hand, and exits the house into the outside light.

DARY looks up at the sky.

Back in the den DARY is lying on the floor next to DUSTIN, facedown. O'DELL is sitting dead on the desk, dress stained in mouth blood. DARY gasps and pulls the letter opener from her clavicle region. She grabs for the bandana on the floor and pushes it to the wound.

Panicked, she turns DUSTIN over to look at him. DARY backs away. She puts a hand to her mouth, it's sore.

DARY rises and stumbles to a mirror to look at her reflection. She touches her face.

END