IT HOWLS

By Alex Wasowicz

FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

JENNY (24), wearing a TANK TOP and PANTIES drenched in BLOOD, runs for her life!

Autumn tree branches whip past her face!

She breathes hard. Sweat pours.

SOMEBODY (distant scream) Aaaagghhhhh!

She grimaces and presses on. Fights through thick underbrush. SNAP! -- A branch snags her NECKLACE! She gasps! Turns back--Searches, but can't find it! CLOSE ON the mystical LOCKET and broken chain. She grabs it! -- Keeps running! Follows a GAME TRAIL up a steep hill. Reaches the top, exhausted. SOMEBODY (CONT'D) (distant scream) Aaaaqqhhhhh! Terrified, she keeps running! The trail ends at a wide clearing. She notices something unusual at the far side: HER POV: A sturdy DEER BLIND (hunter's tree house) built high in an ancient oak.

She races to it!

INT. BLIND - DAY

TRAVIS (27), wearing CAMOUFLAGE, watches her from the window.

TRAVIS What the buck?

EXT. FOREST - DAY

She sees him.

JENNY

Help!

She sprints to the tree and scrambles up the ladder..

INT. BLIND - DAY

He helps her inside--

She slams the trap door shut and collapses, panting, hysterical.

TRAVIS Who the hell are you?

GIRL Something's out there!

TRAVIS Why are you covered in blood?

GIRL A monster! It was chasing me! It killed my friends!

She cries.

He's confused.

She notices his RIFLE ---

JENNY Oh thank God you have a gun!

He gets nervous.

TRAVIS

Hold on here, random girl. My brain is about to explode. Where'd you come from? How'd you get here?

She tries to catch her breath.

JENNY We were camping. This thing attacked us! She cries miserably. TRAVIS Okay, okay. Calm down. He awkwardly rubs her shoulder. She dries her tears and calms down a little. TRAVIS (CONT'D) A monster, huh? She nods. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Sure it wasn't like a bear? She shakes her head. TRAVIS (CONT'D) You're not sure? She hits him! JENNY It was a goddamn monster! TRAVIS Okay okay! Geez! He grabs his rifle and looks out the window. She waits anxiously. TRAVIS (CONT'D) I don't see nothin. JENNY (thinks) It's like a giant, uh, furry.. TRAVIS (rolls eyes) Yeah? JENNY It howls.

TRAVIS Look, gorgeous. I don't know what kinda bullshit you're trying to pull, or what you been smokin. But I'll be damned if--THE BEAST (O.C.) Aroooooo! Travis drops his rifle! He and Jenny exchange horrified looks! TRAVIS Jesus buck! What the buck was that?! They cower, petrified. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Huh? Huh?

He peeks timidly out the window.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

HIS POV: No sign of danger..

INT. BLIND - DAY

Travis looks through the rifle scope.

TRAVIS I still don't see nothin.

JENNY There! (points)

TRAVIS

Where?

EXT. FOREST - DAY

RIFLE SCOPE POV: A FURRY BLUR flashes by! A BULLET HOLE BLASTS through a TREE! BANG! -- The GUNSHOT arrives a second later!

INT. BLIND - DAY

TRAVIS Jesus buckin chrysanthemum! He cycles the rifle -- CLICK, CLACK. An empty .30 SHELL falls to the floor. JENNY Did you see it? I saw somethin. It was huge. JENNY I know.

TRAVIS Fast sumbitch too.

He wipes sweat from his face and nervously looks through the scope.

Jenny tries to remain calm. She admires his concentration.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

THE BEAST'S POV: Watching the blind ..

INT. BLIND - DAY

Travis locks the door with a PADLOCK.

He and Jenny exchange uneasy looks.

TRAVIS (clears throat) I'm Travis.

He awkwardly extends a hand. She awkwardly shakes it.

JENNY

Jenny.

TRAVIS So, Jenny. Mind telling me what the buck's going on here?

JENNY I have no idea. He nods understandingly, turns, and kicks the wall! JENNY (CONT'D) I--TRAVIS --Shut up! She quails! He opens a THERMOS and drinks from it. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Man! I can't even believe this is happening. She eyes the thermos. He offers it to her. JENNY What is it? TRAVIS Vodka. She declines. He takes a good look a her. She's self-conscious. JENNY I have a boyfriend. He nods and takes another drink. JENNY (CONT'D) Wait. No I don't. He's dead. (tears) He's dead! They're all dead! She weeps.. He almost believes her.. Suddenly she grabs him by the scruff and stares into his soul! Her eyes tell the story ..

EXT. CAMP - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Three TENTS, slashed and BLOOD-drenched! A mangled CORPSE lies in the FG!

INT. BLIND - DAY

Travis reels, speechless!

Jenny wipes her tears and collects herself.

They awkwardly avoid eye-contact ..

JENNY You got a cell phone?

TRAVIS Yeah. But I never get service out here.

He finds his PHONE and turns it on.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Nope. No dice.

He holds it in various directions ..

TRAVIS (CONT'D) It ain't happenin.

She stares hopelessly out the window ..

JENNY What do you think that thing is?

TRAVIS (shrugs) I just saw a blur. You get a good look at it?

She tries to remember ---

INT. TENT - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

A mad blur of FANGS, FUR, CLAWS and BLOOD!

INT. BLIND - DAY

She shakes her head, disturbed.

JENNY It's a monster. Straight up. Monster. He wishes he didn't believe her. TRAVIS Whatever it is, I'm gonna kill it, cook it, and eat it. Mark my words. She enjoys his confidence. He finds his CIGARETTES and smokes .. Offers her one, but she declines. He stares out the window. She stares at her locket. TRAVIS (CONT'D) What's that? JENNY Oh, just.. (lying) Some old trinket. TRAVIS Can I see it? She reluctantly hands it to him. He admires it ... TRAVIS (CONT'D) The chain's broken. But it's an Aw. easy fix. He positions the broken chain links between his teeth, and bites down ... Jenny nervously bites her fingernails. TRAVIS (CONT'D) There. Good as new. He shows it to her, fixed! She's thrilled! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Turn around. She does. He fastens the locket around her neck.

She clutches it thankfully.

He smiles proudly.

She examines his handiwork.

He chain-smokes another CIGARETTE.

She watches him with newfound admiration.

JENNY

Can I get a drag?

He hands her the cigarette. She smokes like a veteran.

JENNY (CONT'D) You roll these yourself?

TRAVIS

Yes ma'am.

JENNY

Spicy.

She takes another healthy drag and hands it back--

As their fingers brush, they each feel the chemistry.

She rubs GOOSEBUMPS on her arms.

TRAVIS Chilly, huh?

She shrugs it off.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) How bout we shoot this so-called monster, and call it a day?

He tosses the cigarette out the window, grabs his rifle and resumes the watch.

JENNY

Amen.

DISSOLVE TO:

Travis wearily puts down the rifle and stretches.

TRAVIS No sign a nuttin nowhere.

JENNY You think it's gone? TRAVIS Nah. It's waitin for us. I know it.

Jenny plays nervously with her locket.

Travis smokes another CIGARETTE ..

JENNY We can't stay up here forever.

TRAVIS

Hell no. When the sun sets it's gonna get colder than Hillary Clinton's titties out here. They said it might snow.

JENNY

Oh great.

He nods gravely.

JENNY (CONT'D) What options are there? Besides waiting?

TRAVIS (thinks) You could go down there and act as bait. Then, soon as the monster--

JENNY --What? No way!

TRAVIS Let me finish.

She begrudgingly awaits his plan.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Soon as it shows itself, boom! I'll pop em like Orville Redenbacha!

JENNY You're not serious.

He's serious.

JENNY (CONT'D) What if you miss?

TRAVIS Me miss? Girl, you talkin crazy.

She glances at the spent SHELL on the floor.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) That didn't count. That was a warm-up. JENNY Right. TRAVIS Get ready. He reaches for the door .. JENNY I can't. Sorry. I'm too scared. TRAVIS You'll be straight. JENNY Nope. I'm not doing it. TRAVIS What if I make you? He points the rifle at her! She's horrified! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Ha! Just joshin. He grins and points the rifle away. She musters a smile. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Guess it's back to plan A. He lights a CIGARETTE, goes to the window and resumes the watch ... Jenny has serious doubts. DISSOLVE TO: Jenny yawns -- Her breath FOGS in the cold air. She notices her hard nipples poking through her shirt. Travis notices too. Jenny crosses her arms self-consciously. They're both embarrassed.

11.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) You must be freezing.

JENNY Yep. Now I'm officially cold.

TRAVIS Here. I got all kinds of old crap.

He brushes off a dusty LOCKER and rummages through it..

TRAVIS (CONT'D) You're gonna wanna insulate your extremities. I don't see any socks. Dammit.

He tosses her some SWEATPANTS and a LONG-UNDERWEAR SHIRT, which she gratefully puts on.

JENNY Ha! Perfect fit!

The clothes are big and baggy.

They exchange smiles.

TRAVIS You need a hat. Half your body heat escapes from your head. Aha!

He throws her an orange STOCKING CAP.

As she puts it on, a SPIDER crawls out!

She screams!

Travis dives for his rifle!

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Where?! Where?!

She points at the measly spider.

He can't help but laugh.

She's not amused.

He gingerly picks up the spider and tosses it out the window.

JENNY

Ew! I can't believe you touched it!

He shrugs and keeps rummaging through the locker --

TRAVIS Lantern. Hm. Rope. Towel..

Jenny checks her hat for more bugs before putting it on.

JENNY How to I look?

TRAVIS Hot. Sensational.

She laughs.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) You could be a model for bum's clothing.

She poses like a fashion model.

He notices how pretty she is.

She notices his admiration.

He keeps rummaging..

She smiles to herself.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

No socks.

JENNY

Bummer.

She rubs her bare feet.

TRAVIS You can have mine. I'm wearing two pairs.

He takes off his boots.

JENNY Are they funky?

He smells a sock--

TRAVIS

Egk!

He pretends to die!

She laughs.

He shoves the sock in her face!

JENNY

Agh!

She squirms away!

TRAVIS It ain't even that bad.

She reluctantly smells it.

JENNY No. It ain't.

TRAVIS Gimmie your foot.

He delicately puts his sock onto her foot ..

She thoughtfully watches him.

JENNY You're like the Prince in Cinderella.

He doesn't hear her. His attention is focused on the BAR CODE TATTOO just above her ankle.

TRAVIS And the other one.

She switches feet.

He puts the other sock on ..

She lays a gentle hand on his shoulder.

JENNY Thanks, Travis.

TRAVIS No prob, babe.

He humbly reaches for his boots -- She stops him.

JENNY Please. Allow me.

She puts his boots on his feet for him ..

He thoughtfully watches her..

JENNY (CONT'D) How tight do you want the laces?

TRAVIS Tight. She pulls them tight. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Tighter. She yanks them extra tight --TRAVIS (CONT'D) (winces) Ah! JENNY Sorry! TRAVIS No. It's good. He lays a gentle hand on her shoulder. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Thanks, Jenny. They lock eyes. Sparks! They both turn away, abashed. He returns to rummaging through the locker--TRAVIS (CONT'D) What else I got? Trash bags. Batteries. He finds an ADULT MAGAZINE! She giggles. He stashes it, clears his throat and keeps rummaging. Suddenly the WIND HOWLS! They freeze! TRAVIS (CONT'D) It was just the wind. Right? She nods. They sit in grim silence .. DISSOLVE TO: SHADOWS slide as TIME PASSES ..

Jenny sits, cold and impatient..

Travis keeps a vigilant lookout for the Beast ..

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FOREST - DUSK

The SUN SETS as Travis wearily watches the forest ..

INT. BLIND - DUSK

TRAVIS There goes my daylight. If I don't see this thing soon, I ain't gonna see it.

JENNY Then what?

He's not sure. She's worried.

Hm.

He performs a quick function check on his rifle.

TRAVIS (unsatisfied)

He strips the bolt-carrier assembly.

JENNY What do you do, Travis? Are you like in the Army or something?

TRAVIS Nah, babe. I ain't nobody.

He brushes and oils his rifle.

She puzzles over him.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) How you holdin up?

JENNY My feet are frozen.

She rubs her poor feet.

Satisfied with his weapon, Travis resumes the lookout ..

They both hope for a miracle.

DISSOLVE TO:

It gets DARKER and darker outside ..

Travis, frustrated and bleary, squints through the scope ..

He rubs his eyes. He can hardly see anything.

Eventually he gives up.

TRAVIS

Dammit!

Jenny shares his defeat.

Travis fumes. He wants to break something!

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Ggrragh!

He points the rifle at the wall--

BANG! -- A BULLET HOLE BLASTS through!

Jenny screams!

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Shut up!

She cowers, terrified!

He throws the rifle down! Kicks it!

They avoid eye-contact ..

He SMOKES and drinks..

They both think gloomy thoughts ..

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Jenny rubs her feet, depressed. Travis checks his cell phone..

> TRAVIS No service. And the battery's low.

He turns to the window and casually undzips his pants!

Jenny isn't sure how to react. Travis URINATES out the window! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Yowzers! The coldness! Jenny politely averts her eyes. TRAVIS (CONT'D) I shouldn't be drinkin like I am in this weather. (drinks) Alcohol's a vasoconstrictor, you know. She doesn't understand. He checks his pulse. TRAVIS (CONT'D) It drastically exacerbates hypothermia. JENNY (confused) Oh. Right. TRAVIS Know what I'm sayin? He hiccups and zips up his pants. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Better fire up that lantern. CUT TO: Travis lights the PROPANE LANTERN with a MATCH .. JENNY How long will it last? TRAVIS (shrugs) Long time. Prolly not all night, though. JENNY At least it's warm. They warm their hands over it .. JENNY (CONT'D) You think that monster's still waiting for us?

TRAVIS (shrugs) Wanna go check?

JENNY

Funny.

She stares at the floor..

JENNY (CONT'D) Think it can climb trees?

TRAVIS

Beats me.

She stares at the trap door ..

JENNY How strong is that door?

TRAVIS It'll hold.

JENNY What if--?

TRAVIS --What if you shut your mouth? Geez. You're grillin me like a hot dog!

JENNY Sorry. I thought--

TRAVIS --Shut up!

She quails.

He reigns in his temper.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) I mean. Please. Be quiet.

She nods obediently.

He feels bad.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Ι..

They share a sympathetic glance.

He turns and stares out the window.

She idly fondles her locket .. DISSOLVE TO: They both shiver and stare at the lantern.. Jenny's teeth CHATTER .. TRAVIS (CONT'D) This is some bullshit. We're gonna freeze if we stay out here all night. He suddenly unlocks the trap door! She tries to stop him --JENNY Are you crazy?! TRAVIS To hell with it. I'll take my chances out there. JENNY Don't! Please! He grabs his rifle. TRAVIS I'm going. There's nothing you can do to stop me. He throws the door open--THE BEAST (O.C.) Arooooo! They both freeze! Travis gulps and quickly re-locks the door! TRAVIS Dat settles dat. She clings to him. JENNY How close was it? I couldn't tell. TRAVIS I dunno. I just dunno. He sits, defeated.

FADE TO:

Jenny shivers miserably.

JENNY I'm socoo cold.

TRAVIS Can you feel your toes?

She touches her toes.

JENNY I can barely feel my fingers.

He shakes his head grimly.

TRAVIS What a lousy streak of luck we're having.

JENNY You believe in luck?

TRAVIS What do you believe in? God? You think He's gonna save us? Or He's testing us? Or some shit?

JENNY Whoa. Who said anything about God?

TRAVIS I did. You believe in Him, don't you?

An awkward silence..

JENNY Where you from, Travis?

TRAVIS Don't worry bout it.

JENNY I ain't worried.

They size each other up.

He considers smoking another cigarette, but since he only has a few left he saves them.

TRAVIS

Suppose somebody wants to know why you're drenched in blood. What am I gonna say? Let's get our stories straight here.

JENNY

I told you--

TRAVIS

--You strung me a yarn which involves a quote unquote monster.

JENNY

You saw it.

TRAVIS I don't know what I saw.

JENNY You heard it howl.

TRAVIS I have my doubts.

JENNY (laughs) Doubts. You believe in God though.

He stares at the lantern.

JENNY (CONT'D) Hey. I haven't even thanked you. You probably saved my life.

TRAVIS

Think so?

JENNY Yeah. I think so.

He takes a drink and puts the thermos away.

TRAVIS We ain't out the woods yet, kid.

She nods thoughtfully.

He belches!

She's taken aback!

He casually unzips his pants and URINATES out the window ..

JENNY I wish you'd give me some kind of warning before you did that. TRAVIS (shrugs) We all got wishes, babe. I wish you didn't talk half as much. She glares at him. JENNY I wish you weren't such a poor shot. JENNY (CONT'D) And such a hopeless drunk. TRAVIS Yeah. Dat's prolly why I ain't got no buckin girlfriend. And why I ain't no

He laughs and hiccups.

He somberly zips his pants back up.

damn good to no damn body.

She tries to understand his despair.

He offers her the thermos.

She accepts, and takes a huge gulp!

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Atta girl!

She winces and hands it back.

They share a moment of mutual existence ..

JENNY Why do you say buck? Instead of fuck?

TRAVIS

(shrugs) Old habit.

She hiccups. He laughs.

JENNY

Buck!

They both laugh.

TRAVIS Whatcha say your name was? Jenny?

She nods.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) You ain't too bad, Jenny.

JENNY (sassy) That's what you think.

He smiles and reaches for the thermos..

DISSOLVE TO:

Jenny drinks and passes the thermos..

TRAVIS We really shouldn't be drinking like this.

They both laugh drunkenly.

JENNY I don't want any more.

TRAVIS

Me either.

He belches and drinks.

She giggles and yawns.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) I been meanin to ask you.

JENNY

Yeah?

They stare into each other's eyes..

She tugs at him playfully.

JENNY (CONT'D)

What?

He clears his throat.

THE BEAST (O.C.)

Arooooo!

They both jump!

JENNY

They listen..

That sounded really close.

A low RUMBLE, like a stampede approaching! They exchange worried looks. The rumble gets LOUDER .. Jenny becomes hysterical! JENNY (CONT'D) Do something! Travis readies his rifle. BREAKING BRANCHES, RUSTLING LEAVES nearby--KABAAMM! -- The whole tree SHAKES! Travis and Jenny fall over! THE BEAST (O.C.) (snarls) Gggrrarararar! SCRAPE SCRAPE SCRAPE! -- Claws climb the tree! BOOM! -- Travis SHOOTS through the door! Jenny screams! THE BEAST (O.C.) (CONT'D) Ggrrrr! Travis cycles a ROUND -- CLICK, CLACK! Everything's quiet .. They hold their breath .. SILENCE .. They exchange hopeful looks. TRAVIS I think I got em! She's not so sure. They keep waiting and listening ..

Travis proudly takes a victory drink.

Jenny sighs, relieved.

JENNY Thank God that's over.

Travis reaches for the padlock--

THE BEAST (O.C.)

Gggrrrrr..

They both deflate.

Jenny whimpers.

Travis reloads.

TRAVIS Dry them tears, babe.

She shakes her head, hopeless.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) If you can't keep your shit together, how am I gonna keep mine together?

He looks stressed.

She nods and tries to collect herself.

He wipes sweat from his face and takes out a CIGARETTE.

She watches him intently.

He can't find his damn lighter.

Suddenly she hugs him tight!

He's completely surprised.

She won't let go.

He holds her, awkwardly at first, then tenderly.

She feels safe.

Suddenly he becomes tense--

TRAVIS (CONT'D) You hear that? JENNY

No. What?

They listen..

Faint CHEWING sounds.

TRAVIS

Hold on.

He looks out the window.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) I can't see nuttin. But I hear em.

Jenny's heart sinks.

Travis shuts the plexiglass windows.

JENNY Well, now we know it can climb trees.

TRAVIS Hopefully it makes another run at the door, so I can blast em in the face again.

He practices aiming at the door.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) But I betcha it's already wounded so bad it'll crawl off somewhere and die.

Jenny glumly shakes her head.

JENNY It's not gonna die. We're gonna have to spend the whole night up here.

TRAVIS

Naw.

They both know she might be right.

Travis rubs his rifle, as if for luck.

Jenny rubs her chilly arms.

Travis takes off his jacket and offers it to her--

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Here.

JENNY No. Don't. TRAVIS Really. Take it.

He wraps it around her.

JENNY Thanks. That's sweet of you.

TRAVIS I'm prolly gonna want it back in like twenty minutes, so enjoy that shit.

She enjoys it.

EXT. FERRY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A pretty YOUNG WOMAN wearing a COCKTAIL DRESS smokes a CIGARETTE, drinks CHAMPAGNE and shivers from the cold..

Travis, wearing a TUXEDO, wraps his COAT around her.

They exchange a warm look.

KABOOM! -- FIREWORKS EXPLODE over the water!

PARTY-GOERS gather to watch.

Travis and the Young Woman stare at each other, while everyone else watches the FIREWORKS..

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Jenny squirms irritably.

JENNY Damn. I gotta go to the bathroom.

TRAVIS Number one or number two?

JENNY

One.

TRAVIS Hm. Guess I could open the hatch real quick, and you could pop a squat?

JENNY

Ew!

TRAVIS It's cool, babe. Hell, I'm pissin out the window. It's that kinda party.

Jenny hesitantly eyes the door.

JENNY

Man.

TRAVIS So. You ready? Or what?

She squirms. He unlocks the door.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Don't worry, I won't look.

He closes his eyes.

She reluctantly undoes her pants..

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

THE BEAST'S POV: The trap door opens!

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

JENNY Don't suppose you have any toilet paper? Travis checks his pockets.

TRAVIS

Um. I got a few napkins.

JENNY Better than nothing.

He hands her some NAPKINS.

A TWIG SNAPS! LEAVES RUSTLE!

JENNY (CONT'D)

Oh God.

Jenny shuts and locks the door as fast as she can! Travis grabs his rifle!

THE BEAST (O.C.) Grrrrr.. They exchange mortified looks! He glances at her midriff. She blushes and pulls up her pants. He clears his throat. They listen and wait anxiously .. He FARTS! She laughs. TRAVIS Shhh! Listen. She fans her nose. JENNY Ugh! That's some funky business! TRAVIS (laughs) Shhhh! They quiet down and listen .. JENNY (whispers) I don't hear nuttin. TRAVIS (whispers) Me neither. He shivers. She gives him back the jacket. He's grateful. They keep listening .. And listening.. DISSOLVE TO: Jenny lies shivering miserably on the floor. Travis leans against the wall, half-asleep.

A CRASH jolts them both!

JENNY What was that? TRAVIS (thinks) A tree falling in the forest. JENNY Seriously? TRAVIS It happens. Trees grow old, and die, and fall. Like everything else. She nods thoughtfully. He reaches for the thermos. TRAVIS (CONT'D) I gotta quit drinkin. (drinks) JENNY You keep saying that. But you keep drinking. He considers the thermos. TRAVIS I'm a lost cause. He shamefully puts it away. JENNY You're not a lost cause. TRAVIS What do you know? JENNY I know I want that jacket back. He smiles and gives it to her. JENNY (CONT'D) Thanks. Aaah! She savors the warmth. Her joy gives him joy. TRAVIS How your feet doin?

She shakes her head. He absently reaches for the thermos--JENNY Look who's drinkin again. TRAVIS Oh damn. I forgot. He shamefully puts it down. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Force of habit. JENNY It's okay. He finds and lights a CIGARETTE. Jenny smiles to herself. JENNY (CONT'D) You know, nicotine's a vasoconstrictor too. He stares at his cigarette. TRAVIS You can't win. He smokes. She sighs. JENNY Got anything to eat? I'm starving. He searches his pockets, finds a GRANOLA BAR. TRAVIS Granola? JENNY Sure. Thanks. He tosses it to her. She gratefully eats it .. He absently picks up the thermos--JENNY (CONT'D)

JENNY (CONT'D) You can't leave it alone, can you? TRAVIS (sighs) Guess not.

Impulsively, he pours the remaining VODKA out on the floor. Jenny nods approvingly.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Already kinda wish I hadn't done that.

JENNY It was a heroic gesture.

He shrugs.

JENNY (CONT'D) (clears throat) Got any water? Sorry, I know I sound like a brat. But I'm thirsty as buck.

TRAVIS (chuckles) Naw, babe. No water.

She adjusts her ill-fitting clothes.

He checks the time.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) It's not even midnight yet.

She droops.

He stares out the window.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) I should have a thermometer in here.

He absently reaches for the thermos--

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Ah, dammit!

In a sudden rage, he hurls the thermos at the window!

DINK! -- It bounces off!

BAM! -- It hits Jenny!

Ow!

JENNY

She cringes!

He feels terrible. JENNY (CONT'D) Psycho! TRAVIS I'm sorry. I thought the window Hey. was open. She wipes BLOOD off her head. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Are you okay? JENNY Are you an asshole? TRAVIS Dude. It was an accident. I'm sorry. She can tell he feels bad. They exchange a look of understanding. JENNY That hurt like hell. He nods, ashamed. An awkward silence.. He shivers. JENNY (CONT'D) You want your jacket back? TRAVIS Naw, I'm good. His teeth chatter. She gives him the jacket. JENNY Just wear it for a little while. TRAVIS Thanks. He gratefully puts it on. She stares at the thermos. He sniffs the jacket's collar.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Wow. Maybe that monster's attracted to your perfume.

JENNY I'm not wearing perfume.

TRAVIS You naturally smell like springtime?

She smells her hair ---

JENNY Shampoo? Maybe.

He wants her. She knows it. Sparks!

JENNY (CONT'D)

Hey, thanks. For, you know, saving my life and everything. And sorry for, you know, being such a burden.

TRAVIS (nods) No prob, babe.

JENNY I mean it. You're a good guy.

He's embarrassed.

She smiles.

TRAVIS Man, you got a pretty smile.

Now she's embarrassed.

They both feel awkward.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

So.

JENNY

So.

He clears his throat and turns to rummage through the locker some more..

Jenny questions her emotions.

Travis discovers a FIRST AID KIT--
TRAVIS First aid kit. Forgot I had this. He opens it and reviews its contents. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Want an X-rated band-aid? JENNY (shrugs) Sure. He gives her the BAND-AIDS. She shuffles through them --JENNY (CONT'D) Oh. My. Goodness. Is this real? He looks at the band-aid in question. TRAVIS Probably. Why? JENNY It's so big! TRAVIS (chuckles) I seen bigger. JENNY Really? Where? TRAVIS In the shower. She raises an eyebrow. He clears his throat. She gives the band-aid another glance and tucks it into her pocket. Travis unwraps a mylar EMERGENCY BLANKET. JENNY What's that? TRAVIS It's a cape for you to wear. Your outfit isn't complete without this. JENNY (laughs) Shut up!

TRAVIS You can be like Super Bum! He tries to wrap it around her, but she playfully evades it. JENNY For real. What is it? TRAVIS It's an emergency blanket. Made out of mylar. Some astronaut shit. It reflects like ninety-eight percent of ultraviolet radiation. JENNY (confused) I see. TRAVIS It'll keep you warm. She wears it like a cape. They both laugh. JENNY I look awesome. Don't I? TRAVIS You know you do. She plays with the mylar, fascinated by it. WIND howls outside. JENNY Brrrrr! I'm still shivering! She pulls the mylar tight around herself. TRAVIS When you stop shivering, it'll Good. be time to worry. She's already worried. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Also, if you feel really hot it might be time to worry. There's a phenomenon called, um. What's it called? (thinks) Paradoxical undressing. Apparently, when you get super cold your brain goes haywire and you feel like you're super hot.

(MORE)

So the last thing you manage to do before you freeze to death is peel off your clothes. It happens all the time. JENNY (horrified) I can't wait. She shivers. He wraps the jacket around her, over the mylar. JENNY (CONT'D) Aw. You're sweet. He rubs her arms to warm them. JENNY (CONT'D) Do I get a massage too? He massages her shoulders. JENNY (CONT'D) Mmmm. TRAVIS Is that too hard? JENNY No, it's perfect. She practically purrs. JENNY (CONT'D) Oh, Mike. He feels awkward. She gets sad. TRAVIS What was he like? She bites her lip. TRAVIS (CONT'D) I'm sorry, I didn't mean to--JENNY --He was the love of my life. He was.. He was my soulmate. We were made for each other. I know that sounds cliche, but it's true. He taught me what love really is. You know?

TRAVIS (nods) Were you like high-school sweethearts?

She smiles and nods.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Yep. Me and my girl, same shit. She was two years older than me. Man, those were some crazy days.

EXT. SCENIC PARKWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

BECKY, a beautiful girl remarkably similar to Jenny, drives a RED CONVERTIBLE. Travis sits shotgun. They smoke a JOINT.. He pulls up her shirt and chews on her breasts.. Laughing ecstatically, she hikes up her skirt. He burrows his face into her crotch--She almost veers off the road!

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

JENNY What was her name?

TRAVIS Rebecca. Becky.

He smiles at a fond memory.

EXT. FARM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Becky, wearing a SUN DRESS and holding a BOUQUET, spins in SLOW MOTION, laughing and loving life..

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Travis clutches his heart.

JENNY You miss her?

TRAVIS Kinda. Yeah, I guess so. Even though I kinda buckin hate her too. We had one of those relationships. You know? Jenny nods appreciatively. JENNY Why'd you break up? TRAVIS Ah, who knows. The wobbles of life. JENNY I hear ya. TRAVIS It was probably my fault. JENNY (nods) I can see that. He looks her up and down. TRAVIS You kinda remind me of her. She wore her hair about the same. And she was about as pretty as you. Not quite. But close. Jenny tries not to blush. Travis tries not to think about the past. JENNY (yawns) I feel so tired all of a sudden. TRAVIS Lie on your back. Breathe normally. She patiently cooperates. He checks her pulse, somewhat concerned. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Let's check on your poor feet. He peels back her sock to reveal a dark BLUE ankle! He's worried. She's worried.

Again, he notices her bar code tattoo..

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Have we met before? JENNY What? No. Not that I recall. He studies her face. She studies his. JENNY (CONT'D) I think I stopped shivering. Uh oh. He monitors her pulse. TRAVIS How's your head feel? Like, can you think straight? JENNY I can think okay. I think. Um. TRAVIS What's fifteen times six? JENNY (thinks) No. I guess I can't think that Hm. straight. They both giggle. JENNY (CONT'D) What is it? TRAVIS What's what? JENNY Whatever you said. Fifteen times six. What is it? TRAVIS (thinks) Um. He checks his own pulse. JENNY We're doomed! They both laugh. He flexes his fingers.

TRAVIS

We'll probably start hallucinating soon.

JENNY (yawns) Ooo. Really? We gonna trip hardcore?

TRAVIS

Dunno.

JENNY Hope I see unicorns. And pixies.

They giggle dumbly.

JENNY (CONT'D) Hey. Try your cell phone again.

TRAVIS

A'ight.

He finds it and turns it on.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Sweetness.

JENNY You got service?!

TRAVIS Unless I'm hallucinating.

He dials a number.

They wait anxiously as it rings..

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Dave! This is gonna sound like some bullshit, but I'm trapped in a tree with a girl I don't know and -- Shut up and listen! I'm serious! I need you to get your ass the buck out here right now with hella guys and hella guns.

Dude. There's like some kind of wild beast on the loose. I don't know what the buck it is. But it's big. It howls. And it ain't no joke, bra.

Uh huh. The deer blind, over at -- yeah. Alright. Promise? Thanks buddy. I owe you a couple. Peace.

He hangs up.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Dave says he's gonna call the cops and they'll all be out here in a few hours!

Jenny's thrilled! She gives him a big hug--

They hold each other ..

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Can I wear the jacket for a second?

She wraps the jacket around both of them.

JENNY We can share it.

TRAVIS Ah. Nice and warm.

She snuggles into him. He sighs.

They stare lazily at the lantern.

He pets her hair. She gets lost in a memory ..

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A beautiful spring day; Bright SUN, gentle BREEZE, BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES and FLOWERS.

Jenny, her boyfriend MIKE, a HOT GIRL, TWO HOT GUYS and a DOG pile out of a JEEP, laughing and tossing a FOOTBALL.

They play MUSIC, drink BEERS, BARBECUE, SMOKE, dance, and have a good time..

EXT. RIVER - SUNSET (FLASHBACK)

The kids, drunk and DRINKING, splash around playfully as the sun sets. The Dog swims after a STICK.

A gorgeous SUNSET.

Jenny and Mike cuddle. The others skinny dip..

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Everyone's gathered around a roaring CAMPFIRE. They party and joke and tell wild stories. The Dog won't quit!

Empty beers pile up. Dancing intensifies..

Drunken attempts to make S'MORES end in disaster!

A BILLION STARS twinkle overhead.

Jenny and Mike kiss playfully.

She leads him by the hand back to their TENT ..

INT. TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Jenny drunkenly peels off her shirt and ravages Mike ..

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

THE BEAST'S POV: From a distant hill, watching the glow of their CAMPFIRE..

With a SNARL, the BEAST heads in that direction ..

INT. TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Jenny and Mike giggle as they kiss and fool around ..

FADE TO:

EXT. CAMP - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

A majestic SUNRISE and red sky.

The Dog wanders around the SMOULDERING CAMPFIRE.

INT. TENT - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Jenny wakes naked, in the comfortable embrace of her lover. She appreciates the moment, then wakes him with a kiss.. They stare tenderly into each other's eyes.

THE BEAST (O.C.) Arooooo! SOMEBODY (O.C.) (screams) Aaaaqqhhhhh! Jenny and Mike exchange looks of horror! They scramble to get dressed--THE BEAST (O.C.) Grrrqrqqrr! COMMOTION and SLASHES! BLOOD spatters their Tent! Jenny hyperventilates! Mike grabs a KNIFE and opens the tent door--SLASH! -- BLOOD spatters Jenny's face! She screams! Travis loses consciousness as he's dragged away by the unseen Beast! Jenny is too terrified to move! The Dog BARKS! SLASH! The Dog WHIMPERS! SOMEBODY (O.C.) (screams) Aaaaqqhhhhh! THE BEAST (O.C.) Grragargagar! Jenny cowers helplessly! Her fingers find her LOCKET. She quickly pulls the chain over her head. Summoning all her courage, she dashes out the door! EXT. CAMP - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

The ground is trampled. Tents are shredded. BLOOD, BODIES and chunks of MANGLED FLESH lie everywhere!

Jenny runs frantically into the woods..

She sees the DEAD DOG and retches!

THE BEAST'S POV: Jenny clumsily running away.. The POV turns back to finish eating Mike!

EXT. FOREST - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Jenny runs for her life, trying to block small branches from whipping her in the face..

INT. BLIND - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Jenny wakes with a start! She realizes it was just a dream. Then she realizes it wasn't a dream!

Travis, at the window, smokes what looks like a CRACK PIPE!

Jenny rubs her eyes, confused.

Travis smokes a CIGARETTE. They make eye contact.

Jenny rolls over and tries to go back to sleep ..

SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

She thinks she's imagining it.

SCRAPE. SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

She tries to ignore it, but she's afraid.

SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

She turns to Travis--

He's not there!

JENNY I must be dreaming.

She shakes her head and goes back to sleep.. SCRAPE. SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

FADE TO:

Travis wakes, disconcerted.

SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

He puts his ear to the floor.

SCRAPE. SCRAPE. SCRAPE.

Jenny SNORES in her sleep.

He nudges her. She stops snoring.

He opens the window--

SNOW falls outside. He reaches out, catches a few snowflakes and eats them.

He notices a faint LIGHT in the distance. Squints to see--

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT (SNOWING)

A few thousand feet from the blind, an UNNATURAL GLOW illuminates the treetops..

INT. BLIND - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Travis shakes his head, overwhelmed.

Jenny appears at his side. They share the jacket.

JENNY It's snowing.

TRAVIS What do you think that light is?

JENNY It's beautiful.

She's mesmerized by it.

TRAVIS It's not the Moon. It's not fire. It's not a helicopter.

JENNY

Wooow!

She cries tears of joy!

TRAVIS Are you okay?

She smiles and nods.

He looks suspiciously at the light. She leans tenderly on his shoulder. He's not sure how to react. The mysterious light FADES AWAY.. They exchange perplexed looks. SCRAPE SCRAPE SCRAPE.

FADE TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY (SNOWING)

Travis sits on a BENCH in his UNDERWEAR, trying to scrape ICE off his frozen rifle..

SCRAPE SCRAPE SCRAPE.

He notices SOMEBODY approaching. It looks like Jenny!

He waves. She waves back.

Suddenly SOMEBODY taps him on the shoulder!

He turns around--

Jenny's BLOODY CORPSE sits next to him!

He can't breathe!

Her cold dead eyes stare at him! BUGS crawl from her mouth!

He turns away--

A CROW lands on a nearby fence.

DARK CLOUDS gather overhead.

An OLD WOMAN weeps.

A DRIED ROSE crumbles to DUST.

FLIES BUZZ around a DEAD RAT.

Travis notices PEOPLE watching him.

A POLICE OFFICER points at him!

He hurries away ..

The Officer chases him!

Travis runs for his life! MORE POLICE appear from all directions! GERMAN SHEPHERDS join the chase! Travis rounds a corner and almost gets hit by a CAR! BOOM! -- A BULLET kicks up snow near his feet! He ducks into the nearest building--

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY (SNOWING)

BOOM! -- QKPISSH! -- A WINDOW SHATTERS!
PATRONS scream and run for cover!
BOOM! BOOM!
A PREGNANT WOMAN drops DEAD, shot in the head!
Travis is petrified!
All around him, people pull out GUNS!
A SHOOT-OUT ensues!
BOOM! BANG! BOOM! POP! BOOM!
Bodies drop left and right! BULLETS, BLOOD everywhere!
Travis tries to run, but the floor's too slippery!
He falls and thrashes madly in the GORE..

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Travis wakes, scared and disoriented! Jenny stares calmly at him.

> TRAVIS Whoa. I just had the craziest buckin dream.

JENNY Who says you're not still dreaming?

She kisses him -- He pulls away, confused.

She licks his face.

TRAVIS

Quit it.

She laughs and climbs on top of him.

The lantern burns out..

The WIND howls!

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The unnatural GLOW has returned; only a few hundred feet from the blind, at ground level.

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Travis smokes a CIGARETTE, watching it uneasily..

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Travis, sitting in a small BOAT with a BEER and a FISHING POLE, notices an unnatural GLOW on the shore..

He steers the boat towards it ..

As he gets closer, the light seems to grow BRIGHTER ..

Suddenly the water gets choppy!

A SPOT LIGHT blinds him!

Multiple SPEED BOATS surround him!

A HELICOPTER appears overhead!

He raises his hands in surrender--

PARAMILITARY grab him from behind!

They pull a HOOD over his face!

INT. BLIND - NIGHT

Travis closes his eyes and tries to forget.

His neglected cigarette has burnt down to his fingers--

TRAVIS

Ow!

He drops the butt and steps on it.

For some reason, the fire won't go out!

The more he steps on it, the more the flames spread!

He shields his face from the heat ..

FADE TO:

INT. BLIND - MORNING

Travis wakes with a shaft of SUNLIGHT in his eyes.

He sighs, gets up, and looks out the window--

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

Several inches of SNOW blanket the ground.

A few BIRDS and SQUIRRELS brave the weather..

INT. BLIND - MORNING

Travis sleepily finds and lights his last CIGARETTE --

He notices with alarm a sea of enormous animal TRACKS all around the base of the tree!

Worse yet, the tree itself is heavily carved into, like an army of beavers had tried (and almost succeeded) to bring it down!

He can't believe his eyes!

Jenny wakes, drowsy and cold.

JENNY What's wrong?

He won't tell her.

She looks for herself--

JENNY (CONT'D) Oh my God! What happened?!

TRAVIS Looks like the so-called monster almost took down our tree.

She bursts into tears.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Be quiet. I need to think.

JENNY Don't tell me to be quiet! We're gonna die out here, and--

He reaches into his pocket --

She cringes!

He pulls out his CELL PHONE.

She's relieved.

TRAVIS Shit! Battery's dead.

JENNY Yeah? So are we!

TRAVIS

Shut up!

She cringes! He checks his watch.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) The snow messed up the roads. But they'll get here. They'll get here.

He wrings his hands.

JENNY Who? Your friend Dave? He's dead too!

TRAVIS

Will you <u>please</u> shut up?

JENNY And it's all your fault, cause you--

TRAVIS --My fault?! My fault?! Oh that's a good one. Like I came along and brought a monster into your life? (MORE)

Like you were just minding your own business. Hunting deer. And now here I might get you killed! How unfair of me! She glares at him. JENNY Why don't you --? TRAVIS --Why don't you shut your whore mouth?! Her jaw drops! JENNY What did you say? TRAVIS I called you a whore. She nods calmly, as if understanding. Suddenly she attacks him! Punches! Kicks! Nails! Teeth! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Ah! Ow! Ow! Bitch! He restrains her--She bites his hand! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Aaqh! They fall over, crashing hard into the wall! CRACK! -- The entire tree shakes! EXT. FOREST - DAWN The tree sways noticeably! SPLINTERS of wood chip off from the damaged base!

INT. BLIND

Jenny and Travis exchange terrified looks.

TRAVIS (whispers) Don't. Buckin. Move.

She nods. He tries to think.. Suddenly she knees him in the groin! His eyes roll back! CRACK! -- The tree shakes violently! TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Oh God.

JENNY

Oh shit.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The tree sways dramatically! CRACK! CRACK! -- SPLINTERS flake off the base! CRACKCRACK! POP! -- The trunk gives! The tree falls.. It crashes thunderously to the ground! The blind SHATTERS apart! SNOW and BRANCHES avalanche down! BIRDS flee the area! Deathly SILENCE .. ANGLE ON a piece of the disintegrated blind .. ANGLE ON the thermos.. ANGLE ON an X-rated BAND-AID .. Travis's head slowly emerges from the snow .. TRAVIS Ouch. He digs himself out..

His groin hurts. He walks it off.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Jenny?

He looks around with growing concern..

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Jenny?!

He searches desperately ..

No sign of her..

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Jenny?!

Finally he finds her foot sticking out of the snow!

He frantically digs her out!

She's unconscious, but breathing.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Hey. Jen.

He jostles her.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Come on, babe. Wake up.

She slowly opens her eyes ..

JENNY (disappointed) You again.

He weeps with joy!

She smiles dumbly.

TRAVIS What hurts? Anything broken?

She shrugs.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Can you move your fingers and toes?

JENNY I couldn't do that <u>before</u>. Dummy.

He checks her FROSTBITTEN feet. They look horrendous.

TRAVIS Think you can walk? She pushes him away. JENNY Go to hell! TRAVIS Why? She throws snow in his face! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Hey! He doesn't understand. JENNY You called me a whore! He rolls his eyes. She crosses her arms. TRAVIS Look. I'm sorry. You're obviously not a whore. She clears her throat. TRAVIS (CONT'D) In fact, you're a charming, brilliant, beautiful young lady. Who I'm lucky to have met. She's flattered, but tries to hide it. JENNY And you called me a bitch. TRAVIS When? JENNY While I was attacking you. TRAVIS Oh. (rolls eyes) Sorry. I can be a jerk. I know it. She nods agreement. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Forgive and forget?

56.

He extends a friendly hand. She doesn't budge. TRAVIS (CONT'D) What do you wanna do? Sit here till that monster comes back? She reluctantly takes his hand. He pulls her into a hug. She resists at first--They hold each other .. TRAVIS (CONT'D) By the way, that kick to the crotch was devastating. They exchange a warm smile. JENNY Say. I had this dream about you last night. TRAVIS Did you? JENNY At least. I think it was a dream. He opens his mouth to speak--BOOM! BOOM! -- GUNSHOTS in the distance! They both jump! TRAVIS Shotgun. I think. SOMEBODY (O.C.) (distant screams) Aaagghhhh! They exchange terrified looks. THE BEAST (O.C.) (distant) Aroooooo! JENNY Oh no.

TRAVIS Where's my qun?! He searches wildly .. Jenny buries her head in her hands. JENNY We're dead. TRAVIS The hell we are! JENNY Our rescue party just got eaten alive! He shares her hopelessness.. Finds his rifle! Locks and loads! TRAVIS We can still put up a fight. JENNY Why bother? There's no hope! TRAVIS Bullshit! There's always hope! JENNY Look how big those tracks are! He considers the Beast's massive pawprints. JENNY (CONT'D) I don't want to die like them. For crissake! Just shoot me now, and get it over with! TRAVIS Dammit, Jenny! JENNY (frantic) Do it! Shoot me! She claws at him! He points the rifle at her! She's unflinching, ready to die .. TRAVIS Bam!

She gasps! He grabs her by the scruff--TRAVIS (CONT'D) We're gonna get through this shit. Whether you want to or not. She tries to act defiant. He shakes her! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Understand? She nods timidly. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Look at me. She looks at him. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Lord knows I ain't no damn hero. But I made up my mind to save your ass. Whatever the cost. I hope that's okay. She's somewhat moved. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Since there's only one pair of boots, I'll carry you. Climb onto my back. He stoops. She climbs onto his back. He rises, turns toward the ominous TRAIL left by the Beast. TRAVIS (CONT'D) We'll follow the tracks. Face this monster head on. She winces. FADE TO: Travis, with Jenny on his back, hobbles cautiously along the Beast's trail ... TRAVIS (CONT'D) Whew! How much do you weigh? She kicks him. He laughs.

JENNY Wait. Shhhh.

EXT. FOREST - DAY (SNOWING)

He stops. They listen..

SNOW falls with a soft PITTER PATTER ..

TRAVIS It's snowing.

The forest twitches and crackles all around them..

Danger seems everywhere..

Travis keeps trudging..

JENNY How much further?

TRAVIS We're close. Half a mile or so.

She bounces excitedly.

He doesn't share her enthusiasm.

JENNY (points)

Look!

A distant cluster of BIRDS pick at SOMETHING. They both know it's something dead. Suddenly a TWIG SNAPS! They freeze! Jenny dismounts. Travis readies his rifle. WIND howls! Trees sway and drop SNOW.. Jenny holds her breath. Travis strains his senses.. SNAP! -- He turns and aims! A RACCOON jumps out of a bush! JENNY (CONT'D)

Eek!

Travis sighs heavily.

They both laugh.

JENNY (CONT'D) That thing scared the hell outta me!

TRAVIS Damn varmint! I shoulda shot him! Where'd he go?

Travis takes aim--

RIFLE SCOPE POV: CROSS-HAIRS follow the raccoon past a clump of CRIMSON snow..

Travis gulps.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Come on. Let's go.

Jenny climbs back onto his back. He keeps trudging.. The Beast's trail ends in a sea of BLOOD-tinted tracks! Travis feels nauseous. Jenny shuts her eyes. As they draw closer, the birds fly away.. Travis forces himself to see what they were scavenging.. It's a mutilated TORSO, wearing a POLICE UNIFORM! He gets emotional.

Jenny sneaks a look, and becomes hysterical!

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Come on, babe. We're almost at the road. See it? (points)

A snow-covered ROAD is vaguely distinguishable ahead. She's suddenly relieved. He takes her hand. They hurry past the CARNAGE.. She keeps her eyes shut.

He tries not to look either.

WZHIP! -- He slips and falls!

Lands in BLOODY PULP!

JENNY

Aaaaahhhhh!

She thrashes madly!

Turning, she comes face-to-face with the Dead Police Officer's HEAD!

Her heart stops!

His cold dead eyes stare eerily at her!

JENNY (CONT'D) (screams) Aaaaaahhhhhh!

Travis covers her mouth--

TRAVIS

Shhh!

THE BEAST (O.C.) Arooooooooo!

Travis yanks Jenny to her feet!

Terrified, they race to the road!

EXT. ROAD - DAY (SNOWING)

An old PICKUP TRUCK and POLICE CAR are parked askew, battered and BLOODSTAINED, with SMASHED windows and huge CLAW MARKS!

TRAVIS Get in the truck!

They hurry to the pickup ..

Random PAWPRINTS and CARNAGE litter the ground!

Travis leaps over a BLOODY SHOE!

THE BEAST (O.C.) (closer) Aroooooooooo!

Jenny can't open her door!

JENNY It's stuck!

TRAVIS Pull really hard!

Jenny just dives in through the window!

INT/EXT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY (SNOWING)

BROKEN GLASS covers the seats.

Travis fumbles with his KEYS.

JENNY

Hurry!

He turns the ancient ignition --

KIG-KIG-KIG-KIG-KIG!

TRAVIS Come on. Come on!

KIG-KIG-KIG-KIG-KIG-KIG!

They hear the RUMBLE of an approaching stampede!

JENNY Come on! Come on!

Jenny slaps the dashboard!

KIG-KIG-KIG!

VROOOOM! -- It STARTS!

TRAVIS

Alright!

Travis shifts gears and floors it!

Snow flies as the tires spin!

The truck zooms down the road!

They smile at each other, relieved. Jenny turns to look back--HER POV: The BEAST emerges from the forest! She screams! Travis checks the rearview mirror. He does a double take! JENNY Go! Go! Go! Go! TRAVIS Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! The truck races down the road .. The Beast races after it .. Jenny, hysterical, can't look away--The Beast gradually gains on them! HER POV: Travis concentrates on the road--HIS POV: A sharp bend up ahead! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Hold on! He yanks the wheel--The truck drifts around the turn! The Beast continues to gain .. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Get my gun! Jenny hesitantly handles the rifle. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Push the safety! JENNY What?! TRAVIS Next to the trigger! She fumbles with it.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Hang on! He yanks the wheel! They drift around another bend--Jenny falls into Travis's lap! He reaches down and unlocks the safety for her. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Okay. Shoot! She shakes her head. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Shoot, dammit! She aims clumsily out the back window. BOOM! -- Missed by a mile. The recoil surprises her! JENNY Damn. She tries to cycle a round--JENNY (CONT'D) How do you--?! TRAVIS --Pull this! He helps her -- CLICK CLACK! JENNY Oh. I see. TRAVIS Hang on! They drift around another hard bend! Jenny gets flung against the door! She almost falls out the window! Travis pulls her back in! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Shoot! Shoot! She frantically looks through the scope--RIFLE SCOPE POV: Jittery CROSS-HAIRS jump around an

out-of-focus blur.

TRAVIS (CONT'D) Don't use the scope! Just concentrate! She concentrates.. BOOM! The Beast flinches and trips, but quickly recovers. JENNY I got em! Travis checks the rearview. TRAVIS Good! Do it again! She cycles the next round herself -- CLICK CLACK! Aims carefully.. TRAVIS (CONT'D) Hang on! Travis yanks the wheel! The truck drifts --Jenny falls over--BOOM! -- A BULLET HOLE in the roof! TRAVIS (CONT'D) Jesus! Hussein! Christ! JENNY Sorry! She regains her balance. He mutters obscenities to himself. She cycles another round -- CLICK CLACK! Aims.. TICK! JENNY (CONT'D) What the hell? TRAVIS Out of ammo. JENNY Shit!

TRAVIS

Hang on!

He yanks the wheel--

They drift ...

The tires catch a bump -- The truck flips over!

It rolls and slams into a tree -- BDUNKRASH!

FADE TO:

INT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY (SNOWING)

Akimbo in the mangled cabin, dazed and BLOODY, Travis and Jenny regain consciousness..

He looks weakly at her..

She holds his hand ..

TRAVIS

You okay?

JENNY No. My ass buckin hurts!

They both manage to smile.

Suddenly huge snarling JAWS burst through the window, biting Travis's arm!

TRAVIS (pain) Aghhhhh!

JENNY (terror) Ahhhhhh!

Travis struggles as the Beast pulls him from the truck!

Jenny watches him helplessly ..

TIME SLOWS..

She can't breathe!

The world SPINS and LOSES FOCUS..

INT. TENT - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Jenny watches Mike open the tent door in SLOW MOTION.. A hideous CLAW RIPS violently through him! BLOOD spatters Jenny's face! She screams! Mike looks sadly at her as he dies.. She bursts into tears! Everything gets BLURRY.. BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! -- GUNSHOTS ring out!

INT/EXT. PICKUP TRUCK - DAY (SNOWING)

The Beast releases Travis!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

THE BEAST (O.S.) (pain) Rooo! Rooo!

Jenny covers her ears--

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

ALAN (O.S.) Buck yeah!

VINCE (O.S.)

Woo hoo!

DAVE (O.S.) Got dat sumbitch!

HANDS SLAP high-fives..

FADE TO:

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

FLASH! -- A STILL PHOTO of DAVE, ALAN, VINCE and DEAN (20s) posing with their GUNS around the DEAD BEAST.

FLASH! -- Another PHOTO; goofier poses.

The four men LAUGH. GLASSES CLINK.

FLASH! -- CLOSE ON the Beast's head, its jaw propped open with a LOG. Some of its FANGS are a foot long!

FADE TO:

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Massive 18-point BUCK ANTLERS hang above the fireplace.

Travis and Jenny sit wrapped in BLANKETS, sipping warm MUGS by the roaring FIRE.

A .50 CALIBRE RIFLE hangs prominently on the wall. A huge GUN SAFE lurks in the corner.

Dave, Alan, Vince and Dean drink BEERS and mill about..

DAVE Haha! When he called me up he was like, this wild beast's after me! And I was like, get the buck outta here Trav!

ALAN

I know! When you told me I was like, this dumb ponce is scared of his own shadow!

They all laugh.

DEAN Come to find out, there really was a wild beast trying to kill him!

They laugh hard.

Travis stares listlessly at the fire.

Jenny fondles her beloved locket.

VINCE What the hell was that thing anyway? I never seen nuttin like it.

DAVE

Beats me, mate. All I know is we'd better get that head mounted and hang er on the mantle.

ALAN Hell yeah we should!

Alan heats up the DEEP FRIER.

DEAN Naw, buck that. I'll have a heart attack every time I see that big ugly nasty thing. VINCE It is pretty ugly, huh? I know. AT₁AN Not as ugly as that girl you hooked up with last Friday! Alan rummages through the refrigerator. VINCE Not as ugly as your Mother! Ponce! Alan and Vince make faces at each other. DAVE Pour us another shot, ya ponce. VINCE Fine. Ya ponce. Vince pours SHOTS. ALAN Pour me one too, ya ponce. VINCE I ain't pourin you shit! ALAN Hey. It's not my fault that girl was ugly incarnate. VINCE Dude. How bout I knock you out? Right here, right now? ALAN That'll be the day. They push each other around. Dean breaks it up--DEAN Break it up, you numbskulls. We got shots to take!

They merrily drink their shots ..

Dave casually lights a JOINT.

JENNY Hey, can I use your phone?

DEAN Sure. It's over there. (points)

Jenny finds the PHONE and dials.

DEAN (CONT'D) At some point we should probably call the cops, right? And tell em about the dead people in the woods, and the dead buckin monster we killed.

DAVE Yeah, that'll be a great call to make. You can make that call.

JENNY Hi. It's me. Call me back at this number as soon as you can.

She hangs up.

JENNY (CONT'D) You guys want me to call the cops?

Dean shrugs. Vince shakes his head.

DAVE

Do it.

ALAN Yeah, go ahead.

Jenny dials 911.

Travis smokes the joint and coughs loudly!

VINCE Damn Trav!

Travis coughs and coughs ..

DAVE You okay, mate?

ALAN Quiet man. You're gonna get us all busted!
JENNY

Hi. I'd like to report a number of recent deaths. No, not homicide. Um. There was this giant animal in the forest. I dunno. It howls.

The guys stifle laughs.

JENNY (CONT'D) Yes, I'll hold.

She waits..

ALAN Be sure to tell them who fired the fatal shot, killing the monster and saving the world!

Alan pumps a fist, eating as he cooks.

VINCE Me! I want my picture in the paper, too.

ALAN Donkey balls!

Alan throws a SPOON at Vince!

VINCE

Ow!

JENNY What's the address here?

DEAN Here? Twenty-two ten, Old Hickory Road.

JENNY Twenty-two ten, Old Hickory Road. Hello? Hello?

She hangs up, frustrated--

JENNY (CONT'D) Dammit. I got cut off.

DEAN Let me see the phone.

She hands him the phone.

DAVE Is there a dial tone? Dean listens.

DEAN There's static. It's weird. Listen.

Dave listens.

DAVE What the hell?

JENNY I need to use the bathroom.

DEAN It's through there, on the left. (points)

JENNY

Thanks.

VINCE Need a hand?

JENNY

No thanks.

She goes to the bathroom.

The telephone RINGS!

Dean answers it--

DEAN Hello? Yes.. Okay.. What? Who is this? Hello? Hello?

He hangs up, confused.

Everyone awaits the news.

DEAN (CONT'D) They said they were with the bureau of something. And national security something. And that none of us can ever speak to anybody about what happened today.

DAVE

What?

ALAN Donkey balls.

VINCE You're buckin with us. DEAN Gimmie a bible to swear on. (raises hand) DAVE Ain't you a buddhist, mate? DEAN (shrugs) Meh. Suddenly Travis slumps over, spilling his drink! Everyone notices, concerned. DEAN (CONT'D) Travis? They all gather around him--Travis looks pale and sick. His pupils are fully dilated. VINCE Damn Trav! Are you okay? ALAN You look like shit, bro. Dean elbows Alan. DAVE Want some water or something? ALAN Hungry? (eats) Travis shakes his head weakly. DAVE The hell's wrong with him? VINCE You don't think it was the weed, do you? Vince eyes the joint suspiciously. DEAN How bad's that bite on his arm?

DAVE I didn't think it looked too bad. DEAN Maybe it got infected? DAVE I dunno, mate. VINCE Should we check it? They exchange hesitant nods. DEAN Yeah, check it. DAVE Yeah dude, go ahead. They turn to Vince. VINCE Me? Alan slaps Vince on the back! ALAN Atta boy! Vince reluctantly reaches to unwrap Travis's arm .. No one wants to look ... Sticky gauze rips away -- SHHKRIGHPT! BLOOD and PUS gush! The arm looks ROTTEN! Everyone's disgusted! VINCE Aw! DAVE

Egh!

DEAN

Ick!

Alan holds his stomach, nauseous.

DAVE Yo, is he gonna like die?!

DEAN Dude, shut up!

Dean quickly rewraps the arm. Travis gasps, retches, and faints!

> DEAN (CONT'D) Hey Trav! Travis?!

Dean SNAPS his fingers and CLAPS!

Travis slowly opens his eyes, which are eerily UNNATURAL ..

Everyone's worried.

ALAN Maybe we should take him to a hospital?

VINCE Yeah. No shit.

DAVE How far is North Cross? Like an hour?

DEAN Ah. Maybe two. If the roads are plowed.

Travis looks around, disoriented and wild.

ALAN Buck it. I'm down to drive right now. I got gas. Where are my keys?

Alan searches for his keys ..

Suddenly HEADLIGHTS sweep through the Cabin! ENGINES roar as SEVERAL VEHICLES arrive outside!

Everyone's surprised.

DEAN I'll see who it is.

Dean grabs his COAT and opens the front door --

AGENT GREY (40s) stands ominously on the doorstep, flanked by ARMED MERCENARIES!

AGENT GREY Good evening, Dean.

DEAN Uh. Evenin.

AGENT GREY I'm with the department.

Agent Grey flashes his CREDENTIALS.

AGENT GREY (CONT'D) May I come in?

He steps inside, followed by the Mercenaries.

Dave quickly puts the joint out.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Jenny is about to flush the toilet--She hears the commotion and peeks outside. Alarmed, she locks the door!

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

AGENT GREY You recently spoke on the phone with a member of our staff. We're here with the non-disclosure agreements.

He unfolds some PAPERWORK.

DEAN

Huh?

AGENT GREY For you to sign. All of you.

He offers Dean a PEN.

DAVE The hell I will.

AGENT GREY You'll sign the papers or you'll be detained.

A Mercenary takes out HANDCUFFS.

ALAN Wait just a buckin second! Where's your warrant?! Agent Grey laughs.

Vince peers out the window--

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

A BLIZZARD swirls. THREE BLACK HUMVEES are parked outside. ARMED MERCENARIES patrol the area..

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

VINCE You gotta be kidding me.

DEAN I don't understand. What did we do?

AGENT GREY --I'm afraid I'm not at liberty to discuss the situation. Frankly, neither are you. Sign.

Agent Grey shoves the paperwork in Dean's face.

A Mercenary prepares to detain him.

DAVE Come on, mate. We didn't do anything!

MORE MERCENARIES enter.

VINCE Whoa! What is this?

Alan takes off his shirt.

ALAN Maybe you gentlemen ought to leave!

Mercenaries point guns at him!

DEAN Let's everybody relax, can we?

AGENT GREY Is there any evidence on these premises of your contact with the creature?

The guys exchange uncertain looks.

AGENT GREY (CONT'D) Photographs? Artifacts? Fur? Blood?

Agent Grey suspiciously pokes around ..

AGENT GREY (CONT'D) You haven't seen a girl named Jennifer, have you?

The guys exchange uncertain looks.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Jenny bites her lip.

She takes off her locket and hides it under the sink ..

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Agent Grey notices Travis.

AGENT GREY What's wrong with him?

DAVE Sorry. We're not at liberty to discuss the situation.

ALAN

We think he has an infection. If you'd like to help out, that would be swell.

Agent Grey pulls back Travis's blanket to reveal his nasty BLACK arm!

AGENT GREY Holy mother!

The Mercenaries exchange worried looks.

TRAVIS

(mean) Grrrrrr.

Agent Grey drops the paperwork.

AGENT GREY Sign those. Mail em to us.

He turns and hastily departs.

The Mercenaries hurry after him.

ALAN That's right! Bugger off! I woulda knocked you into next month! Yeah, I'm talkin to you big man!

DEAN They're leaving just like that?

Vince peers out the window--

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

The Humvees embark and speed away ..

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

VINCE The hell was all that?

Alan puts his shirt back on.

ALAN Man. It was about to go down like a Black Hawk.

DAVE

Seriously.

Dave re-lights the joint.

Dean stares nervously at Travis.

Vince reviews one of the contracts--

VINCE

It says here you can't disclose any information pertaining to the incident of today's date. Or you go to jail. And pay a fine. And lose your citizenship.

ALAN

Donkey balls!

DAVE I'm calling my lawyer.

VINCE You can't. It says so right here. You can't talk to your doctor or priest either. DAVE Let me see this. Dave studies the contract. DEAN At least we're not being charged with a crime. VINCE Yet. DEAN Yet. DAVE I think they just want us to keep quiet about that, uh, that thing--DEAN (mockingly) Shhh! DAVE But why do they care? VINCE Haven't you ever heard of a cover-up? Obviously some shady government experiment went wrong, and they wanna keep it hush hush. Dave rolls his eyes. Jenny casually returns from the bathroom. Everyone eyes her suspiciously. VINCE (CONT'D) Look who's back! Prettier than ever. DAVE Don't worry. You didn't miss a thing. JENNY I overheard. Like, what the hell? DEAN Your name isn't Jennifer, is it?

81.

JENNY No. It's Lisa.

VINCE What a pretty name.

ALAN Which copy's mine? This one?

Alan takes a contract, rips it in half and throws the pieces in the fire!

VINCE Haha! Nice!

DAVE He said they'd detain us if we didn't sign.

ALAN (shrugs) Buck em.

DEAN I wanna know why they left so fast. Like they know something we don't.

Everyone turns to Travis, who seems to be scheming.

JENNY

Travis?

He looks at her with madness in his eyes!

DEAN How do you feel, buddy?

Travis smirks, contemptuous.

DAVE Say somethin, mate.

Travis just stares into the fire.

VINCE (shakes head) Weird.

ALAN What if he got some kind of crazy disease from that monster?

Everyone fears the possibility.

VINCE Snap out of it, Trav. You're giving us the creeps. JENNY What should we do, you guys? Nobody knows. DAVE I know what I'm doin. Dave drinks a shot. ALAN Am I driving to the hospital? Or what? Dean peers out the window--DEAN Not in these conditions. Let's check the weather report. Dean and Alan consult the COMPUTER .. Vince sits down next to Jenny. VINCE So, Lisa. How do you know Travis? JENNY I don't, really. We just met yesterday. VINCE Ah. So how'd you meet? Does your boyfriend know Travis? JENNY I don't have a boyfriend. He slides closer to her. She slides away from him. DAVE Hey. Did anybody else just hear gunshots? ALAN (nods) I thought I did. They listen .. WIND blows hard outside ..

83.

TRAVIS I can feel them.

DAVE What's that, mate?

Travis sniffs the air.

TRAVIS I can feel them. Getting closer.

Everyone's spooked.

DAVE Who's getting closer?

Suddenly Travis makes for the front door --

Vince and Dave grab him! He struggles!

VINCE Whoa! Easy there buddy!

DAVE Relax, Trav. Relax.

Jenny picks up the phone.

ALAN Dude. We gotta get this guy to a hospital.

DEAN Who's getting closer, Trav?

Travis grins crazily.

PUM! PUM! -- GUNFIRE in the distance!

They all heard it.

 $$\operatorname{ALAN}$$ That was the M-2. Those guys in the humvees must have--

TRAVIS

--Yes!

They all look at Travis.

BEAST TWO (O.C.) (distant) Aroooooo! JENNY

No.

She almost faints.

The guys are aghast!

ALAN Donkey. Buckin. Balls.

Dave pours several shots.

VINCE Alright hombres.

Vince takes out his PISTOL and COCKS it!

Jenny's mortified!

Alan pulls the .50 rifle off the wall.

He checks the action, locks and loads--

ALAN

Good to go.

Alan and Vince exchange understanding nods.

Jenny shakes her head.

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Alan and Vince cover each other as they survey the area.. Dense, ominous FOREST looms on all sides..

> ALAN (points) Over there?

VINCE (shakes head) Not sure.

The WIND howls!

They both realize how scared they are.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING) Dean peers out a window--DEAN How can they see anything out there? Dave nervously cracks his knuckles. Jenny bites her nails. Travis sits calm and content. DEAN (CONT'D) What do you think, Travis? Travis doesn't seem to hear. DAVE He needs help. Bad. Dean nods gravely. Travis randomly laughs! They're puzzled. Travis laughs and laughs! JENNY He's lost his mind. DAVE Look how crazy his eyes are. Dean moves closer to see--TRAVIS Baaaaah! Travis leaps onto the coffee table, which BREAKS! DEAN Dammit! You ponce! Travis laughs madly! Dave tries to grab him--Travis runs amok! Jenny takes cover! Dean and Dave tackle Travis!

He won't stop laughing! DAVE Shut up! He won't stop laughing! BEAST TWO (O.C.) (distant) Arooo! BEAST THREE (O.C.) (distant) Arooooo! DEAN There's more than one!

Travis grins. Everyone else's heart sinks.

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Vince and Alan exchange terrified looks and ready their guns.

VINCE Mother of God.

ALAN Buckin A.

BEAST TWO (O.C.) (distant) Arooo!

BEAST THREE(O.C.) (distant) Aroooooo!

BEAST FOUR (O.C.) (distant) Aroooo!

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Travis laughs and laughs!

TRAVIS

Awooo!

Dave SLAPS him!

He keeps laughing! Dave tries to strangle him, but Dean breaks it up! Vince and Alan rush back inside--VINCE Holy hell! There must be three or four of em! Alan deadbolts the door. Dean unlocks the massive gun safe--DEAN What do you guys want? ALAN I'm good. Alan pats the .50. Vince and Dave crowd around the safe. VINCE You got a forty-five auto? Dean grins and hands him a TOMMY GUN! VINCE (CONT'D) Perfect! DAVE I'll take a Kalashnikov. Dave selects an AK-47. DAVE (CONT'D) And for the lady. He cocks a GLOCK and hands it to Jenny. She gingerly takes it. Everyone chuckles. BEAST THREE (O.C.) (closer) Aroooo! They stop laughing and start sorting AMMUNITION. Dean examines a tactical SHOTGUN .. Suddenly Travis tries to grab a gun!

ALAN

Hey!

Alan tries to stop him--

Travis turns and swings a haymaker!

POW! -- Alan stumbles, dazed.

Travis grabs a gun!

Everyone jumps on him!

DAVE Travis! Stop!

He struggles, but they restrain him..

Dean finds some DUCT TAPE; they bind his hands and feet ..

VINCE Hate to do this to you old buddy, but we got enough to worry about.

```
BEAST THREE (O.C.)
(close)
Arooooo!
```

```
BEAST TWO (O.C.)
(close)
Arooo!
```

JENNY They're getting closer.

Travis squirms and laughs.

Alan tapes his mouth shut.

Dave pours an unsteady shot.

Suddenly the ground RUMBLES!

People think they're imagining it.

Windows RATTLE!

Loose bullets vibrate and roll around ..

It sounds like a stampede approaching!

Jenny moans.

The RUMBLE gets louder and closer..

Picture frames dance on the walls. Furniture shifts. The Antlers fall off the mantle! Everyone's terrified! Dave drinks from the bottle! Guns are LOCKED and LOADED .. Dean puts in EAR PLUGS, and wears SHOOTING GLASSES. Vince jogs in place like a boxer. Alan kisses the cross on his necklace. BEAST FOUR (O.C.) Arooo! Jenny stares nervously at the pistol in her hand. Travis merrily rocks back and forth. BEAST THREE (O.C.) Arooooo! The RUMBLE grows and grows .. Safeties are disabled. The whole cabin SHAKES! A lamp falls over -- CRASH! Jenny jumps! VINCE Brace the door! Alan shoves a couch in front of the door. ALAN What about the windows? CRASH! -- A window SHATTERS! A giant CLAW reaches in! Jenny screams! Dean turns with the shotgun -- BOOM!

90.

The claw retreats!

BEAST THREE (O.S.)

Grrrrrr!

KABAANG! -- The front door buckles!

Alan aims the .50--

ALAN Fire in the hole!

BAAAM! -- A gaping BULLET HOLE rips through the door!

```
BEAST TWO (O.C.)
(pain)
Roooo!
```

ALAN

Yeah bitch!

CRASH! -- Another window SHATTERS!

An angry SNOUT pokes through!

The guys open fire -- KAK! KAK! BOOM! POP! POP!

The snout gets angrier!

CLAWS and SNOUTS appear at all the windows!

KAK! KAK! KAK! POP! POP! BOOM! POP!

GLASS, BULLETS and SHELLS fly!

Vince loves the Tommy gun!

VINCE

Woohoo!

Travis struggles to escape his bonds ..

Jenny is petrified!

The front door rattles as Beasts CHEW and SCRAPE at it!

BAAAM! -- Another BLAST from the .50!

The walls SHAKE!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! POP! POP! BOOM! BOOM!

SPENT CLIPS drop as people reload!

Window frames crumble as Beasts tear at them! A CRACK opens in the front door! A CLAW reaches through! BEAST TWO (O.S.) Grrrrrr! Jenny has a panic attack! BOOM! KAK! POP! POP! KAK! BOOM! POP! BLOOD and FUR fly as Beasts get hit! BEAST FOUR (O.S.) (pain) Rawararrr! Wood splinters as Beasts devour the walls! Travis breaks free of his bonds! He tries to choke Alan! ALAN Aqh! Dean swings his Shotgun like a club at Travis! THUD! -- Travis reels! BEAST TWO (O.S.) (pain) Roooo! KAK! KAK! POP! POP! POP! Dave reloads, frustrated. DAVE Buckin die already! The Beasts gnash relentlessly! Jenny trembles with fear .. Travis wrestles with Alan and Dean .. BEAST THREE (O.S.) Aroooo! The front door buckles! A hinge pops off!

Boards split and crack apart!

Snarling JAWS burst through!

DEAN It's not gonna hold!

Vince shoves the .50 Cal into a Beast's gaping jaws--

BAAM! -- BLOOD everywhere!

A chunk of furry FLESH lands on Jenny!

She squirms and brushes it off--

INT. TENT - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Blood everywhere!

SLASHING! SCREAMS!

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

BEAST TWO (O.S.) (pain) Roooooo!

Jenny feels faint; Loses FOCUS. Her ears RING! Her body trembles feebly. She curls up next to the gun safe..

EXT. FOREST - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The CROWS pick at the mutilated TORSO!

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)
Jenny shakes her head.
Alan grabs Travis in a choke-hold!

ALAN Nighty night, bra.

EXT. FOREST - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The dead eyes of the DEAD Police Officer!

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Jenny tries to catch her breath. She reaches for her locket, but it's not there! She gasps! Suddenly the front door SHATTERS open! A BEAST charges in, MAULING Alan!

ALAN

Aaaaghhhh**!**

KAK! BOOM! POP! KAK! POP!

Jenny instinctively crawls inside the gun safe!

BEASTS swarm into the cabin!

SLASH! -- Vince loses an arm!

VINCE

Eeehgkhh**!**

CHOMP! -- Vince gets DECAPITATED!

Dave is trying to reload as he gets EVISCERATED!

Dean turns his gun on himself -- BOOM!

A Beast notices Jenny!

She tries to pull the safe door shut--

The Beast charges at her!

She barely gets the door closed!

INT. SAFE - NIGHT

Merciless SLASHING!

Dying men GROAN ..

Jenny WEEPS in the dark ..

FADE IN:

INT. CABIN - NIGHT (SNOWING)

Gratuitous BLOOD and GORE drench the room..

Bones CRUNCH as Beasts chew on scraps..

Travis sits casually on a bloody couch, licking his bloody fingers.

He strokes a Beast as if it was a house pet..

The Beast looks at him. They both have the same crazy unnatural eyes..

The Beast licks Travis with its huge tongue!

Travis laughs!

The Beast wags its tail.

Travis scratches his ear with his foot, like a dog.

CLOSE ON the BAR CODE TATTOO just above his ankle.

Suddenly an UNNATURAL GLOW appears outside!

A Beast excitedly throws back its head--

BEAST FOUR

Aroooo!

Another Beast throws back its head--

BEAST THREE

Arooooooo!

Travis throws back his head--

TRAVIS

Aroooo!

FADE OUT.

THE END.