

THE CURRENT

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FADE IN:

I/E. BLACK CAR - DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

Headlights punch through pitch black.

A DRIVER'S GLOVED HANDS rest on the steering wheel.

Keeps the speed limit at 50.

Drops to 45 as a sign passes.

EXT. TURTLE CREEK - NIGHT

BRIAN (mid 40s) wears a dark hoodie. It's dark, his face obscured.

He leaves the headlights on.

Pops trunk.

Tosses out a shovel.

Struggles with the next object.
A woman's body wrapped in thick plastic

Falls to the ground.

Brian drags the body a short distance.

Dumps body in a shallow grave.

Corpse's right foot twitches.

Brian slams the shovel down.

Looks around. No witnesses.

Covers up the mess.

INT. BLACK CAR - NIGHT

Brian pushes in the lighter.

Stares out into the night.

Nervously lights up a cigarette.

Sniffles. Starts up the car.

Makes like a bat out of hell.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - NIGHT

Light mist drapes the property.

Trees encompass the front and backyard.

A white van parked in the driveway.

Splattered in spots of mud.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Brian alone at a table. Rugged good looks but otherwise average height and build. Two day shadow. His only company is a bottle of bourbon.

His attention snaps to something he sees through a window.

Watches. Waits.

WINDOW - BRIAN'S VIEW

Far out into the woods, a shadow-figure hunches near a tree.

DEN

Brian takes a shotgun.

Loads it up.

The TV on. Snow and static.

Turns it off.

In front of a door. Stares at the knob.

Takes a breath. Opens the door.

Looks out.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DECK - NIGHT

Brian alone. Stands guard.

BACKYARD

A rabbit darts off for shelter.

WOODS

Parked black car. Hidden from Brian's view.

BRIAN
(calls out)
I know you're there! Is there
something you want?

DECK

Brian waits for a response.

Doesn't get one.

Hustles down the yard.

BRIAN
Private property, son of a bitch!
Third time this week! Rain or no
rain, I'll blow your face off!

A nan, dressed in black, some distance away. Ski-Mask. Box
tucked under his arm. Watches. It's not Wraith.

Brian out of view.

Ski- Mask runs towards the house.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN

Ski-Mask dashes forward.

Puts the twine wrapped box down.

Bumps the table.

The bottle tips over.

Ski-Mask takes a moment.

No sound from outside.

Nobody else inside.

Ski-Mask cranes his neck.

Opens the closet.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Brian crosses the trees and bushes.

Finds the black car. Mad as hell.

Aims the shotgun at it. Semi-circles around.

BRIAN

Tired of your games.

Gets a closer look. Nobody in the car.

Brian cradles the shotgun, checks the area.

BRIAN

Better hide, hope I don't find you.
You wouldn't want that. Last place
you want to be.

Confusion fills his expression.

BRIAN

Next time, I'm calling the cops.
When they come, they'll have to
clean up my mess.

Walks off.

BRIAN

Enjoy your piss.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Brian enters. Uses caution.

The bourbon spilled over the table.

Near the sink --

Assortment of carving knives littered over the floor.

A blast of static shatters the silence.

DEN

Brian peers around a corner.

Tv back on. Snow.

Brian approaches.

Static gets louder. Louder.

BEDROOM

Ski-Mask takes a short breath.

Holds a knife in his hand.

Waits by the side of the door.

Ready to attack.

Watches the doorknob.

HIDING SPOT

Under the cover of darkness.

WRAITH's right arm moves in the shadows. Leather stretches.
Wraith's build androgynous.

Wraith wears Brian's hoodie.

KITCHEN

Brian steps on part of a broken shot glass.

BRIAN
Pretty bold. Might as well come on
out.

Moonlight shatters in from the left. Brian dashes -

FRONT ROOM

The door swings. Brian beelines to it.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

No sign of Wraith.

PORCH

A butcher knife on the ground.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mess cleaned up. Shotgun on the table.

Brian washes the knives.

Dries them.

Puts the knives one by one in a storage block.

One slot empty. Where is it?

Wraith creeps left in shadows.

Brian doesn't notice. Squats.

Scans the floor.

Sounds creak behind Brian. He swerves. Rises.

Barely sees the human form in the darkness. Wraith's clothes, gloves. Brian's gaze shifts to the shotgun.

Wraith makes no advance.

Wraith's hand opens. A long slicing knife snails out from under the right sleeve. Fingers grasp the handle.

Brian takes the butcher knife from the block.

BRIAN

I know who you are.

INT. CANDACE'S APARTMENT - SKYLAR'S ROOM - NIGHT

Diamond shaped night lights glow white.

Notebook on in a corner.

Aside from one mirror and one framed motivational poster the pastel blue walls are bare.

SKYLAR (18) white nightgown. Meditates Indian style.

Alarm clock on a night stand. 5:35.

INT. CANDACE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Cigarette butts fill an ashtray.

CANDACE (40s) puffs up. Dressed professional. Her right hand shakes.

Skylar loads up her backpack with books. Her eyes lock with Candace's. Skylar picks up the pace.

CANDACE

I can't take you with me to New Orleans. Company rules.

SKYLAR

We wouldn't even get in the way.

CANDACE

Who's "we"?

SKYLAR

Elisa's going back to Germany,
graduation's a week away. Dad would
let me go.

CANDACE

Sure about that? It's the
deadbeat's turn this weekend. Like
he would let you go with a friend.

SKYLAR

Oh stop. He isn't a deadbeat -

CANDACE

He's a jerk. Jerk when I married
him, asshole when I left him.

SKYLAR

You want to bring that up again
now?

CANDACE

That meditation's really working
isn't it? How are the pills?

GAGE (28) open dress shirt boy-toy, strolls in barefoot.
Raids the refrigerator. No care in the world. Chugs juice
right from the carton.

SKYLAR

I'm getting better.

CANDACE

If you say so. I pay for your food,
the bills, and you have the nerve
to tell me what's what?

SKYLAR

Dad paid for my meds. You didn't.

GAGE

Dopes you up like anyone else's
kid.

Skylar shoots a nasty look at him. Gage stands behind her
mother, leans in.

SKYLAR

Someone ask for your opinion Gage?

CANDACE

If he were smart, your father
would put you in therapy.

GAGE

Forgetting something?

CANDACE

Yes. There is another matter,
Skylar. Take only a minute of your
time.

SKYLAR

Does he need to remind you?

GAGE

Same shit, different day, huh?

CANDACE

Enough.

Hands Skylar a set of documents stapled together.

SKYLAR

What's this?

CANDACE

You recently turned 18, about to
get out of high school. This is
just a formality regarding your
life insurance.

SKYLAR

What a nice graduation gift.
(to Gage)
You done sucking the well dry?

CANDACE

Show some respect.

SKYLAR

Sure thing. Give me a pen.

GAGE

One right in front of you.

SKYLAR

Of course. Want me to take over my
life insurance right before I go to
class. Why should I expect -

Candace rolls the pen over to her. Without reading the
documents, Skylar signs it. Passes the pen and paper back to
her mother.

SKYLAR

How much am I worth, anyway?

GAGE

Enough for a bus ride and some
chew. Well, that's that.

(beat)

What's for breakfast?

INT. JEEP - MOVING - DAY

Skylar behind the wheel. Beside her, ELISA (17) glasses. Not a fancy dresser. She speaks in a slight German accent.

ELISA

Hope the pig choked on his own
sausage.

SKYLAR

Someone should shove his sausage up
his ass.

ELISA

You should bust his balls.

SKYLAR

If I did that they would send me to
the loony bin. Might be worth it
though.

ELISA

Think he's going?

SKYLAR

Ask me if I care.

ELISA

Hell with them. What about your
father's place?

SKYLAR

What about it? Oh, if I asked? I'm
sure he wouldn't mind. He's not
expecting me.

ELISA

(nods)

You told him you were going on the
trip.

SKYLAR

Big mistake.

Elisa digs in her backpack, whips out her cell and an ear
clip.

ELISA
What's his number?

SKYLAR
Can't be serious. You're going to
call my father?

Elisa leans over, slips the bluetooth device on Skylar.

SKYLAR
Be better if I just call him on
mine. He don't know your number.

ELISA
Stop being a wimp. Man up.

SKYLAR
Don't be dumb. Hang on.

Slows down the car.

SKYLAR
Red light. Give me that thing.

ELISA
Just tell me the number.

SKYLAR
555-1987.

Phone rings twice.

LOGAN (O.C.)
What's up?

SKYLAR
Who is this?

LOGAN
(laughs)
Logan. Who do you think?

Skylar looks over to Elisa, who bursts into laughter.

LOGAN
What do you want, Elisa?

ELISA
Just phone bombing, sucker!

LOGAN
I'll get you back.

ELISA
Go for it. I dare you!

LOGAN
I don't get along well with others.
With you? I'll play dirty.

SKYLAR
Who is this again?

LOGAN
And whoever this is, I'll get into
real rough stuff with you.

SKYLAR
I bet.

Skylar reaches for Elisa's phone, Elisa teases, holds it out of Skylar's reach.

LOGAN
It's the way I like it.

SKYLAR
What?

ELISA
Green light!

LOGAN
Are you on a cell while driving?
You two are real bad girls. Bad
girls need to be punished.

SKYLAR
Oh, baby, punish me please.

LOGAN
One last thing -

EXT. HOLLAND HIGH - PARKING LOT - DAY

Under mirrored sunglasses, LOGAN (18) smirks. Jersey number 13. Last name SAND. He puts away his Android.

RAVEN (18) teases him. Takes off his glasses. Slips them on her face. She looks better with them than he does.

LOGAN
You're late.

Raven moves in, kisses him.

RAVEN

Who was that?

LOGAN

Your father. Making sure I don't
knock you up before class.

RAVEN

Don't be a swine.

LOGAN

Alright. It was a wrong number.
Wanted to talk to a guy named
Spike.

RAVEN

Sure.

LOGAN

Elisa and Sky were cranking me.

RAVEN

Elisa knows you and her are over,
with her going back home and all?

LOGAN

Sort of. She just doesn't know I'm
with you. So around her, for now,
dial it down, that's all I ask.

RAVEN

Alright. But she ain't around right
now, is she?

Their affection towards each other earns a flurry of bad
glances.

Raven locks eyes with a female student in a black hooded
sweater and a red backpack.

RAVEN

Got issues?

HOODIE STUDENT

Got the pill?

Hoodie Student scurries off. Raven considers stalking her.

RAVEN

Little skank.

Logan stops Raven.

LOGAN
She ain't worth it. She's nobody.

RAVEN
How about everyone else?

LOGAN
Don't let them sweat you. I don't
let them sweat me.

RAVEN
You're right. But all just the same
they should
(loud)
Mind their own business.

A few students ignore the boast. Take quick pictures with
cell phones, move on.

INT. HOLLAND HIGH - CAFETERIA - DAY

A random student sees the captured photo of Raven's reaction.
Priceless. He flips the cell shut. The next table over sits
the two subjects of that photo along with Skylar and Elisa.

Skylar's phone jingles. She digs it out of her pack. Mystery
student overhears part of the conversation.

Skylar reads her text message.

SKYLAR
Hey guys. Good news and bad news.

RAVEN
Bad news first.

SKYLAR
Just got a text from my dad. Says
he'll let us have the cabin for the
weekend on two conditions.

RAVEN
Your dad texts?

SKYLAR
If we make a mess, we clean it up.

Glances to Logan.

SKYLAR
No boys.

Her attention goes back to her phone.

SKYLAR

And yes, he texts. He may be my father, but he isn't no caveman.

Mystery Student gets up, heads over to them.

ELISA

What fun is that, no guys?

SKYLAR

Rules are rules.

RAVEN

Think I can ask Trudy?

SKYLAR

I don't see why not. Just as long as she doesn't bring any guys.

Logan shoves off the slimy cheese off his pizza slice with a plastic fork.

LOGAN

What's he going to do? Find out?

SKYLAR

That's not the point, but yeah. And that's gross.

LOGAN

This?

Stabs the fork into the cheese, lifts it up in all its greasy glory.

LOGAN

Hungry man's last meal before parole. That's what this is.

ZACH

Might just be that.

ZACH is the mystery student. He isn't happy.

RAVEN

What do you want? Can't it wait?

ZACH

Just want to talk to Logan.

HALLWAY

Zach shows Logan the picture of Raven.

ZACH
It's all over the damn school.

LOGAN
This ain't nothing.

ZACH
My sister. That's my sister.

LOGAN
I know, Zach.

ZACH
Just making sure you do. We got to
be on the same page. Understand?

LOGAN
Alright.

ZACH
Elise's going back. I get that.
Just the same, she and my sister
are close too.

LOGAN
I know.

ZACH
There was that thing with Trisha
Vicks last year -

LOGAN
Ancient history.

ZACH
To some.

LOGAN
Trisha Vicks is a two-faced tramp
who screwed half the basketball
team -

ZACH
I don't know what's true and not
true.

LOGAN
There's a lot of peeps who side
with Trisha. I get that. They even
tried to break up me and Elisa.

ZACH
I know you're a stand up guy. The
whole thing stinks.

LOGAN
I'm not going to mess around with
your sister.

Logan offers his hand. Zach shakes it.

EXT. RAVEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Logan loads a suitcase in the backseat of Raven's rusty car.
Raven hands him two softball bats.

LOGAN
Just two?

RAVEN
Me and Trudy.

LOGAN
Trudy. She don't like me much.
Maybe this isn't a good idea.

Closes the door.

RAVEN
Of course it isn't. Don't tell me
you're having second thoughts.

LOGAN
Fine. I won't.

RAVEN
Never took you for a pussy.

She caresses a hand over his crotch.

RAVEN
Will the real Logan please stand
up?

LOGAN
You want to wait until we get
there, or do you want to be late?

Logan goes around to an open trunk.

Shoves in a huge duffel bag. Picks up a potato sack loaded
with stuff.

RAVEN
Got everything?

LOGAN
Think so.

RAVEN
Check.

LOGAN
I checked.

RAVEN
Double-check.

Logan opens the sack. Shows off the flashlight. Clicks it on and off. Raven leans, peers in the bag. Granola bars, pop tarts, bottled water.

RAVEN
No beer?

LOGAN
I tried.

RAVEN
You failed.

A quick kiss. Logan packs away the bag.

LOGAN
Do I really have to do this?

RAVEN
You want some action, don't you?

LOGAN
Yeah, but what's the point if I get a cramp?

RAVEN
Man up and get in.

It's awkward. Logan manages to squeeze in the trunk.

LOGAN
What's wrong with riding in the backseat until we get there?

RAVEN
Nothing. Watch your head.

She shuts the trunk.

RAVEN
You alright in there?

LOGAN
Been better.

INT. RAVEN'S CAR - TRUNK - DAY

Logan turns on the flashlight.
Not much room. Squirms around.
Gets his feet in a better position.

LOGAN
(under his breath)
Better show me some action after
all this.

Car starts.
Moves out.
Logan bumps his head.
Logan's phone rings.

LOGAN
Who the hell?

Fishes around in his bag.

RAVEN (O.S.)
I can hear you and your dumb phone!

LOGAN
Come on! You haven't even been a
mile yet!

RAVEN (O.S.)
Don't force me to...TURN UP THE
RADIO.

LOGAN
Yeah, Right.

Answers his phone.

LOGAN
Hi. Mom. No, I can't right
now...yes. I got everything...no,
we aren't there yet...

The music jolts up. Back speakers vibrate from the bass.

LOGAN
Yes, I'll ask them to keep it down.
Can I call you back?

INT. RAVEN'S CAR - DAY

Music blares.

TRUDY a trendy teen, with fire engine red hair, rises from the car's sunroof. Screams.

RAVEN
Get back in here.

TRUDY
I want to get crazy!

RAVEN
Come on Trudy.

TRUDY
I want to get messed up!

RAVEN
Sit your ass back in here!

Trudy complies.

TRUDY
What? Afraid I'll flash your
grandpa driving down the
interstate?

RAVEN
No. I just want to be pulled over.

TRUDY
Why? Got something in the car? Is
it illegal?

RAVEN
I don't want another ticket.

TRUDY
If I flashed a cop, he'd let me
off.

RAVEN
What if it wasn't a guy?

TRUDY

Then she'll let you go, but the bitch will take me to county, put me in a cell full of guys.

RAVEN

You're being stupid.

TRUDY

Speaking of stupid, is Elisa going to be there?

RAVEN

Far as I know.

TRUDY

She know you're seeing the loser?

RAVEN

What loser?

TRUDY

Who do you think? Loser Logan.

RAVEN

He's not a loser -

TRUDY

He couldn't win a match to save his ass. And after he dumped Trish? Loser. Capital L.

RAVEN

He's not a loser. A total scumbag, but not a loser.

TRUNK

Logan hears this, rolls his eyes.

Shakes his hand in a jerk-off motion.

RAVEN'S CAR - LATER

The two girls talk. Music drowns out the conversation.

TRUNK

Logan reads a book by flashlight. He concentrates. The music fades. The conversation annoys him more.

TRUDY

I disagree. I don't have my parents
spend and arm and a leg for shoes.
Expensive isn't always better.

RAVEN

I want to look good for next week.
There's nothing wrong with a
sharper rise.

Logan shines his light on a dead moth. Bug eyes stare back.

TRUDY

Be my guest. Kill your feet. I'm
telling you, Yellow Canary's just
aren't good quality.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

Elisa unloads the trunk of Skylar's car.

Skylar walks up the driveway.

No other cars.

Place is quiet.

Skylar fumbles her keys around. Selects one.

ELISA

Your father even home?

Skylar heads to the front door.

INT. RAVEN'S CAR - DAY

The backseat pounds.

Suitcases and gear block the seat from coming down.

Somehow Logan's hand squeezes out from between the seat and
the trunk. It takes a few moans and some work...**POP!** He's got
it!

The seat falls halfway.

Logan crawls out.

No girls.

EXT. DINER - DAY

Logan takes in his surroundings.

Stretches his legs.

Looks in the front seat.

Finds the GPS.

Enters a destination.

LOGAN
(mumbles)
Two miles to go? Kidding me.

Lays down the GPS.

LOGAN
Enjoy your espressos.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DAY

Clean surroundings.

A black vacuum sweeper with an power cord looped over haphazardly over its hook.

Skylar stands in the same spot where we left Brian.

KITCHEN

Elisa bristles in with a sack. She passes by the cabinet, where the bourbon within locked away. Unloads snacks and cheese.

SKYLAR
(steps in)
Wonder where he is.

She gets out her cell.

ELISA
Maybe he stepped outside somewhere.

SKYLAR
Van's not here.

ELISA
He'll be back.

Elisa opens the closet the Wraith was in earlier.

Hangs up a jacket.

Sees four Tiki torches and three long poles. A cardboard box bound by twine tucked away in the far corner, partially obscured.

ELISA

What are these things?

SKYLAR

Be more specific.

ELISA

Some kind of poles?

Skylar takes a look.

SKYLAR

Oh those. Glow marker lights.

ELISA

What are they for?

SKYLAR

They're for me. But we decided to get a few more. Dad took up night golf. Also good for night swims.

A funny ring tone buzzes. Skylar beelines towards the source.

BEDROOM

Skylar spots her dad's cell, on the floor.

She laughs to herself.

SKYLAR

My dad forgot his phone.

Picks it up.

ELISA (O.S.)

So he is human.

Skylar looks around the room.

A picture of her and her father on a night stand.

Under the stand, a small blood stain drop on the carpet goes unnoticed.

STUDY - CONTINUOUS

Elisa awestruck over her surroundings. Shelves of books, knickknacks, pictures, and a turned off computer.

ELISA
(under her breath)
Flesh and blood human.

She gets a better look. Picks up a disc with PLAY THIS written on the label.

ELISA
Hey, Sky! Your dad got iTunes on this?

SKYLAR (O.S.)
Don't mess with anything. I'll let him turn it on or I'll do it later.

Elisa puts the disc back.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DAY

Raven's car pulls up.

RAVEN
Hey. You wanna see something really funny?

TRUDY
What is it?

Both girls exit the car. Raven holds up her cell.

RAVEN
You are going to love this!

Tosses Trudy the keys.

RAVEN
Open the trunk!

TRUDY
Alright. What did you bring?

RAVEN
A dead body.

TRUDY
In the trunk.

RAVEN
Sliced and diced. Wrapped in
plastic.

TRUDY
Yeah, right.

RAVEN
He's worm food.

TRUDY
He?

RAVEN
My rapist.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Elisa spots the bourbon. Opens the cabinet.
Bottle's almost empty.

ELISA
Well, all-right!
(calls out)
I think I know where your dad is!

Elisa sniffs the aroma. Inhales. Exhales.
Skylar approaches.

SKYLAR
Don't -

Elisa takes a swig.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

Trudy laughs. Puts the key in the trunk --

RAVEN
Wait a minute.

Fidgets with her cell. Ready to take a snapshot.

RAVEN
Okay. On the count of three.

Trudy turns the key. Trunk pops open. Ready to lift -

RAVEN

One.

Two.

Wait for it...

RAVEN

Three!

Trudy lifts the lid. Raven takes the photo.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY

As he walks, Logan digs in his pocket.

Answers his cell.

Sees the caller ID. Smiles.

A white van whizzes by. Not a care for the speed limit.

Slows down. Stops.

RAVEN (filtered)

Where the hell are you?

LOGAN

Hang on.

RAVEN

"Hang on?"

Logan makes out a ballcap and a cheap watch, nothing more about the man behind the wheel. Gage waves his hand out of the window.

GAGE

(light echo)

Hey, buddy. Need a lift?

Logan jogs closer.

Gage flips him off.

GAGE

Bye, bye sucker!

Laughs. Drives away.

RAVEN

What was that?

LOGAN
Local redneck asshole.
(calls out)
Asshole!

RAVEN
What'd he do?

LOGAN
Stopped and birded me. Left.

RAVEN
You're not his type.

LOGAN
Good.

RAVEN
I'll pick you up. Where are you
again?

LOGAN
Close.

RAVEN
How far?

Logan strays from the road. Heads towards a wooded area.

LOGAN
About a mile, mile and a half. Took
a shortcut.

INTERCUT

RAVEN
Take your time asshole.

LOGAN
I'm an asshole? For what?

RAVEN
And the crap that chutes out.

LOGAN
Yeah, yeah. Whatever.

RAVEN
"Yeah. Yeah. Whatever"

LOGAN
Here's a flush.

Logan ends the call.

FLASH OF WHITE

Snapshot of the interior of Raven's trunk.

Beside some camping gear, a mound of scattered dead moths in an arrow formation.

BACK TO LOGAN

As he sees the black car past some trees.

Well shaded.

He checks it out. *Is someone passed out inside?*

Closer inspection.

A pair of leather gloves rest on the steering wheel.

A dark poncho leans against the driver's side door, as if glued.

What the hell?

A better look. Around to the driver's side...

Logan disgusted.

Covers his mouth and nose with one hand.

White sludge smeared across the driver's side window. Like three cans of cream of celery soup mixed with a milk shake.

Slow to touch the car.

Fingers brush the roof.

Light smear of the slime on the tips.

Walks away from the car.

Out of the shade, the slime on his fingers evaporate.

Floats like steam. No harm to his hand.

Laughs a little.

Takes a video with his cell.

LOGAN

Hey, Skylar and Elisa. Nice mess.

Ends the video.

Touch screens to a map. Heads east.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DAY

Raven slugs Logan in the right shoulder. Logan laughs it off. Raven lunges. Logan avoids the slaps.

LOGAN

Are you out of your mind?

RAVEN

You could have left a note or something, instead of the bugs.

LOGAN

Bugs?

RAVEN

Creepy crawly things. In my car. Want to have a look?

LOGAN

Few dead moths back there. You saying I put them there? Hey, who was punking who?

RAVEN

More than a few. Want to have a look? It's a whole freaking swarm!

LOGAN

Dead bugs.

TRUDY

Just admit you brought them with you.

Logan eyeballs Trudy.

LOGAN

Had them all in my pocket, yeah. And who are you to put your nose in?

TRUDY

My clothes were in the backseat! You crawl out of the trunk, those things get on my stuff -

RAVEN

Just own up.

LOGAN

Just step off. I don't need this.

Grabs his duffel bag. Marches past Elisa and Skylar.

LOGAN

Passing daddy's booze around early aren't you?

SKYLAR

You're not even supposed to be here, Logan.

LOGAN

Won't be staying. What's with the - never mind. I don't want to know.

SKYLAR

What's with what?

LOGAN

I'll be out there, near the river.

SKYLAR

Whose idea was it to bring him?

RAVEN

Mine.

SKYLAR

Bad enough we got into my dad's liquor cabinet. I was given a strict rule. No boys.

Sizes up her friends. With a stupid grin -

SKYLAR

What are you all trying to do, get me busted?

Makes sure Logan is out of hearing range.

SKYLAR

"I'll be out there, near the river"

A circle of laughter.

SKYLAR

Let's see the bugs.

RAVEN

They're moths. And it's disgusting.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DAY

Raven cringes. She scoops up the army of dead moths into a dustpan. Skylar holds up a wastebasket.

RAVEN

He's good as dead.

Raven deliberately misses the basket. Bugs fall around Skylar's feet.

SKYLAR

Make sure you wrap him in plastic first before you bury him. Don't want him to stink up the yard.

RAVEN

Yeah, right.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - SECOND BEDROOM - DAY

Skylar opens her luggage.

Sets aside night lights.

A plastic bag filled with prescription pills.

She opens a drawer. Stuffs some clothes in.

Notices *the* dark hoodie folded neatly.

A small note beside it.

For the chills

She picks up the hoodie.

A honey-like substance drizzles like spit from the sleeves.

Elisa watches.

ELISA

What is that?

Skylar fingertips some of the goo. Takes a sniff.

ELISA

I wouldn't be taking a whiff of that.

SKYLAR

It's not honey. What do think it
is?

ELISA

Sick.

Skylar steps into a patch of sunlight. The ooze sizzles.
Evaporates.

SKYLAR

Check it out
(beat)
What is this stuff?

ELISA

Like I should know. Just make sure
you wash your hands before you eat.

LAUNDRY ROOM

Tight space. Washer. Dryer. A few shelves.

Skylar takes the hoodie out of a plastic bag.

Puts the hoodie in the washer.

Looks around.

Sees the laundry detergent on the floor.

She squats. Grabs it.

Behind the detergent -

Several white moths in an outline of a human hand.

Skylar does a double-take.

Scouts around, finds a pen on a dusty shelf.

Kneels. Inspects.

What the hell is this?

Pen tip pokes the bugs. Dead.

Traces of slime under them.

RAVEN

Skylar.

Skylar bumps her head.

RAVEN
You wanted something?

SKYLAR
No.

RAVEN
You didn't just text me a minute ago?

SKYLAR
Why would I need to text you?

RAVEN
Maybe it was old message. What'cha doing?

SKYLAR
More bugs. Some kind of strange stuff too.

RAVEN
Same kind of bugs like in my car?

SKYLAR
Yes. Moths. Only these are white.

RAVEN
What kind of stuff?

SKYLAR
Like fresh rubber cement or honey.

RAVEN
Maybe something just got spilled?

SKYLAR
It was on a hoodie in my drawer.

RAVEN
Your hoodie.

SKYLAR
Never seen it before. I think my dad got it for me, though.

Raven checks her cell. Thumbs her way to internet.

SKYLAR
What are you doing?

Raven shows her a picture of a white moth.

RAVEN
There's your new friend.

SKYLAR
Don't seem too spooked over this.

RAVEN
Should I be?

SKYLAR
Back at the car, a little while ago?

RAVEN
Oh, that. A had a bunch of them in a big plastic bag. I was hoping to freak out Logan. Didn't think they'd get all over the place.

SKYLAR
You put them there?

RAVEN
They didn't get there by themselves. Okay. There was more than I thought.

Trudy knocks on the side of the doorway. Holds up her phone.

TRUDY
One of you guys just sent me a text?

HALLWAY

Sounds of the washer going O.S.

Trudy leads Raven and Skylar. Her phone right in front of her, camera pointed ahead.

RAVEN
The text said the place is haunted?

TRUDY
Ghost of Mercy Love.

RAVEN
Kind of a name is Mercy Love?

DEN - CONTINUOUS

A burst of laughter from Trudy.

TRUDY

A dumb one. But I want to see if I can be a Ghost Hunter.

RAVEN

It's daylight. Ghosts don't come out in the day.

TRUDY

Who said? There's always the shade, dark corners.

KITCHEN

Nothing out of the ordinary.

TRUDY

Come out, come out wherever you are.

SKYLAR

Stop goofing. You didn't get a text saying my dad's place is haunted. I stay here every now and then.

RAVEN

Coming from the girl who suffers from Noctiphobia or whatever it is.

SKYLAR

Mercy Love. Beats Bloody Mary.

TRUDY

Nobody wants to pony up and say they texted me.

SKYLAR

You don't know who texted you?

RAVEN

Maybe it was Elisa.

Trudy leads them to the closet.

TRUDY

Maybe it was Mercy Love. Or her dark master Beelzebub. Who-ha-ha-ha! Maybe they are one the same.

(beat)

And they're hiding behind the closet.

RAVEN

If you're trying to be scary, it
isn't working.

TRUDY

I'm not being scary. I'm being
stupid. They aren't in the closet.
That's where they just put the dead
hooker!

Trudy whips open the closet door. It SHRIEKS.

Nothing inside but what we seen before. One of the golf
lights is on.

RAVEN

Alright. This is getting silly.

SKYLAR

Since we're here, give me a hand
with the tikis.

She passes out one to Raven. Another to Trudy.

RAVEN

What's in the box?

SKYLAR

I don't know. Stuff.

TRUDY

Where is Elisa anyway?

SKYLAR

Where do you think?

Skylar leans in the closet, turns off the glow of the golf
light.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Three spikes hold an unmade tent in place. Logan pounds the
fourth one in.

Elisa steps up.

ELISA

Is that necessary?

Logan glances to her. She wears a bikini top and cut off
jeans. Holds a Beach towel tucked under her right arm. He
continues with his work.

LOGAN
You're the last person I want to
talk to right now.

ELISA
Why is that?

LOGAN
Why do you think why? I'm seeing
Raven. Although by the looks of
things, maybe not for long.

Dressed in all black, sunglasses and a ballcap about a fifty
yards away to the west of them, Gage observes with a pair of
binoculars. He ducks around random bushes and trees.

ELISA
I'm not mad, if that's what you
think.

LOGAN
Sure you're not. Just come right
out, speak what's on your mind.

ELISA
I am.

LOGAN
Course. I'm an idiot. Maybe need to
pop some pills or something.

Lifts the flaps, crawls in the tent. A pole lifts.

ELISA
You want to talk to me or what?

LOGAN
You want to talk? You want to talk.

Exits the tent.

LOGAN
You're going back. I can't afford
to travel. I won't see you in
person. What's left to talk about?

Logan walks away.

Elisa follows him.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - BACK YARD

Trudy, Raven and Skylar place the Tiki torches.

TRUDY

It was fun while it lasted. Maybe we can do a seance tonight?

RAVEN

What, you some sort of medium or something?

TRUDY

Look it up online.

RAVEN

Don't be retarded.

TRUDY

Something extra to do.

RAVEN

Save it for a campfire story.

TRUDY

I'd have to look up the info online, along with the seance.

SKYLAR

There's not going to be any freaking seance. I'm not into that stuff, okay?

TRUDY

Well, I'm not. I'm just saying.

Raven whispers in Trudy's ear.

TRUDY

I'm going to go for a quick walk. Find some twigs for the campfire tonight.

SKYLAR

Knock yourself out.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Mild current flows east. Some rocks, branches. Nothing too obstructing.

LOGAN

There's a difference in getting punked and getting played. Least to me.

ELISA
You got her back.

LOGAN
I got a cramp. I bailed.

ELISA
The thing with the bugs.

LOGAN
I had nothing to do with that. As
if I care. Seriously. I'm done.
Bye.

ELISA
It doesn't have to be like this.

LOGAN
It is what it is.

Elisa lays out the towel.

ELISA
I'm going to go in there. You can
watch or you can join me. If you
don't, I'll come back and tan.

Reaches in her jeans pocket. Tosses him a small lotion. He
catches it on reflex.

ELISA
Sooner or later you're going to
have to use that.

She jumps in the water.

Logan juggles the lotion.

Thinks it over.

Throws it in the water. Skips like a pebble.

Logan shrugs.

ELISA
I meant on me.

LOGAN
Why, what else did you mean?

Elisa swims to the lotion.

Current carries it out.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

The box from the closet. On the table.

Skylar and scissors. Raven curious.

RAVEN

Do it.

SKYLAR

I don't know what in this. Could be something important.

RAVEN

All the more reason to do it.

SKYLAR

This is wrong.

RAVEN

Snip, snip, snip away.

SKYLAR

Raven -

RAVEN

If it's nothing, we'll tie it back up. Go for it. Carpe Diem!

Skylar cuts the twine.

Opens the lid.

An unmarked VHS tape and VCR.

RAVEN

Back to the stone age. I don't get it. Why would your dad not want you to find out?

Skylar examines the tape. Nothing written on the cover.

SKYLAR

I don't know.

RAVEN

Maybe it's a sex tape. Your dad and a cock-tail waitress.

SKYLAR

Don't be crude.

RAVEN

I want to watch it. Know how to set
it up?

SKYLAR

Kind of remember. Can't be too
hard. But I don't want to watch it
now.

RAVEN

No. Tonight.

SKYLAR

Tonight...

EXT. RIVER - SAME

In the water. Elisa reaches. Misses the tube.

Farther away from shore.

Away from Logan.

Trees obscure a white van on the other side of her. She fails
to see it. Swims past.

A partially submerged branch stops the tube.

Elisa snatches the lotion. Turns around.

Distracted. Notices the van.

BUMPS into a decomposed corpse
wrapped in clear plastic!

Screams echo.

Dead woman's face stares back.

Logan runs down the bank.

Elisa strokes towards shore.

Out of the water.

Gets to the van.

ELISA

Mister Cleeder!

BAMS on the side of the van.

ELISA
Mister Cleeder!

LOGAN
(other side of river)
Elisa! You okay?

ELISA
There's a dead body in the water!

LOGAN
Dead body?!

ELISA
Don't you see it?!

LOGAN
Just another sick joke!

ELISA
That is not a freaking joke!

LOGAN
Get away from the van!

ELISA
It's Skylar's dad! His van!

LOGAN
Get back in the water and get over
here. This isn't funny anymore.

ELISA
I swear it's not a joke! There's a
dead body over there!

LOGAN
GET - BACK - IN - THE - WATER.

Logan gives up. Strips off his shirt. Empties his back pocket. Drops his wallet by his feet. Dives in.

Elisa grabs the door handle!

Opens it!

Brian!

Knife in his chest!

Blood and slime!

All over!

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Logan runs.

Discovers his tent mangled.

Clothes tossed about. Football jersey among them.

Cell on the ground.

Logan picks it up.

The smell repels him.

Drops of liquid over the phone.

Elisa jogs up behind him.

ELISA

What is it? Call someone!

LOGAN

Phone's fried. Someone - someone
pissed on it!

Elisa spots a post it note written in lipstick, slapped on a stone.

PAYBACK IS A BITCH

CUT TO:

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Trudy laughs. Slaps her knees. Hi-fives Raven.

SKYLAR

That was very low.

TRUDY

He had it coming.

Raven glances out of the window.

RAVEN

Speaking of the devil.

SKYLAR

What do you mean, 'he had it
coming?'

TRUDY

Trisha Vicks was my friend.

SKYLAR

Trisha Vicks? That two-faced tramp?

LOGAN (O.C.)

(outside low)

Guys! Hey!

TRUDY

He knocked her up, she left school.
She aborted. You actually believe
that creep?

SKYLAR

Would I let him see my best friend
if I didn't?

RAVEN

Come on, Sky. What's your problem?

SKYLAR

My...? My problem? What are you
talking about?

RAVEN

Trish was my friend too. If you
were her friend, you would on
board, same as Elisa.

SKYLAR

What were you trying to do? Break
them up?

TRUDY

Guy's a jerk, Sky.

SKYLAR

We'll discuss this later.

Logan bursts in. Beelines to the bathroom. Washes his hands
O.S.

RAVEN

He looks pissed.

Trudy snickers.

Elisa meets Skylar's eyes.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Minus Elisa, Logan leads the girls.

Logan points across.

LOGAN

That his van over there?

Skylar nods.

SKYLAR

Sure it's my dad?

LOGAN

Yeah. It's him.

SKYLAR

You're wrong. Can't be.

LOGAN

You showed me the picture. It's him.

SKYLAR

It's not. I just talked to him earlier today.

RAVEN

Sick joke.

SKYLAR

I want to see.

LOGAN

No you don't.

RAVEN

Please. This is sick. Saying her father's dead.

Logan waves her to come closer.

She scoffs. Steps up.

Logan motions to the reeds in front of them.

The plastic wrapped corpse within.

LOGAN

Real enough for you?

RAVEN
 (nervous laugh)
 What is that in there?

LOGAN
 I don't care what you or miss
 slapper over there thinks of me.
 It's time to stop messing around.
 (at Trudy)
 Especially you, carrot head.

TRUDY
 Talk to me like that -

LOGAN
 You'll get on your phone and call
 the cops. You're nominated. End of
 story.

Eyeballs Raven.

LOGAN
 And I'm very curious as to what
 they sort out.

RAVEN
 Why are you looking at me like
 that? We didn't have anything to do
 with this!

LOGAN
 Good. Neither did I.

RAVEN
 Didn't say you did -

LOGAN
 But that's not what I'm talking
 about. In any case, none of us can
 leave.

SKYLAR
 He's right.

LOGAN
 (at Trudy)
 Start calling.

Trudy backs up.

TRUDY
 I - I left it at the house. I think
 I better go back to the house.

RAVEN

Wait up.

Skylar looks across the water.

Stares at the van.

LOGAN

Come on Sky. Let's go.

SKYLAR

I need to see for myself.

LOGAN

Sky. We need to go. Mow.

SKYLAR

I can't. That's my father out there. And whoever that is.

LOGAN

That's right. And I'm not saying it's so, but whoever did this is around watching us. Understand?

Skylar nods.

LOGAN

Someone has to make the call. I'd rather it be one of you guys. It can't be me.

SKYLAR

I don't know.

LOGAN

What do you mean you don't know?

SKYLAR

What do you mean 'it can't be you'?

Logan looks around. Finds a broken branch.

LOGAN

I'm going to show you something the other girls didn't see, or maybe they did. I don't know.

Pokes around the wrapped body in the reeds.

LOGAN

I'm not supposed to be here. I bailed out of the car. Took a shortcut. I walked off. Right?

Skylar about to speak. No words. She gets it.

The view of her dad's van distracts her.

Back to what Logan's doing.

LOGAN

Hopefully the cops will find the car. But to make the search shorter, they will ask me.

SKYLAR

But you didn't do it.

LOGAN

There it is.

Out of the muck.

His football jersey!

LOGAN

It's mine. I don't know how it got here.

Puts it back in.

LOGAN

And I can't take it back. It has to stay here. And that is how I know we are being watched.

Shock fills her eyes.

LOGAN

Now I'm going to ask you once, and only once. Did you actually talk to your dad, or did he text you?

SKYLAR

(unsure)
Texted.

Logan escorts her away.

Holds the branch like holding a bat.

Quickens the pace.

SKYLAR

Hey!

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - EVENING

Sundown.

No police cars.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - NIGHT

Lights surround Skylar more than anyone else. She paces around, checks her watch. She can't be still for a few seconds at a time.

SKYLAR

What's taking them so long?

Trudy and Raven lie on sleeping bags.

Logan. Chair brought in from the kitchen.

Blanket over her, Elisa rests on the couch.

LOGAN

They'll be here.

SKYLAR

Been almost three hours. Nobody's here. Nobody's called back. Nothing.

LOGAN

Maybe we should call them again.

Logan points the remote to the TV.

Fades up into snow.

SKYLAR

I did.

Logan switches channels. Every channel the same. Snow and static.

LOGAN

Then they are on their way.

Skylar heads to the bathroom. Closes the door.

Logan frowns.

RAVEN

(low, distorted)

A heaven out of hell, a hell out of heaven.

LOGAN
Come again? What did you say?

Looks to Raven. She's asleep.

RAVEN (V.O.)
Hello?

Logan blinks. Raven's mouth. Closed -

RAVEN (V.O.)
Hello?

Logan stands.

Confused.

RAVEN (V.O.)
Find the body. Bury the body.

Raven's laughter.

Sizzles from the snow on the TV.

TRUDY (FILTERED STATIC)
(TV)
Logan the loser. He should pay for
what he did.

Off in the bathroom, a water faucet runs. Shuts off.

RAVEN (FILTERED STATIC)
He didn't touch her. Trish is just
a jealous whore.

Logan takes a step towards the TV. Gets closer.

TRUDY (FILTERED STATIC)
Like I said. Logan the loser.
(beat)
Hello?

Logan backs up.

RAVEN (FILTERED STATIC)
Wrap you up in plastic.

Logan turns off the TV. Skylar exits the bathroom.

Logan sits down in the chair. Stares at the TV. Drops the
remote beside Trudy.

Trudy points the remote to the TV.

Fades up into snow.

TRUDY

You say something, smart guy?

Logan silent. Raven wakes.

RAVEN

Still? Must be able to get something.

TRUDY

Same old snow channels.

Clicks it off.

TRUDY

Three hours. Bet if we passed a bong around cop will race it like Daytona.

RAVEN

Probably catching drunks in speed traps, making quota. Speaking of which. I could use a buzz.

Skylar heads to the kitchen.

LOGAN

There's no beer. You know that. Even if there was -

RAVEN

Bourbon in the cabinet. Just need a shot.

LOGAN

You're serious.

Sounds of water from the tap. Glasses filled.

RAVEN

One shot.

LOGAN

One shot. So you take the shot. One becomes two or three. Right? Cops pull up...

Sniffs the air.

RAVEN

I need to do something.

LOGAN

It's not a good idea to get bombed.
Besides, it's her dad's bourbon. It
wouldn't be right.

Skylar comes back with a tray of waters.

RAVEN

Tap water? For real?

TRUDY

Maybe we should drive out there to
the station? Some people stay here?

LOGAN

Might come to that. In fact, that
doesn't sound like a bad idea.

RAVEN

I'll need directions.

STUDY

Skylar checks the computer. Raven over her shoulder.

SKYLAR

Didn't know this was already on.
Must have been in a sleep mode.

The desktop shows a photo of a stock car.

SKYLAR

You were kidding about the bourbon,
right?

Raven picks up the PLAY THIS disc. Puts it back.

RAVEN

Meant every word.

Skylar clicks on icons for the internet.

Nothing happens.

RAVEN

Maybe it's down. Could be a bad
signal?

SKYLAR

No, even a blank window would come
up.

She clicks on another icon. Nothing.

SKYLAR

Great.

Chooses another.

This one works. A window opens.

A webcam. Not of them.

It's a view of the Den.

Elisa on the couch. Trudy and Logan talk about something.

RAVEN

Neat. I didn't know that was there.

SKYLAR

Neither did I.

DEN

Raven strides to where the webcam *should* be.

There isn't one there.

SKYLAR (O.C.)

You see it?

RAVEN

I don't.

STUDY

Raven on the webcam. She doesn't look directly into it.

TRUDY

(static distortion)

Get the directions?

Raven waves.

SKYLAR

I can see you, Raven. Sound is a bit off.

RAVEN

(static distortion)

How off?

SKYLAR

Like a bad radio station.

LOGAN
(static distortion)
What's going on?

RAVEN
Some hidden webcam and mike.
Somewhere in front of me, up here
somewhere.

LOGAN
(static distortion)
Up where? I don't see a thing.

SKYLAR
Raven. Point ahead.

TRUDY
What's the deal over this anyway?

Raven extends her finger. Her arm drifts around.

RAVEN
Quiet.

SKYLAR
Little to the left. Up. Keep going.
Back. A little over. Stop.

Raven's finger - center.

SKYLAR
Should be right there.

RAVEN
Wait.

Raven moves up a step.
Out of the webcam's eye.

SKYLAR
You're out of view. Step back.

RAVEN
What?

SKYLAR
Back up. You went right by it.

Raven steps back.

RAVEN
That's not possible.

SKYLAR
It has to be there.

DEN

Elisa wakes. Observes Raven step around in a semi-circle.

ELISA
What's going on?

LOGAN
Some kind of webcam around there I think. I don't see it.

ELISA
Think Skylar's father had it going when, you know -

TRUDY
Ever think maybe there is a camera up there, it's just zoomed in a little?

INTERCUT

Skylar's attention goes to the PLAY THIS disc.

LOGAN
Hey, Skylar! I think you should let the cops take a look at that! He might have something on the drive!

TRUDY
If they ever show.

ELISA
They aren't here yet?

RAVEN
And if there is someone out there, at least we'll know what they look like.

Skylar's puts the disc in -

Skylar's cell phone rings.

RAVEN
She can show the cops later.

SKYLAR
Hello?

Skylar rolls her chair back a few inches.

On the screen. Brian. Butcher knife in hand. It's from the other night.

He looks directly into the web camera.

BRIAN

I know who you are.

Skylar brings her phone to her ear.

Hiss of static greets her. Mixed with a low snarl.

A distorted voice:

WRAITH

(faint)

Skylar.

SKYLAR

Who is this?

WRAITH

Revenge is mine.

A shock. She drops the phone.

Clatters on the floor.

Ring tone warps, dies.

The disc ejects.

Skylar stares at the screen.
Afraid.

Bolts up from the chair.

SKYLAR

Everyone. Lets get in the cars. Get out of here.

The webcam shot hovers past Raven by a small but noticeable inch.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Skylar leads the group.

Flashlight tight in one hand.

Purse in the other.

Her head beads with sweat.

TRUDY
We should wait for the cops.

RAVEN
What did you see Skylar?

SKYLAR
Camera moved.

RAVEN
Maybe it's security camera?

SKYLAR
A security camera nobody can see.
And it didn't move like that. It
didn't pan left to right. It moved.

RAVEN
Hidden camera.

SKYLAR
There's a disc that had my dad on
it. He knew who killed him!

LOGAN
Just let the cops mess with it.

TRUDY
Hey Sherlock. For the hundreth
time, cops aren't -

Everyone halts.

LOGAN
Holy shit--!

Skylar's flashlight reveals

Two tent spikes jammed in the driver's side and rear
passenger side tires. Both tires flat.

Raven pushes ahead.

Her car shares the same fate.

RAVEN
Why didn't we see them? Hear them?

TRUDY
It's just the tires.

LOGAN
(to Skylar)
Keys. Quick.
(to Raven)
Pop your trunk. Got a spare? Get
it.

Reconsiders.

LOGAN
Just doughnuts.

Skylar aims her key chain.

Car unlocks.

Her trunk pops.

Logan dashes to the back of her car.

Shoves things aside.

Undoes screws.

LOGAN
It'll be unbalanced. There's no
guarantee this will work. We can't
speed out, but we can get out.

Grabs the jack and tire iron.

Raven opens her trunk.

The sight repels her.

CUT TO:

Logan positions a jack under Skylar's car.

CUT TO:

Raven's panic

Turns into a scream.

Trudy runs over.

In the trunk

Under the pin light

Hundreds of dead moths

Covered in clear slime.

Logan hustles over.

Looks inside.

Disgusted.

Mans up. Shoves aside goop and dead bugs.

RAVEN
How did that happen!?

She gets no answer.

Logan manages to open the bottom lid.

Slime all around. Raven covers her nose and mouth.

RAVEN
God! Nasty!

Trudy looks down at her feet. No socks.

Thinks fast.

Logan gets out the spare.

Carries it over to Skylar's car - as -

Trudy reaches under her shirt.

Performs a trick with her bra worthy of Houdini.

Slides the bra out from under the shirt.

Wraps the bra around her hand. Reaches in.

Snatches up a slimed up tire iron.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lamp light flickers. Open suitcase on the bed.

Screech.

Metal hooks in an O.S. closet move.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD

One tire replaced with a spare.

Logan slimes the lug nuts of the second tire.

Cranks the iron. It turns.

Skylar aims her flashlight around the yard.

Mist rolls in.

ELISA
Is this going to work?

LOGAN
We'll find out.

SKYLAR
Hurry.

LOGAN
Doing the best I can.

Tosses aside the tire.

Raven pulls the spike out.

Leftover compressed air like a snake's hiss.

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Wraith's hand fills a batter's glove.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Trudy gets in the backseat of Skylar's car. Raven and Elisa follow. Logan goes around to the front passenger side.

LOGAN
Let's roll. Remember, keep it under
35, we should be okay.

SKYLAR
Should be?

Skylar inserts the keys.

Moment of truth.

She hesitates.

Bites her lip.

RAVEN
Anytime like the present.

Skylar turns the keys.

Car starts.

Radio cackles with static.

The clock blinks.

Skylar reverses.

Clock ticks backwards -

Every minute goes back in one second.

10:35.

10:34.

10:33.

WRAITH

(over radio speakers)

Than whom none higher sat.

Clock, radio -

All interior light die.

Engine quits.

Skylar turns the keys.

Tick

Tick

Tick.

RAVEN

Try it again!

Skylar panics.

Digs in her purse.

TRUDY

What are you doing?!

SKYLAR

Where are they!

Logan reaches.

LOGAN

Excuse me. Watch out.

Turns the keys.

Same results.

Skylar shrieks.

Runs out.

Back into the house.

Logan exits. His feet buried in mist.

Raven leans over. Slugs him a few times in the shoulder.

RAVEN

Dumb ass. Should have checked the
car -

LOGAN

Pipe down.

RAVEN

You're in on it!

LOGAN

In on what?

INT. CLEEDER HOUSE - KITCHEN

Skylar turns on every light possible.

Searches the kitchen.

Her eyes go wide.

Her pills scattered all over the table.

The rest of the group piles in.

TRUDY

What the hell.

Skylar scoops up the pills.

Dumps them back in the container.

Takes two. Pops them in her mouth.

TRUDY

You got to be kidding me. What are
you on?

ELISA

She takes Zoloft.

TRUDY

What's that for? And I'm asking
her.

Skylar downs a glass of water.

Takes a deep breath.

RAVEN

Big deal. Parents, shrinks, they
all load you up.

TRUDY

Yeah. And she's loaded.

SKYLAR

I'll be alright. Just need a
moment.

TRUDY

I'll say you had it. Leading us out
there, freaking us out. And this
douche

(meaning Logan)

Is part of it.

LOGAN

Part of what.

TRUDY

I bet her father's out there, or
someone else she and you know,
messed up the tires.

Nudges Raven.

TRUDY

We never seen her father's body. We
didn't see who was outside. She
came in the kitchen first -

ELISA

What about the other body?

TRUDY

Probably not even real. Why haven't
the cops come? Maybe they were
never called -

Elisa slaps Trudy across the face. Trudy staggers back.

ELISA

I seen both bodies up close! For
the last time, this is not a prank!

TRUDY

How do you - any of you - explain
all this? And as for you bitch.
Touch me again, I'll kill you.

LOGAN

Are you done? Is everyone finished?

TRUDY

Not quite. Ever since we got here.
The house and the woods outside are
haunted. What a crock.

LOGAN

Haunted?

TRUDY

This - is horseshit.

LOGAN

Maybe you should zip it, Trudy.

TRUDY

Hit me up like Trish. I dare you.

LOGAN

I never - it's not the issue right
now. We're all freaked. I get that.
But now's not the time.

Trudy steps up, gets in his face. Raises her finger in
accusation.

TRUDY

You're not supposed to even be
here!

Elisa cold cocks Trudy in the back of the head.

Trudy's eyes roll.

She drops.

ELISA

Guess I'm dead.

RAVEN

Yeah I guess you are.

SKYLAR

Hey! He's right.

RAVEN

Didn't you just see what she did?

SKYLAR
And if she didn't, I would have.

BEDROOM

Raven and Logan carry Trudy.

Lays her next to the suitcase on the bed.

RAVEN
I want to apologize. This has
gotten out of control. Trudy she's
really okay.

LOGAN
I know. Apology accepted. Yours
anyway.

Raven pushes aside the case. Sits next to Trudy.

RAVEN
What about Trudy?

LOGAN
When she's cool.

Raven about to say something.

Can't find the words.

LOGAN
How about you?

RAVEN
I don't know. I'll try.

LOGAN
Good enough. You want to stay with
her?

Raven nods.

LOGAN
Rest of us will be in the next
room. I just hope Sky gets it
together.

RAVEN
She ever get a chance to see the
tape?

LOGAN
What tape?

RAVEN
I just thought, might be something
important.

LOGAN
I'll ask her.

RAVEN
Hey - Logan?
You're not - scared are you?

LOGAN
I'll keep it together.

BATHROOM - MINUTES LATER

Shirtless Logan -

Takes a breath. Dunks his face in a sink of water.

Keeps it there for a few moments.

Rises. Dries his face.

LOGAN
Yeah, man. Keep it together.

DEN

Elisa on her phone. Skylar seated on the couch. Skylar's
still shaken up.

SKYLAR
There has to be somebody you can
get hold of. Anybody.

ELISA
I went through all my contacts.
Nothing. Not even voice mail.

SKYLAR
Still getting a signal?

ELISA
Bars are fine.

SKYLAR
Be careful. I got some weird
feedback on mine. Fried out.

Logan slips his shirt back on as he enters.

LOGAN
Feedback? On a phone?

SKYLAR
I think whoever called me is the
same person who killed my Dad.

LOGAN
Raven said something about a tape?

BEDROOM

A ringtone buzzes. Raven alert.

She moves Trudy an inch over. Finds Trudy's phone.

RAVEN
Hello?

CHILD'S VOICE
Hello.

RAVEN
Who is this?

CHILD'S VOICE
(mocking giggle)
Who is this?

RAVEN
We need help. There's a killer -

CHILD'S VOICE
Kill her!

A static noise. Raven grimaces.

A trickle of blood drops from her ear.

CHILD'S VOICE
(more shrill)
Kill her!

Raven drops the phone. Lands on the floor.

Checks her ear. Smears some blood on her fingers.

Looks to the phone.

A video plays on it.

Footage from Trudy's walkthrough of the house.

The angle changes. Like a snake's POV on the ground.

TRUDY (phone video)
 (distorted voice)
 Maybe it was Mercy Love. Or her
 dark master Beelzebub.

Drop of blood lands on the screen.

Another drop of blood *in the video*. Caught on camera, the bead of blood defies logic and physics. Falls down like going into an abyss but at the angle it sails across an unseen plane.

Raven gets on a knee.

Uses cation.

Picks up the phone.

On the phone video - Trudy opens the closet.

Face of the dead woman in plastic.

Her eyes open wide.

A light appears behind her head.

Tears of blood trickle from the left eye.

Phone fades out. Dies.

DEN

Logan hooks up TV to VCR cables to VIDEO OUT jacks, red to red. Elisa, still on her phone, looks over his shoulder, curious.

ELISA
 Got that right?

LOGAN
 Think so. Beats the snow channel,
 anyway.

The TV fades into a blue screen.

Inserts the tape.

Presses PAUSE.

SKYLAR
 What are you doing?

LOGAN

We don't know what this is. I'm wondering if you step away for a minute.

SKYLAR

Don't be dumb.

LOGAN

Just saying. The killer could be on this tape. If he was looking for it, killed people for it -

SKYLAR

Play it.

LOGAN

Maybe we shouldn't.

SKYLAR

I want to know.

LOGAN

Maybe we're better off not knowing. I mean everything that's happened?

SKYLAR

Screw Chivalry.

Skylar looks over the VCR... finds the manual PLAY button.

LOGAN

I seen this reality TV show, Spirit Chasers. I figured out some of the stuff we been seeing might be related to EVP?

TV SCREEN flickers.

ON TV

Dust, scratches on the tape.

Blurry image.

CANDACE, about twelve years younger, GAGE and TWO OTHER PEOPLE (18) seated around a table, three candles lit. On the video, everyone's attention focuses on the center of the table. Voices fade in and out.

CANDACE (TV)

Look at that. Do you see that?

GAGE
I'm seeing it. I'm seeing it! Hey
Jake! You gotta get this!

JAKE CAMERAMAN
Got enough light?
(beat)
Give me a second.

CANDACE
Get your ass over here.

JAKE CAMERAMAN
Okay, okay. Don't get your panties
in a knot.

Jake bungles around with his camera equipment.

DEN

Skylar kneels close to the set.

Elisa and Logan mesmerized.

ELISA
EVP?

LOGAN
Electronic voice phenomena. Spirits
speaking through static on TVs,
radios -

ELISA
Phones?

LOGAN
They didn't cover phones, but I
don't see why not -

SKYLAR
Guys. I'm trying to hear.

ON TV

Spotlight looms forward. Sawdust all around. Shaved wood like
shaved carrot bits.

An ouija board. *In the table.*

An unseen force carves in the remaining word **Hello.**

A door opens O.S.

BRIAN (O.C.)
What the hell did you do?

CANDACE
Not a damn thing.

GAGE
I did it.

BRIAN (O.C.)
Well you can undo it!

GAGE
I don't want to. It's what we
wanted.

BRIAN
What we wanted! What is this!

CANDACE
He wants us to commune with him
directly.

BRIAN
Commune? What's going on Candace?
Who are these people, in our house?

Gage gets up.

CANDACE
Don't break the circle! Let me at
least dismiss the spirit!

GAGE (O.C.)
What the hell you think you're
doing?

BRIAN
Want to dismiss a spirit? I'll
dismiss a spirit.

The candles die out like a birthday wish.

BRIAN
Out of my way!

Brian comes back with an axe.

Candace, Jake and Mercy move out of the way. Brian demolishes
the table. Sound on the tape goes out.

Splinters. Candles and spits of wax fly around.

DEN

Everyone's transfixed.

ELISA
I got someone!

A voice of a man in his 30s -

DEPUTY (FILTERED)
Sheriff's Department. Deputy Jack
Ketch speaking. How may I help you?

ON TV: Candace and Brian in an argument. Gage laughs. The two other kids leave.

ELISA
Please help! We called earlier -

DEPUTY
Earlier. Brian Cleeder's Place.

ON TV: Brian punches Gage in the gut. Gage's laughs aren't so funny anymore.

ELISA
Hang on a minute.

Gives the phone to Skylar.

SKYLAR
Someone's outside! I think it's the
same person who killed my dad.

DEPUTY
Brian Cleeder's dead?

GAGE (TV)
Yeah, I nailed your wife. Happy
now?

SKYLAR
I'm his daughter, Skylar! I called -

DEPUTY
Listen. If I come out there -

SKYLAR
Yes! Come out here!

GAGE (TV)
You dumb son of a bitch. Spirit
might not leave this area now.
Might not leave your house -

DEPUTY

Let me finish, Skylar. If I come out there, and this is another game, I'll put you all in cuffs.

BEDROOM

Raven sits down on the floor, leans against the bed.

Stares at the dead phone.

Small Kleenex pressed under her ear.

Checks the tissue. Bleeding's stopped.

Rolls up the tissue. Aims for a trash can.

Misses the basket.

Trudy's phone vibrates. Raven lets it go.

RAVEN

(to herself)

Mind's playing tricks on you. There are no ghosts. Just some whackjob outside.

Phone buzzes like an angry hornet.

Goes under the bed.

Raven rub her arms.

Looks at her right wrist. Did an insect bite her?

SKYLAR (V.O.)

What are talking about?

Raven's skin. Goose bumps.

DEPUTY (FILTERED V.O.)

Your father kept calling us, saying he found a dead woman wrapped in plastic.

Raven, about to say something. Sees her breath. Her eyes dart to an open window.

DEPUTY (FILTERED V.O.)

We got there, there was no body. Searched three times on three different days up and down that river.

Raven walks to the window. Outside - no activity. The mist covers the entire backyard. Raven closes the pane.

DEPUTY (FILTERED)

He calls again, saying there's an intruder who he thinks killed the woman that nobody can find.

Trudy. By the suitcase. Unseen by Raven - fingers of a gloved hand poke out of the suitcase.

DEN

Skylar spellbound by the Deputy's story -

DEPUTY (FILTERED)

We get there. Not a trace of anyone. It's just him.

SKYLAR

A woman wrapped in plastic?

DEPUTY

That's correct.

(beat)

Let me guess. You seen her too.

SKYLAR

Fine. If you don't believe us, fine. Come down here, arrest us, give us a warning. Whatever. Just get down here.

TV: The tape shows Jake Cameraman's POV as he runs to the door. He drops his camera. It goes on for a few more seconds then ends.

ELISA

What's his problem?

Skylar shoos her off. Not now.

DEPUTY

My problem. Yes, I heard her in the back. My problem is teen pranks and false reports.

LOGAN

(low)

Tell him we been drinking. Tell him Trudy's had an accident, needs an ambulance.

Skylar ignores him -

SKYLAR

This is not a prank. This is real.
Get down here. There's some psycho
outside!

DEPUTY

Let me speak to your father.

SKYLAR

He's dead!

BRIAN (FILTERED STATIC)

Hello?

DEPUTY

Mister Cleeder?

BRIAN (FILTERED STATIC)

Yes?

Skylar slaps the phone in Elisa's hands. Back away.

SKYLAR

That's not my Dad! That's not my
Dad!

DEPUTY

Can't hear you too well. Are you
there?

BRIAN

I am.

SKYLAR races -

Down the hall.

To the

BEDROOM

Swings open the door.

Trudy's body jerks.

Suitcase closed around her head.

Shirt sleeves tight around her neck.

Trudy spasms. Knocks Raven away from her.

Blood drizzles under the sleeves that choke her.

The bizarre vice tightens.

Trudy rolls over like a mad alligator.
 Whacks Skylar backward. Skylar falls.
 Trudy's body whips. Her left arm snaps.
 Upside down on the bed. She slides.
 Head first down on the floor.
 Suitcase opens.
 Pools of clear slime and dead moths.
 Ooze out. Baseball gloves and Brian's cell mixed in.
 Trudy's face ash white. Eyes open.
 Bits of blood on her cheeks.
 Drip down with slime.

BRIAN (FILTERED)
 (phone)
 You all have a good night.

The phone beeps under the muck.
 Static follows.
 A long, hypnotic moan.
 The case sluts on Trudy's head again.
 The lights zap out.
 Trudy's body rises.
 To the ceiling.
 Suitcase tips right. Slow CRUNCH.
 Breaks Trudy's neck.
 Brian's cell light fades up.

WRAITH (FILTERED STATIC)
 Find the body. Bury the body.

SKYLAR
 Who are you? What do you want?

WRAITH
 Revenge.

SKYLAR

For what?

WRAITH

Is mine. *Slayeth* The Lord.

Raven stomps on the cell. Her foot brings up slime and muck.

DEN

Moonlight floods the house.

The VCR ejects the tape.

TV turns off by itself.

Screams from Raven and Skylar.

Both burst out of the bedroom. Get behind Logan.

RAVEN

It's in there!

LOGAN

What's in there?

RAVEN

It killed Trudy!

Skylar grabs a flashlight. Keeps it close.

Logan. Unsure. Raises the bat.

RAVEN

I don't think that's going to work.

LOGAN

Find the crowbar. Son of a bitch
comes in here

(beat)

Hear me, son of a bitch!

RAVEN

We need to get out of here.

Skylar beelines to the closet.

LOGAN

Where are you going?

Skylar opens the closet.

Takes two golf lamps.

Turns on one. White glow bathes her.

SKYLAR

My dad's van. Maybe it will start.
If it doesn't, there's the other
car you found.

LOGAN

The van? Your Dad -

Skylar hands one of the golf lights to Elisa.

SKYLAR

Got any better ideas?

LOGAN

I can think of one.
(beat)
Come on out, pussy!

The bedroom door opens.

A SHADOW FIGURE STEPS OUT. It's Wraith.

LOGAN

Trudy?

He sees his breath.

A deep moan echoes from Wraith.

Expressionless face, partially hidden by darkness.

Wraith wears Trudy's clothes.

Covered in a slime substance mixed with bugs. Some living.
Some dead.

WRAITH

(distorted)
Loser Logan.

Logan charges.

Connects with a swing!

Wraith's head tips over.

A geyser of goo splatters. Blinds Logan.

Trips forward. The bodies slam.

Wraith explodes-

A shattering shower of a slime
 Mixed with dead white and black moths.
 Logan gets up. Goo droops from his face.
 He spits some of it out.
 His nose bleeds.
 A low moan rambles around the house.
 The TV jolts on. Snow channel.
 The tape melts. Black streaks over the screen.

GAGE (TV)
 (distorted)
 Yes, I shagged her. What's it to
 you? You can get your ass out if
 you're going to be like that.

MERCY (TV)
 (distorted)
 Jesus, Gage. Another man's wife. In
 his house. And she's ten years
 older -

GAGE (TV)
 Shut up, Mercy. Shut up, Mercy.
 Shut up Shut up shut up SHUT UP!

The "Emergency Broadcast System Test" jolts out. The voice of
 Wraith stutters over the signal.

WRAITH
 I know who you are.

TV FLICKERS.

SKYLAR
 Who are you! What do you want!

WRAITH
 Mercy Love. Bury the body.

Beads of sweat form on the arms and faces of the girls.

Perspiration soaks their shirts.

WRAITH
 (more distorted)
 Than whom none higher sat.
 Beelzebub.

Raven screams.

SKYLAR
Did you kill my father!

WRAITH
He is the dead man.

SKYLAR
Why?

WRAITH
(beat)
Why not?

ELISA
Come on, let's go!

Logan attempts to stand. Slips.

Tough to balance. He succeeds.

Sounds of the washing machine turn on O.S.

A door creaks.

ELISA
Move it, Logan!

Logan backs up. Scrambles away best he can.

Wraith appears from the Laundry Room.

Wears the Black Hoodie. Jeans.

Hands and feet made of amber gelatin and dead moths.

Gets closer. A patch of light reveals a head that has no face. Dead white moth marks a left eye.

Bows. Presses gel hands into the empty gloves.

KITCHEN

The knife holder shoves forward by itself.

Spills over.

One knife slides across the floor.

EXT. CLEEDER HOUSE - DECK

Mist. Thick.

The girls scramble out.

Skylar and Elisa with the golf lights.

Logan.

Drenched in sweat. Bursts after them.

In fast cadence, the Tiki torches *poof* on!

The teens pause. Gain composure.

Portable gulf lights in hand.

Run like hell.

Wraith steps onto the deck.

Moves left arm. A tent stake slides in its hand.

Knife held tight in the other.

Wraith raises the left arm.

Takes aim. Throws.

BACKYARD

The stake whizzes in the air.

Into Logan's left hand. Splits it.

Logan screams.

The stake slides out of his wound.

DECK

Wraith pitches the knife.

BACKYARD

The blade streaks through Raven's hair.

Embeds in a tree. Vibrates.

Logan's hand pumps red. Holds it together with his right.

Staggers on.

WOODS

The three girls jog with the poles.

Lost between trees and mist.
Raven slows down. Dares to look back.
A shadow in the mist. After them.
Raises the pole, batters up.
Gives it a go. Awkward and off balance.
Logan ducks back.
Raven takes a breath.

RAVEN
I didn't mean to -

Sees Logan's hand.

RAVEN
Oh my God -

LOGAN
Just get moving!

They push forward.
Catch up to Elisa and Skylar.
Elisa notices Logan's injury.

ELISA
Skylar. Wait!

Skylar pauses.
Elisa hands Skylar her pole.
Takes off her shirt. Bikini top underneath.
Tears part of the shirt.
Races to Logan.
Skylar comes closer, gives them more light.
Logan lets go of his wound.
Elisa makes a fast tourniquet.
She tightens it.
Logan grunts.

RAVEN

This the way to the van?

SKYLAR

We got a start, but we need to keep moving. If we find the body first, we take it with us.

LOGAN

You mean your father?

SKYLAR

No. The other one. I think we need to bury it if we find it.

RAVEN

Bury it?

SKYLAR

I don't know how close we are, but once we get to the river -

RAVEN

Bury the body. That's what you said. Right?

SKYLAR

Mercy Love must be buried. If we can't do it tonight, we do it in the morning.

LOGAN

You're not suggesting we take it with us?

Skylar hands Elisa her light pole back.

SKYLAR

If we find it.

She nods, encourages the others to follow.

They walk fast.

Raven glances back.

LOGAN

What do mean 'if'?

ELISA

I think she means it might not be where we left it.

LOGAN

Just because it's a ghost or wraith
or whatever doesn't mean it
unburies itself and swims around.

RAVEN

And why bother? If it can form
itself with dead insects and that
slime stuff.

LOGAN

What is that stuff called?
Ectoplasm?

RAVEN

Don't look at me.

ELISA

It keeps saying it wants revenge.
Revenge for what? What did we do?

LOGAN

What was on the tape. Conjured up,
not cast away.

SKYLAR

Revenge for that. And digging up
the body.

LOGAN

Who did that? Nobody dug up
nothing.

SKYLAR

Somebody did.

BACKYARD

Wraith's gloved hand yanks the knife out of the tree.

A moth scurries on it's faceless head.

It casually puts on the hood.

Strides ahead.

RIVER - SHORELINE - NIGHT

Skylar leads. Beads of sweat on her face.

Nervous. Hides her expressions as much as possible.

Logan struggles. He holds his dressing tight. Grits his
teeth.

RAVEN

This is insane. We should just get
away from here.

SKYLAR

Should be almost there.

Logan eases a flashlight in his right hand. Cradles it in his arms. Aims the beam across the water. The shadow of the tree branch. A brief glimpse of the van's metal, which appears like a white blot.

Skylar looks across the river. Walks towards the marsh. Shines light. Expressionless Mercy Love.

Skylar gathers herself. Hands Elisa her pole.

Wades in. Reaches.

Her head turns away. Pulls on the plastic edges.

Drags the body closer.

Both hands now. Breathes and exhales.

Brings the body to land. A rope tied around the body's feet.

Everyone steps back.

Skylar lifts Mercy's legs. The rope more exposed. Fades into the fog and water.

Rope moves. An unseen force tugs.

Draws the body back.

Body disappears into the night.

Beat.

LOGAN

Who's out there?

Past the fog, a glimpse of a silhouette figure (Gage). The body drifts towards him.

Raven hears a noise behind the group. She turns.

Shadow of Wraith. A glimmer of steel.

RAVEN

Logan! Tell me what to do!

Logan looks over. Wraith approaches.

Wraith's legs, covered by fog.
Floats towards them.

Skylar goes into the water after the body.

LOGAN
In the water!

Elisa stakes one of the light poles. Carries the other over her head into the river.

Raven eases herself in. Logan's next.

Logan takes the sting. Pain fills his face.

Skylar looks back.

Wraith waits on shore.

Disappears in the cloud.

LOGAN
Keep moving.

They wade forward.

Skylar increases her efforts.

She makes it to shore. Climbs out.

Hard to see the shadow (Gage). She spots the plastic wrap and Mercy's body over the Shadow's shoulder.

Skylar hyperventilates. She stumbles.

Elisa comes up behind her.

Stakes the light. Skylar regains her breath.

LOGAN
Wait!

Elisa runs after Gage's shadow.

Logan pushes ahead of Raven.

LOGAN
Wait -

WRAITH lunges out like a shark!
The knife plunges on Raven!
Both go back under!

Logan swims around for her.

Raven floats up.

Throat slashed.

LOGAN

Raven...

Logan gets out. Fast.

Hobbles over to Skylar. Helps her up.

A PAIR of HEADLIGHT BEAMS cuts through the fog.

An engine starts.

ELISA

Stop!

GAGE

Body needs to be buried, Miss.

ELISA

What?

GAGE

Body needs to be buried.

ELISA

If you know that, then you know
Mercy Love's ghost is after us! We
need to get out of here!

GAGE

That's right. But that's not Mercy
Love. Mercy Love's in the back.

Logan and Skylar catch up to Elisa.

SKYLAR

I know that voice. Sounds like.

Gage gets out of the truck.

GAGE

That's right. Sky. It's me. Got a
text, said you were in some kind of
trouble. Thought it was a prank.

(beat)

But given how I met your mom ten
years ago, and how the spirit
wasn't dispelled, I figured - look
just get in the back.

SKYLAR

You broke up my parents, moron. And
I saw the tape.

GAGE

Yes. I'm going straight to hell.
Now get in the truck. Back, front.
Just get in.

ELISA

Next to a dead body?

GAGE

You all found it, didn't you? You
all were going to bury it?

LOGAN

We didn't dig it up though.

GAGE

I believe you. Get in.

LOGAN

Hey, you're the guy I saw -

Gage takes out a .38

Waves it around.

GAGE

Time - is - a - wastin'

Storms forward!
Pistol whips Logan!
Lights out!

Wraith rises from the water.

Elisa grabs Gage -

Gage elbows her in the face.

Knocks her out.

Aims the gun at Skylar.

GAGE

In. The. Truck.

Skylar looks back.

Wraith by the van.

Skylar goes around, gets in.

Gage puts away his gun.

Grabs Elisa. Picks her up quickly.

Dumps her in the flatbed.

Clutches Logan, Shoves him in the front.

Gets in the truck, backs up.

Short distance away from Wraith and the truck.

Shuts the driver side door.

INT. TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Gage turns the truck around.

Bumpy ride.

GAGE

Don't you think about bailing. Not with that thing out there.

SKYLAR

You saved us? Why?

GAGE

Would you rather I didn't?

SKYLAR

You put a gun to my face!

GAGE

Sorry about that. Had to be done. And before you think I didn't hear you at the river, I did. And I wouldn't have left you. Kids and your conspiracy theories!

SKYLAR

I -

GAGE

Your friend here. What happened to his hand? He going to be okay?

SKYLAR

My friends are dead. My father is dead. How is that okay?

GAGE

Didn't say it was.

SKYLAR

Do you know what it is?

GAGE

Absolutely. You been seeing it
yourself for the last ten years off
and on, whenever you're up here.

SKYLAR

I have?

GAGE

The wraith has never been strong
enough, you only see whispers of
it, here and there.

(beat)

It's part of your condition. You
kind of know that, you just don't
want to admit it.

SKYLAR

So, what's different now?

GAGE

It feeds off electronic signals.
Phones, TV sets, radios. Computers.
A reminder of how it came to be.
And of course, Mercy Love.

SKYLAR

So that thing isn't Mercy?

GAGE

No. That's a manifestation of
something else. And the less you
say, better off you are.

SKYLAR

Like if I know its name I'm not
supposed to say it?

GAGE

Just don't make it a habit. Anyway,
when it manifests itself, it forms
with garbage, filth. dead and
living bugs.

SKYLAR

Some kind of jelly -

GAGE

Ectoplasm. Spiritual residue.
Sometimes liquid, sometimes solid.

GAGE (CONT'D)

It has to fill objects like clothing, gloves, shoes to keep the form. It doesn't care who summoned it. It will kill anyone it can until that body is buried again.

SKYLAR

That doesn't make any sense. It has to be the ghost of Mercy Love.

GAGE

Just telling you what I know. I know you don't like me. There are things I done, things I do, that I regret. But right now I'm asking you to trust me. Just for a little while. Think you can do that?

EXT. TURTLE CREEK - NIGHT

Truck pulls up alongside a clearing.

Headlights reveal a shovel in the ground.

Gage exits the truck.

Eases unconscious Logan out.

Skylar comes. Helps him lay Logan on the ground.

GAGE

Your dad knew this place. But this is a different area then where Mercy was last -

SKYLAR

I don't want to hear it, okay.

Gage goes to the flatbed. Takes a lantern light and a severed tree branch.

GAGE

I'll handle the body. What I want you to do is take these things. Go around this area, say, around hundred feet, make a circle in the dirt, best you can.

Skylar hesitates.

GAGE

I know you wre going to bury the
body yourself, but do you really
want to, or would you rather I do
it?

Skylar takes the lantern and stick.

SKYLAR

You expect it to come?

GAGE

Why take the chance?

Skylar walks away.

GAGE

Don't forget, Hundred feet. In a
circle.

Skylar counts her steps out from the truck.

Behind her, Gage gets in the flatbed.

Picks up Mercy's wrapped body.

Drags it out.

Skylar gets a hundred feet out. Looks back.

GAGE

Keep going.

Skylar puts her mind back on the task.

Gage hauls the body to the shallow grave.

Dumps it in.

Goes back to the truck.

Skylar clueless

When Gage unloads *another body* off the truck.

It's Brian. Gage disposes him in *another shallow grave* which
we can't see from this angle.

Gage watches Skylar. She's halfway done.

Gage walks to his truck.

Gets back in the flatbed.

Takes Elisa and a rope out.

Lays her on the ground.

Eyeballs Skylar.

SKYLAR

Almost done.

GAGE

Good. Me too.

Ties one end of the rope around Elisa's wrists.

The other end to Logan's ankles.

Strolls to the passenger side front seat.

Messes around in the glove compartment.

Comes around the truck.

Rips two pieces of gauze tape.

Places one piece over Logan's mouth.

The next over Elisa's.

Skylar walks up...

SKYLAR

What are you doing?

GAGE

Honey, you are beautiful.

Shows off his gun again.

GAGE

Here's how it works. Your fucking
father is dead. You get the
inheritance worth eight hundred and
seven k.

Puts the gun to her face. Bumps her forehead with the barrel.

GAGE

But only when you turn 18. If you
kill him or are also killed, the
money goes to dear mom.

Shoves her to the ground.

GAGE

Then I'll get her killed. And all I have to do...is dig. Now, it's your turn. On your feet. I said GET UP!

Skylar stands.

GAGE

Move.

They walk to the graves.

She sees Mercy Love, Her father.

A human skeleton.

GAGE

I want you to know the truth. I want you to know because I expect you to run. I don't need to chase you. Know why?

SKYLAR

Because I'll tell them about ghosts. And my friends play pranks.

GAGE

Not exactly. But close enough.

SKYLAR

So who was Mercy Love?

GAGE

My ex-girlfriend. You saw her. On the tape. Her brother too. That's who's after you, by the way. Jake.

SKYLAR

There was somebody else.

GAGE

That would be Mike.

SKYLAR

You kill him too?

GAGE

No. He's in a mental ward, in Denver.

SKYLAR

So what happens now?

GAGE
Drew the circle?

Skylar nods.

GAGE
Then this is what happens now.
(to the DEAD)
I did it!

Mist rises from the graves.

Moths and worms crawl around Jake's bones.

Ectoplasm fills around his corpse.

Gage holds the gun on Skylar. Backs up.

GAGE
If I were you, I'd start digging.

Skylar heaves dirt over the bodies.

The goop around Jake goes to Mercy. Fills the plastic.

Mercy Love sits up. Moans.

Skylar chucks dirt over Mercy.

Looks down on her father. Hesitates.

Gage pulls Logan and Elisa by the rope.

Brings them to the edge of the graves.

Skylar gets a good look at them.

Her grip tightens on the shovel.

GAGE
Go ahead and do it. Take a swing.
Get lucky.

Skylar swings. Off balance. She misses him.

GAGE
That - a - girl.

Gage kicks Logan over the edge. Elisa falls in the grave on top of him.

GAGE
Oops. Did I do that? My bad.

Skylar lunges at him again. Gage backs up. Pushes her to the ground.

GAGE

I wonder. What could be worse.

Aims the gun at her. Teases her. Skylar tears up.

GAGE

Eating your mama's cunt or watching
your maggot father squeal like a
stuck pig. Watching friends die?

Moans from the grave.

Gage pulls the trigger. A sharp click.

Laughs. Walks away.

Decomposed hands rise behind Skylar. Rest on her shoulders.

A greasy plastic sheet wraps around her.

Gage gets in his truck. Leaves.

SHALLOW GRAVES

Darkness surrounds Skylar.

Her breath short.

Logan yanks on the plastic.

Tears a hole in it.

Skylar gets a dose of air.

Jake's body sits upright.

Looks at Logan.

Jake's mouth opens.

Swarms of flies and moths spew out.

Covers Logan.

Elisa crawls out.

Blood and slime.

Slides Logan behind her.

Fog rolls over.

Elisa scoops up as much loose dirt as she can.
Shoves it over the bodies of Mercy and Jake.
Grabs the shovel.
Spills more dirt over them.
Takes one more breath.
Passes out.
Blood flows from a head wound.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Gage lights up a cigarette.
Radio turns on.
Greeted him with static.
Stops the truck.
Listens.

WRAITH

Hello?

Gage uses the butt of the gun.
Smashes the radio.
Drives away.

INT. CANDACE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Gage alone. Raids the fridge. Selects a beer.

MAIN ROOM

Plops himself on a couch.
Turns on the TV. The Snow Channel rattles off.
Presses the remote. No action.

GAGE

Hey, suckers. I paid my debts.

The channel warps into a music video.

GAGE
 Three in the morning, and nothing's
 on.

Turns of the TV.

Dozes off.

SHORT TIME LATER

TV back on. Static.

Gage wakes. He stands.

WRAITH
 (distorted)
 Revenge is mine. Bury the body.

Gage walks off. Opens a closet. Scopes around.

Baseball bat in his grip. Ready to break the screen.

WRAITH
 Harness the shadows that cross
 worlds. Death and madness.

Gage leans forward. About to swing...

Stops.

Behind him. A dark figure. His dark clothes.

To his left - another dark figure.

Defiant. He turns on a light.

A knife slides into the hand of the first shadow.

GAGE
 I know who you are.

Both shadows step into the light. Pale, lifeless faces of
 LOGAN and ELISA.

Dead Logan stabs Gage in the chest.

Dead Elise shanks Gage in the back.

EXT. CANDACE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Black car waits in the street. It's the same car we seen from
 before.

Lights turn off in the apartment.
Car's lights go on. Drives away.

INT. BLACK CAR - SAME

Skylar. Black hoodie. Drives.
Backseat. A body wrapped in plastic.

EXT. TURTLE CREEK - NIGHT

Golf Light shines down.
Skylar uses all of her courage.
Forces a shovel in a mound of dirt.
Covers her father.

FADE OUT.