

STAY THE NIGHT

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FADE IN:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

The moon light illuminates a two story traditional southern style home. Weeds grow between the gravel in the road leading up to the house.

Paint peels from the shutters, now slightly askew from rot. Ivy grows along the front of the decaying home consuming it. All of the lights are off in the windows.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

RACHEL opens her eyes in a fog. Rachel is in her mid-twenties, girl next door. She dressed in a hospital gown. Heavy white light washes out her face.

She looks around waking up from a drugged haze and squints her eyes to see clearly. She's laying on a white sheets on a metal hospital bed.

Rachel tries to move her hands and feet, only to discover her wrists and ankles are tied up with rope. She begins to struggle, to get loose.

A man's feet thud and creak walking down a flight of rickety basement stairs.

Rachel begins to panic, fighting against her rope harder. Her wrists are red from rope burn. Rachel begins letting out small guttural grunts as she struggles.

With a yelp, Rachel manages to get one wrist free. The foot steps pause. Rachel pauses as she listens.

She hears the attacker's footsteps come closer and closer.

In a fog, she sits up and yanks the ropes tying her ankles to the bed. Rachel looks around. Everything is blurry, and white; she can make out an old fashioned hospital room.

Large white tiles from the 1950's on the floor. Everything looks as if she's gone back in time.

Clomp, as the foot steps reach the bottom of the stairs.

Rachel has one foot free, and claws at the rope that still confines her to the bed.

The door to the hospital room opens. SURGEON stands in the door way, in a full tooth paste green surgical outfit, gloves, and mask. He's a towering older white man with steely eyes.

Rachel pauses, squinting at him through the bright light, at her drugged state.

The Surgeon comes closer. Rachel's eyes widen in terror. She slides her ankle out of the last rope and leaps from the bed. The Surgeon lunges for her.

From a cart of surgical tools, Rachel grabs a scalpel as the Surgeon lunges for her. She stabs him in the leg. Blood squirts onto her face and across his scrubs. He lets out a deep groan in pain.

Rachel starts to back up as he stumbles forward with the scalpel still lodged in his leg. Rachel pushes through the large heavy metal doors and runs.

The Surgeon wraps his latex gloved hand around the scalpel and yanks it out his leg. Blood oozes from the wound.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Rachel emerges from the house. She sprints to an old beat up maroon Chevy pick-up truck. Frantically, Rachel tries to open the car door, but it's locked.

The back door behind her flings open. The silhouette of the Surgeon fills the doorway.

Rachel crouches down, hiding by the other side of the truck.

The Surgeon limps closer scraping his shoes against the dirt. Blood drips down his leg.

Rachel peeks from behind the car as the Surgeon scans the back yard with his cold eyes.

He sees her foot prints on the dirt around the truck. He moves forward. The dull foot steps comes closer. She drops on her belly and shuffles under the car.

The Surgeon approaches the truck, looking around. His large feet walk around to the side where Rachel was hiding. She watches him in terror.

He pauses and starts to look somewhere else. Rachel breathes a sigh of relief.

Lightening fast, the Surgeon spins around and looks under the car. Rachel lets out a shriek. He reaches under the car with a his latex gloved hands and pulls her by the hair.

The Surgeon yanks Rachel out from under the car as she gasps and cries out in pain.

He drags her by her hair back towards the house. She thrashes, yelping in pain and getting covered in dirt and grass.

He opens the door walking in. Rachel grabs the door frame pulling herself away from him. He yanks harder and harder.

Rachel's scalp begins to tear. She pulls on the frame grunting in agony as her hair rips from her head.

The Surgeon falls down with a chunk of hair and scalp in his hand as Rachel scrambles to her feet.

She runs for the woods, sprinting as fast as she can. Blood trickles down the back over her neck and shirt.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Rachel makes from the clearing into the woods. She looks behind her, the attacker is not in sight. A look of relief begins to spread across her face.

CRUNCH, as an old rusty bear trap clamps down on her ankle snapping into her bones. Rachel lets out a yelp and crashes into the crisp fall leaves.

She tries to pull the trap apart, blood smears across her hands and her legs as she whimpers in pain.

Rachel hears the crackle of the Surgeon's feet walking on the fall leaves and looks up. The Surgeon stands above her. Rachel lets out a blood curdling scream.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: Stay the Night

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

A two story suburban house is nestled between thick trees. The red shutters match the red front door. A cardinal chirps in the spring sunlight.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S HOUSE - DAY

AVA, early 30's, is 8 months pregnant. She's glowing. Her maternity business suit is stretched tight across her belly.

She's putting her pearl earrings as she walks down the hall.

AVA:

David?

Ava opens up a white bedroom door. Inside DAVID is painting the room pink. So far only half of the room is done. David is in his early 30's. He is the kind of man you'd call when you need help moving, or a ride to the airport.

The windows are open and David has his headphones on. He dances around with the paint roller in one hand, bobbing his head to the music. He dips the brush into the bucket and continues painting the wall.

Ava chuckles to herself and taps him on the shoulder. David takes an earbud out.

DAVID:

What are you doing? Get out of here.

He rushes Ava out of the room.

DAVID: (CONT'D)

The paint fumes, they're not good for the baby.

AVA:

I was calling your name.

DAVID:

I couldn't hear you.

They step into the hallway.

AVA:

I just got a call. The Roger's accepted the offer. I've officially closed my last house.

They hug.

DAVID:

Congratulations! How does it feel to be retired?

Ava walks down the hall towards the staircase as David follows.

AVA:
I'm not retired yet. I've got to go
over the contract and get
everything signed.

Ava gives David a kiss and walks down a flight of stairs.
David stands at the top looking at her from over the railing.

DAVID:
Right now?

AVA:
Yup.

DAVID:
Do you want me to drive? I should
drive.

AVA:
I'll be alright. I'm not due for
another month.

DAVID:
You sure?

AVA:
Yes. Totally sure.

Ava opens the front door.

DAVID:
Ava?

She pauses and turns around.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
You're not retiring, you're taking
on the hardest job in the world;
Mom.

Ava smiles. She steps out and shuts the door.

INT. CAR - DAY

Ava is driving her sedan. Her belly is wedged against the
steering wheel. The car stops at a red light.

Ava pulls down the sun visor and opens up the mirror. She
checks her lipstick. In the mirror she sees a SUV car moving
towards her, fast.

Ava's eyes widen in terror as she realizes the SUV behind her
isn't going to stop. Her body tenses up.

The SUV behind her slams into the bumper. The metal crumples as the glass from back seat shatters.

Ava is jerked forward into the airbag and slams her face into it.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - DAY

Ava jerks awake, panting. She's sitting in the passenger seat of the car, no longer pregnant. She's pale, shaking, and deflated.

David is driving the car. He glances over at her worried.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

The highway slices through a lush forest full of trees changing colors. The car drives through the straight empty road. It's now autumn.

INT. CAR - DAY

DAVID:
Did you have that dream again?

Ava nods.

AVA:
Yeah.

DAVID:
It's been five months.

AVA:
I know. I know. I can't help it.

Ava's phone starts ringing.

DAVID:
Who is that?

AVA:
I don't know.

DAVID:
You should answer, it could be a new job offer.

Ava declines the call.

AVA:
I'll call them back later.

DAVID:
You always say that.

AVA:
I just...feel like talking right
now. Can we stop?

Ava squirms in her seat.

DAVID:
We're making great time.

AVA:
I just, I just, need a break from
being in a car. The dream, it got
me.

DAVID:
Yeah, of course, we can pull over.
I'm sorry.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

The sun beams down on a black sedan as it whips pass the
state lines.

A sign reads: WELCOME TO SOUTH CAROLINA SMILING FACES
BEAUTIFUL PLACES.

INT. CAR - DAY

AVA:
I'm sorry I just-

DAVID:
Did you see the sign?

He keeps his eyes on the road.

AVA:
What?

DAVID:
We made it to South Carolina.
Smiling faces happy places, that's
a good state motto? Right?

AVA:
That's not the state motto.

DAVID:

What?

AVA:

That's what the sign says, but the official motto is 'Dum spiro spero'.

DAVID:

What does that mean?

AVA:

While I breathe, I hope.

CUT TO:

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Ava and David pull up to a quaint old fashioned gas station. Their car looks out of place, as if it had traveled back in time.

White paint peels off a sign that reads "GENERAL STORE".

INT. GAS STATION - DAY

David is paying at the register. Ava comes out of the bathroom wearing a black shirt. She's stuffing her shirt, and bra into a tote bag.

DEPUTY NELSON is behind David in line holding a couple of items to purchase.

Deputy Nelson is in his late twenties, he's an all American man with broad shoulders, and used to play football. He has a stack of missing person's flyers under his arm.

David hands the cashiers some cash for the gas, and glances back.

DAVID:

I want to pay for his stuff too.

NELSON:

No no, it's alright.

DAVID:

No, put your stuff on the counter. You guys do so much. It's the least I can do.

Ava is watching looking through the snacks.

NELSON:
Really I couldn't.

DAVID:
I insist.

Ava suppresses a smile watching David pay for the cop.

NELSON:
Oh alright. Thank you, thank you.

He steps forward, and puts his items on the counter David pays.

NELSON: (CONT'D)
I thought I knew everyone in this town. Are your new around here? Or just passing through?

DAVID:
Passing through, my wife and I are on a road trip.

David looks around and spots Ava.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
(To Ava)
Ava come over here.
We're headed to Florida.
(To Ava)
Ava.

Ava walks over.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
We're looking for a place to sleep tonight? Is there a motel or something in town? Here she is.
This is my wife Ava.

NELSON:
Nice to meet you Miss. I'm deputy Nelson.

Nelson adjusts the flyers under his arm, so they can shake hands.

AVA
Is someone missing?

Nelson pulls out the missing persons flyers.

NELSON:
Yup, just putting out some flyers.
Talking to people in town. Good old
fashioned police work.

AVA:
What do you think happened?

NELSON:
Most likely, she's fine. But we're
still keeping an eye out, just in
case anyone is in trouble.
There's a bed and breakfast about
ten miles from here. Owned by a
family in town. But, there's a
catch.

Pause. David and Ava exchange a look.

AVA:
What's the catch?

NELSON:
Martha makes dinner for her guests
every night and she gets awfully
upset if you don't have seconds.

David smiles.

AVA:
Oh, I don't know if that's um.

DAVID:
Sounds great. Right honey?

He wraps his arm around Ava's shoulder, and squeezes.

AVA:
Well, couldn't we, just. There
isn't a motel, or something?

NELSON:
This ain't the city. Not a lot of
motels in these parts. Not exactly
a travel destination. I'm sure if
you drive far enough you'll find a
motel 6 or somethin'.

DAVID:
What do you want to do?

Ava looks at David pursing her lips.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - DAY

David and Ava pull up to a gravel driveway. The large house overshadows them. A Prius sedan sits out in the front from another guest who's staying there.

David exits the car gets their suit cases out of the trunk. Ava exits and pauses, looking at the house.

AVA:
They better not be chatty.

DAVID:
What's wrong with chatty?

AVA:
You and my father are the only
people I know that like small talk.

David leads them towards the house. Ava lags behind. They kick up dirt as they walk on the gravel to the porch.

David and Ava approach the front door, the old floor boards squeak under their feet.

AVA: (CONT'D)
Do we knock?

DAVID:
Is the door open?

AVA:
We can't just go in. Right?

David shrugs.

DAVID:
I don't know, it's the South.
Aren't people friendly around here?

AVA:
Friendly, or they have guns.

David opens the door.

INT. NEWMAN HOUSE - DAY

The bed and breakfast is a traditional southern home, patches of mold on the ceiling, hard wood floors, floral wall paper, lace curtains. Family photos, clocks, and miscellaneous antiques everywhere.

The house once in good condition, now appears dated and decaying.

TODD is hunched over on his phone playing games. He looks like the kind of kid who would shoot up a high school and has a thick head of shaggy hair.

Todd looks up at Ava and David, and then goes back to playing games.

AVA:

Are we in the wrong house?

DAVID:

This has to be it.

MARTHA, a 60 years old traditional woman with gray hair and wrinkles, walks out into the entrance to greet Ava and David. She has a proper South Carolina accent and an apron on.

MARTHA:

Well hello there.

(Yelling.)

Dennis! Dennis! We've got guests.

She greets David first, shaking his hand, then Ava's.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Martha. You can call me Mrs. Newman. Welcome to my home. Y'all passing through? Need a place to stay?

DAVID:

Yes, I'm hoping you have a room open?

MARTHA:

(Yelling.)

Dennis get out here.

(Normal)

My husband is just upstairs, taking care of some things. We've got a perfect room for the two of you. You can leave your luggage here. I can give you a tour, and introduce you both to our other guests.

AVA:

We can just go straight to our rooms.

Martha's smile drops.

DAVID:

A tour would be lovely.

Ava shoots David a look. Martha claps her hands together in excitement.

Martha leads Ava and David around the house. They see weird knickknacks, dust, and peeling floral wall paper.

MARTHA:

How did you two hear about the bed and breakfast?

Ava scopes out the room.

DAVID:

We stopped in town to get gas and stretch our legs. We ran into Deputy Nelson, he recommended the place.

MARTHA:

Oh, I haven't seen that boy in quite some time. I need to call his mother and tell her to have him stop by. Nice boy. Not a lot of crime for our police department here. I'm proud to say.

AVA:

He was putting up flyers for some missing people.

Martha brings David and Ava to a formal dining room with very traditional place settings. The table is set with floral table cloth, and china.

On a cherry wood hutch are a bunch of family photos. Dennis and Martha's wedding in black and white.

MARTHA:

This is our dinning room, I'll have to set the table for you two. I'm so happy to have you here. I always make plenty of food just in case we sell out our rooms. Dennis always nags at me telling me I'm wasteful. But this just goes to show ya.

DAVID:

What we will be having for dinner?

Ava looks at color photos of a strapping young teenage handsome boy with a beaming smile and warm eyes.

Next to it is a photo of the local high school football team. In the team photo there's a younger Deputy Nelson huddled next to the same handsome boy.

MARTHA:

Oh, I have Martha's famous meatloaf, some corn casserole, and sweet potatoes, and I've got buttermilk biscuits from scratch. Everything is finishing up in the oven as we speak.

DAVID:

That sounds delicious. Doesn't it Ava?

Ava nods. She looks around curious and sees a door. There's pause as we zoom in on the door. Ava takes a step towards it.

AVA:

What's in there?

MARTHA:

Don't mind that dear. That's the basement. Off limits to guests. Mostly storage, old hunting trophies, furniture, things from another life.

She leads them to the formal living room. Displays of hummel figurines, Wyatt's football trophies, and lace doilies are on every dusty surface.

REGINA and RICHARD both in their late forties, huddled around the WIFI router that has been stuffed into the bottom of a hutch.

Regina looks unsatisfied and disapproving. Richard, loves angry white man conservative radio and television.

REGINA

Martha, we're trying to get the WIFI to work, Do you know how to fix it? We've tried everything.

MARTHA:

Oh Ava, David, these are our other guests. Regina, and Richard was it?

Richard looks up and nods. David and Ava shake hands with Regina.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

And of course you met their lovely son Todd as you were walking in. Such a fascinating boy. Do you two have any kids?

Ava's face drains of color.

DAVID:

No ma'am. We don't.

David takes Ava's hand.

MARTHA:

Oh such a shame. A lovely couple like you should have a bushel! I bet the two of you would have nice, strong babies. Oh, and Ava has such pretty eyes. I would hope that a little one would have her eyes. Although your eyes are quiet lovely too, David.

Ava shifts her weight as she gives David a pleading look.

DAVID:

Do you have any children?

MARTHA:

We have a son Dennis and I. Wonderful boy. He's not feeling well so he won't be joining us for supper. Nice strong lad. You'd like him David. If he was up to it, oh, he would take a football out back and-

REGINA

Martha, um, the WIFI? I was trying to get some e-mails sent out. And Richard, he has a deadline. We don't have any service on our phones.

MARTHA:

Well, that's the joy of being out in the country. You get to unplug, and unwind. Dennis and I have a land line.

Martha points to a small side table with an old fashioned land line phone.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

I'll have him call the folks that take care of all this. Dennis deals with all the yard work, and changing light bulbs.

(Yelling.)

Dennis!

(Normal.)

He can fix anything.

(Yelling.)

Our guests need you! Dennis!

DENNIS walks in with a small limp. He's a foot taller than Martha. A few years older than her. Once he was a strapping, but now he has a head full of gray hair. He walks with a small limp.

DENNIS:

I'm here, I'm here. Quit your yellin'.

MARTHA:

Oh, here he is! Dennis we have new guests. This is David, and Ava. Aren't they lovely? Especially Ava, lovely girl.

They shake hands.

DENNIS:

Nice to meet ya. Martha, where's supper? I was expecting it to be on the table by now.

MARTHA:

Oh, the meatloaf. Let me go check on that. Dennis can you show David, and Ava to their rooms? I'm sure they'll want to freshen up before supper. I've got to put the biscuits in.

REGINA

And the internet!

MARTHA:

Oh yes dear. That too. We'll take a look after supper.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - SUNSET

Dennis leads the way up the stairs. David looks at his limping leg.

DAVID:
You don't have to walk us all the way upstairs.

Dennis pauses, patting his knee.

DENNIS:
Oh this is nothing. Just a little accident doin' some yard work.

They get to the top of the stairs. Dennis fumbles with the keys opening the bedroom door for Ava and David. It's a long narrow hallway with several bedroom doors. Ava looks around the hallway soaking it in. She notices the one at the far end.

AVA:
Is that where the other guests are staying?

DENNIS:
No, that's Wyatt's room. Our son. He's not feeling well. Maybe you'll get to meet him later, if he's feeling better.

DAVID:
Is it contagious?

DENNIS:
Naw, nothin' like that. He's just restin' up. Had a bit of an accident. Nothin' to mind.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - SUNSET

Dennis opens the door. Ava and David walk in and looking around.

The bedroom is roomy and cozy, yet dusty. There's a traditional handmade quilt on the bed, knitted blanket, saggy pillows, and tacky decor.

DENNIS:
Alright, I'll see you down stairs for supper. I expect you both to be members of the clean plate club.

DAVID:
Yes, we sure will. Thank you.

Dennis leaves, shutting the door. David opens his suit case. Ava sinks onto the bed, and sighs.

AVA:
I didn't know what I was expecting,
but not this.

DAVID:
It's not exactly the Ritz.

AVA:
Please, you love it here. I'm half
expecting you to ask that old
couple to adopt you.

DAVID:
Nothing wrong with a little
southern hospitality.

Ava sits up. David goes to the bathroom. He comes back
holding towels covered in stains.

AVA:
Gross.

DAVID:
Yeah.

AVA:
Want to go?

DAVID:
Think we'll get bed bugs?

Ava climbs out of bed. David wraps her up in his arms.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
I'm just kidding. They probably
change the sheets.

AVA:
Probably!

He brushes hair out of her eyes.

DAVID:
Keep your voice down. What if they
can hear us?

AVA:
Sorry. Sorry. I'm just not in the
mood for small talk.

DAVID:

I'll handle the small talk. You work on smuggling some of those biscuits upstairs for a late night snack.

Ava chuckles and rolls her eyes.

AVA:

Do we really have to go to dinner? Can't we just, like bring the food up stairs?

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - SUNSET

The blood orange sun set illuminates the Newman house. Birds chirp in the trees surrounding the house.

INT. FORMAL DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Our dinner guests sit around the dinning room table. Dennis is at the head of the table. Food in the middle of the table. Everyone begins to join hands.

Dennis joins hands with Ava on one side. David reaches out to join hands with Todd. Todd folds his arms and David brings his hand back.

Dennis takes the lead bowing his head. Everyone follows except Ava and Todd.

DENNIS:

May this food so fresh and
fragrant, call forth reverence for
You in our souls. As you give this
strength to our perishable limbs,
So give us grace for our immortal
lives. Amen.

TABLE:

Amen.

AVA:

(A little late very quiet)
Amen.

Everyone opens their eyes and stops holding hands. They start serving food to each other.

REGINA:
Beautiful, Dennis. Really. We must
start saying grace more often.
Right honey?

Richard grunts, Regina reaches for the corn casserole. Regina
slops corn casserole onto Todd's plate.

Martha gets up and starts passing around the biscuits.

TODD:
Mom, is this vegan?

REGINA
Um, Martha? Is there any uh, butter
in your corn? Todd is vegan.

Martha is topping off David's sweet ice tea. Ava is serving
herself and David meatloaf.

MARTHA:
Veg-and? What's that?

Richard already has a mouth full of meatloaf. He talks with
his mouth open.

RICHARD:
Todd won't eat animal products,
He's done all kinds of research on
it.

Regina is putting salad on his plate.

REGINA:
Todd is Vegan for ethical reasons,
and he has a gluten sensitivity.
Isn't that right Todd?

TODD:
Yeah, whatever.

Martha walks to her seat, past Todd.

MARTHA:
Oh, how interesting. That must be
why he has such beautiful hair.
Such an um interestin' boy.

She almost touches his head. Dennis is pouring gravy on his
mashed potatoes.

DENNIS:
He play any sports?

Richard finishes chewing and swallows his meatloaf.

RICHARD:

I tried to get him signed up for soccer, but he wasn't interested.

David cuts into his meatloaf, taking a bite.

DAVID:

Mrs. Newman, the meatloaf is delicious. Is it um, pork, or chicken?

Ava pokes at her plate, trying to hide a look of disgust.

MARTHA:

Oh thank ya David. It's an old family recipe. Top secret.

Ava starts buttering a biscuit.

DENNIS:

Martha here is an excellent cook. That's why I married her.

Dennis takes another scoop of corn casserole. Ava's about to take a bite of food, and she pauses putting her fork down.

AVA:

You married Martha because of the way she cooks?

DENNIS:

Not just the way she cooks. She's also excellent at sewing, and laundry.

Dennis takes a bite of corn casserole. Ava glares for a second and continues eating.

RICHARD:

I like my women like I like my beer. Domestic.

Richard starts laughing. Ava slouches in her chair. Regina doesn't react.

MARTHA:

We share similar values, dear. Dennis and I are very traditional.

Martha takes a sip of tea.

DENNIS:

She knows her place and I know mine. I've always been out workin', and Martha knows when I come home, dinner must be on the table. It's the key to a successful marriage. Everyone knowing their place.

Dennis starts eating his mashed potatoes. Ava gives David a small look. David shifts in his chair and looks over at Dennis.

DAVID:

What do you do for a living?

DENNIS:

Oh, I'm retired now.

MARTHA:

He's a doctor.

DENNIS:

A surgeon.

MARTHA:

A surgeon. A top surgeon.

DENNIS:

Well, she's just exaggerating.

REGINA:

I'm also a doctor.

Regina takes a sip of her sweet tea. Martha claps her hands together.

MARTHA:

A doctor! Oh my. How fascinating two doctors at the table. What kind of medicine do you practice?

REGINA:

Well I'm not a medicine doctor. I have a PH.D in Computer Science.

Martha's face wrinkles in confusion.

MARTHA:

I'm not sure I've ever heard of such a thing. Dennis have you heard of a Computer doctor?

DENNIS:

Things ain't as simple as they used to be Martha.

(To Richard)

No sports for your boy? A little sun never hurt no body.

Dennis takes a big bite of food.

MARTHA:

My Daddy taught me that. Sun is good for a son. Never used sun screen a day in my life.

Martha takes a bite. Richard points at Todd with a wad of meatloaf on his fork.

RICHARD:

Don't let Todd fool you. He's very accomplished for such a young man.

Todd slouches down.

TODD:

Dad stop.

Todd pushes his food around on his plate.

RICHARD:

He is! You know he started a club in school. Regina and I, we prayed, and prayed for a boy. Happiest day of my life when Todd was born.

He cuts into his meatloaf. Ava can't take it anymore.

AVA:

Why did you want a boy?

RICHARD:

What do you mean?

AVA:

I mean instead of girl? Why did you want a boy?

Regina adjusts the napkin on Todd's lap as he takes a bite of corn casserole.

REGINA:

I would have been happy with either, as long as the baby was healthy. Richard was the one who wanted a boy.

Richard has a mouth full of meatloaf.

RICHARD:

I wanted to carry on the family name.

Todd glares up over his corn. He lets a chunk of it slop off the fork onto the plate.

TODD:

I think there's butter in the corn.

Ava tightens her grip around her fork.

AVA:

A girl can continue the family name.

Richard picks up his glass of tea.

RICHARD:

Such a smart kid this one. He won the science fair two years in a row.

Richard takes a sip.

MARTHA:

Why, how impressive.

TODD:

I was like six.

MARTHA:

Having a boy just brings you so much happiness. Doesn't it Dennis?

She puts a hand on her chest.

DENNIS:

Changed my life.

MARTHA:

Our boy Wyatt. He just means everything to us.

Martha starts to tear up.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

He's just such a special boy. In high school he was the tallest kid in class. Quarter back. Such a strapping young man. Such a bright future.

Dennis gets up and puts his hand on Martha's shoulder while she wipes away tears.

DENNIS:

Now Martha, he'll be all better
real soon.

(To the guests)

Wyatt is just a little sick. Martha
gets emotional sometimes. You know
how women can be.

RICHARD:

So emotional.

David and Ava exchange a look. Martha dabs a tear from the corner of her eye.

MARTHA:

I do hope y'all get to meet Wyatt.

DAVID:

Maybe in the morning. He can join
us for breakfast.

Ava gives David a quick dirty look.

AVA:

There's a chance we could miss
breakfast. We're behind on our road
trip.

DAVID:

We're not behind, we're actually
ahead.

Ava kicks him under the table.

DAVID: (CONT'D)

I mean, we're ahead by some. Well
yeah. We may need to leave before
breakfast tomorrow. We'll see how
we feel in the morning.

MARTHA:

It sure is a shame you don't have
any kids. Especially since Ava here
is so beautiful.

Ava looks down avoiding eye contact.

DAVID:

Yes, um, we've thought it. Of
course.

Richard points at David and Ava with another piece of meatloaf at the end of his fork.

RICHARD:
How long have you two been married?

Richard pops the meatloaf in his mouth. Ava and David look at each other.

DAVID:
Three years?

Martha pours more sweet tea in Dennis' glass.

MARTHA:
And you don't have any kids? What a shame.

Ava purses her lips.

RICHARD:
You guys better get on it. What are you two, thirty six?

David shifts uncomfortably in his chair. He puts a hand on Ava's shoulder protectively.

DAVID:
We're, a little younger than that.

Richard cuts into his meatloaf. Ava is staring at the table, lost, fighting back tears.

RICHARD:
They say, women shouldn't get pregnant after 35, but I think it's 30. Fertility starts to decline then. You're not a real woman, until you've had a child.

Ava's face turns red.

AVA:
I can't do this. I have to go.

Ava stands up. She puts her napkin down on the table and walks out of the room.

DAVID:
I'm sorry. Um. Mrs. Newman, the food is lovely. Please, excuse us.

David gets up and follows her out.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava is sitting on the bed her face away from David's.

DAVID:
What was that about?

He sits on the bed behind Ava. She's wiping tears from her eyes.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
They didn't know. Okay. They were just joking around.

AVA:
It wasn't funny.

David sees she's upset.

DAVID:
No it wasn't. I'm sorry.

David tries to put his arm around her shoulder and she shrugs him off.

AVA:
Don't.

David stands up.

DAVID:
I can't do anything right.

Ava sighs and wipes away her tears. She turns to David.

AVA:
I just wanted you to take my side.
You never stand up for me.

DAVID:
You never give me a chance. You're good at fighting your own battles. If there's ever a situation where the odds are against you, Ava. I bet on you every time.

Ava runs her hands through her hair.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Besides, do you really want to have a kid like Todd?

Ava lets out a chuckle and wipes a tear from her eye.

AVA:

What's wrong with people? I went on this stupid trip to get away from everything that's happened, not to get it all thrown in my face.

DAVID:

It's been a long day. Let's chill out, do some reading, and get some sleep. We'll get up really early and leave.

AVA:

I'm not doing breakfast with them.

DAVID:

I don't think we have anything in the car that's breakfasty.

AVA:

I mean it. I can't sit through another shit show.

DAVID:

Even if there's bacon?

AVA:

That meatloaf tasted weird. What kind of meat was that?

DAVID:

Pork?

AVA:

I don't know. I hope we don't get sick.

DAVID:

I feel fine.

AVA:

You're saying that now. I'm going to get ready for bed.

Ava grabs a toiletry bag out of her suit case and heads to the bathroom.

AVA: (CONT'D)

Can you ask for some clean towels, please?

DAVID:

Sure.

Ava goes into the bathroom and peeks her head out.

AVA:
No smoking.

DAVID:
I told you I quit.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

David is on the porch smoking a cigarette. Noises of crickets, owls, the trees rustling in the wind fill the air. The moon illuminates the driveway and house.

He looks up and sees lights on in Richard and Regina's room. The lights go out.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Richard and Regina are in bed trying to sleep.

Todd is on a cot. The light from his phone illuminating his face.

INT. BATHROOM SHOWER - NIGHT

Ava is in the shower. She's scrubbing herself with body wash. She looks down at the stretch marks on her stomach.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ava gets out of the shower and tries to dry herself with the gross towel. Someone loudly knocks at bedroom door. Water drips from Ava's head as she approaches the door slowly.

AVA:
Who is it?

MARTHA:
It's Mrs. Newman dear. I've got your towels.

AVA:
Don't come in.

Martha starts to open the door and Ava slams it shut. She locks it. The door rattles. Ava feels uncomfortable.

MARTHA:

Let me in. I've got towels.

The door keeps rattling.

AVA:

You can leave them outside. I'm not decent.

MARTHA:

It's just women here. You don't think I never seen a woman naked before.

Martha is still rattling the door. Ava furrows her brow. She opens the door, and peeks her head out. Water is still dripping from her hair.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

I just wanted to give you the towels.

AVA:

Yes thank you.

MARTHA:

You didn't finish your dinner.

AVA:

What?

MARTHA:

Did you like it? The meatloaf?

AVA:

Yes. Yes. Thank you so much for cooking.

(Pause.)

I'm sorry. I'm sorry I stormed off. I hope it didn't ruin dinner. You put a lot of work into it. I really did appreciate everything you did. I just. I just don't see things the way Richard does.

Martha passes her a towel through the door.

MARTHA:

Oregano.

AVA:

What?

MARTHA:

In the meatloaf. That's my secret ingredient.

(Whisper)

Don't tell anyone.

AVA:

I won't. Thank you.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Martha walks off down the hallway, humming. Ava, still in her room, pauses till the humming fades away. She then peeks her head out into the hallway and sees Wyatt's bedroom door slightly open. She can hear a lullaby being hummed from inside.

Martha suddenly appears in Wyatt's doorway. She gives Ava a glare and slams the bedroom door.

Startled, Ava goes back into her room and shuts the door.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Todd is laying on a cot on the other side of the bedroom. Richard is snoring. Regina is asleep.

TODD:

(Irritated.)

Dad you're snoring.

Richard doesn't move. Todd sits up.

TODD: (CONT'D)

Dad. Come on.

Richard doesn't stop snoring. Todd, annoyed, gets up.

TODD: (CONT'D)

(Under his breath)

Fuck this.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Todd uses the light from his phone to make his way down the hall.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Todd pokes at the WIFI router. It's still not working. His hand starts shaking.

Todd pulls out a small device from his pocket to check his glucose levels in his blood. He pricks his finger. He makes a sigh, annoyed and unhappy with the results.

Todd attempts to put the device back in his pocket, but it falls on the ground.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Todd opens the fridge looking for food. He sees lots of nasty meat wrapped up. He sighs, and shuts the door. Todd turns around quickly and knocks into the kitchen table causing an ornate dusty vase to fall over and break.

TODD:

Shit.

He starts kicking the shattered vase under the kitchen table. A weird noise comes from the basement door. The door is ajar.

Todd pauses to listen. He goes back to kicking the vase pieces, but hears another noise, and pauses. Todd abandons the vase. Large chunks of jagged glass still lay across the kitchen floor, shining in the light.

Todd opens the basement door and light illuminates his face. Slowly he walks downstairs.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Soft moans come from the basement.

Todd makes it to the bottom of the stairs and he looks around.

Storage boxes, old furniture, and stuffed animals preserved through taxidermy cast long shadows. Light emits from a room with a door slightly open.

Todd walks closer to the room as the light brightens his face. He opens the door and a bright white light washes over him.

TODD:

(In a hushed whisper)
Holy shit!

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

The room is set up like a surgical room. A white bed is in the middle of the room surrounded by lights, tools, and equipment.

Todd walks toward the tools. They appear pristine. He notices a scalpel, an antique surgical knife, and several other dated tools.

There are stalls with hospital beds each surrounded by curtains. Old blood stains the floor and the curtains.

Suddenly the door slams shut. Startled, Todd whips around, but no one is there. A moment passes and he breathes a sigh of relief.

Todd walks up to a metal door. He opens it. Inside is a walk-in freezer. Frozen air puffs onto his face. Todd's eyes are widened in shock.

A large man with latex gloves appears from behind Todd and throws a bag over his head. Todd struggles but he can't get free. With a syringe in one hand, the large man sticks it directly into Todd's neck and injects the morphine. Todd goes limp.

CUT TO:

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Regina sits up, startled awake. She looks over. Todd's cot is empty. She shakes Richard.

REGINA:

Richard, Richard. Wake up. Todd isn't here.

RICHARD:

Think we can squeeze one in?

He tries to pull her shirt off.

REGINA:

No, no, I mean I forgot to check his insulin levels.

RICHARD:

He's probably just peeing. Come here.

REGINA:

Can you go look for him?

Richard rolls over and begins to snore.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Regina walks down the hallway. She gropes her way down the walls in the dark. The light peers under the door from Wyatt's room.

REGINA:
(Whispering.)
Todd? Todd?

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Regina walks into the kitchen. The jagged pieces of the vase glitter in the moon light. Regina walks closer with her bare feet.

REGINA:
(Loud whisper)
Todd? Todd? Are you down here?

Martha stands in the corner staring at Regina with beady eyes. Regina walks right past Martha. Martha's head turn, but she does not move.

Regina's bare feet walk closer to the sharp glass.

EXT. PORCH - NIGHT

David drops the cigarette bud onto the ground and stomps it out with his foot.

A scream pierces from the house. David dashes inside.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

David rushes in. He turns on the kitchen light. Regina is pale. There is blood mixed with the shards of the vase across the dingy laminate floor.

Martha is standing there, awkwardly.

DAVID:
Is everything okay?

REGINA:
She startled me.

MARTHA:

Well, what kinda person is just creeping around in the dark, late at night? Didn't ya get enough to eat? Oh, Aunt Helen's vase!

Martha kneels down picking up the big pieces in her hands.

REGINA:

It was already broken. I swear.

Martha looks up.

MARTHA:

Helen got this vase at an estate sale in 1962.

DAVID:

Your foot.

Blood seeps from Regina's foot onto the ground.

MARTHA:

Or was it 63.

DAVID:

We need to get you a bandage or something.

MARTHA:

Sit down, I'll patch you up. You learn a thing, or two when you're the wife of a doctor. Sit sit.

Regina grabs a seat at the table.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Don't cut yourself again.

Martha grabs a broom, and starts cleaning up the vase.

REGINA:

Have you seen Todd? He wasn't in the room. I need to check his insulin levels.

DAVID:

I haven't seen him.

REGINA:

He gets really embarrassed about being diabetic.

MARTHA:

He couldn't have gone far. Probably
just in the bathroom.

Richard stumbles downstairs in his matching striped pajamas.

RICHARD:

What is all the commotion down
here?

REGINA:

I was startled.

Richard rolls his eyes.

RICHARD:

I got out of bed for this? What
happened to your foot?

REGINA:

I cut it on a stupid vase. Did Todd
go back to the room? We can't find
him?

RICHARD:

That little shit. Better not be
outside smoking the mary-joe-wanna.

Martha goes to a junk drawer, and pulls out a flashlight.

MARTHA:

Ya gonna need this out there. It's
dark out in the country.

Richard turns to Regina.

RICHARD:

Can't you go look for him? I'll
stay here in case he comes back.

REGINA:

I can't my foot. I'm bleeding like
crazy.

RICHARD:

Oh Jesus do you need stitches?

MARTHA:

Oh she's just fine.

Martha rushes Richard out the door.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

I'll bandage her up lick-ity-split.
Good as new.

(To Regina)

Would you like a tea? It will calm
your nerves. I'll make some tea.
I'll have a cup too. Maybe a
cookie.

(To Richard)

I'm sure he hasn't gone far. He's
probably just getting some fresh
air. Boys love fresh air.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava is now in her bathrobe reading a book. David walks in,
shuts the door, and starts unbuttoning his pants.

DAVID:

That kid Todd is missing.

David goes into the bathroom. He comes out brushing his
teeth.

AVA:

Wait really?

DAVID:

(Mouth full of foaming
tooth paste.)

Yeah, Richard just went out looking
for him.

David heads back into the bathroom.

AVA:

If those were my parents I'd run
away too.

David spits in the sink. He comes out and takes off his
clothes.

AVA: (CONT'D)

No kidding. Martha and I had the
weirdest conversation when she
brought me towels. Oh, thank you by
the way.

DAVID:

Huh?

David is taking off his socks.

AVA:
Thank you for asking.

David takes his shirt off.

DAVID:
Wait she brought you towels?

AVA:
Yeah.

David climbs in bed next to Ava.

DAVID:
That's weird. I forgot to ask her.

David puts his hands on her waist.

AVA:
Stop messing with me.

Ava smiles but David remains serious as he scoots in closer to her.

AVA: (CONT'D)
It's not funny.

DAVID:
I'm serious I forgot.

AVA:
Do you think they can hear us?

David leans in and wraps Ava up in his arms.

DAVID:
I hope not.

AVA:
Aren't you going to go shower?

DAVID:
Not if I'm just going to get dirty again.

He leans in and brushes her hair from her face. He kisses her.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Do you think you're ready? It's been a while. I don't want to rush you.

He starts kissing her neck.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Richard is walking, using the flash light to light his way. The porch light from the house is behind him. The stars and the moon shine brightly out in the country side.

RICHARD:
TODD? TOOOOODDDD? TODD?
(Under his breath.)
Little shit.

Richard sees a run down shed and he walks towards it.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

David is taking Ava's bathrobe off as he kisses her neck.

AVA:
I'm ready.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Blood drips onto the floor from Regina's foot.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Richard opens the door to the shed and steps in. There are sharp gardening tools on the wall that glitter from the moon light, streaming in through the slats in the wood.

Boxes of personal items, clothing, and cell phones are stacked on top of each other, half open.

RICHARD:
Todd? Todd? Son, come out. You in
here?

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

 DAVID:
 Are you sure?

Ava nods. They start furiously making out.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Martha's aged hands pull a rusty pair of scissors from her apron pocket.

She cuts a long strip of gauze. The scissors are still razor sharp.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Richard shines his light around the shed. Something inside a cardboard box catches the light.

Richard steps closer to the box. He opens it up and inside are tons of cell phones and wallets. He leans in confused at what he's seeing.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

David climbs on top of Ava.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Martha is wrapping Regina's foot.

Regina flinches, and bites her lip holding back pain.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Richard digs around in the box.

A large, meaty hand grabs Richard's shoulder.

Richard jumps and spins around, startled.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

David and Ava are going at it. Ava opens her mouth to let out a moan.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Regina yelps as Martha tightens the bandage.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Dennis stands behind Richard in the moonlight holding an ax. His stature is intimidating in comparison to Richard's smaller frame.

DENNIS:

What are you doing here?

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava lets out a moan and David tries to get her to be quiet. She bites her lip.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

DENNIS:

You're not supposed to be here.

RICHARD:

I'm sorry. I'm looking for my son.

Dennis takes a step closer. The moonlight illuminates his face through the slats in the shed and the sharp blade of the axe in his hand.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S - ROOM

Ava is biting her lip, trying to hold back. She muffles a moan.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Regina squints her eyes. Something shines in the living room. Regina leans forward in her chair.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

DENNIS:

Guests leave a lot of stuff behind.
I keep it in the shed.

Dennis gestures towards the box with the axe.

RICHARD:

What are you doing with that?

Richard points, his hands shaking.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Regina pushes Martha aside getting up to see something urgent.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

DENNIS:

Doin' some choppin'.

RICHARD:

Okay, I'm just going to go inside.

Richard takes a step forward. Dennis is blocking his path.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava balls up the sheets in her hand.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Dennis stares Richard down. He takes a step forward.

REGINA:
(From the distance)
RICHARD:!

The tension is broken.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava and David both climax at the same time. They're panting.

CUT TO:

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Regina is yelling in the distance.

REGINA:
Richard! Where are you?

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

David climbs off of Ava out of breath.

AVA:
Have you been smoking?

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Regina's foot is wrapped up. Richard bursts in.

RICHARD:
What's going on?

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

DAVID:

No why?

Ava rolls her eyes and smiles. David leans forward and kisses her. He turns off the lamp next to the bed. Ava nestles into the covers to sleep.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

REGINA:

I found Todd's glucose meter.

RICHARD:

Oh god.

MARTHA:

I told Regina not to get all excitable over some nonsense.

Martha goes to the kitchen sink and puts on rubber gloves.

RICHARD:

You don't understand. Todd could be in trouble.

REGINA:

Did you find anything outside?

RICHARD:

No sign of him. I don't think he's outside.

Dennis enters the kitchen with no axe in hand.

REGINA:

Do you think he's in the house somewhere?

RICHARD:

He could be. He probably is. His blood sugar could be off the charts. He didn't eat much at dinner. I knew we should have brought more of those protein bars.

Martha is furiously washing tea cups with an old dirty rag.

MARTHA:

(Tense.)

I'm sure the poor boy just wanted some privacy.

(MORE)

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
He'll turn up by morning. I think
it's time for you to go to bed.

Regina steps towards Martha.

REGINA:
Martha, please you have to let us
look this house up and down.

Martha won't turn around to look at her.

MARTHA:
(Agitated.)
I'm sure he'll turn up.

Regina walks up behind her.

REGINA:
(Pleading.)
Maybe he has low blood sugar and
passed out... We have to find him!

Martha slams down a tea cup shattering it. She turns around.

MARTHA:
(In anger)
I won't have you messin' up my
house looking for a brat.

Awkward silence. Regina and Richard are stunned by the
outburst. Regina steps back.

DENNIS:
I think it's best you head to bed.
It's gettin' late.

Regina nods scared. Richard walks up and puts his arm around
her.

RICHARD:
Let's see if he's back in our room.
He's probably asleep in bed.

Regina is dumbfounded staring at Martha.

RICHARD: (CONT'D)
Come on. Let's go. He's going to be
fine.

They cautiously walk upstairs. Dennis glares at them.

Dennis and Martha exchange a look.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Regina and Richard are headed to their room. Regina pauses Richard and takes a step ahead, and then turns back.

REGINA:
Go to bed. I'm going to look around
a little bit.

RICHARD:
But you heard them.

REGINA:
I'll be quiet. Just go.

Richard hesitates for a moment, then turns and heads back to their room.

Regina opens a door, it's a linen closet. She tries Ava and David's door. Locked.

Her foot steps creak along the floor boards.

She opens another door - it's Martha and Dennis's bedroom. The bed is made, and pictures of Wyatt is all over the walls. She gently closes the door and continues on down the hall.

Regina notices the dim light coming out from under Wyatt's bedroom door. She pauses entranced. She slowly walks her way down the hall towards the room. Regina wraps her fingers around the knob and opens the door slowly.

INT. WYATT'S ROOM - NIGHT

The light glows over her astonished face. She puts her hand over her mouth. She sees a hospital bed with wires and machines connected to it and a curtain covering the occupant.

There are dozens of prescription pill bottles next to his bed, hospital scrubs hanging on the wall and a box full of latex gloves.

REGINA:
Todd?

She takes a step forward lowering her trembling hand. Regina approaches the curtain covering the patient and slowly reaches her hand forward to pull back the curtain.

Regina pulls back the curtain and her jaw drops in shock. Blinking lights reflect on her face.

A masked Surgeon emerges from the darkness behind her holding a scalpel.

Regina slowly turns around in shock. The Surgeon steps forward. Regina pulls off his surgical mask revealing Dennis' face.

REGINA: (CONT'D)
I-I-I'm sorry. I didn't mean to
come in here-

Dennis slices across her neck with a scalpel, deep into her throat. Fresh blood spews from Regina's neck. The blood splatters across Dennis.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Regina's body falls to the floor. Ava and David are fast asleep.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Richard is startled. He sits up in bed. Moonlight from the window shines on his face and he pulls the covers up to his chin.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava and David are sound asleep.

MARTHA:
(From outside down the
hall.)
God damn it Dennis. Go on, get
Richard. Don't make a mess this
time.

Ava rolls over still asleep. David doesn't stir.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Richard is in bed. The door slowly swings open with a creak. Dennis walks in carrying the axe. The outline of his body is illuminated by the hallway light.

Dennis takes a step forward. He's wearing the surgical outfit, splattered in Regina's blood.

DENNIS:
Let's go.

Richard hesitates.

DENNIS: (CONT'D)
I said let's go! Now!

Dennis holds up the axe. Richard gets out of bed slowly.

RICHARD:
Where's my wife?

DENNIS:
Don't be worryin' about that now.
We're takin' good care of her.

Richard pauses for a moment with his back turned to Dennis. Suddenly, he turns and lunges at Dennis trying to knock the axe out of his hand.

The axe goes flying to the ground. Richard wrestles him to the ground. Richard starts to choke Dennis.

RICHARD:
What did you do with my wife?!
Where's my son?!

Dennis' eyes start to roll in the back of his head. Richard's face turns red as he chokes Dennis.

RICHARD: (CONT'D)
Where is my family?!

Dennis is losing consciousness.

From the dark, Martha approaches silently and smacks Richard over the head with a candle stick. Richard flops to the ground. Martha looks down at them.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava and David are startled awake by the sound of Richard's body falling to the ground.

INT. RICHARD/REGINA/TODD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

MARTHA:
Pick him up.

Dennis stares back up at her. She walks down the hall with the candle stick.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
Fuckin' useless.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

AVA:
(Whispering.)
Did you hear that?

DAVID:
Yeah sounds like someone fell?

Blood leaks into their room from under the door.

AVA:
(Whispering.)
Oh my god... David, look!

Ava points.

DAVID:
What is that?

David gets out of bed. He walks over to the pool and puts two fingers in it. He brings his hand up to examine. David looks back at Ava.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Get dressed. We're getting out of here. Now!

Ava gets out of bed and starts getting dressed. She puts on jeans and a long sleeve shirt. David puts on pants and a white t-shirt.

AVA:
Someone is hurt. They need help.

DAVID:
We'll call the cops as soon as we get away.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ava and David peek out of their room holding on to their suit cases. Blood is smeared down the hallway in two patters:

One of a body being dragged, and one of two sets of foot steps.

Martha and Dennis are at the bottom of the stairs.

MARTHA:

You've gone and made another God damn mess. Might as well get Ava and David while the whole place is torn up.

DENNIS:

But Martha, I'm tired. We were savin' them for the mornin'.

MARTHA:

I'm not cleanin' the house twice. Go get them now.

They look up and see David and Ava peeking out of their door. Dennis with a determined look starts climbing the stairs.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ava and David retreat back to the room, slam the door, and lock it. The door knob starts rattling as Dennis tries to get in. He starts banging on the door.

DENNIS:

OPEN UP!

AVA:

Shit shit shit!

DAVID:

Get the dresser!

DENNIS:

We ain't trying to hurt you. We just gotta do some talkin'. Open up the door.

David and Ava grab the dresser and put it in front of the door. They start barricading the door every way they can.

AVA:

How are we going to get out of here?

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

David and Ava look out the window and gauge the distance to the ground.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

AVA:
This is crazy.

They look back. Dennis has broken the lock of the door. The door is open a sliver, and he's shaking the dresser forward.

Ava and David slam the door shut, pushing the dresser back.

AVA: (CONT'D)
We can't do this all night.

David peeks his head out the window.

DAVID:
I think we can get down on the drain pipe.

AVA:
I don't think I can do this.

DENNIS:
Open the DOOR NOW!

The door rattles as he pushes forward. The frame splinters from the broken lock. Ava and David rush to the door pushing the dresser against it back.

DAVID:
I don't think we have a choice.

AVA:
Shit shit.

DAVID:
Do you want to go first or last?

Ava panics.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Ava. Decide now.

AVA:
You first.

David throws one foot out the window. He reaches an arm over, and grabs the drain pipe. He shakes it to make sure it's secure.

DAVID:
I love you. We'll get out of here.

David brings his other leg out the window. Ava watches terrified. Her back to the dresser.

Ava rushes to the window.

David climbs down the house using the drain pipe.

David pauses climbing down and looks up.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Come on.

Ava just stares at him.

He gets close to the ground and jumps the rest of the way making it look easy.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

David is standing there watching Ava from the window.

DAVID:
Come on, you can do it.

Ava stands in the window paralyzed. She looks down at David.

Ava looks back. Dennis is smashing down the door with the ax. The door splinters, and the barricade is inching forward.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

David is looking up at Ava.

DAVID:
Ava!

David stands there anxiously.

INT. AVA AND DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dennis is seconds from entering the room. He's gotten his arm through the door. He's thrashing around, trying to get it open.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

David sees Ava appear from the window sticking one leg out. She reaches for the drain pipe.

Ava is extending her whole body towards the drain pipe, but her limbs are just too short.

AVA:
I'm going to fall.

DAVID:
You're so close.

Ava finally grabs the drain pipe and awkwardly climbs down.

Dennis appears in the window. He's reaching forward and grabs her arm. She jerks her arm away tearing a chunk of the sleeve off.

DENNIS:
Get back here!

Ava keeps climbing down. Dennis disappears from the window. She picks up the speed.

DAVID:
We're running out of time. He's
coming down!

Ava's foot slips and she clings to the pipe. David runs up below her.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Keep going.

AVA:
I'm going to fall.

DAVID:
No you won't. You can do it.

Ava takes a deep breath. She keeps going. She gets closer to the bottom and her hands slip. Ava falls.

She lands on David and they fall to the ground.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
I knew you could do it.

AVA:
Let's get out of here.

David gets to his feet helps Ava as she stumbles, shaking in terror. They sprint to their car. David has his keys ready in his hand.

Ava trips on the ground. David comes back and helps her up and they continue.

Ava tries to open the door before it's unlocked. David unlocks the car and they slide inside.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

David's hands are shaking, but he's in control. He locks the doors. Ava is watching out for danger. David sticks the key in the ignition, but the engine stalls.

David turns the key again and the engine start.

AVA:

Shit.

He keeps turning the key. No results.

AVA: (CONT'D)

Fuck fuck.

DAVID:

I don't know what's going on. It should work fine.

AVA:

They did something to the car. Shit. We have to run.

DAVID:

I can make it work.

The engine stalls as David twists the key once more.

AVA:

David, we have to run!

The front door of the house bursts open. Dennis red faced holding the axe.

DAVID:

Head for the woods.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Ava and David sprint from the car towards the woods.

Martha, in an old Chevy pickup truck, drives from around the house with high beams on and a revolver in hand, pointing it out the window.

They run fast, but Martha is gaining on them. She fires the revolver in their direction. Dennis hobbles behind.

Ava and David run faster. Martha catches up to them. Her aim is all over the place because she's driving.

Martha cackles as she shoots.

EXT: WOODS - NIGHT

David and Ava enter the woods. Martha stops the truck short, and shoots the rest of her bullets. She gets out of the truck and enters the woods. Dennis is catching up, limping behind.

Martha is not moving fast.

David runs faster ahead of Ava. The gap between them widens. All of a sudden, David falls down.

CRUNCH as David's bones snap, as the metal of a bear trap close around his ankle. He screams out.

AVA:

David!

Ava sprints towards him as she gasps for air.

David is on the ground moaning in pain. Tears stream down his face. Ava looks down. His ankle is caught in a bear trap.

Blood covers his leg and the bear trap.

AVA: (CONT'D)

Oh no!

She squats down and tries to open the trap, but it's clamped shut. David is crying in pain. Ava's hands get covered in blood as she tries to pry open the trap.

DAVID:

You have to run. He's catching up.

AVA:

I won't leave you.

DAVID:

Look at me. Look at me.

Ava pauses.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
The only way, we're going to make
it out of here, is if you go get
help.

Tears form in Ava's eyes. She grabs his hand.

AVA:
I can't leave you!

DAVID:
You aren't leaving me, you're going
for help.

Ava nods. They kiss. Ava stands up and takes a couple steps
back.

DAVID: (CONT'D)
Go.

She turns and sprints into the woods. Dennis' shadow towers
over David. He looks up with fear and anger in his eyes.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Ava sprints through the woods, gasping for air. She glances
behind her, paranoid that she's being followed.

Dry fall leaves crunch under her feet as she darts between
trees and swipes away branches. Ava is disoriented in which
direction to go, but she keeps running.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Ava bursts from the woods with dirt stains and minor cuts on
her shirt from the trees. She is still covered in David's
blood and sweat. Ava bends over trying to catch her breath.

The headlights of a sedan driving by roll across Ava. She
waves her arms trying to flag down the stranger. The driver
ignores her and speeds away.

There are more headlights as another car turns the corner.
Ava runs into the middle of the street to get the driver's
attention.

The light blinds Ava as the car approaches. It's a police car. The vehicle comes to a stop and lights up it's blue and red LED. The police strobe lighting flickers on Ava's face.

Deputy Nelson peers over the windshield, squinting back at her and exits his car. He rushes over to her.

NELSON:

What in Sam Hill - You're the lady from this morning? Christ, I could've hit you!

He comes in closer and Ava grabs his forearms. She's shaking and her hands is covered in David's blood.

AVA:

Thank God, it's you. My-my-my husband! We have to go back he's hurt! There was blood...Blood in the Newman's house.

NELSON:

Slow down. Blood? Mr. Newman is a surgeon.

AVA:

No, no there were pools of it...On the floor. And this boy, this boy went missing. David and I tried to escape, but he got stuck in a bear trap. His leg, oh god it's horrible. And Martha was shooting at us!

NELSON:

Shooting? Maybe she was mistaken.

AVA:

You're not understanding me. David is hurt we have to go help him.

Deputy Nelson pauses. He takes a deep breath.

NELSON:

Let's go.

The tires on the police car burn rubber as they speed back to the Newman's house.

INT. COP CAR - NIGHT

Nelson and Ava turn into the bed and breakfast down the long gravel road. Nelson cuts the head lights.

NELSON:
I don't want them to know we're
coming.

Ava nods.

AVA:
Are you going to call for back up?

NELSON:
Not yet.

Nelson pulls up to the Newman's house. A trail of fresh red blood is smeared up through the gravel and the front porch. Ava gasps in horror.

AVA:
Look.

Nelson steps out of the car to examine the blood.

NELSON:
Jesus.

AVA:
Please you have to go in and get
him.

NELSON:
I don't expect you to understand
this.

Ava turns back confused.

NELSON: (CONT'D)
They ain't gonna hurt him.

AVA:
They already have. The bear trap,
the blood.

NELSON:
Well, I get that I do, but he
shouldn't have tried to run.

AVA:
Martha shot a gun at us. Dennis had
an ax.

NELSON:
I've known the Newman's my whole
life. They're good people.
(MORE)

NELSON: (CONT'D)

They just, they just need a little
blood from some of their guests
that's all.

AVA:

Why, why would they need blood. Why
are you telling me this?

NELSON:

I'm sorry, I can't let you go. It
won't hurt. I promise.

Nelson grabs Ava and she starts kicking and fighting back.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Nelson drags Ava out of the car through the driver's side.

AVA:

Let me go!

NELSON:

I'm sorry, I can't let you get
away.

Ava elbows Nelson in the nose. Blood drips down his face. Ava
escapes his hold and runs, but Nelson tackles her to the
ground.

He's on top of her. He pins down one of her wrists. She
reaches down and grabs his taser. Ava points it at him.

AVA:

Get off of me.

Nelson gets up. He backs off a bit.

NELSON:

You don't know what you're doing.

AVA:

Yes I do.

Ava pushes the button and tases him. Nelson collapses.

Ava runs along the back of the house. She sees a back door.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ava enters from the back door. The room is dimly lit by the
kitchen sink light. The house is quiet, too quiet. She
carefully moves through kitchen.

A clock bell goes off, startling her. Ava then hears a moan come from the basement. The door is ajar.

The moan rings out again. There's blood on the kitchen floor leading down to the basement.

AVA:
(Under her breath)
David.

She descends the stairs slowly, trying to avoid creaks. Trails of fresh blood lead the way. The sounds of a man sobbing dreadfully pierce the silence. Ava is shaking.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Ava reaches the basement. She sees stuffed animals from taxidermy and storage items. The eyes of a mounted deer head trophy stare back at her under the dim basement light.

She walks deeper in and sees a door with a bright white light coming out of a room. The sobs are growing louder.

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Ava enters. Her jaw drops. A surgical room is before her. Curtains are covering makeshift patient rooms, and a large walk in freezer is in the corner.

TODD:
(Gargled)
Help.

The pitiful anguished sobs of a man with a deep voice grow louder, and more desperate.

Ava swallows hard. She opens the curtain back to reveal Todd strapped to a gurney, drooling. His scalp has been cut off and he's covered in blood. Ava gasps.

AVA:
Todd?

Their eyes lock and Todd passes out. Ava shuts the curtain breathing hard. The sobs are coming from the next curtain over.

She walks to the left. Ava wraps her fingers around the curtain and braces herself. The sobbing echoing.

Ava moves the curtain back. Richard is chained to a bed shirtless, his arms and eyes missing.

Dried blood stains the sides of his chest. His stumps is covered with loose bandages.

Drool and blood mix on his face as he sobs.

AVA: (CONT'D)

(Whispering)

Richard, Richard. It's me, Ava. You have to be quiet. I'm going to get you out here.

RICHARD:

(Sobbing)

My eyeeeeees.

She tries to remove the chains.

AVA:

Shhhhhhh.

The sound of footsteps coming down the basement stairs gets Ava's attention. She looks around for a place to hide. Ava spots the freezer.

She closes the curtain on Richard and runs over to the freezer. The foot steps grow louder. She opens the door.

INT. WALK-IN FREEZER - NIGHT

Inside are piles of blue, rigor mortis bodies, and body parts. Regina and Rachel's bodies are among the pile staring back at Ava from the ground. A small fluorescent light illuminates inside the compact room.

Ava's eyes bulge in horror. She puts her hand over her mouth and nose from the stench. Richard sobs still echo.

The footsteps are getting closer. Ava looks out and then back in the freezer terrified, deciding what to do.

Ava enters the freezer and shuts the door behind her. She peeks through a small circular window from the door.

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Clack, clack clack, of Martha's slippers entering the surgical room. The metal sliding against metal as Martha pulls back Richard's curtain.

MARTHA:

Oh calm, calm. No crying. It'll all be over soon.

A loud yelp rings out from Richard as Martha stabs him with one of the surgical knives. Richard's body slowly goes limp.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

That's it. That's it. Ya gonna bleed like a good boy ain't ya. Thank you for the eyes Richard. Ya sure do got pretty ones. Ya arms ain't goin' to waste either. Ya did a real good thing ya did. Shhh, ya gotta die now. Go see ya wife. She's probably missin' ya. Your son he'll be there real soon. Shhhh. Time to go boy. Ya did real good Richard. Real good.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. FREEZER - NIGHT

Ava faintly hears squeaky wheel noises, a large thud, and Martha grunting as she dumps Richard's corpse into a wheel barrel. Martha wheels Richard's body towards the freezer.

Ava quickly shuffles to the back of the freezer. Her shoe's walking through puddles of blood and bodily fluids.

She takes a deep breath and wraps her shaking pink hands around the decaying flesh of Rachel's body and buries herself underneath.

She is breathing puffs of frost. Her eyes light up as the freezer door opens.

Martha dumps Richard's body into the freezer from the wheel barrel. She kicks the body deeper into the freezer.

Ava shuts her eyes, trying not to cry.

MARTHA:

(Yelling)

Dennis! Dennis! Ya gotta organize the dang bodies. Where the hell is he?

Martha shuts the door. Her foot steps echo as she heads out of the basement.

Disgusted, Ava climbs out from under the bodies. They squish as she climbs out.

Ava peeks out from the freezer. She's streaked with random patches of blood and bodily fluids.

She exits the freezer trying to warm her arms up.

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

An argument can be heard coming from outside. Looking from the window at the top of the basement wall, Ava sees Dennis' and Deputy Nelson's feet facing each other.

NELSON:

There was blood everywhere. What are you doing down here? The poor woman was terrified.

DENNIS:

I told you. It's just a couple blood of transfusions. Maybe a little patch of skin. Nothin' extreme.

NELSON:

Those missing people came from here I know it.

DENNIS:

That was a coincidence.

Ava bites her lip listening to them speak.

NELSON:

I agreed to help you guys because I feel responsible for what happened, but you said no one would get hurt.

DENNIS:

No one is getting hurt. Don't let some dumb woman spook ya.

NELSON:

I can't turn a blind eye anymore. I'm finding Ava, and we're getting out of here.

DENNIS:

You won't be doing shit.

Ava jumps as a loud crunch of the axe hits Nelson's skull. She watches Deputy Nelson's body fall to the ground. His dead eyes stare into the window with an axe wedged in his head.

Dennis steps on Nelson's head with his large boot as he pulls the axe from Nelson's skull. Blood mixed with brains coat the axe.

Ava pulls her self away from the window view in a panic.

AVA:
No. No. No.

She runs her hands through her hair looking around the room.

DAVID:
(Weak.)
Ava?

Ava turns, she runs to the last patient room. She pushes back the curtain. David is tied to the bed.

His foot is injured from the bear trap but he is okay. His face is red and puffy from crying. He looks hazy and drugged. Thick metal chains restrain him to the gurney.

AVA:
David, are you okay?

She's trying get the chains off of him.

DAVID:
(Waking up.)
I'm okay. You have blood on you.

AVA:
It's not mine.

DAVID:
Jesus.

David tries to get free, but he is weak.

AVA:
I'm going to get you out of here.
You're going to be okay. I just
need you to hold on.

DAVID:
The car doesn't work.

AVA:
I know. I know.

DAVID:
I can't make it on foot.

AVA:
I will carry you.

Ava is pulling at the straps on his wrists.

DAVID:
You can't carry me. We won't make
it far. Hell we didn't make it far
when I had two good feet.

AVA:
Look at me.

David stops and looks at her.

AVA: (CONT'D)
I'm not leaving you.

DAVID:
The phone.

AVA:
It's not working.

DAVID:
The land line. Upstairs. It's in
the living room. I can create a
distraction so you can get to the
phone.

AVA:
Don't draw attention to yourself.
We may have the distraction we
need. Just sit tight.

She looks over to the window and sees Deputy Nelson's body
being dragged away.

AVA: (CONT'D)
I will be right back. I love you.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ava peeks her head from the basement door. Martha and Dennis
are arguing in the kitchen. Dennis' flannel is splattered
with blood and brains.

MARTHA:
God damn it Dennis. A cop. You
killed a cop? No one noticed when
all these travelers were going
missing. But now. Everyone is going
to notice. How are we going to
cover this up? Huh? You ever think
of that with your pea brain? Huh?

DENNIS:

What was I supposed to do? Let him run off with Ava? After everything we've done? We'll make it look like an accident.

MARTHA:

Ain't no one goin' believe that. Maybe a suicide. God damn it. There's blood all over my best slippers.

Martha and Dennis head upstairs arguing.

Ava sneaks through the kitchen into the living room. She see's the land line.

Quickly Ava snags the phone and dials 9-1-1.

She crouches at the side of the couch and curls up with the phone to her ear. It rings for a long time.

AVA:

Come on. Come on.

The operator picks up. There's static on the phone, but the operator comes through.

OPERATOR

911. What's your emergency.

AVA:

I'm at the big house off of maple road. The bed and breakfast. People. People are being murdered. My husband is here. They have him. You have to come quickly. There's still time.

OPERATOR

There is no time. We know where you are.

Martha cackles into the phone. She is the operator. Ava looks up and Dennis is looking down at her. He reaches down to grab her.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

The house glows under the moon light. A gust of wind picks up a few leaves. The porch swing gently rocks back and forth with a slight creak.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Martha chains Ava's ankles to the bed.

AVA:
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

DAVID:
It's not your fault.

Dennis stands at the end of the gurney, glasses on, dressed in his surgical outfit with latex gloves, and a face mask hanging around his neck.

MARTHA:
Will you two shut up? Jesus Christ almighty.

DAVID:
What do you want? Money? We can get you money.

David is trying to sit up, more awake.

MARTHA:
This ain't about money. This is about something much bigger.

DENNIS:
It's about family.

He pulls the surgical mask onto his face. Ava and David exchange a look.

DAVID:
Family?

MARTHA:
(To Dennis)
It's time.

Dennis walks up to David. He starts swabbing his face with a solution.

DAVID:
What are you doing? Jesus stop it.

MARTHA:
Now's the time to say goodbye.

DAVID:
No. No. Ava.

AVA:
David! David!

Martha rolls the surgical cart over to Dennis. His fingers dance as he chooses the correct scalpel. Dennis selects a sharp tool. He holds it up to the light.

Dennis' cold eyes reflect in the sharp razor edge of the scalpel.

Dennis takes a scalpel and starts an incision into David's face. He cuts along the edge of his face. Blood seeps down David's neck as he wiggles and screams in pain.

Martha watches with a twisted smile.

DENNIS:
Quit yer movin'.

AVA:
Stop! Please. Don't do this!

Dennis peels off his face as blood spills down his neck, ears and torso.

AVA: (CONT'D)
No. DAVID!

Ava is sobbing.

David goes limp. Dennis takes his skin to a makeshift room facing Ava. She can see the shadow of him and a patient laying on a table.

AVA: (CONT'D)
No. NO!

Martha closes a curtain between the two.

MARTHA:
Shhhh. Shhh it's alright. I know I know it's hard.

AVA:
 What do you want with us? Why are
 you doing this?

Martha sits down on the gurney next to her.

MARTHA:
 You're not the only one to lose
 someone sweetie.

AVA:
 Please, Martha. Please.

MARTHA:
 Quiet down. We don't want to
 disturb Dennis while he's working.

Fluid from an I.V. Pouch drips down a long tube connected to
 a patient behind the curtain.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
 I know we got a lot goin' on, but
 don't you worry sweetie. We got big
 plans for you.

Martha grabs Ava's hand and pulls off her wedding ring.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
 I can hold on to those for ya.
 Won't be needin' them soon.

AVA:
 Please no. Martha. You have to help
 me.

DENNIS:
 Ya'll, shut up. I'm trying to work.

Martha flustered gets up. She grabs her revolver and keys.
 Martha starts unlocking the chains from around Ava.

MARTHA:
 Come on, let's go. Don't want to be
 disturbing the doctor with our girl
 talk.

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

The bathroom has a chipped and grungy white tiled floor, a
 pedestal sink, and a porcelain claw foot bathtub.

Martha points the revolver to Ava.

MARTHA:
Take off your clothes.

AVA:
What?

MARTHA:
We're gonna get you cleaned up.
Turn on the water.

Ava looks back at the bathtub. She slowly bends down and turns on the water.

Ava stands up and starts taking off her clothes.

Ava gets into the tub. Martha hands her a bar of soap.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
Start scrubbing.

Slowly Ava starts washing the blood and dirt from her body. Martha sits down on the toilet to watch.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
You ever hear that phrase? Keeping up with the Joneses. Well, Dennis and I never had to do that. We were the Joneses. Everyone wanted to be us. Dennis a surgeon, me with the biggest house in town, and our treasure son, Wyatt.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

A syringe pumps a clear vile of liquid.

Dennis finger donned in latex gloves flick the syringe settle the air bubbles. Some pressure is applied to the bottom of the syringe and a bit of liquid squirts from the needle.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

MARTHA:

Wyatt was always the biggest kid in his class...Strapping, handsome, charming...Quarterback of the football team.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Syringe pierces into scarred red flesh.

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

The bathtub water is a brownish red from the blood and dirt coming off of Ava's body. Ava sits motionless in shock as she listens to Martha.

MARTHA:

That deputy Nelson you met. He's Wyatt's best friend on the team.

Martha sits on the edge of the bath tub and holds her hand out. Ava slowly hands over the soap, and Martha begins washing her back.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

He got Wyatt into some trouble.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Thick navy blue surgical thread goes into the hoop of the needle.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Martha soaps up Ava's back.

MARTHA:

They were playin' a game. Truth or Dare. And Wyatt. My boy, my little man. He picked dare.

Ava tucks her legs in even closer to her chest.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Threaded needle punctures the scarred flesh.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Martha pauses.

MARTHA:

You want to know how he tried to
startle him? Why don't you guess.

Martha leans back looking at Ava. Ava's eyes are wide with
bewilderment as she looks over her shoulder.

AVA:

(Quietly)
I don't know.

CUT TO:

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

A framed picture of Wyatt and the football team is shown. He
looks young and happy.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

MARTHA:

Nelson lit up a firecracker to
startle Wyatt. But he ain't just
lit up one.

Martha scoops up water in her hand and rinses Ava's back.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Blew him apart. Blew him right the
fuck apart.

Ava swallows hard.

AVA:
That must have been hard for you.
You and Dennis.

Martha pauses.

MARTHA:
Wyatt is our everything. He's our
future. The love of our life. He
was going to go to college, and
play football. He was going to have
a big future. All blown to shit.
Clean your nails.

Martha gestures with the revolver and Ava gets up and sits on
the toilet.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Wyatt's hand balls up into a fist and lets out a small moan.

DENNIS:
Hush now.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

MARTHA:
We spent years nursing him back to
health. We need our baby to be a
man again. To be a real man again,
to stand tall and live a real life.
I said to Dennis, I said, 'We're
not givin' up hope.' And we prayed
everyday. Every god damn day. And
we didn't give up hope. No ma'am.
Never. I knew my baby was going to
be better one day. He was going to
walk, and live a normal life just
like all the other boys he grew up
with. And I started thinkin'. I
said to Dennis, 'God gave you a
gift.' He's saved so many lives.
He's made so many people whole
again. I said Dennis, 'You've done
your whole life for other people.
Now you gonna fix your son.'

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Dennis, with his surgical mask on, is stitching Wyatt's face. A reflection can be seen from Dennis' glasses.

DENNIS:

We're almost done. Shhh hold still.

A soft moan.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

MARTHA:

He looked at me and he said, 'Okay Martha, we're going to fix our boy.' When we met you, Ava, we knew you were special. You were the woman we had been lookin' for. We wanted the perfect girl for our boy, Ava.

AVA:

For Wyatt?

MARTHA:

Why yes. He's about to be done Ava. He's gettin' old. It's been a long time since he's had a woman.

AVA:

What do you mean? Had? I-I don't. I don't understand.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Dennis ties up the stitches.

Dennis pulls down his surgical mask. A look of wild joy spreads across Dennis' face.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ava is stands up with a towel wrapped around her body. Water drips from her hair.

MARTHA:
We're fixin' you up.

AVA:
For what?

MARTHA:
For Wyatt.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

DENNIS:
Ya look great son. Just great.

CUT TO:

INT. DENNIS AND MARTHA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Martha opens the linen closet and pulls out a vintage silk white night gown, and white thy high stockings. She hands them to Ava.

MARTHA:
Put that on.

AVA:
What, what are these?

MARTHA:
That's what I wore on my honey moon
with Dennis. Ya got a great figure.
I'm sure it's gonna look nice on
ya. Put it on.

Ava sits down on the toilet and rolls the stockings up her legs. Her hair is still wet.

AVA:
Why...am I?

MARTHA:
I want ya to look nice, when you
meet him.

Ava is trying to hold back any sign of emotion.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - SURGICAL ROOM - NIGHT

With a pointed revolver, Martha marches Ava down into the basement. Ava is wearing the tight vintage white night gown. It's faded with time. The gown hugs Ava's curves and stops above her knee.

She passes David's limp, bloody body laying on the gurney. Ava puts her hands over her face, and starts to collapse.

Dennis runs and grabs her. He drags her to a gurney. Martha closes the curtain around David.

Dennis secures the thick metal chains around Ava, locking them in place as Martha speaks.

MARTHA:

I know, I know Ava. I know ya missin' your husband. But we gonna need you to stay real calm now. We can give ya something to knock ya out. But I think it'd be a lot more fun if you're awake to enjoy.

AVA:

Enjoy? Enjoy what?

Dennis finishes strapping Ava's wrists up. She's breathing heavily.

MARTHA:

Enjoy makin' a baby! It's been a long time since we had a baby in this house. Wyatt's our only son, and we gonna need someone to carry on the family legacy.

AVA:

No! No, no. You can't! I can't! I, I'm no good. You have the wrong girl. I have trouble-

MARTHA:

Shhhh. It's been a long time since he's had a woman. I'm sure it'll be over real quick. Ya know how men are.

Ava bursts into tears.

AVA:

No please!

MARTHA:

If you don't stop your hollarin'
we'll knock you out. Wyatt likes it
better when the women are awake.
Let's not disappoint him now.

Ava's face is flushed red as tears stream from her eyes.
Martha wipes her face.

Dennis strides to the other side of the room. We see the
silhouette of Dennis standing by Wyatt as he helps him up.

Wyatt stands slowly. His silhouette is even taller than
Dennis. Ava is shaking and sweating in horror.

Wyatt comes from around the curtain wearing a hospital gown.
His extremely large feet peek out from the bottom of the
curtain.

He has Todd's hair on his head. His arms are different from
his body. His face has David's skin stretched over it. He
looks ghastly, garish, a monster.

Ava gasps.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

My boy! My boy! You look so
handsome. Go on, go on. This is
Ava. Go on see if you ya like her.
I know you will. Mama knows best.

In a haze, Wyatt slowly approaches Ava. Ava curls her legs
back in horror, but he lumbers closer.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Go on smile Wyatt.

Wyatt looks at Martha and then looks at Ava. He grins. The
skin around his lips crack. His teeth are crooked. Blood and
drool drip from his mouth.

Ava squirms and wiggles under the weight of the chains.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Wyatt doesn't she look pretty? He's
being shy.

Ava pulls at the chains.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Go on. Go on and say hi. Give her a
kiss.

Ava's eyes dart from Martha to Wyatt. She tries to wiggle one of her wrists free.

Wyatt looks at Martha.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
Go on. Just like we said.

Wyatt steps forward. He leans over Ava and slowly comes face to face. She scrunches up her face in fear and turns her head to the side.

Wyatt brushes his nose against her cheek. He smiles, and drool mixed with blood glops down on to her face. Ava grunts in disgust.

AVA:
(Breathy.)
Wyatt. No.

Wyatt pulls back a few inches and Ava turns to look at him. Blood and saliva is smeared across his chin. Blood leaks from his fresh stitches.

AVA: (CONT'D)
Wyatt, what have they done to you?
Your face. Your poor face.

Wyatt puts his hands up, and touches his face. He looks scared.

AVA: (CONT'D)
They've mutilated you.

Wyatt feels the stitches.

MARTHA:
Don't listen to her.

Wyatt looks at Martha.

DENNIS:
Ya look handsome boy.

Wyatt looks at Dennis. Then back at Ava.

AVA:
No. No, Wyatt. Don't listen to them. Have you seen yourself? Have you looked in a mirror?

Wyatt steps back and grunts. He looks at Dennis.

DENNIS:

Now boy, don't you be paying her any attention.

Wyatt runs his hands along his ears, his face twisted in confusion and terror.

AVA:

Wyatt, please. Look in a mirror. They've ruined you. They've made you into a. Into a monster!

Dennis steps between Wyatt and a mirror on the other side of the room.

DENNIS:

Don't you be listening to no woman.

Wyatt pushes past Dennis and Ava wiggles her wrist a little looser from the chains.

Meanwhile, Wyatt runs to the mirror. He sees his face for the first time. He let's out a pitiful moan, full of sorrow and agony. He turns to Dennis his arms outstretched in shock.

DENNIS: (CONT'D)

It'll heal, son.

Wyatt covers his head in his hands and weeps.

DENNIS: (CONT'D)

Son, son. It'll heal. Ya still healin'. Don't listen to that stupid bitch.

Martha rushes over to Wyatt.

MARTHA:

Come on, man up. No cryin' in front of a woman. We gonna have to get ya fixed up real good. She just don't like seein' ya in the hospital wear. We gonna get you a nice outfit. Make ya comfortable.

Martha guides Wyatt out of the room as he sobs into his hands.

Dennis closes in on Ava.

DENNIS:

Why you gotta hurt my boy like that?

AVA:

Let me go. Please. I won't tell anyone.

DENNIS:

He's a good boy. He ain't done nothin' to you.

Dennis steps closer.

AVA:

You mutilated that poor boy.

DENNIS:

Don't talk about my son like that. He's handsome. He's a work of god damn art! I've spent years putting him together. He's bigger, stronger, and twice the man than anyone else in this town.

Dennis towers over Ava.

AVA:

He's a monster.

Dennis reaches down and grabs Ava by her binds.

DENNIS:

You gonna give us a baby.

Ava spits in his face.

AVA:

Fuck you!

Dennis staggers backwards. He goes to the surgical table and grabs a syringe.

DENNIS:

I don't give a shit if you're conscious for it or not. You're givin' us a baby.

Behind Dennis, David appears. His face ripped off bleeding. Ava watches in horror, helpless to join the fight.

AVA:

David!

Dennis tries to plunge the syringe into David's neck. Half of the liquid squirts from the needle.

David manages to wrench the syringe from Dennis' grasp and sticks it in Dennis' neck. Dennis struggles and then collapses on the floor.

David staggers towards her, soaked in blood, his eyes glare at her, unable to blink. David takes the keys from Dennis' pocket and unlocks the chains on Ava. She's free. David and Ava have a moment locking eyes.

A gun shot pierces the calm moment. David's brains are blown out across the floor and onto Ava. Ava screams. Blood splatters across Ava's white night gown and face. David's corpse collapses on her. Martha is standing behind him holding the revolver.

MARTHA:

God damn it Dennis. I leave for one second. Jesus Christ on a cracker!

Ava sits up with David's lifeless body resting in her lap. His blood drips down her legs.

AVA:

David...

MARTHA:

Ya gettin' blood on my good nighty. Dennis get up.

Dennis, high from the drugs, stumbles to his feet. Martha steps around Dennis and yanks David's body from Ava. His corpse thuds on the hard floor.

Ava runs to the other side the gurney, away from Martha. Dennis tries to keep his balance, but the world is spinning around him.

Martha reaches for Ava, but misses her.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Git back here! You've been nothin' but trouble. We gonna make you pay for all this mess. Dennis, git her!

Dennis grabs Ava. She struggles in his arms, screaming. Tears is coming from her eyes.

Dennis is trying to hold Ava. Martha points the revolver at her.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Quit your movin' or I'll shoot.

AVA:
(Screaming.)
Shoot me! I'd rather die than let
your monster of a son touch me!

MARTHA:
Calm down.

Ava keeps fighting to break free. Dennis struggles to contain her.

DENNIS:
Martha, I can't hold her. She's too
squirrely!

MARTHA:
Quit yer moving!

AVA:
Fuck you!

MARTHA:
This is your last warning!

Ava breaks loose and dives forward. Martha panics and shoots her gun. The shot hits Dennis heart.

Dennis collapses on the floor. Martha runs to him, dropping the revolver to the ground.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)
Dennis! Dennis, wake up! Wake up! I
mean it! Dennis!

Ava looks up and reaches for the revolver. In tears, Martha is holding Dennis, slapping him in the face. Ava's finger curls around the trigger as she points it at Martha.

Martha looks up at Ava with an evil light shining in her eyes. Ava stands up, and Martha gets to her feet.

AVA:
Now you know how it feels.

Ava is staring her dead in the eye. She pulls the trigger, and click, the revolver is out of bullets.

Fear fills Ava as she drops the revolver.

MARTHA::
You gonna pay.

Martha pulls a pair of old rusty scissors from her apron. There's a tense pause.

Martha tackles Ava and jumps on top of her. She tries stabbing at Ava, but Ava blocks with her arms.

Gnash marks cover Ava's arms and blood oozes from the cuts.

Ava knocks the scissors out of Martha's hands, and they go flying. Martha wraps her boney fingers around Ava's neck, choking her.

Ava gasps for air and reaches for the scissors but they're just too far. Martha is choking her eyes wide in delight.

MARTHA:

The second you go to sleep. I'm gonna call Wyatt in here. He's gonna git you nice and pregnant.

Ava is still reaching, getting just a bit closer. Her fingers twitch trying to get closer to the scissors.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Don't need to be awake for the conception.

Ava is gagging and her hand is having trouble reaching her face turning blue from lack of oxygen.

MARTHA: (CONT'D)

Then we gonna tie you up. You ain't ever gonna see the light of day.

Ava stops moving. She closes her eyes and goes limp.

Martha leans back and breathes a sigh of relief. A moment of calm passes.

Ava springs to life, grabs the scissors, and stabs Martha in the skull. Martha collapses on the floor with dead eye open.

Ava takes a second to catch her breath. She wipes the blood from her eyes. Ava rolls over to Martha.

Ava checks Martha's pulse. Ava sighs in relief. She digs in Martha's pockets, and pulls out her car keys. They shine in the overhead lights.

A shadow covers Ava. Wyatt stands behind her.

Wyatt lets out a guttural noise startling Ava. She turns around, seeing him stare at Martha's body.

Ava is breathing heavily, she takes a step back, terrified. Wyatt falls to his knees next his mother. He holds her delicately, getting covered in her blood.

Ava is slowly backing up.

AVA:
Wyatt. I-I.

Wyatt looks back up at Ava with vengeance in his eyes. Ava steps back.

AVA: (CONT'D)
I didn't want, I didn't want to
hurt her.

Wyatt walks closer. Ava continues backing up, keeping space.

AVA: (CONT'D)
Wyatt, they mutilated you. They
killed people. They would have
killed me.

Wyatt grabs a large antique surgical knife and holds it up. Ava's eyes widen.

AVA: (CONT'D)
Oh shit.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE BACKYARD - NIGHT

Frantically, Ava bursts into the backyard. She is sprinting to the Chevy pickup truck.

Wyatt, at a slower pace is running behind her with the knife in his hand. He has a disjointed run. His legs are different lengths.

Ava looks behind and sees Wyatt gaining speed as he gets used to his uneven limbs. His legs are kicking up dirt around him.

Ava reaches the Chevy pickup truck. With trembling fingers, she drops the keys. Her hair is all over her face mixed in with sweat and blood.

Wyatt is now real close.

Ava scrambles to pick up the keys and unlocks the door. She gets into the truck. Wyatt slams himself against the hood of the Chevy.

Ava has trouble starting the truck. Wyatt climbs up onto the hood and punches the windshield, it begins to crack. She screams.

She gets the car started and shifts the gear into reverse. Wyatt breaks a hole through the glass. Ava shields herself from glass particles. Wyatt lunges into the car window after her. Ava panics and slams on the gas. The truck jerks in reverse. Wyatt tumbles backwards but catches the grille.

The truck drags Wyatt's body along with it. WHAM! The truck crashes into a tree. Ava's body ricochet but she quickly recovers.

Ava looks in the distance and notices Deputy Nelson's body laying on the ground.

Wyatt stands up and picks up the knife. He squares his shoulders, knife in hand. He zones in on Ava with a murderous lust.

Ava shifts the car into drive and steps on the gas, but the vehicle is stuck. She jerks the steering wheel as she keeps stepping on the gas.

AVA:

Come on. Come on.

Wyatt climbs back on to the hood and slings knife through the window. Ava quickly reclines the seat all the way back, barely dodging the blade.

She grabs the seat belt, wraps it around Wyatt's hand, and ties it to the steering wheel. She slides over and escapes through the passenger side.

She pauses for a moment, and runs to Deputy Nelson's body. There's torn holes now wearing in her dirty thigh high white stockings. Ava glances back and sees Wyatt using the knife, with his other hand, to cut through the seat belt.

She leans over Deputy Nelson's body and sees the cut skull with brain matter leaking out.

Ava shudders as she drops to her knees. Ava avoids looking at his face as she digs through his pockets. She finds his key ring.

AVA: (CONT'D)

Yes.

She looks over her shoulder and sees that Wyatt has cut himself free.

Ava sprints to the front of the house as Wyatt chases her. She glances back in terror.

Ava reaches the cop car and starts opening the door. With a large hand, Wyatt slams the door shut. He leans down behind her with blood and drool dripping from his mouth.

From over her shoulder, Ava slams her elbow into his face breaking what's left of his nose with a crunch. Wyatt stumbles back and Ava climbs into the cop car, locking the door.

Ava starts the engine and hits the gas. She cuts the steering wheel making a sharp U-turn towards the end of the driveway. Wyatt runs in front of the car, blocking her path. Dust kicks up from the wheels. The cop car is now in position.

The rising sun illuminates the mist surrounding Wyatt. Ava revs the engine, but Wyatt stands his ground. She takes a deep breath and slams on the gas. Wyatt still doesn't move. Ava rolls into him. His body hits the windshield cracking the glass.

Ava lets out a cry. Tears stream down her face and grits her teeth. She reverses the car, making his body fall from the hood.

Wyatt groans in pain, laying in the fetal position in the gravel. Ava grips the steering wheel, white knuckles.

The orange light from the rising sun hits her face. Ava shifts gears, floors the car, hitting Wyatt.

She yells as the car goes over his body. She looks in the rearview as small battered pieces of Wyatt's body is laying in the gravel. Wyatt lays motionless.

Tears, snot, and blood slide down her face. She starts laughing in desperation.

The car drives down the misty gravel road as the sun rises on a bright fall morning.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: 6 MONTHS LATER.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

The Newman house has become even more worn and dilapidated. Yellow weathered police caution tape is wrapped around the property.

Four high school seniors pull up in a Ford Mustang.

DEREK, typical football jock, exits the car first.

DEREK:
Come on. This is it.

MANDY, a perky, gorgeous cheerleader, exits next.

MANDY
What a dump.

CHRIS, skinny nerd, exits next.

CHRIS:
Come on, Sara.

SARA, the nerdy girl next door, still sits in the back seat hesitating. She opens the car door and exits. Chris and Sara have backpacks.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ava is dressed casually. The phone rings, Ava picks it up.

MEL JOHNSON:
Hi, may I please speak with Ava?

AVA:
This is she.

MEL JOHNSON:
This is Detective Johnson.

AVA:
Yes, yes. Thank you for returning
my calls.

MEL JOHNSON:
Well, I'm not sure if you're going
to be thanking me at the end of
this conversation.

Worry washes over Ava's face.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT.

SARA:
Think we'll be able to get in?

Derek goes to the trunk and pulls out a crow bar.

DEREK:
We will with this.

He holds up the crow bar.

MANDY:
You're not chickening out are you?

CHRIS:
She's not. We're not.

MANDY:
Good.

Mandy smiles at Chris.

The four walk closer to the house. Sara is dragging her feet.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MEL JOHNSON:
Still not ready to tell your story?

AVA:
No. I'm not interested in reliving
the- I can hear you writing what
I'm saying.

MEL JOHNSON:
Sorry, you can't blame me for
trying.

AVA:
Good luck with the investigation.

MEL JOHNSON:
Wait, one more thing.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

SARA:
How many people did they say died
in the house?

DEREK:
Could be fifteen maybe even more.

Sara crosses her arms, and looks around, taking in the scenery.

MANDY:
I heard it was twenty.

DEREK:
Maybe twenty five? All brutal
violent deaths.

They walk up the porch. Derek rips down the police tape and he picks up the crow bar.

SARA:
Wait, try the knob.

Derek pauses. He opens the door. Derek and Mandy enter, followed by Chris and Sara. Using flash lights, Chris and Sara slightly illuminate the house.

INT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

There are visible blood stains the wooden floors. Majority of the house appears empty. The wall paper is lighter where pictures use to hang.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

AVA:
Go on?

MEL JOHNSON:
We looked into Wyatt Newman's past.

AVA:
And?

CUT TO:

INT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

DEREK:
Oh shit. Look.

They all walk inside while Sara lingers at the door. Mandy and Derek start to walk further ahead. Chris notices Sara's hesitation and walks back.

CHRIS:
Hey, you're not having second thoughts are you?

SARA:
I don't know.

CHRIS:
It'll be fine. No one's here. It's just for one night.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MEL JOHNSON:
Well. That's just it.

AVA:
What did you find?

CUT TO:

INT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Sara bites her lip nervous.

CHRIS:
I'll be here the whole time. Come on.

Sara nods.

They walk into the kitchen. Derek jumps out startling Sara. She screams. Mandy bursts out laughing.

MANDY:
Pathetic.

DEREK:
No way you guys are making the whole night.

Sara huffs, frustrated.

CHRIS:
Hell yes we are.

MANDY:
Don't forget the rules. We'll be
your prom dates if you guys can
make it until sun rise.

CHRIS:
Piece of cake, right Sara?

Sara is shaking.

CHRIS: (CONT'D)
Right?

SARA:
Yeah. Right.

Mandy and Derek start to walk to the door.

MANDY:
(Taunting)
We'll be back.

She blows a kiss seductively. Chris uses a hand to catch it.

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Derek and Mandy are laughing. They kiss and Derek grabs
Mandy's ass.

DEREK:
What idiots.

CUT TO:

INT. AVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MEL JOHNSON:
There's not much to find. The
Newman's did have a son. He went to
high school in town, captain of the
football team, just like you said.
But after that he disappears. No
record of him dying, living,
marrying, voting, nothing. No one
has seen him in years.

AVA:
You don't believe me. You don't
believe my story.

MEL JOHNSON:
Well, I didn't say that.

AVA:
Everything you found supports what
I've been trying to tell you.

MEL JOHNSON:
Ava, I don't know what to say, no
one found the body. What you went
through, was unimaginable. You
experienced extreme trauma, I can't
even begin to understand. Maybe
your memories aren't the most
reliable. We all know what you went
through was horrific. But maybe
this Wyatt, maybe it was a dream or
a false memory. Think about how
wild it sounds? A man, a monster,
coming to life unable to be killed.
It's been six months. Wyatt is an
urban legend, not a real man.

AVA:
Why are you really calling?

MEL JOHNSON:
I'm closing the case.

AVA:
You're making a big mistake.

MEL JOHNSON:
Ava-

Ava hangs up. She walks into a nursery with blue walls.
The camera zooms out, and sees her 6 month pregnant belly.
Above the crib hangs letters spelling out the baby's name:
D-A-V-I-D.
Ava looks down at the crib, discouraged.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Chris and Sara are exploring the upstairs with their iPhone flashlights. They shine the light on some blood stains on the wooden floors.

SARA:

Do you think this blood is real, or do you think Derek and Mandy put it here to scare us?

CHRIS:

It's probably fake.

They continue down the hallway. Chris notices a door that's been hacked open, the one where Ava and David stayed in.

SARA:

Hey Chris, how, how did the people here die?

CHRIS:

They were brutally murdered by a monster and his parents.

SARA:

A-a monster?

CHRIS:

A man named Wyatt, who was horribly disfigured in a prank gone wrong. Now, he's out for revenge.

Chris wiggles his fingers all spooky. Sara is shaking. Her eyes widen.

SARA:

Revenge? On people who...who pull pranks?

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Derek and Mandy are laughing. They kiss and Derek grabs Mandy's ass.

DEREK:

What idiots.

A dark shadow in the shape of a large man extends from behind an old oak tree.

CUT TO:

INT. NEWMAN HOUSE NIGHT.

They reach the end of the hallway to Wyatt's room. The door is ajar. Chris pushes it open gently. The door creaks.

CHRIS:
Are you really scared?

Sara nods.

CHRIS: (CONT'D)
Come on.

He holds her hand.

CHRIS: (CONT'D)
I'm here. It'll be fine.

INT. WYATT'S ROOM:

Chris, still holding Sara's hand, takes the lead and enters the room.

They shine their light around the room. Spider webs and dust fill the corners. An old bed sits at the far end with brown stains on it.

CHRIS:
This must've been his room.

SARA:
Who?

CHRIS:
Wyatt.

SARA:
This is freaking me out.

She starts panicking.

CHRIS:
Hey, I don't know if any of that is even true. Sunrise is in what? Six hours, no biggie.

Sara nods calming down a little bit. She bites her lip.

CHRIS

Why did you agree to stay here if
you were so scared. You must really
like Derek?

Sara pauses opening her mouth. She looks down and no words
come out.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Mandy and Derek walk back to the car.

MANDY:

Let's have some fun with them.

Mandy leans back on the hood. Derek leans forward, and kisses
her using a lot of tongue.

DEREK:

It's going to be a long night.

MANDY:

Do you have any beer in the car?

DEREK:

Yeah.

Derek kisses Mandy, and walks to the back of the car. Mandy
reaches her hands down into her bra and pulls her boobs up so
she has more cleavage.

Mandy pulls her phone out, but there is no service. She's
getting frustrated.

The shadowy figure approaches behind her. Derek's head comes
up behind her and nestles on her neck.

MANDY:

Babe.

She's giggling. The shagging hair is waving around.

MANDY: (CONT'D)

Babe you're tickling me.

The head keeps flopping around.

MANDY: (CONT'D)

Babe?

She turns around. Wyatt towers over her, holding Derek's head and the antique surgical knife in the other. Derek's mouth is open, slack-jawed.

Wyatt is dressed in rag clothing. Patches of his skin is rotting while other pieces has healed.

Mandy stands up and walks backwards, but trips and falls in the gravel. Wyatt advances towards her. She scoots backwards as fast she can. Tears form in her eyes.

Wyatt kneels down, examining Mandy. She turns away, disgusted and scared. Wyatt looks up and down with bloody drool slopping from his chin. A glob lands on her belly button. Mandy winces.

Wyatt shakes his head with disapproval. Mandy's breathing begins to pickup unevenly as he raises the old knife up in front of her.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sara deeply exhales as she looks down at her feet. She pauses and then looks up at Chris.

SARA:

I wasn't hoping to get a date with
Derek to the prom.

(Pause)

I was hoping to get a date with
you.

Chris looks genuinely surprised and smile spreads across his face.

CHRIS:

Really? Me?

Sara shrugs.

SARA:

I think you're cool.

CHRIS:

I think you're cool, too.

He takes a step forward to lean in for a kiss. Right as they're about to kiss a horrifying scream from Mandy makes them jerk back from each other.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Chris and Sara sprint outside. They see a pool of blood leading down the gravel drive way.

SARA:
Oh fuck.

CHRIS:
They're probably still pranking us.

They walk along the drive way following the fresh blood.

SARA:
You think?

CHRIS:
I'm sure.
(Yelling.)
Hey guys, real funny.

SARA:
Shhh. What are you doing?

CHRIS:
(Yelling)
Come on. We know you're fucking
with us.
(To Sara)
This is so lame.

Sara stops dead in her tracks.

SARA:
(Hushed)
Look.

She points. Derek's feet are sticking out from behind the car.

CHRIS:
I'll check it out.

Sara grabs his hand holding him back.

SARA:
No. Don't. We have to call the
cops!

He drags Sara forward.

CHRIS:
They're just pranking us.

They walk around the car. Derek's body is mangled, headless, and covered in blood. Next to him is Mandy, with her intestines and internal organs slopped out of her stomach.

Chris and Sara go pale with terror. Slowly they turn around. Behind them stands Wyatt holding the antique surgical knife smiling through his rotten flesh.

CUT TO BLACK.