# <u>Witches & Warlocks</u>

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. PHARMACY - DAY

JUNE BARLOW, 27, stands behind a counter. She is wearing a white coat with a name badge pinned slightly crooked on her left side. Above that is another badge saying "TRAINEE".

She stares blankly at an aisle to her left.

CUSTOMER (O.S.) Excuse me... Hello...

June doesn't move.

CUSTOMER (O.S.)(CONT'D) (yelling) Excuse me.

June snaps out of her daze and looks in front of her. She notices the CUSTOMER standing there holding a piece of paper. The customer looks visibly annoyed.

CUSTOMER (CONT'D) Can I get this filled please.

The customer hands over the prescription note to June.

JUNE Sorry, was away with the faeries.

June looks over the note.

JUNE I'll have it ready in about 20 minutes.

The customer gives June a sour look and then walks off.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Okay then.

June starts to walk away from the counter towards a big desk where another PHARMACIST is working when she hears a loud crash.

She turns around. She can see that a small OLD LADY has knocked over a display of stuffed animals.

June looks over at the other pharmacist.

JUNE I think it's just going to be one of those days.

PHARMACIST

I hear you.

June puts down the note on the big desk and then starts to walk towards the old lady who is trying to bend over to pick up a stuffed hippo.

JUNE

It's okay mam I got it.

OLD LADY Oh I'm sorry dear, I was just trying to get the giraffe for my Grandson but it was all the way at the top.

June reaches the old lady. She bends down to grab the hippo while still making eye contact with the lady.

JUNE If only we had legs like a giraffe.

OLD LADY Instead I have the legs of a sausage dog.

June smiles. She then hears the sound of a baby laughing. She turns her head to look down at the stuffed hippo and can see that the animal has been replaced with a live squirming naked baby.

The baby looks up at June with curious eyes and starts to giggle again. June releases her hand from the babies stomach. She then looks over at the rest of the floor.

Instead of scattered stuffed animals there are numerous babies. Some crawling down the isle, some clumsily walking and some on their backs wriggling around. One of the babies is peeing up into the air.

The room is filled with all baby noises from laughing to crying.

Junes eyes are wide open in shock and her breathing grinds to a halt. She slowly turns back around to face the old lady.

> OLD LADY Are you alright? It looks like you've seen a ghost.

June looks back down at the scene. A baby is now standing right in front of her face.

BABY

Momma?

June tightly closes her eyes.

JUNE (whispering) One... Two... Three...

A hand appears on Junes shoulder and starts to shake her.

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PHARMACIST (0.S.)
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June...

JUNE (whispering) Four... Five... Six...

> PHARMACIST (O.S.) (yelling)

JUNE.

June opens her eyes. She turns and looks up at the pharmacist shaking her shoulder.

PHARMACIST June are you okay?

June looks back down at the floor and can see stuffed animals scattered everywhere. The hippo is looking straight up at her.

June closes her eyes and rubs her temples.

JUNE Yeah... I'm okay. Just a little lightheaded.

OLD LADY Balming my elbows always perks me up.

June stands up.

JUNE Do you mind if I go home early, I'm just not feeling myself.

PHARMACIST Yeah that's fine. It's pretty quiet today anyway. JUNE Thanks. I just got to pick something up first.

PHARMACIST I'll take care of this mess.

OLD LADY Thank you doctor, actually while you're here... do you mind taking a look at this thing on my back.

The pharmacist looks over at June and rolls his eyes. June smiles and moves her lips to produce a silent "Sorry". The pharmacist smiles back then faces the old lady.

### PHARMACIST

Sure.

June starts to walk down the aisle, as she does she quickly grabs a box off the shelf.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/HALLWAY - DAY

June paces up and down the hallway. She clasps a large gemstone that is around her neck as she walks. Her face looks visibly stressed and her hair is all messed up.

She looks at the watch on her wrist, pauses and then takes a big breath in and out. June enters the bathroom.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/BATHROOM - DAY

June walks over to the sink and lying in there is a pregnancy test stick. She picks it up and studies it. She then grabs the box that is sitting next to the sink and looks at the back. She compares both items and then becomes still.

JUNE

Shit.

SERIES OF SHOTS - JUNE WALKING THROUGH THE HOUSE

A) June walks down the stairs.

B) June walks past a small table in the entrance way and notices a few open letters lying face down. She picks up the stack and flicks through the letters paying attention to the "PAST DUE" and "FINAL NOTICE" stamps. She puts the letters back down and continues to walk. C) June walks through the kitchen. Inside the kitchen there are many potted plants growing wildly and untamed. On top of the kitchen table-top is a large copper pot that is collecting water that slowly drips from a stained hole in the roof above it.

D) June walks through the lounge where there is an eclectic collection of things on display, most made out of natural materials. More plants are strewn thoughout this room. She opens the sliding door and exits to the backyard.

EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/BACKYARD - DAY

June walks out into the backyard. This area has a large grass patch at the front that is surrounded by various different species of trees and plants creating a small dense jungle.

A single chair and table stand in one corner of the grass patch with branches drooping above it.

JUNE

Mom?

June walks into the middle of the lawn and looks around at the surrounding vegetation.

JUNE You out here Mom?

A rustling can be heard to June's side. June turns around and can see OLIVE, 50's, step out of a tall dense hedge with her arms raised up in the air so she forms a cross. Olives face is blank and focused. She steps out of the hedge smoothly like she it floating.

JUNE

Jesus Mom.

Olives face suddenly lights up and her serious face turns into one of joy and life.

OLIVE Oh I'm sorry my love, did I scare you..? I was just connecting with the Beech Hedge.

Junes face looks confused.

JUNE

Okay...

June's eyes pop open and her mouth widens.

JUNE Oh shit there's a spider on your arm.

Olive screams and starts to frantically hit both her arms.

OLIVE (yelling) Where...? Get it... Get it.

June smiles and let's out a little giggle.

Olive stops flailing her arms. She stands there with a sour look on her face.

OLIVE I should have known. If there really was a spider you would be running a mile about now.

JUNE True... Anyway I need to talk to you about something.

OLIVE What's on your mind?

June takes a big breath.

JUNE

I'm pregnant.

Olive screams and her face bursts out in a massive smile.

OLIVE (joyous) Ohhh how wonderful.

June gives off an awkward smile.

OLIVE Is it a boy or a girl?

June looks down at the grass.

JUNE It's too early to tell.

OLIVE Honey this is great news although I'm not being called Grandma, I'm still too young for that.

June laughs a little at this.

Are you okay?

JUNE

I'm not sure if I'm ready... Me and KEVIN never planned on this.

### OLIVE

I don't think anyone is ever ready but once the baby comes your instincts will guide you.

JUNE

... What if the baby is crazy just like the rest of our family.

OLIVE You mean the hallucinations?

#### JUNE

Yes, I dont want my baby to go through this shit. It seems to be getting worse as well.

### OLIVE

Honey that's just all the extra hormones floating around your body at the moment. When I was pregnant with you I was seeing all sorts of stuff. I thought our neighbors were a family of extra terrestrials sent here to kidnap you once you were born.

JUNE Is that why they moved out?

### OLIVE

Well it didn't help that I was calling them aliens and telling them to get back to their own home. Lovely Vietnamese family they were.

#### JUNE

This isn't helping.

#### OLIVE

The same thing happened to your Grandmother as well but once the baby comes it will go back to just a normal amount of crazy.

JUNE

Something to look forward to.

OLIVE

Look, it will all workout, I will be there beside you every step of the way.

Olive leans in and hugs June tight. June hugs her back.

#### JUNE

Thanks Mom.

Olive releases June.

JUNE Well I better go tell Kevin.

OLIVE Give him a hug from me.

JUNE

Will do.

June walks back into the house in a slow slumped manner.

Now outside alone, Olive looks up in to the sky.

OLIVE Please let it be a girl... please.

A single tear rolls down Olives cheek. She wipes it away with the back of her hand.

FIVE MONTHS LATER...

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

June is lying down on a hospital bed. Olive and Kevin are in the room sitting in plain chairs next to the bed.

A DOCTOR is standing next to June pressing an ultra sound device to June's exposed belly. A screen is showing fuzzy black and white footage of the procedure.

> DOCTOR And here is your baby.

June smiles and looks over at Kevin who is grinning ear to ear. Kevin takes June's hand and squeezes it.

Olive interrupts the moment and speaks in a stern serious voice.

OLIVE Is it healthy?

The doctor moves the device around some more.

DOCTOR I can't detect anything wrong at this stage. Seems to be a perfectly healthy baby.

KEVIN That's good to hear.

DOCTOR Would you like to know the sex?

June and Olive speak at the same time.

JUNE

Umm...

OLIVE

Yes.

June shoots Olive a look then looks back over at Kevin.

JUNE

Shall we?

KEVIN It's up to you.

June looks over at Olive again. She is nodding her head. June looks back up at the doctor.

JUNE

I guess so.

DOCTOR

You sure?

June looks back over at Olive again whose eyes are wide open and curious. She seems to be holing her breath.

JUNE

Yes.

DOCTOR Well I would like to congratulate you two on having a healthy baby boy.

Olive faints. She leans forward in her chair and her head hits the metal bar around the bed producing a loud pinging noise. June, Kevin and the doctor look over in shock and confusion. INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY(LATER)

All four people are still in the hospital room but Olive is now lying on the bed unconscious with an ice pack on her forehead. June and Kevin are sitting down.

The doctor is checking Olives pulse when Olives eyes burst open.

Olive winces in pain and raises her hand to her head.

# OLIVE

# What happened?

Olive tries to get up but the doctor gently pushes her back down.

DOCTOR You fainted and hit your head. Just continue to lie there until we have ruled out a concussion.

The doctor takes the ice pack off Olive's head and inspects a lump on her forehead.

The doctor then takes out a flashlight from his pocket and flashes it in each eye.

DOCTOR

I think you should be fine but just stay here for another thirty minutes, so I can be sure.

OLIVE I'm such a silly goose.

DOCTOR Does this kind of thing happen often.

OLIVE No doctor, not at all.

DOCTOR

Well I suggest you make a proper appointment to get it checked out.

JUNE She will, I'll make sure of it.

DOCTOR Good... Well I'll be back in half an hour to check up on you. OLIVE Thank you doctor.

The doctor leaves the room.

JUNE What the hell was that Mom?

OLIVE I'm not sure, I must be low in vitamins or something.

JUNE Bullshit, you're the healthiest person I know... What's really going on?

Olive swallows hard.

OLIVE Well there is something... But it's a lady issue.

Olive looks over at Kevin.

Kevin stands up.

### KEVIN

Well I got to go back to work now, so I'll leave you two... ladies to it.

Kevin leans down and kisses June on the forehead then looks over at Olive.

KEVIN Hope you're feeling better Olive.

OLIVE I am now thank you and congratulations on your new baby.

### KEVIN

Thanks.

Kevin walks to the door then turns around.

KEVIN Talk to you later.

JUNE

Bye.

Kevin leaves the room. June looks over at Olive with anger in her face.

JUNE So what is it?

OLIVE ... I was hoping it wasn't going to come to this.

JUNE Come to what?

Olive sighs. Her face turns serious.

OLIVE You already know that our family is a little different than other families...

JUNE A little different... We're batshit insane.

OLIVE The problem is, it goes deeper than you think.

June looks a little scared.

JUNE

How deep?

OLIVE Have you ever thought about the amount of women in our family...? That you don't have any uncles, male cousins or... brothers born into the family?

A tear rolls down Olives face.

JUNE ... What about Raymond?

OLIVE He was born before Kurt met my sister.

JUNE Okay... So what exactly are you getting at? OLIVE Males have only been married into this family, never born into it.

June looks confused.

JUNE Is that not just luck or maybe there is some dominant gene that has taken over... What ever it is it's now gone as I am pregnant and it's a boy.

June pats her belly. Another tear rolls down Olives cheek.

JUNE So why are you crying?

### OLIVE

It's more than luck... I'm sorry I've never told you this before but... you actually have a brother.

A steady stream of tears rolls down Olives face.

OLIVE

(crying) His name is Joshua and three years before I gave birth to you I had him at this very hospital.

JUNE What happened to him?

### OLIVE

(crying) Everything was fine. It was a routine delivery, no complications. I heard him cry when he came out but only once then he went quiet... The doctors don't know what caused it but after he was born he just stopped breathing.

June takes Olive's hand. Olive wipes away the tears.

OLIVE I still speak to him everyday and imagine what kind of man he would've been... I just don't want the same thing to happen to you. JUNE Why do you think this will happen to me?

#### OLIVE

Because that's what happens in our family. It happened to me, it happened to your Aunt, it even happened twice to your Grandmother. There is a curse on the family and I wish I knew how to stop it.

JUNE A curse, like from a witch...? There is no such thing as curses Mom.

#### OLIVE

How else do you explain the hallucinations, the still borns hell maybe it will explain why I can't keep up with my bills.

JUNE You're just bad with money.

OLIVE And how are your finances going lately?

June says nothing.

OLIVE

Exactly.

JUNE Curses don't exist.

OLIVE

I hope you're right sweetie I really do.

### JUNE

Well what do you want me to do. I'm pregnant... with a boy. If it's an option between living in fear for the next six months or to disregard this curse nonsense and try and live positively for me and my baby then I'll choose the latter.

Olive covers her face with her hands.

I wish I didn't say anything.

JUNE No I'm glad you did. Your delivery could've been better but I'm going to prove you wrong.

OLIVE

I welcome it.

Olive leans in and hugs June. June's face is covered with worry.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/LOUNGE - DAY

ESME, 74, is sitting on a recliner in the lounge room of a retirement home. She is sitting in front of a television laughing periodically. The TV is turned off.

The room is filled with other elderly people doing various activities.

A nurse walks up to Esme and puts her hand on her shoulder.

NURSE What are you watching today Esme?

ESME

My favourite, I love Lucy. I tell you what if ever met Ricky Ricardo in person he would be showing some color.

NURSE Well you might have to put it on pause as you have a visitor.

Esme turns around and sees June standing there. Esme smiles.

ESME

Oh Juniper, how wonderful.

JUNE

Hey Grandma.

June walks over to Esme and sits on the recliner next to her. They face each other.

JUNE How are you doing? ESME

I think this place is making me crazier than I already am.

JUNE You know it's for your own good though. Remember why you ended up here in the first place?

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Esme is naked sliding down a slide at a kids playground. Several kids are watching. Some of the kids are having their eyes covered by adults and a couple of kids are crying. Esme reaches the bottom of the slide.

> ESME Okay one more time for you James.

Esme is talking to herself.

BACK TO SCENE

Esme looks like she is lost in thought.

ESME

I swear James Dean dared me to do it and who am I to turn him down.

JUNE

He's dead Grandma, he died over sixty years ago.

ESME Really... What a shame.

JUNE Anyway I'm here because I've got some news for you.

ESME You're pregnant.

June looks confused.

JUNE Yes... Did Mom tell you already?

ESME No, I can just feel it. Congratulations honey. Who's the father? JUNE Kevin... You know him. ESME Oh yes I know the one, just can't be to sure these days. JUNE Jesus Grandma. ESME But there is something troubling you isn't there? JUNE Well... Yeah... It's a boy. Esme screams, her face lights up. ESME Oh how wonderful. JUNE That doesn't concern you? ESME Why would it? JUNE Well... This will probably sound crazy even to you but Mom seems to think that our family has a curse on it. One where we can't give birth to males. ESME Oh yes we certainly do. JUNE So why aren't you concerned. ESME James told me that it will be okay. That's how I knew you were pregnant too. JUNE James Dean again?

ESME

Yes.

JUNE Well thanks James, you just took a load off my shoulders.

ESME Oh he's not here right now.

JUNE Of course, how stupid of me.

June continues to stare at Esme with a blank expression on her face. Esme is grinning ear to ear back at her.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/JUNE'S BEDROOM - DAY

June sits at her desk in her bedroom. Amateur paintings hang on the walls. Various shelves are displaying shells, wooden ornaments, tarot cards and gem stones. A large dream catcher hangs above the bed.

The desk has a laptop computer on it switched on.

JUNE Time to prove you wrong.

June starts to type on the keyboard and is directed to the website 'genehunter.com'.

ON THE SCREEN

The mouse curser hovers over a button titled 'start your own family tree'. June clicks on it.

BACK TO SCENE

June takes in a big breath.

SERIES OF SHOTS - JUNE RESEARCHING HER FAMILY TREE

A) June types her name 'June Barlow' at the start of the family tree, then types her mothers name 'Olive Barlow' below it and then her Grandmothers name 'Esme Swanson' below that.

B) June then writes the name of her aunt next to Olive and connects them with a solid line. She then fills in all the fathers of the women but connects them with a squiggly line.

C) June researches public records online and comes up with some more names to add to the tree.

D) June starts to watch a video online of a dog riding a scooter wearing sunglasses and a backpack.

E) June checks birth and death records online and adds some more female names to the tree.

F) June starts watching a documentary on how coat hangers are made.

G) June starts looking at old newspapers online and writes down some more names.

I) June starts to watch a video on the top 10 celebrity nose jobs.

June continues to check public records till she writes down the name 'HARLAND CARPATHIA' on her family tree. Next to it she writes 'Willow Point?' She scribbles a circle around this.

#### JUNE

Gotcha.

June looks up the town Willow Point on an online map.

ON THE SCREEN

A map is shown with a blue line drawn from her location to Willow Point. In the top left corner it says '3.5 hours by car'.

June looks down at her stomach, takes a big breath in and out then stands up.

EXT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

An old beat up car is driving down the highway. The red car is covered with rust and is very loud as it tries to keep up with the speed of the other cars.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

June is driving the car down the highway. She is singing along to the radio. Her phone is displaying a gps.

She is singing very enthusiastically as she looks in her rear view mirror.

In the mirror she can see an old haggard witch siting in her back seat. The witch has green skin, long frizzled black hair and is wearing a pointed hat. On the witches face are several hairy warts and she has a long crooked nose. The witch pokes her long pointed tongue out at June. June's eyes open wide as she screams out a loud desperate scream.

She swerves off the road almost hitting a car as she does so. Dust permeates the air as she drives off the road and through a fence until she eventually comes to a stop.

She turns around to look in the back seat. Her breath is rapid and her face terrified but when she looks behind her there is nothing there.

She turns back around and looks back into the rear view mirror. It's empty.

June grips the steering wheel and growls through gritted teeth. She then hits her head on the wheel which sets off the horn.

June yells over the sound of the horn.

## JUNE (yelling) It's not real.

The horn continues to blare. Other cars on the highway take no notice of the scene and continue on their path.

EXT. WILLOW POINT - DAY

June drives her car past a large wooden sign saying 'WELCOME TO WILLOW POINT'.

She enters the small rural town filled with old wooden houses and large overgrown trees.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

June parks on the side of the road just as her GPS says "You have reached your destination".

June looks out her window to her right and can see a small White House with the words 'WILLOW POINT HISTORICAL SOCIETY' painted on the facade.

She shuts off her engine.

INT. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DAY

June enters the historical society where she is greeted by MACY, a little old lady that is sitting behind a desk wearing a name badge .

Hello there, how may I help you?

The room is filled with populated book cases, stacked binders, old newspapers and on all the walls are old photos in frames.

There are also a few glass cabinets set up with old relics on display and a couple of desks set out.

June walks towards Macy.

JUNE Hi, my name is June Barlow and I'm creating a family tree but I have hit a bit of a roadblock, and I was wondering if you could help me.

MACY

It would be my pleasure. It's been a while since I had someone come in here especially someone your age.

June looks around the room.

JUNE Well people just don't know what they are missing.

June picks up an old can of tinned turkey and looks at it.

MACY That's the first can of turkey ever imported into Willow Point.

JUNE Wow... That's amazing.

MACY That was a lucky find that one.

June puts down the can.

JUNE Anyway I was wondering if you had anything on the name 'Harland Carpathia'.

MACY Name sounds familiar, just let me run a search.

Macy puts her glasses on and then starts to type on her computer one letter at a time.

June looks around the room as she performs this timeconsuming task.

### MACY

Ah-ha.

June looks over at Macy who starts to slowly look away from her computer and then gives June a goofy smile.

MACY You're in luck.

Her eyebrows raise on the word 'Luck'.

Macy stands up, walks around her desk and walks over to the bookshelf. She flicks through the books until she gets to an old leather one and pulls it out.

She hands it over to June.

MACY I got his diary.

JUNE You're kidding me.

June takes the book.

MACY

Nope, some lady found this in her attic one day as she was putting in some insulation.

JUNE

Incredible.

MACY

Take a seat, have a read. I can photo copy any pages that you might like just dont take the book out of here. This ain't no library.

JUNE

Sure, thank you.

Macy starts walking back to her desk but before she reaches it she turns back around.

MACY Oh and Miss Barlow.

June looks up from the journal.

MACY Don't forget to tell your friends about this place.

JUNE

Oh I wont.

Macy takes a seat behind her desk as June takes a seat in the public seating area.

She inspects the front of the journal and can see an intricate design pressed into the brown leather. June runs her fingers over it and then opens it to the first page.

JUNE (V.O.) Second of February seventeen twenty. So this is my first time writing in one of these things. My sister ADSISA bought it for me, said it will do me some good but God knows why. I ain't the reflecting type.

June takes out some papers and a pen from her bag and she writes down in big letters 'SISTER - ADISA'.

INT. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DAY(LATER)

June is reading the journal.

JUNE (V.O.) Eighth of April, seventeen twenty. Today I saw captain queernobs trip over a dog, we all had a right laugh. Went face first into the mud. What a great day it has been.

June shakes her head.

INT. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DAY(LATER)

June reads the journal.

JUNE(V.O.) First of August, seventeen twenty. Mr Mahoney is a fool. I traded him three carts of manure for one strong looking goat. I'm probably going to let Adisa look after it though. She is better with animals than a muttonhead like me. INT. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DAY(LATER)

June continues to read the journal.

JUNE (V.O.) Eighteenth of January, seventeen twenty one. Today is a sad day. My sister Adisa was burnt at the stake. She was burnt alive next to AARON VAN BUSHELL.

June's face is in shock as she writes down the name 'Aaron Van Bushell' on her piece of paper.

JUNE (V.O.) I can't speak for Mr Van Bushell but Adisa wasn't no witch. Well at least not a witch with malicious intent. And now she has left me with this bastard child to look after. None of this would have happened if it wasn't for CLAUDIA.

June writes down 'Claudia'.

JUNE (V.O.) (CONT'D) That whore must have ratted her out because she was jealous of what my sister was capable of. Well we will see who gets the last laugh won't we.

June flicks through the rest of the journal but there are no more entries.

She closes the journal and takes a big breath.

June gathers her papers, stands up and walks over to Macy's desk. She puts the journal down. Macy is slumped over at the computer.

JUNE Thanks for your help, I think I'm done with this.

Macy snaps awake and is all startled.

MACY Oh, have you finished with that dear?

JUNE Yes, I think I got all I need. June looks down at the pile of newspapers on the counter. The newspaper is titled 'THE WILLOW POINT PRESS'. She starts to read an article.

JUNE Willow point resident places second in raw garlic eating contest. DONALD VAN BUSHELL, twenty seven, came second in the states annual... Van Bushell.

June looks at her papers she has in her hand and points to where it says 'Aaron Van Bushell'.

She picks up the newspaper and shows it to Macy.

JUNE

Do you know this man?

Macy puts on her glasses that are hanging around her neck and looks at the news article.

MACY

Why yes, that's Donald Van Bushell. He works down at the local super market. Big boy he is and ever since this competition you have been able to smell him a mile away.

JUNE Have the Van Bushell's been in this town long?

MACY For as long I have known... The Van Bushells are... well lets just say they have never had the best luck.

JUNE Okay... Well thanks for everything.

MACY You're most certainly welcome. Come back anytime okay.

JUNE I will... Bye.

MACY

Bye now.

June turns around and exits the building.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

June walks past all the cash registers in the supermarket until she spots a big burly blonde headed man scanning and packing groceries into a paper bag.

As Donald lifts up the paper bag the bottom rips open and a bunch of loose tomatoes come flooding out.

#### DONALD

Ahhh not again.

June grabs a chocolate bar off the shelf and starts to proceed to the checkout that he is operating as Donald re packs all the tomato's.

INT. SUPERMARKET/CHECKOUT - DAY

DONALD Once again Mrs Appleton I'm truly sorry, it's the third bag this week to do that.

Mrs Appleton speaks with a handkerchief over her face.

MRS APPLETON It's okay Donald, I'm just making soup so a little bruises wont hurt anyone.

DONALD Thank goodness for that... You take care now.

Mrs Appleton exits the supermarket. June puts her item on the counter.

Donald looks at June.

DONALD Good afternoon mam.

June recoils as she is hit with the strong smell of garlic. She casually tries to cover her nose and mouth with her hand.

> JUNE Good afternoon... Did that lady just say your name was Donald?

DONALD Yes mam, why is that? As Donald talks June floats her hand over her nose and mouth pretending to scratch it.

JUNE Well are you the same Donald that came second in the raw garlic eating contest?

Donalds face lights up.

DONALD Well yes I am. I only came second because there was a live bee nesting in one of the bulbs that I ate. Got stung thirteen times.

June's face looks shocked.

JUNE

That's unlucky.

June starts to hold her breath. Donald scans her chocolate bar.

DONALD Yeah... Luck doesn't really run in my family... That will be ninety nine cents please.

June looks down and exhales a big breath as she starts to rummage through her wallet.

JUNE Really, how so?

DONALD Because they are on special at the moment, ninety nine cents down from one dollar fifty.

JUNE No I mean about the luck?

### DONALD

Oh, I'm not really too sure why. All I know is that all the males in my family seem to have the worst luck. My Granddad says we have had a curse put on us.

June looks up from her wallet.

JUNE

A curse?

DONALD Yea but no one really believes him.

June now rests her fist under her nose.

JUNE Sorry I'm out of cash I'll just put it on card.

June takes out a card from her wallet and continues with the transaction.

JUNE Is there any chance I could speak with your Granddad?

DONALD

What for?

The card reader starts to beep.

DONALD Sorry your card declined.

JUNE

Shit... My pay must have not gone through... Anyway about your Granddad, I just think I might know something about your situation that might help.

Donald studies June's face.

DONALD Well I get off in about an hour, if you want to wait around I can take you to go see him.

June is visibly holding her breath as she speaks in short bursts.

JUNE That would be great.

DONALD Do you still want this?

He holds up the chocolate bar.

JUNE No it's okay... I don't need the calories. Okay then. I'll meet you at the front of the store in an hour.

JUNE Sounds like a plan.

June walks off and starts to get her breathing rhythm back leaving Donald there with a confused look on his face.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

June is leaning on the hood of her car as Donald walks out of the supermarket towards her.

JUNE Did you drive here?

DONALD Na, my car fell into a sink hole the other day.

Donald reaches June then turns around and points off in the distance. June follows his finger.

EXT. SINKHOLE - DAY

In the middle of the road a car has fallen into a sinkhole just big enough for the car but nothing else. There is caution tape around the hole.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

JUNE

Oh shit.

DONALD

Yeah.

June's eyes widen to their maximum capacity. She gets up off the car and starts to rummage around in her pockets. She pulls out a tin of mints and holds them out to Donald.

She talks without breathing.

JUNE Would you like a mint.

DONALD

Sure.

JUNE

Take two... or three.

Donald takes the tin and pulls out two mints before handing them back to June.

DONALD

Thanks.

Donald puts the mints in his mouth. June begins to breathe again.

JUNE My pleasure... So let me give you a ride.

DONALD Sure... Oh and I got you this.

Donald pulls out a chocolate bar from his pocket and hands it over to June.

JUNE

Oh thank you... You're so sweet.

Both June and Donald get into her car.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

June drives the car as Donald sits there looking out the front window.

JUNE How far is it?

DONALD Not far... Take a left up here.

June follows his instructions.

JUNE So do you like living in Willow Point?

DONALD Yeah it's okay... It's the only place I really know... Haven't traveled out much.

JUNE Any particular reason? As Donald speaks he notices a shirtless man running on the footpath. His eyes follow the running man until he is out of sight.

Donald then turns and can see June looking at him. Donald's face goes red.

JUNE It's okay... He was pretty hot.

Donald keeps quiet.

JUNE Does your family know?

#### DONALD

... Yeah but you know what small towns can be like.

JUNE That's true... Anyway tell me about your family. Do you have any brothers or sisters?

DONALD Take a right here... No it's just me, my Dad and my Grandpa. We all live together.

JUNE That's cool. I'm an only child as well. I live with my Mom but we had to put Grandma into a home. Stage 5 dementia.

### DONALD

That sucks.

### JUNE

Yeah.

DONALD That's our house there.

Donald points to a modest Victorian house with a long driveway and a big front lawn.

JUNE

Nice house.

DONALD

It was my great great Granddads. Been in the family since.

JUNE

Cool.

June drives her car up the driveway.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/ENTRANCE - DAY

Donald enters the house followed by June.

DONALD (yelling) Dad...? Grandpa...? You around?

ABE (O.S.) (yelling) In here.

Donald and June walk through the sparsely furnished house till they get to the lounge.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

In the lounge BURT, 49, and ABE, 75, are playing cards. Abe is hoarsely laughing.

ABE

Go fish.

Burt begrudgingly picks up a card from the pile in the middle. Abe laughs again and looks up at the two who just entered the room. Burt's back is facing the door.

ABE Jesus I may be dumb but at least I'm not as dumb as my shit for brains son.

BURT It's a game of luck not skill.

ABE Well how do you explain me having ten pairs so far and you having none. You have the memory of a sieve. BURT

At least I remembered where the toilet was last night.

ABE You wait till you get to my age boy and then we will see who's peeing where.

DONALD Dad, Grandpa... This is June.

Burt turns around.

ABE I thought you were gay.

DONALD I met her at the supermarket today

and she would like to ask us a few questions about our family history.

June waves at the two men.

JUNE

Hi.

#### ABE

Well hello me lady. Are you sure you didn't pick her up at the miss Willow Point pageant?

June giggles.

DONALD Knock it off Grandpa.

ABE Well she ain't your cup of tea, so I thought I may as well have a crack.

June becomes visibly awkward.

BURT Nobody wants to see that crack Dad.

ABE Ha... I didn't know you were capable of making a joke. I knew I was the moment you were born.

BURT

What?

ABE Never mind... Anyway June how can we help you?

JUNE I just have a few questions about your family history if you don't mind.

ABE Not a problem. Come sit down.

June walks over to an empty chair next to Burt and facing Abe. Donald continues to stand there and lean against the door frame.

JUNE Firstly how long have you lived in Willow Point?

ABE The Van Bushell's have lived in Willow Point for generations. As far back as I have known. This very house has belonged to the family for at least one hundred years.

JUNE Wow, that's incredible.

BURT

It is considering how reckless the Van Bushell's can be sometimes.

Burt looks straight at Abe. Abe looks back at Burt.

ABE Hey don't look at me like that, Throughout the years we have all had our share of breaking things.

Abe directs his gaze back to June.

ABE

You may have noticed that for such a grand house like this it is pretty empty... Most of us inherited the spacial awareness of a blind pig in heat.

BURT Most of the time they are accidents.

#### ABE

Easily avoidable accidents.

BURT But still accidents.

JUNE At least the house itself has stayed intact.

#### ABE

And that's the unbelievable thing about it. This house has managed to survive generations of stupidity. Sure it's had its fair share of damage but it's always been able to be repaired. I guess they don't make them like they used to.

#### JUNE

And Donald told me that you think that a curse is to blame for this bad luck?

BURT Oh God here we go.

### ABE

That is correct. Neither of these two morons believe me but there is a story passed down the family line that a witch back in the day cursed the Van Bushells with thick skulls and the luck of a rabbit born with no feet and this curse is no joke.

#### BURT

(raised voice) I told you there is no curse. Shit happens and that's all there is to it.

Burt stands up and leaves the room. June watches awkwardly as he exits.

JUNE Is he okay?

Abe starts to get serious.

ABE Yeah he will be alright... This curse has ruined us in more ways then one.

### JUNE

How so?

#### ABE

His wife, Donalds mother, died twenty years ago. Brain aneurysm. The doctor said it wasn't caused by anything in particular... she was just unlucky. He has still never come to terms with that.

# JUNE

That's horrible.

#### DONALD

I was too young to know what was going on but Dad took it hard.

#### ABE

My wife died forty five years ago. A stray hunting arrow came out from nowhere...

#### JUNE

Well I might be able to shed some more light on your situation but I just have one more question... How many females have been born into your family?

Abe sits there for a second in silence.

#### ABE

Well I can't think of any to be honest.

### JUNE

I thought so... The reason I'm actually here in Willow Point is to do some research on my own family tree and my situation is very similar to yours... My family consists of females and has only been females since the seventeen hundreds. All males have been either married or adopted in and the similarities don't stop there.

Donald and Abe are listening intently.

JUNE Much like your family has been cursed with bad luck and a... (MORE)

## JUNE (CONT'D)

lower IQ than others, I believe my family has been given the curse of constant money troubles, and we all hallucinate from time to time.

ABE

How do you know you're just not bad with money?

JUNE

My credit card has been hacked three times, my wallet stolen five times. I have been over charged items at almost every store I go to and the moment I withdraw cash it just blows away in the wind. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

DONALD

So you think you are cursed too?

JUNE

Yes... I believe both our families have been cursed and by the same person back in seventeen twenty one.

ABE And how did you come to that conclusion?

JUNE

I found one of your relatives diary's at the historical society.

ABE You're shitting me.

### JUNE

Nope, and it tells of a time when both a relative of mine and a relative of yours were burnt at the stake for being a witch and I believe their coven leader Claudia is the one responsible for both their deaths and the curse that plagues us today.

ABE

See I told you there was a curse.

JUNE

I believe you. Also My Dad and Granddad are not around as well.

ABE They die too?

JUNE No... Just left for someone with more money.

ABE

Bastards.

JUNE

I know.

DONALD So if there is a curse, what do we do now?

JUNE

Well there is something else I haven't told you... I'm pregnant with a boy and I'm scared this curse is going to try and take him away from me so I am going to do everything in my power to break it... For both of us.

DONALD Well... We are with you.

ABE

All the way.

JUNE

Thanks as I may need your help but for now I will return home and look into curses as I have no idea where to start.

June stands up.

DONALD If you need anything just holler.

June starts to go red.

JUNE Umm... Could I have some petrol money?

DONALD Let's go fill her up.

JUNE

Thanks.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/JUNE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

June sits on her bed with her laptop in front of her and a notepad beside her.

She looks at the screen intently.

ON THE SCREEN

On June's laptop is a black and white drawing of 3 old haggard looking ladies. One has a cat on her shoulder, one has a large pig at her side and the third one holds a large branch in her hand.

The mouse curser clicks on an arrow icon revealing another image.

This image is another black and white sketch of 5 witches riding off into the night on broom sticks.

June clicks again to see another picture.

This painting is in color and is of 4 naked women holding hands in a circle around a large toad. The women are being bathed in moon light.

BACK TO SCENE

June hears a noise coming from outside. She looks up from the computer and walks towards her open window.

She pokes her head out and looks down from the second story.

EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Olive is lying naked on the grass. Her eyes are closed and she appears to be asleep with one arm under her head and her legs in a crossed position.

Olive is being illuminated by the large full moon above her in the cloudless sky.

June screws up hear face.

JUNE (whispering) Gross.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/JUNE'S BEDROOM - DAY

June pulls her head back inside then sits back down on the bed.

JUNE At least I have an excuse for it now... My Mom isn't weird she's just part witch... Like me.

June rolls her eyes then goes back to her laptop.

ON THE SCREEN

June goes to the next image and its of a witch wearing a large pointed hat sitting at the dinner table with a horned devil.

A smaller devil is siting on the witches shoulder speaking into her ear.

The next image is of a witch tied to a stake engulfed in flames. Bystanders have their arms raised as if to cheer at the sight.

June goes to the next image and it's of a witch being hung as people throw rocks at the dead corpse. A ghostly horned figure seems to be rising out of the witches body.

BACK TO SCENE

June looks scared. She looks down and starts to rub her belly.

JUNE I won't let them get you.

June looks back at her laptop and closes down the images.

She grabs her notebook, opens it up and writes on the first page in large letters "HOW TO BREAK A CURSE" and underlines it.

She then goes back to her laptop and starts to research.

INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE/JUNE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT(LATER)

June is lying on her bed flicking through her notebook. Her laptop is now back on the desk turned off.

June flicks through the notebook that is now filled with messy writing, doodles and diagrams. She has managed to fill up half of the book.

June stops on one of the pages and begins to read out loud.

JUNE

In order to break a curse put on a family line you must gather one member of each generation and travel back to where the curse originated. Once there you must create a curse of your own and direct it back to the one who placed it.

June lies there in silence until she closes the notebook and carelessly tosses it to her side.

June closes her eyes.

JUNE Willow Point here we come.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

June is driving her car with Olive in the passenger seat.

OLIVE This is so exciting... A real life adventure with my family of wicked witches... Dreams do come true.

#### JUNE

Yea well if I am right with all of this let's remember what's at stake here.

Olive looks over at June and touches her stomach.

OLIVE Of course dear and I know with all of us together we are unstoppable... I can't believe Kevin was so on board.

JUNE He doesn't have a choice.

# OLIVE

I see.

#### JUNE

Do you think Grandma is going to be okay being away from the home? You know she still thinks James Dean talks to her. OLIVE Oh she will be fine, she's a bit loopy but she's harmless. Just have to make sure she keeps her clothes on.

JUNE (murmuring) Guess the same goes for you.

OLIVE

What was that?

JUNE I said we have to make sure we can get her out of the home first.

OLIVE Just leave it to me.

Olive has a big creepy smile plastered on her face. June shudders at the sight.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/ENTRANCE - DAY

June and Olive enter the retirement home.

OLIVE

Okay you go distract the person at the front desk and I'll get Mom.

Olive runs past the front desk and into the lounge area as June casually strolls up to the front desk to talk to the receptionist.

> JUNE Good morning Barb.

BARB Good morning June, how are you today?

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/LOUNGE - DAY

Olive runs into the lounge and spots Esme. She runs over to to her while grabbing a thick blanket off of a couch.

She reaches Esme who is sitting down on a chair playing dominoes with another lady.

Olive leans down to talk to Esme which startles her.

OLIVE

Listen Mom I have no time to explain but you are coming with me.

Olive throws the blanket over Esme and stands her up. This knocks the table over and sends the dominoes flying. The lady still sitting on her chair screams.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/ENTRANCE - DAY

Barb and June hear the scream. Barb looks off to her right.

BARB What was that?

JUNE

Um... Well actually that's just my mother getting my Grandma. I'm not here for my usual visit but I would like to take my Grandma out for about a week for a family reunion.

BARB

Oh how wonderful, I think some time out from here will do her some good. Being cooped up like this can't be good for anyone. Just let me get the paperwork sorted.

June breathes a sigh of relief a Barb starts to type on her computer.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/LOUNGE - DAY

Olive is leading Esme around the room by her hand. Esme is constantly bumping into things till they reach a sliding door that leads to an outside fenced deck.

She slides it open and leads Esme outside.

EXT. RETIREMENT HOME - DAY

All of the other old folks are staring in bewilderment.

Olive takes the blanket off Esme.

ESME What the hell's wrong with you? ESME I'll break my ankle.

OLIVE You'll be fine, now hurry.

Esme starts to climb the short fence. Olive starts to lift Esme's feet up which sends Esme over the fence and crashing onto the ground screaming.

Esme stands up and dusts herself off.

The blanket then comes down from above and covers her again.

Olive jumps the fence.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/ENTRANCE - DAY

June is still standing at the front desk. Barb puts a piece of paper in front of her.

BARB Alright just sign here and she is free to go.

June picks up a pen and signs the document.

BARB Just make sure she doesn't do any strenuous activities.

JUNE Not a problem.

BARB And call us if you need help with anything.

JUNE Sure and thanks for all your help.

BARB Enjoy the reunion.

JUNE

Thanks.

June leaves the entrance and walks into the lounge.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME/LOUNGE - DAY

June looks over the lounge and can see many things knocked over including a few old people who are stuck on their backs on the floor.

June looks over to one of the old ladies sitting on a couch knitting and the old lady points towards the deck.

June heads out onto the deck as a few nurses come in and run to the aid of the people on the floor.

EXT. RETIREMENT HOME - DAY

June can see Olive and Esme running off in the distance. Esme is still covered with a blanket.

June shakes her head and then turns around to leave.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

June is driving her red car with the dent at the front down the highway. Esme is in the passenger seat and Olive is in the back.

The car is silent as June drives past the hole in the fence that she made earlier.

A set of hands suddenly appear on both sides of Esme's head.

June looks over.

JUNE Mom what are you doing?

OLIVE Trying to read her mind.

ESME Oh you don't want to go in there.

JUNE Witches can't read minds.

Olive pulls her hands back.

ESME Well can we fly?

OLIVE I think you need a broom stick for that. JUNE We can't fly either.

### OLIVE

Well what can we do? If I'm a witch I want to have some fun with it.

# JUNE

From what I understand we don't really have powers as such. We are just more connected with nature and are supposed to be knowledgeable about how the world works and how we can manipulate it to benefit our own lives.

OLIVE

Or destroy others.

JUNE

Right, but we have lost that knowledge over time. It probably stopped being passed down the generations when Adisa was burnt at the stake.

ESME

But not all knowledge has been lost.

JUNE Is there something that you haven't told us Grandma?

ESME

Well yes, but I was waiting till you were ready. It was passed down from my Grandma and hers before that.

Esme starts to rummage around in her purse till she takes out a folded piece of paper. She hesitantly hands it over to June.

June takes the piece of paper and while driving opens it up.

She reads what's on the paper and then snaps her head to look at Esme.

JUNE An oatmeal raisin cookie recipe. ESME You used to love them when you were younger.

June puts the note in her pocket.

JUNE Thanks Grandma but it's not quite what we are after.

OLIVE Do you think the boys know any spells?

JUNE

I doubt it.

OLIVE How old is the house? Are there going to be spiders bunking up with

us?

Esme pokes her tongue out in disgust.

JUNE It's pretty old but I didn't see any evidence of spiders.

### OLIVE

Thank God... And you think it's safe to be staying with them?

#### JUNE

Well do you have enough money for a hotel?

### OLIVE

No, but how do you know they aren't some group of evil warlocks who are into black magic and are just luring us in to suck up our energy?

ESME

Oh dear.

JUNE Well I have met them and I can confidently say that they know as little as we do, probably less.

OLIVE I hope you're right. JUNE

Trust me.

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE/ENTRANCE - DAY

June knocks on the front door. Esme and Olive are on each side of her.

Donald answers the door and he bursts out in a huge goofy grin.

DONALD June welcome.

JUNE Hey Donald, how have you been?

DONALD Good, and this must be your mother and Grandmother. Nice to meet you.

OLIVE The pleasure is all ours.

DONALD

Please come in.

Donald steps to the side and the three ladies enter the house.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/ENTRANCE - DAY

Donald is now standing behind the three ladies.

DONALD I'll introduce you to my Dad and Grandpa. They are just through that door to your left.

The three ladies walk forward and then open the door to the lounge.

Inside they see the walls are painted black. There is a giant pentagram on the floor painted in red. There are also dozens of candles lit up around the whole room.

In the center or the room there are two men standing still holding pitch forks. They are both wearing robes and goat skulls on their heads.

Olive screams as the three ladies turn around and push Donald to the ground. They all run recklessly out of the house in a panic with their arms flailing.

# DONALD (yelling) What's wrong?

Donald stands up and walks into the lounge.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

Abe and Burt are standing in the normal well lit lounge with white walls and all the furnishings. Both men are wearing normal cloths.

DONALD What did you two do?

BURT

Nothing.

Donald turns back around and chases after the ladies.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY(LATER)

June, Esme and Olive are all sitting together on one couch.

Abe and Donald are sitting on a couch opposite them and Burt is sitting on a recliner.

BURT

So are you calm now?

JUNE

Yes, sorry about that. We can share hallucinations and they are often based on what's on our minds.

BURT So you think we are a bunch of devil worshipers?

OLIVE Of course not, we are just a little nervous about staying in a strangers home... Beautiful home by the way.

Esme leans in towards Abe.

ESME Has anyone ever told you that you look like Ricky Ricardo?

Abe winks at Esme. Esme giggles and her cheeks turn red.

DONALD Right so we are all together, now what?

June pulls a notebook out of her bag beside her and plonks it on the coffee table.

JUNE We give these a go.

Donald picks up the notebook and flicks through it.

DONALD What are they?

JUNE Spells... Specifically designed to break curses.

DONALD And you think this will work?

BURT Of course they won't. Can't remove what's not there.

OLIVE Looks like we all know who the negative nelly is in the group.

BURT Look I've had a difficult life and by the sounds of it we all have but that's just life. Ain't no way around it.

JUNE Well then is there any harm in trying?

BURT Maybe... You almost stampeded my son to death.

DONALD

I'm fine.

JUNE But what if I'm right and my son's life is in danger. Is it not worth a try?

BURT

And that's the only reason I am entertaining this. But I just want you all to be ready when I say I told you so.

JUNE

Look we are on the same side here and I hope you are right. I hope that this curse is all bullshit, but I am not taking that chance.

OLIVE And neither are we.

Olive grabs Esme's hand. Esme is still staring at Abe.

DONALD

We are doing this together.

Donald looks back at Burt.

DONALD

All of us.

BURT

Yeah, yeah.

JUNE Good because first thing tomorrow we will try out our first spell.

OLIVE Ohh I can't wait.

BURT Neither can I.

DONALD Let me show you to your rooms.

Olive and June stand up.

OLIVE You coming Mom?

Esme snaps out of her stare.

OLIVE I think it's time for your medication.

ESME Oh yes it probably is.

Esme stands up and the three ladies follow Donald out of the room but before Esme exits she turns around to look at Abe.

Abe blows her a kiss. She quickly turns around and then exits the lounge with a smile on her face.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/JUNE'S ROOM - DAWN

June is lying in a single bed as she starts to wake up. The sun has entered through a slit in the curtains that runs across her face.

June rubs her eyes and quietly groans.

JUNE You up Grandma?

Silence in the room.

June sits up in the bed.

Across from her is another single bed. This one is empty with the blankets drawn back.

## JUNE

Grandma?

June gets out of bed and looks around the room. She is wearing her pyjamas.

She pokes her head into the bathroom that is connected to the bedroom and notices a pile of clothes on the ground.

### JUNE

Oh God not again.

June snaps around and then walks out of the bedroom.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - DAWN

June walks briskly down the hallway.

JUNE

Grandma?

As June walks down the hallway she starts to hear someone giggling.

She walks further down the hallway with the sound getting closer until she stops outside a closed door.

June puts her ear to the door.

ESME (0.S.) Oh Ricky you're so naughty.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/ABE'S ROOM - DAWN

June opens the door, screams and then suddenly looks away.

JUNE

Oh God.

Esme and Abe are both lying in bed naked.

ABE Good morning.

ESME Morning dear.

JUNE Jesus guys, what the hell?

ESME Something wrong dear?

JUNE Nothing I suppose... I'll see you down stairs.

Donald enters the room.

DONALD Everything okay...

Donald quickly turns around.

DONALD I did not just see that.

ABE What's the matter ain't nobody ever seen two naked people before? ESME Could you pass me my teeth you sexy man you.

ABE Okay but don't get used to them. You won't need them when you're with me.

June dry retches.

Abe passes Esme a large glass of water that has two sets of teeth in it.

Abe and Esme both put their teeth in their mouths.

Olive now walks into the room.

OLIVE Woah... What's going on here...? What is wrong with your faces?

Donald and June turn around to look.

Esme has both top sets of teeth in her mouth making her look like a horse and Abe has both bottom sets of teeth in his mouth making him look like a child.

Esme and Abe look at each other. They both smile and then burst out in laughter.

JUNE Well we will leave you guys to it.

DONALD I think I'm going to be sick.

June and Donald leave the room.

Olive follows them but gives Esme a big thumbs up before she leaves the room.

Esme and Abe are still laughing as they show off their smiles to each other.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

Donald, Olive, June and Burt are all in the lounge sitting down as Esme and Abe enter.

They both have a cheeky look on their face.

June's notebook is open on the table.

ESME Sorry, I just couldn't find my panties.

Donald dry retches as Esme and Abe take a seat next to each other.

JUNE Okay, so I'll go over the plan again. The first experiment -

OLIVE

Spell.

JUNE Sorry our first spell... will come in liquid form... We will make ourselves a potion. No couldren required.

DONALD What's a couldren?

JUNE

A large pot.

DONALD Shouldn't we use a large pot to mix it all together.

JUNE Well yes we will use a large pot, but we don't specifically need a couldren. Look it was a joke okay, we're moving on.

Donald leans back in his chair.

JUNE

I've made two different lists of ingredients. On one of the lists we can buy the stuff from the shops downtown. The other list is of things we need to get from the forest so we will split up into two teams... Mom you go with Burt and Abe foraging. They know the area well and you are good with plants.

OLIVE Great I get Mr Grumpy. BURT

I don't mind staying back. Better here than out with that freak.

JUNE Could you two act like adults.

Olive rolls her eyes.

OLIVE

Sorry...

JUNE So while you three are out collecting ingredients, me, Donald and Esme will be out shopping.

June hands over a list to Olive.

JUNE Meet back here in a few hours, any questions just call okay.

OLIVE

Gotcha.

JUNE Okay... Let's go.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Donald, June and Esme are walking down a supermarket aisle. June is carrying a basket that is half full of random things. Esme is carrying the list and a pen.

> JUNE So what's next on the list Grandma?

ESME Ahhh... Rosemary.

DONALD That's this way.

Donald directs them to the herb section in the supermarket.

DONALD You need dried or fresh?

ESME It doesn't say. Donald puts some dried rosemary into the basket.

JUNE What's next?

IL 5 HEAL:

# ESME

Milk.

# DONALD

This way.

Donald directs them to the milk.

DONALD Non fat or whole?

JUNE Let's go whole.

Donald picks up a bottle of milk but as he is holding it the bottom of the bottle breaks open and milk spills everywhere.

June jumps back.

Esme gets startled.

#### DONALD

Shit.

JUNE Jesus what happened?

DONALD Nothing, it's just my luck remember.

A supermarket employee walks up to the three.

SUPERMARKET EMPLOYEE You guys alright... Oh it's you Don. I should have guessed. I'll get this cleaned up.

DONALD

Sorry.

SUPERMARKET EMPLOYEE Maybe don't touch anything unless you have to. DONALD

Okay.

June grabs a new milk off the shelf and puts it into her basket.

The three then continue to walk down the aisle.

JUNE I see why you are just as eager to get rid of this curse as I am.

DONALD Yeah, this is my fourth job this year but that's not really the reason.

JUNE What is then?

DONALD Promise you won't laugh?

JUNE

Promise.

Donald takes a big breath in.

DONALD I want to be a vet.

JUNE

... What's funny about that?

### DONALD

Well if you saw my grades at school you would laugh... And I'm scared that if this curse thing is real then as long as it hangs over me I will never be smart enough for that to become real.

# JUNE

Well hopefully what we are doing can change that. But you know it will take more then a clean slate to become a vet. You have to work hard at it as well.

### DONALD

Yeah I know that but when ever I try to learn something new my brain just can't hold onto it. Nothing sticks.

JUNE Well lets get this done then. The quicker we remove the curse the quicker we can get you back to school.

Donald keeps walking down the aisle. As he is walking he slips on a grape, gets airborn for a second and then crashes down on his back.

Esme screams.

June kneels down beside Donald.

JUNE Oh dear... I wonder how they are getting on.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Abe, Olive and Burt are walking through the woods. Burt and Abe are carrying plastic bags that are filled with plant material.

Olive is carrying the list. She has stuck a flower behind her ear. She takes in big breaths of fresh air and touches the leaves as she moves.

> OLIVE Okay next we need some bark. Could you pull some from that tree over there Burt?

Olive points to a large tree near Burt.

Burt walks over to the tree and pulls off a piece of bark.

Behind the bark is a baby snake that jumps off the tree at Burt but narrowly misses as he jumps back and drops the piece of bark.

> BURT (yelling) Holy shit.

Abe starts laughing.

OLIVE Oh it was just a baby chill out. (yelling) It still has enough venom to kill me twice over... And would you shut up old man.

Abe continues to laugh.

A loud eagle then cry's and a large amount of bird poo lands on Abe's shoulder.

Abe stops laughing.

# ABE (yelling) Shit!

Burt now bursts out in laughter.

OLIVE Jesus you two are useless.

Abe bends over and picks up a handful of leaves. He starts to wipe away the poo.

ABE Can we just get this finished. I need to take a bath.

Abe's laughing dies down as he picks up the piece of bark and puts it in his plastic bag.

BURT You deserve that.

ABE What's next?

# OLIVE

Wild fungus.

They all start looking around at their feet.

#### BURT

Well my luck must be changing as I have some right here.

Burt bends down and starts to grab some mushrooms growing on the ground.

As he collects the fungus a large elk runs at him and rams his behind sending him flying forward.

# OLIVE

Oh my.

Olive starts running in Burt's direction.

OLIVE

# Burt... Are you okay...? Burt?

Abe lets out a small burst of laughter but quickly covers his mouth.

INT. SUPERMARKET/CHECKOUT- DAY

Donald and June are standing at the register as their items are being scanned.

Donald cracks his back.

They then both look over at Esme who is sitting down on a bench near the entrance. Esme is talking to herself.

# DONALD

Is she okay?

JUNE Yeah, she's just a little bit crazy.

INT. SUPERMARKET/ENTRANCE - DAY

Esme is sitting on a bench talking to the empty space beside her.

ESME Don't be jealous James, I'm enough woman for the both of you.

Esme starts to giggle.

INT. SUPERMARKET/CHECKOUT - DAY

June and Donald continue to stand there as their items are being scanned by the checkout operator.

CHECKOUT OPERATOR Okay that comes to thirty two fifty.

June pulls out a credit card from her pocket.

JUNE Let me get this. And before you ask I know for a fact there is money in it this time.

Just after June finishes speaking a sparrow flies over June and grabs her credit card out of her hand and then flies off.

June stands there in disbelief.

JUNE Well that's a new one.

DONALD It's okay, I got it.

Donald takes out his wallet.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/ENTRANCE - DAY

There is a knock at the front door. June walks down the hallway and opens the door.

Burt walks into the house from outside. He is dirty and has leaves strewn throughout his hair. He walks past June without saying a word.

Abe follows. He is completely wet. He walks past June also without a word and heads upstairs.

Olive is the last to enter. She looks like her normal self as she walks in the door carrying two full plastic bags.

> JUNE How did it go?

> > OLIVE

Fine.

June shuts the door behind her.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - DAY

Olive, Esme, June, Burt, Donald and Abe are all standing in the kitchen. Abe and Burt have cleaned themselves up.

June is stirring a large stainless steel pot filled with brown liquid and plant material.

JUNE Now the last ingredient. June holds up a large piece of paper with the name 'CLAUDIA' written on it.

JUNE This it to represent the one who put this curse on us in the first place.

June rips up the piece of paper into small pieces and throws it into the pot.

She stirs it a bit more and removes the wooden spoon.

She then uses a cup to scoop some of the liquid out.

JUNE Now we drink. Who wants to go first...? Burt?

BURT I ain't drinking that.

DONALD We all have to do it.

BURT I can smell it from here and it smells like shit. I ain't drinking it.

OLIVE We have no problem with holding you down and forcing it down your throat.

BURT Well why don't you go first then?

OLIVE

My pleasure.

Olive takes the cup from June and takes a sip.

# OLIVE

It's actually not that bad.

Olive holds it out to June. June takes the cup and drinks from it.

JUNE Hmmm... Surprising.

Esme takes the cup next and takes a swig. She then passes it over to Abe who takes a drink.

ABE

Tastes like a roast dinner.

Abe passes the drink to Donald who swigs it back. He holds it out to Burt.

# DONALD

Drink it.

Burt rolls his eyes.

BURT You guys better not be pulling my leg.

Burt drinks from the cup and then looks confused.

BURT I guess it could be worse.

ABE

Now what?

JUNE Does anybody feel anything?

Everybody looks around the room at each other.

DONALD I think I am feeling it...

OLIVE What do you feel?

DONALD I think it's working... It's like something is starting to leave me...

Donald projectile vomits across the room. Everyone else screams and moves away from Donald.

ESME

Oh dear.

Esme runs to the sink and starts to vomit into it.

Olive runs to the sink next and stands beside Esme vomiting into the sink.

Burt and Abe hold their mouths. Their cheeks are puffed out as they run to the door that leads outside. Once out the door they both start throwing up. June starts running around the kitchen in a panic with her mouth tightly shut. She finds a rubbish bin, holds it open and then starts throwing up inside it.

Donald is now hunched over throwing up onto the floor. He stops throwing up for a second and then stands up straight with a worried look on his face.

DONALD (yelling) It's coming out the other end now...

Everyone stops vomiting and looks up in a panic.

June, Olive and Donald start running out of the kitchen. Burt and Abe run inside and push past Donald and Olive. They all start running down the hallway.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/HALLWAY - DAY

Abe is the first to reach the door to the toilet. He opens the door and shuts it on Burt'S face.

Burt starts thumping on the door.

# BURT

(yelling) Let me in Goddamn it. You can have the toilet I'll take the bathtub.

The toilet door opens. Burt runs in holding his hand to his butt. He shuts the door on June, Olive and Donalds face.

June and Donald look at each other then they both make a run for the stairs.

They both run up the stairs leaving Olive banging at the door downstair.

OLIVE (crying) Please, I'm a lady let me in.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/JUNE'S ROOM - DAY

Donald runs into June's room followed by June. He reaches the door to the toilet first.

JUNE Please, I'm pregnant. Donald pauses.

# DONALD

Ahhhh.

Donald runs past June and exits the room. June runs into the bathroom and shuts the door.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/HALLWAY - DAY

Donald runs past Olive who is still banging on the door.

# DONALD (yelling)

Come on.

Donald runs past Olive. Olive follows.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - DAY

Donald and Olive run through the kitchen and outside.

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE - DAY

Donald and Olive run towards a small area of bushes.

# DONALD

Over there.

Donald enters a thick bush.

Olive enters the bush next to him but when she walks into it Esme screams.

ESME (yelling) Get out this is my bush.

Olive turns around and runs into the next bush along.

Olive, Esme and Donald then breathe a sigh of relief as we hear the sound of wet clumps hitting dead leaves.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - NIGHT

Donald and June are sitting in the lounge playing cards. They both have large glasses full of water next to them.

JUNE

Go fish.

DONALD

Dang it.

Donald picks up another card from the deck. Olive pops her head in the door.

> OLIVE You guys got enough water?

Both June and Donald hold their glasses up.

OLIVE Good, we all need to replenish all the fluids that we lost.

JUNE Working on it.

Olive pulls her head back out.

JUNE Do you have any fours?

Donald hands over a four of spades.

DONALD So what's it like?

JUNE What's what like?

DONALD Having a mother?

June thinks for a second.

JUNE Probably much like having a father.

DONALD

Except sweeter and more caring.

# JUNE

Not all the time. I've met some hard mothers but I think they usually mean well. It's just their way of protecting.

DONALD Yea I guess... So what kind of mother do you think you will be? JUNE Oh God... I don't want to think about it.

### DONALD

Why not?

# JUNE

Being a mother wasn't number one on my priority list and now I'm pregnant I feel like I'm not ready... I should have been researching how to be a mother for the last few years rather then sitting on my ass watching Netflix or reading books about post apocalyptic worlds.

#### DONALD

Well you have a great family around you to help you with that.

Abe bursts into the room with no shirt on. He scans the room.

ABE Is Esme hiding in here?

JUNE No, is she missing?

#### ABE

Me, her and James are playing catch and kiss.

Abe laughs.

DONALD

Gross

JUNE Doesn't the James Dean thing bother you.

ABE It's freaky... And I like it.

Abe runs out of the room.

ABE (O.S.)(CONT'D) (yelling) I'm coming for you Esme.

June rolls her eyes.

JUNE So how about you, do you have someone to play catch and kiss with?

DONALD No. To be honest I'm scared to meet someone.

JUNE Why is that?

DONALD Because of our family history. I don't want to find the love of my life and then have him die from some freak accident a few years later.

# JUNE

I guess that's a valid concern but as the saying goes, it's better to have love and lost then not love at all.

DONALD My Dad would disagree with that.

JUNE He would disagree with a lot of things.

DONALD

True.

JUNE And don't forget we are getting rid of this curse not just for me and my baby but for all of us.

DONALD And I hope it works.

JUNE So do I... Do you have any sevens?

DONALD

Ah shit.

Donald hands over a card.

JUNE Luckily we aren't playing for money as I would lose every time. EXT. WOODS - DAY

Olive, Esme and Abe are sitting on a fallen tree in the woods. Burt and Donald are leaning on trees next to them.

Everyone is facing June who is standing in front of them with several tall body length mirrors set up behind her.

> JUNE Okay, so we can all agree yesterday was a disaster but I promise you this ritual doesn't involve any ingesting of any kind.

DONALD What does that mean?

June puts down her pairs on the table.

OLIVE We don't have to drink anything this time.

DONALD

Oh good.

BURT Just get on with it.

June shoots Burt a sour look.

JUNE

Behind me are five mirrors. Me and Olive set them up as we didn't want the men with their bad luck anywhere near them... Us three girls will stand in front of that mirror.

June points to a mirror on her right that is facing the group.

JUNE And you three Van Bushells will stand in front of that one.

June points to a mirror on her left that is facing the group.

JUNE

The mirror that us girls are in front of will reflect into another mirror that reflects back into another mirror that has an object in front of it that represents Claudia.

In front of the middle mirror facing the group is a barbie doll with a name tag stuck on its chest saying 'HI, MY NAME IS CLAUDIA'. The name is the only part of it that's handwritten.

JUNE

You boys will stand in front of your mirror that will be reflected into another mirror that will be reflected into the mirror with the doll in front of it.

BURT

And what is this supposed to do?

JUNE

The idea is that the curse will be pulled out of us and bounced through the mirrors till it lands on the doll where it will stick.

#### DONALD

So all we have to do is stand there?

JUNE

And concentrate as hard as you can.

BURT Why didn't we try this one first?

JUNE Look, no one enjoyed yesterday okay but we have to move on.

### ABE

I enjoyed it.

JUNE

You did?

ABE

Hell yeah, I've been blocked up for the last six months so for me it was a relief plus the look on Burt's face as he gripped the sides of the bathtub was priceless.

Abe starts laughing.

JUNE That's disgusting.

Olive stands up.

OLIVE Okay let's do this.

DONALD

Agreed.

EXT. WOODS - DAY(LATER)

The three men are standing in front of their mirror and the three ladies are standing in front of theirs.

OLIVE Does anyone feel anything yet?

JUNE It's only been thirty seconds, now concentrate.

Everyone is quiet as they stare into the mirrors.

Olive then sees a large elk reflected behind her. The elk is running towards Burt's direction.

Olive's eyes widen.

Shit.

OLIVE (yelling) Burt the elk's back, run.

> BURT (yelling)

Burt turns around and starts running. The rest of the group turn around.

DONALD I don't see any elk. Burt continues to run around in a panic.

JUNE (yelling) Burt it's okay, she's just hallucinating.

Burt continues to run around in a frenzy. He keeps looking back over his shoulder screaming until he runs face-first into a tree.

Burt falls backwards to the ground. He looks unconscious.

The knock to the tree causes a bird to fly out from it and the bird flies straight into one of the mirrors breaking it on impact.

The broken mirror then falls forward and lands on a branch that catapults a larger dead branch into the air. This branch crashes down onto two more of the mirrors breaking them on impact.

A shard of glass from one of these mirrors shoots out and penetrates another mirror causing it to crack all around the embedded shard.

Only the central mirror remains with the doll standing in front of it wearing its plastic smile.

Everyone looks stunned as they stare at the scene.

Donald runs over to the broken mirrors and picks up the bird in both his hands.

DONALD Sorry buddy, I don't think I can save you.

The bird's neck is at a right angle. Donald carefully puts the bird back down on the ground.

ABE

Well at least one mirror remained.

A small meteor then crashes from the sky and shoots straight through the remaining mirror. It leaves a clean glowing orange hole through the mirror as the glass falls to the ground.

The barbie doll's hair has been singed.

Esme screams.

JUNE Was that a meteor?

OLIVE

Yip.

JUNE Let's go back.

ABE Sounds good to me.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/DONALD'S ROOM - NIGHT

Donald is fast asleep in his bed.

He is suddenly awoken by loud female screams coming from inside the house.

He jolts out of bed and runs to the door in only his underwear.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/HALLWAY - NIGHT

Donald runs to the lounge door.

Burt is leaning against the lounge door frame in a relaxed manner. He is looking into the lounge where all the screams are coming from.

DONALD What's going on?

Burt steps back.

BURT Take a look for yourself.

Donald peers into the lounge.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - NIGHT

In the lounge, Esme is curled up in a ball on the coffee table, Olive is standing on the couch swinging a pillow in hysterics and June is on the other side of the room crying.

All three ladies are in their pyjamas.

BURT

Nope...

Burt points to a tiny spider that is crawling across the floor.

Donald rolls his eyes, turns around and starts to walk away.

DONALD I'm going back to bed.

BURT Goodnight... I'm going to stay here and enjoy the show.

Burt continues to watch the three ladies panic. He starts to laugh.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

Burt and Donald are in the lounge nailing black sheets over the closed grey curtains.

Abe, Olive and Esme are all sitting on the couches that have been pushed against the walls.

There is a wide clearing in the middle of the room with only a small table standing there on top of a rug.

The sounds of hammering nails fills the room.

OLIVE Isn't there a... less destructive way you could be doing this.

Burt continues to hammer in the final nail.

BURT Probably, but it's too late now. Plus I bet all this noise has scared away all the spiders for you.

OLIVE Ha ha, very funny.

Burt turns around, walks over to the door and shuts it.

BURT (CONT'D) Now lets see if this will do. Burt switches off the light and the whole room goes completely pitch black.

Esme screams.

ESME (yelling) I've gone blind.

OLIVE You're fine Mother.

Burt turns the light back on and the room becomes visible again.

BURT That will do.

There is a loud knock on the door.

JUNE (O.S.) Can you open the door?

Burt opens the door.

June walks in carrying a large stainless steel bowl filled with water. She uses both hands as she carries it into the room and places it down on the table.

ABE Please tell me we're not making another potion.

ESME I lost seven pounds after drinking that last one.

JUNE

Nope.

June runs out of the room.

She then runs back in holding a piece of paper, a small tealight candle, some matches and her note book.

June looks over at Donald.

JUNE (CONT'D) Have you finished blacking out the windows?

DONALD

Yip.

The group mumble an unenthusiastic confirmation.

JUNE (CONT'D)

All right.

June shuts the door behind her and jams a towel under the door sill.

JUNE (CONT'D) So this spell is all about focus.

OLIVE

Focus pocus.

Abe lets out a loud horse laugh.

June shoots Olive a sour look.

JUNE Please I need you to take this seriously.

OLIVE

Sorry.

JUNE So I'm going to light this candle and put it in the water.

DONALD What's the point in that?

JUNE What do you mean?

DONALD It's just going to go out.

June rolls her eyes.

JUNE The candle is going to float on the water.

BURT What's with the piece of paper.

JUNE This has Claudia's name on it. June holds up the piece of paper for the scattered group to see.

#### JUNE (CONT'D)

I'm going to put this in the water as well. Then I am going to turn the light off and all you are going to be able to see is the flame... I need you all to focus on the flame and try to keep your mind as blank as possible.

ABE Shouldn't be hard for us boys.

Abe laughs at his own joke.

JUNE So do you all understand what you have to do?

Olive raises her hand. June looks over at her.

OLIVE Do we have to sit around the flame?

June looks at her notepad.

JUNE It doesn't say so.

OLIVE Well I'll just stay right here then.

June walks over to the bowl of water and lights the candle. She then places the candle in the water very carefully.

Donald sits on the floor with his back to the wall.

Burt walks over to his recliner and sits down. He pulls a lever releasing a foot rest.

OLIVE (CONT'D) Don't fall asleep Burt.

BURT

I won't.

June places the piece of paper in the bowl next to the lit candle.

JUNE Let's hope this works. June then walks over to the light switch.

JUNE (CONT'D) Okay, here we go.

She flicks the light switch off and the room goes dark except for the faint glow in the middle of the room.

Esme screams.

JUNE (CONT'D)(O.S.) Everyone be quiet and focus.

There is silence in the room.

Everyone in the room is shrouded by darkness as the candle light in the bowl is very dim. The tiny flame is being blocked by the sides of the bowl.

Donald breaks the silence.

DONALD (O.S.) I can't see the flame.

BURT (O.S.) Neither can I.

OLIVE (O.S.) You should've used a glass bowl.

JUNE (0.S.) They don't have one. Just focus on the glow, now shhhhhh.

The room falls silent again.

Olive is the first to speak.

OLIVE (O.S.) How am I supposed to focus on a glow?

JUNE (0.S.) All right new plan, everyone get up and stand around the candle.

June walks towards the candle, her face is now visible.

BURT (O.S.) How long is this going to take? I can't stand for too long ever since I got hit in the spine with a bowling ball. OLIVE (O.S.)

Ouch.

JUNE Let's just give it like ten minutes.

Burt grunts.

Shuffling noises can be heard in the room.

Donald, Burt and Olive are now visible around the candle.

There is silence until Donald speaks.

DONALD I need to pee.

JUNE Jesus, Why didn't you go before we started this?

DONALD I didn't need to go then.

OLIVE I need to go as well.

JUNE Do you guys want to lose this curse or not?

DONALD ... Where are the old folks?

OLIVE

Mom...

They all go silent.

Kissing noises start to fill the room.

DONALD Are they having sex again?

JUNE Grandma please.

ABE (O.S.) Just give us a minute.

JUNE Everyone... We're taking a break. BURT

Thank God.

June walks away from the candle glow.

JUNE (0.S.) Can someone help me find the light switch.

Burt walks away from the candle glow.

BURT (O.S.) It should be right here.

You can hear the sound of June and Burt rubbing their hands on the walls.

Esme starts to giggle.

OLIVE (yelling) Mom stop it.

JUNE (O.S.) I can't find it.

> DONALD (yelling)

Help!

BURT (O.S.) Who are you calling out too?

DONALD

I dunno?

BURT (O.S.) Just come over here and help.

Donald begins to walk towards Burt but he trips on the table leg and sends the bowl of water flying across the room. The candle gets flung across the room and hits the black sheet that is nailed to the wall.

The sheet instantly goes up in flames which causes the whole room to suddenly be visible.

Abe has his head up under Esme's sweater.

Esme screams.

ABE (muffled) You like that. I call that the slip'n'slide.

Esme starts to hit Abe.

Abe pulls his head out from under her sweater and looks around the room.

ABE (CONT'D) Jesus, what happened.

OLIVE (panicked) What do we do?, what do we do?, what do we do?

Burt lunges for the now visible door and tries to open it.

BURT

It's stuck.

Burt continues to wiggle the door handle but it doesn't open.

June is on the other side of the room.

JUNE

Let me try.

As June runs over to the door Donald runs and jumps into the black sheet that is completely covered with fire.

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE/FRONT YARD - DAY

He breaks through the window taking half of the flaming sheet with him as he crashes down on the grass.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

Everyone inside looks at the broken window in shock.

BURT (yelling) What the fuck.

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE - DAY

Donald stands up and looks into the broken window.

## DONALD

I'm okay.

He then looks down and can see his pants are on fire. He screams.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

June opens the door with ease and runs out of the lounge, Burt follows.

Olive and Abe are standing at the broken window yelling out at Donald who is running around in circles.

Black smoke is streaming out of the house.

ABE (yelling) Stop running around.

OLIVE (yelling) Get down and roll.

Esme is still sitting on the couch looking up curiously at the growing flames on the wall.

ESME (yelling) Is this real?

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE/FRONT YARD - DAY

Burt storms out of the front door and runs over to a garden hose that is connected to an outside tap.

He turns the water on and then pulls the hose closer to Donald who is rolling around on the grass.

Burt tries to wet Donald with the hose but the stream of water doesn't reach him and there is no more hose pipe to extend.

They are a good 15 meters apart.

BURT (yelling) Roll this way boy.

Donald, in a massive ball of fire, starts to roll towards Burt.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

June runs into the lounge with a fire extinguisher. Olive and Abe are still looking out the window.

#### JUNE

## Everyone, get back.

Olive and Burt stand back from the window and help Esme off the couch. June sprays the flames with the fire extinguisher.

EXT. BURT'S HOUSE/FRONT YARD - DAY

Donald continues to roll but he manages to roll his face over a large rock causing him to scream in pain.

He reaches Burt and he immediately starts to put out the flames all over Donald's body.

BURT

You good?

Donald just lies there on the ground. He lets off a low moaning sound.

June pokes her head out of the smashed window. The smoke has subsided.

JUNE Everything okay out there?

Donald raises his hand and gives the thumbs up gesture as Burt continues to hose him down.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - DAY

Abe, Olive, Esme and Burt are all sitting around the kitchen table drinking a cup of tea.

Donald is lying half naked on a large window sill seat. His skin is charred in random places, his face is blackened with soot and his hair is a mess with patches missing.

June is applying bandages to Donald.

OLIVE Well I think we can all agree that given our situation, anything involving fire should be out of the question. BURT

Agree.

DONALD Shouldn't I be in the hospital?

JUNE No... For someone with as bad luck as you, you're actually not that hurt.

DONALD

Thank God.

ABE I think his stupidity won out over his luck that time.

DONALD I was just trying to help.

OLIVE Ohh... You're sweet dear.

Donald shows a small smile revealing a missing tooth.

ABE Nope. Just stupid.

Donald continues to smile.

INT. BURT'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

Burt, Abe, Donald, Esme, June and Olive are all in the lounge. A large blue tarp has been taped over the window and there are black scorch marks around the window frame.

All the furniture has been put back in place. Burt sits in his recliner. Esme and Abe are sitting on a couch with Donald sitting on the arm rest. June and Olive sit on the couch opposite them.

June has her head in her hands.

They all look defeated and lost.

BURT So now what?

June speaks while looking at the ground.

JUNE I'm thinking. How many spells you got left?

JUNE

One.

BURT Maybe it's about time we call it quits... It's just a matter of time till one of these things kills us.

## ABE

Ahh don't be so soft.

## BURT

In the last three days I've been attacked by an elk both real and imaginary, watched my house almost burn to the ground and lost ninty percent of my body fluids... I don't think I'm being soft.

ABE

None of us have had good experiences over this but we won't give up. Van Bushell's don't give up.

ESME Boy's calm down.

## BURT

(yelling)

I'll admit I haven't had the perfect life but at least I had a life and if we continue that may not be the case anymore... for any of us... So is this all really worth it?

### ABE

(yelling) What about JASMINE, your late wife? She would probably think that this curse is worth getting rid of.

Burt stands up in anger.

BURT (yelling) Don't speak about her that way.

# ESME

# (yelling)

Boys.

June jolts up. Her eyes are wide and her face in shock. She is holding her stomach.

ESME

June?

Donald rushes over to her.

DONALD June what's wrong?

June looks at Donald and smiles.

JUNE My baby just kicked.

Donald breathes a sigh of relief.

OLIVE

I think we are all forgetting the bigger picture here... If you're not doing it for yourself then do it for this baby here.

Olive touches June's stomach.

OLIVE It may be too late for us but it may not be for the future Barlows and the future Van Bushells.

Olive takes June by the hand.

OLIVE Do it for the future.

JUNE For the future.

June holds out her other hand. Donald takes it.

Donald holds out his other hand and Abe leans forward and receives it. Esme and Abe then hold each other's hands.

## ESME For the future.

Both Esme and Olive hold out their free hands to Burt. Burt rolls his eyes and steps forward.

## BURT

What ever.

Burt takes both hands and now the group are all holding hands in a deformed circle.

Suddenly everyone's heads jerk up to look at the ceiling and all their muscles tighten. Everyone stops breathing.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. SHACK - DAY

The year is 1721. A shabbily dressed man walks up to an old wooden shack in the middle of a clearing in the woods. He is walking with a leashed goat by his side.

He knocks on the door.

A lady answers the door. She has long frazzled hair. She is dirty and has a crazed look about her.

The man speaks first.

AARON

Adisa.

#### ADISA

Yes Aaron.

#### AARON

I'm here to return this goat you falsely sold me as a fit and healthy goat.

ADISA She looks fit and healthy to me, now be on your way.

#### AARON

Since I have had this goat she hasn't produced a single drop of milk and I was assured that I would be getting a bucket full every week.

ADISA It's not my fault that you are so stupid that you don't know how to milk her properly. AARON It's not my technique that's the problem, it's this goat. I want my money back.

## ADISA

Well you're not getting it. How do I know that it wasn't you who tainted the goat. She was fine before she went with you. Guess it's just bad luck.

AARON Give me my money back.

ADISA

No.

The two stare at each other.

AARON I'm going to tell Claudia about this.

ADISA Go ahead. She can't fix your slow brain.

Aaron angrily turns around and walks away from the shack with his goat.

He stops and then turns back around a few meters away from the shack.

## AARON

(yelling) This isn't over... I shall curse you that all future generations will only consist of females that are as crazy as you are and that money you stole from me will be the last financial success that they will ever see.

ADISA

Well I shall create my own curse that will see only males born into your family and they will be as dumb as a pile of dirt and their luck will be ever worse.

Adisa slams her door shut.

END FLASHBACK

Everyone lets go of the hands that they are holding.

They snap out of their frozen state and start breathing again.

Burt bends over and rests his hand on his recliner.

BURT What the fuck was that?

JUNE I think we just has a vision of the past.

## OLIVE

Trippy.

JUNE But do you know what this means?

DONALD That goat's aren't a reliable source of milk?

JUNE No... It means we have been directing the curse back at the wrong person. Claudia had nothing to do with this... We put the curse on each other... At least out ancestors did.

OLIVE And that's why the spells haven't been working?

JUNE

Maybe.

DONALD Well we still have one more spell to try.

ESME Yipee... Can James Dean join us this time.

BURT Sure he can. What ever it will take to make it work. JUNE What ever it takes.

ESME For the future.

GROUP (yelling) For the future.

INT. VARIETY STORE - DAY

Burt and Olive are walking down an isle in a variety store. Olive holds a partially full basket as Burt is holding a list.

Burt grabs a battery powered lantern off the shelf and puts it in the basket.

BURT Some odd things we have to get here.

OLIVE Yes, I have no idea what Junie has in store for us but I have a good feeling about it this time.

BURT I hope you're right.

OLIVE ... And thanks for coming with me to get all this.

BURT Beats going into the woods with the rest of them.

OLIVE And here I was thinking you were beginning to enjoy my company.

BURT

Nope.

Burt and Olive continue to walk up and down the aisles.

OLIVE So tell me about Jasmine.

BURT I don't want to talk about it. OLIVE Why not. Let her memory shine. Stop trying to forget she was ever here.

BURT (yelling) I said I don't want to talk about it.

Burt throws the list into the basket.

BURT I'll be outside. Finish it yourself.

Burt storms out of the store.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Burt is sitting on a park bench in a small roadside park. Olive walks up to him. She is empty-handed.

> OLIVE (yelling) What was that about?

# BURT

(yelling) You think I am trying to forget her...? You think I want to pretend like Jasmine never existed...? You don't know me at all.

OLIVE

(yelling) Well why are you so afraid to talk about her...? Does Donald even know anything about her?

BURT

It just hurts okay... I could never forget about her because every time I close my eyes I see her and it hurts... I've put up with it for over twenty years now and the pain is still the same and it's made me angry. I used to be fun, I used to be funny but now I am just bitter... And now to know that her dying was to be my fate all along is the cruelest joke of all.

## OLIVE

I've lost someone too because of this curse as have probably many from both our family lines, at least you got the chance to tell her that you love her. I never had that chance with my son Joshua.

#### BURT

I'm sorry to hear that.

## OLIVE

But now we have a chance to change fate. For Donalds future husband and even for you to find love again.

#### BURT

And that's the only reason I'm willing to give it one more chance... For Donald... I'm too old to love again but he's not.

#### OLIVE

You may think you're too old to love but you are certainly not too old to live. Look at your father, he's got well over twenty years on you but he's got a lust for life like a teenager.

BURT

Emphasis on lust.

Olive laughs.

#### OLIVE

See, I know there is a fun man behind all that sourness. And if your wife is watching down on you, what do you think she wants to see? A bitter grump dragging himself through life or you how you were when she first fell in love?

## BURT

I just miss her so much.

## OLIVE

Well then start living so when you finally see her again you have some stories to tell her.

BURT

You mean sitting in front of the TV isn't living?

OLIVE No, unless you're watching law and order. That shit is fire.

Burt starts to laugh.

BURT I must give that a try... Anyway where are the things you bought?

OLIVE About that... My card expired... Do you mind getting the bill?

Burt growls.

BURT Do cards even expire?

OLIVE

Apparently.

BURT

Okay then.

Burt stands up and starts to walk towards the store.

As he stands up a squished sandwich falls off his backside and onto the ground. His pants have been stained by the sandwich.

> OLIVE Um... Burt...

He stops and turns around to face Olive

BURT

Yes?

OLIVE ... Good talk.

BURT

I needed it.

# OLIVE

You're welcome.

Olive smiles and the two walk back to the variety store.

EXT. WOODS - DUSK

Esme, Abe, Olive, Burt, Donald and Olive are all standing in a clearing in the woods.

On the ground is a large pentagram made of stones. One person each is standing at a point of the pentagram holding an object. June stands in the middle.

The sun is setting causing a warm orange glow to filter through the trees.

JUNE Each one of you are holding an object representing the elements... Olive, you hold earth.

Olive is cupping a pile of dirt in her hands.

JUNE Abe, you hold fire.

Abe is holding a fake battery powered tea light candle.

JUNE Given our last experiment we couldn't have you hold real fire but this should do just fine... Esme, you are holding water.

Esme is drinking out of a bottle of water.

JUNE Don't drink it just hold it.

ESME Oh... Sorry.

June rolls her eyes.

JUNE Donald, you are holding wind.

Donald stands there holding an electric powered fan.

JUNE Burt, you hold light.

Burt is holding a battery powered lantern.

JUNE And I hold void.

June holds a black crystal ball.

JUNE Now I am going to ask you all to focus this one last time and repeat after me. June takes a big breath. JUNE With elements six, a reverse we plea. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE With elements six, a reverse we plea. JUNE The hex cast on us will no longer be. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE The hex cast on us will no longer be. JUNE The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. JUNE Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names. JUNE (yelling) Louder... With elements six, a reverse we plea. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE (yelling) With elements six, a reverse we plea. JUNE (yelling) The hex cast on us will no longer be.

BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE (yelling) The hex cast on us will no longer be. JUNE (yelling) The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE (yelling) The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. JUNE (yelling) Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names. BURT, DONALD, ESME, OLIVE, ABE (yelling) Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names. The wind starts to pick up. JUNE (yelling) Together now. GROUP (yelling) With elements six, a reverse we plea. The Hex cast on us will no longer be. The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names. Dark clouds start rushing through the air. Leaves are blown about. The sky starts to rumble with thunder. GROUP

(yelling) With elements six, a reverse we plea. The hex cast on us will no longer be. The price has been paid and we dispute their claims. Van Bushell and Carparthia are both their names.

Lightning crashes all around them filling the area with light. Everyone shields their eyes.

June starts blinking profusely and then peers out from her hand.

Aaron and Adisa stand just outside the circle. Their transparent bodies are still. Both their face's are plastered with a big smile.

JUNE (whispering) It's working.

June completely puts her hand down.

JUNE (yelling) Guys it's working.

Everyone takes their hands down from their faces and look over at Adisa an Aaron whose bodies start to dissipate into nothing.

Another lightning strike occurs but further from the group.

Just after the strike Aaron's transparent body can be seen next to Esme as he strokes her face. Adisa is next to Abe as she stokes his face. Aaron and Adisa dissipate again.

Another lightning strike occurs and now Aaron is next to Olive stroking her face and Adisa is next to Burt caressing his face until they dissipate again.

Then another lightning strike happens. Now Adisa is stroking Donalds face and Aaron strokes June across the cheek. Aaron then puts his hand on Junes stomach as he smiles. Adisa and Aaron dissipate again.

Lightning strikes again but this time Adisa and Aaron are no where to be seen. June looks around and when she sees Burt her eyes open wide and she covers her mouth with her hand.

Burt is standing face to face with Jasmine. His face is in shock. Jasmine is smiling.

Jasmine puts her hand up like she is going for a high five. Burt slowly places his hand up to hers. Burt starts to cry.

Burt and Jasmine then lock fingers. Olive is watching the scene with tears rolling down her face and a big smile.

JASMINE

I love you.

BURT I love you too. Jasmine then starts to dissipate into nothing leaving Burt there with his hand up in the air holding nothing.

Olive watch's the scene intently but then gets startled when someone starts tapping on her shoulder.

Olive turns around and in front of her is a tall man smiling at her.

Olives looks up at him and smiles.

OLIVE I know who you are.

Olive touches his face.

OLIVE So handsome... You get it from your Dad.

Olive keeps staring at Joshua.

OLIVE

But you have my eyes.

Joshua places his hand over hers and they both stare at each other.

A loud whistle can be heard causing Esme to turn around. When she turns she can see James Dean standing shirtless with one foot on a fallen log. He winks at Esme and shoots her with a gun made from his finger and thumb.

Esme gives a cheeky wave back to James.

The wind starts to die down as the thunder and lightning moves on. Joshua and James Dean have disappeared.

The group stand there in awe.

Donald starts to rummage around in his pocket until he pulls something out.

DONALD Hey June... Catch.

Donald throws the object across the pentagram to June. June catches it. She looks at it in the palm of her hands. It is a quarter.

DONALD Looks like your money troubles might be over. June smiles and then tosses the black crystal ball over to him.

Donald catches it.

JUNE And maybe your luck too.

Donald laughs. Everyone smiles. Abe cheers, runs over to Esme and picks her up in an embrace.

Olive walks over to Burt. Burt is still in shock. Olive's face is still wet from the tears. Burt looks at her and smiles. The two hug.

June holds her stomach and looks down at it.

JUNE I think we did it.

Donald, Abe, Esme, Olive and Burt all run over to June and they all embrace in one big group hug.

FIVE YEARS AND THREE MONTHS LATER...

INT. JUNE'S HOUSE/LOUNGE - DAY

There is a kids birthday party going on in June's lounge. Little kids are running crazily around the lounge that is decorated with blue balloons and multi colored buntings.

A table packed with sugary treats stands on one side of the room. Above the food is a big silver balloon in the shape of the number five.

Olive and Burt are sitting down on a couch in the middle of the room. Olive is fiddling with a laptop on the coffee table.

> BURT No that's not how to do it.

OLIVE What would you know?

BURT I'm younger than you.

#### OLIVE

Which makes me wiser.

Burt moves his hand towards the laptop. Olive slaps it away.

OLIVE (CONT'D) I got it.

The laptop makes a beeping sound. Olive and Burt's face appear on the laptop in a small box.

OLIVE (CONT'D) See I told you.

Olive looks over her shoulder.

OLIVE (CONT'D) (yelling) Juniper... It's working.

June enters the room. Her hair is a mess.

She flops down onto the couch next to Olive.

JUNE I wish these kids would crash from the sugar already.

OLIVE Okay lets call Mom.

ON THE LAPTOP SCREEN

Olive clicks on a picture of Esme. The laptop starts to produce a ringing sound.

When the ringing stops a box opens up with Esme and Abe's face in it. Behind them are palm trees and a white sand beach.

The box with Esme and Abe in it takes up half the screen and the box with Olive, June and Burt take up the other half.

ESME Hello my dears.

ABE Where's the birthday boy, I can't see him?

BACK TO SCENE

JUNE (yelling) Kevin... Can you bring JOSHUA in?

Kevin appears with a small mischievous looking boy in his arms. He walks over to June and puts him down on her lap.

ON THE LAPTOP SCREEN

Joshua now joins Olive, June and Burt in the video box.

ABE There's the birthday boy.

ESME Happy birthday Josh... we wish we could be there.

Joshua smiles.

ABE How old are you now Josh?

JOSHUA

Five.

ABE Wow you're almost the same age as me.

JOSHUA

No.

ESME Too right. Don't listen to this old man. He doesn't even remember his own age.

ABE Do you remember yours?

ESME That's beside the point.

Burt laughs.

JUNE Where are you anyway?

ABE Well our travels have brought us to this wonderful island just off the coast of Greece... Let me show you the view.

Abe picks up the camera. He walks closer to the ocean and pans the camera around to show a stunning beach with calm waters and a blue sky above. He keeps panning around till he gets to Esme sitting at a small bamboo bar on the beach. Her back is turned to the camera but you can see her naked backside.

June quickly covers Joshua's eyes as Olive and Burt moan in disgust.

Esme turns her head around and waves.

JUNE Abe please there are like twenty kids here.

Abe switches the camera around to his face. He starts to laugh.

ABE Oh did I forget to mention this is a nude beach.

BURT Can't you guys be like normal old people.

Abe sits back down next to Esme. June takes her hands off Joshua's eyes.

ESME No we can't because like you know, we aren't normal.

ABE Where is Donald anyway?

OLIVE Let's bring him in.

Olive clicks on a picture of Donald. The ringing starts again until a third video box appears on the screen with Donald in it. Each box takes up a third of the screen now.

Donald pops up from under a desk. His hair is a mess and he is sweating. He is wearing a light blue medical scrub. Behind him are several cages with animals in them. A bird can be heard chirping.

> DONALD Hello, and happy birthday to you Joshua.

Donald is out of breath.

JOSHUA

Thank you.

JUNE Are you okay Don? You seem flustered.

## DONALD

I'm fine, I just found a cage open behind me and I'm not sure if anything was meant to be inside. I'm sure it's nothing.

JUNE Well look at you Mr Veterinarian.

# DONALD

In training.

JUNE

But still good job. We are all very proud of you.

ABE Guess you ain't so dumb after all.

DONALD I'm getting there.

JUNE Would you like to meet the new addition to the family?

DONALD You had another baby?

June laughs.

## JUNE

No way.

June puts Joshua on Olive's lap and then reaches over the side of the couch to grab something.

She leans back up with a black cat and places it on her lap. Joshua starts to pat it.

JUNE (CONT'D) Her name is Salem.

June rolls her eyes.

JUNE (CONT'D) This was Olive's gift to Joshua. It's the same name as the cat on Sabrina the teenage witch.

BURT Why am I not surprised.

OLIVE

Don't be jealous that he likes Salem more than that bike you got him.

BURT

Give it time.

## JUNE

So I know it's been a while since we were all together but I just want to make sure everyone is still curse free.

#### ABE

We are fine, most of our flights have been on time and we have never even lost our luggage.

ESME

I even managed to buy these flights on sale. I didn't even know that sales existed five years ago.

Esme laughs.

OLIVE

I am finally up to date with my bills, for the first time in my life and haven't had a single hallucination.

JUNE

Neither have I.

## BURT

Well I have taken up hiking again. It was something me and Jasmine used to do every weekend and so far I have not seen a single Elk.

## DONALD

And with the curse being lifted I can finally focus on a single task making it a lot easier for me to study.

(MORE)

## DONALD (CONT'D)

I'm not in the top of the class but I haven't failed a paper yet either. But I'll admit the occasional unlucky thing does happen but more on a normal persons frequency.

#### JUNE

Music to my ears... Well I think we should get back to this party now. God knows what kind of mess these kids are making.

ESME It was good hearing from you all, let's do this again soon.

OLIVE We deffinalety will.

DONALD Okay bye everyone.

#### ABE

Bye.

Abe and Esme's camera disconnects.

Donald holds up his arm and starts waving goodbye. This reveals a large bat that is clawing onto his arm and hanging upside down. The bat opens it's wings and starts to screech.

> JUNE, OLIVE, BURT (yelling) Donald under your ar...

Donald yells and flails his arms around. His hand connects with the camera causing it to disconnect.

The program then shuts down and it goes back to the home screen showing a kids drawing of a witch on a broom stick.

FADE OUT.

#### THE END