

Midnight

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**FADE IN:**

**EXT. WOODS-EVENING**

SUPER: 2012

Wind blows through the woods, and **leaf's** blow like a tornado is coming.

CUT TO:

**EXT. TOWN HALL-EVENING**

**Missing poster's** stapled to **telephone poles** on both sides of the cross streets.

The missing poster's blow in the wind. A photo of a teenage girl, smiling.

DAISY (V.O.)

Mama always told me not to go out after midnight. Or not to be awake when one day ended and a new one began.

CUT TO:

**EXT. BEDROOM-NIGHT**

SUPER: SUMMER 2000

A woman sits on the end of the bed. MAMA, early 30s. A strict woman that takes precautions.

Mama leans down -- and kisses 5-YEAR-OLD DAISY on the cheek --

MAMA

-- Goodnight baby girl.

5-YEAR-OLD DAISY

Goodnight, Mama.

Mama touches her nose --

MAMA

Now, go to sleep. You don't want to be awake past midnight.

5-YEAR-OLD DAISY

Why not, Mama?

MAMA  
Trust me, girl.

Mama stands up -- and walks towards the door -- She flips the light switch off --

Daisy pulls the blanket over herself -- and hides her head --

5-YEAR-OLD DAISY  
(breath)

DAISY (V.O.)  
Mama had her reasons and I never  
questioned her about them again.

CUT TO:

**INT. KITCHEN-MORNING**

SUPER: SUMMER 2012

A teenage girl walks into the kitchen and sits at the end of the table. DAISY, 17. A high school student. A talkative, sociable, action-oriented, enthusiastic, friendly, and outgoing young lady.

She pours the **cereal** from the **Honeycomb box**, into her bowl and the bowl across from her --

DAISY  
-- Maria!!!

MARIA (O.S.)  
Coming!!!

MARIA, 12. A middle school student. A shy but bright young girl.

Maria rushes into the kitchen -- and sits --

Daisy scoops her spoon into the cereal -- and takes a bite --

DAISY  
Is Mama out of the shower?

MARIA  
She's doing her hair.

DAISY (V.O.)  
Mama's a strict woman with many  
fears.

CUT TO:

## INT. BATHROOM-MORNING

Mama wraps the ends of her hair around a *curling iron*.

DAISY (V.O.)  
Mama would tell my younger sister,  
Maria and I all about ancient  
legends that we all would fear.

MAMA  
Daisy!!! Maria!! Breakfast!!

DAISY (O.S.)  
Yes, Mama!!

MARIA (O.S.)  
Eating it right now, Mama!!

The door opens -- Daisy peeks her head in --

DAISY  
-- Mama?

MAMA  
What?

DAISY  
Can I go to a sleepover?

MAMA  
Who's having it?

DAISY  
Izzy.

MAMA  
Are her parents going to be there?

DAISY  
Yes.

DAISY (V.O.)  
That was the first time that I lied  
to my Mama.

MAMA  
Okay.

A smirk forms on Daisy's face.

Mama steps out of the bathroom --

MAMA (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
-- Remember what I told you. Stay  
inside and don't go outside after  
midnight.

Daisy looks up --

DAISY  
(Rolls eyes)  
(breath)  
-- I will.

CUT TO:

**EXT. TOWN HALL-AFTERNOON**

Daisy walks ahead of Maria. Her right hand gripped around a **laundry bag**.

MARIA  
Daisy!! Wait up!!

Daisy looks back at Maria --

DAISY  
-- Come on then!!

Maria runs -- and drops the bag to the ground -- She falls --

Daisy leans down -- and reaches her hand out --

Maria grabs a hold --

Daisy pulls her up --

DAISY (CONT'D)  
-- There you go!!

Maria reaches down -- and grabs the laundry bag -- She tosses it over her shoulder.

DAISY (CONT'D)  
I'll race you to the laundromat.

MARIA  
I don't know --

-- Maria runs --

DAISY  
Oh! You are going down little  
girl!!

Daisy runs --

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT**

SUPER: 10:30 PM

Daisy sits on top of her sleeping bag. Three other teen girls surround her. IZZY, 17. A senior student. An adventurous but naive young woman living her life with many privileges.

DAISY (V.O.)

This is Izzy. She comes from a wealthy family. I stayed the weekend at her house one time.

CUT TO:

**INT. DINING ROOM-EVENING-EVENING**

Daisy looks at the large **lobster**.

Izzy looks at Daisy --

IZZY

-- Well!!

Daisy looks at Izzy --

DAISY

Well, what?

IZZY

Are you going to eat?

DAISY

How?

Izzy snaps the shell of her lobster open --

Daisy stands up -- and walks out of the dining room --

DAISY (V.O.)

I went home the next morning.

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT**

A teenage girl lays across the floor. She sticks her hand into a bowl of **popcorn**. JULIANA, 16. A junior student and cheerleader.

DAISY (V.O.)

Juliana is a cheerleader. If these were the late 60s and the both of us were from two different gangs, Juliana would still have my back no matter what.

CUT TO:

**EXT. FIELD-HIGH SCHOOL-NIGHT-FLASHBACK**

CHEERLEADERS, 17, 16, 15 and 18.

Juliana is held up by the other Cheerleaders.

CHEERLEADERS

Go team!!!

The Cheerleaders let go of Juliana, and let her drop down --  
Juliana lays face up --

JULIANA

(breath)

DAISY (V.O.)

I don't even trust them when they drop her like that.

CUT TO:

**INT. AUDITORIUM-HIGH SCHOOL-AFTERNOON**

A teenage girl stands on the stage, dressed in **renaissance men's clothing**. RILEY, 17, a senior student and member of the glee club. A rebellious, and carefree teen girl trying to do things her way.

DAISY (V.O.)

And Riley, how can I forget. A dreamer trying to reach for the stars.

AUDITION JUDGE #1, #2, and #3.

RILEY

Alas, that love, whose view is  
muffled still, Should, without  
eyes, see pathways to his will!  
Where shall we dine? O me! What  
fray was here? Yet tell me not, for  
I have heard it all.

AUDITION JUDGE #1

Next!!!

Riley pulls the *fake mustache* from under her nose -- and  
steps towards the end of the stage --

RILEY

-- What!!

AUDITION JUDGE #2

Next, please!

Riley steps away --

DAISY (V.O.)

If there were trees in that scene,  
Riley definitely would have climbed  
and not come down.

RILEY

Amateurs!!

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-BACK TO PRESENT**

Izzy leans towards Daisy --

**PHONE SCREEN**

Izzy, Daisy, Riley and Juliana in the frame of the camera  
screen. The camera flashes.

**BACK TO SCENE**

Izzy, Riley and Juliana get up -- and step towards their  
*sleeping bags* --

Daisy pulls her sleeping bag over her lap -- She lays her  
head back on the pillow.

DAISY

(breath)

Daisy rolls to her right side -- and closes her eyes --

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT (DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Daisy lays asleep in the middle of the woods. She opens her eyes -- and sits up. Daisy stands up from her sleeping bag -- and steps further into the woods --

The wind blows.

Daisy looks around --

DAISY  
-- Who's there!

*Cricket's* chirp.

Daisy steps deeper into the woods --

A **DEER** runs past her --

DAISY (CONT'D)  
(scream)

DEER  
(Izzy's voice)  
Wake up!!

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT (END DREAM SEQUENCE)**

Izzy shakes Daisy's arm --

IZZY  
-- Wake up!!

Daisy opens her eyes --

DAISY  
-- What!!

IZZY  
It's Juliana!

DAISY  
What about her --

-- Daisy rubs her eyes --

IZZY  
She went outside.

DAISY  
What!!

Riley rushes into the bedroom --

RILEY  
-- Come on --

-- Riley runs out of the bedroom --

Daisy stands up --

DAISY  
-- What time is it?

IZZY  
It's 11:55.

DAISY  
Give me a flashlight!!

Izzy grabs a flashlight from the side of her bed -- and hands it to Daisy -- Daisy rushes out of the bedroom --

IZZY  
-- Wait!

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT**

Izzy and Daisy walk through the woods. Daisy shines the flashlight around at the **bushes** --

DAISY  
-- What possessed you all to come out here this late?

IZZY  
Just having a little fun.

DAISY  
With what? Going missing!

IZZY  
Wow!

DAISY  
What!

IZZY

Just that, you sound just like my  
mother.

A rustle in the bushes. Daisy shines the flashlight on it --

DAISY

Riley!! Julianne!!! Where are you!!

IZZY

I'm getting a closer look --

-- Izzy rushes further into the woods --

DAISY

-- Wait!!

Izzy looks at Daisy.

IZZY

What!

DAISY

Don't you watch the movies. Never  
split up.

IZZY

Whatever.

Izzy runs into the woods --

Daisy rushes after her --

The flashlight goes out --

Daisy shakes it --

The flashlight goes on and off --

Daisy looks at the trees and rushes past, feeling scared of  
the idea that someone is watching her. A MAN-LIKE THING leans  
onto the **trunk** of the **tree**. A **deer's head** with **antlers** on  
his. He watches Daisy run away --

JULIANA (O.S.)

(moan)

Daisy rushes towards the bushes --

A rustle from the bushes --

Daisy gets closer --

She sees curly blonde hair as she gets a little closer towards the bushes.

Juliana's face appears --

Daisy rushes towards Juliana --

Izzy and Riley appear from behind the bushes -- Izzy holds her upper body while Riley holds her up by the legs.

DAISY  
Juliana!!!

Streaks of blood run down Juliana's face. A blank expression on her face.

DAISY (CONT'D)  
What happened to her?

RILEY  
We just wanted to play with the man. We just wanted to play with the man, now it's your turn.

DAISY (V.O.)  
I ignore everything they had just said to me, and I blurt out the only thing you say to your friends when there is an emergency.

DAISY  
We need to get her to the hospital!! Now!!

Daisy rushes off and leads the way out.

Daisy's red pickup truck sits parked in front of the house. She looks back at Izzy and Riley, carrying Juliana towards her.

DAISY (CONT'D)  
Hurry!!

The Man-Like Thing rises up from the hood of the truck.

Izzy's eyes grow with a frightened look in her eyes.

Daisy looks at the Man-Like Thing. She makes no sudden movements. Daisy stands still like a statue.

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT**

Maria lies asleep in bed.

DAISY (O.S.)  
(scream)

Maria opens her eyes, and looks up --

MARIA  
-- Daisy?

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT**

Izzy, Juliana and Riley lay on the ground.

Izzy's eyes open. She watches the MAN-Like Thing pull Daisy by her foot.

Daisy's emotionless blank face stares back at Izzy.

DAISY (V.O.)  
Now I know why Mama didn't want me  
out at this time.

CUT TO:

**EXT. TOWN HALL-AFTERNOON**

The missing person's flyer blows in the wind.

DAISY (V.O.)  
They never found my body.

Izzy steps up to the poster and rips it off the pole -- She tosses it into the garbage can --

JULIANA  
-- I saw that!

Izzy smirks --

IZZY  
-- Like I have to hide it.

Juliana's left arm is in a *sling*.

Izzy steps past Juliana --

JULIANA

I thought she was your friend.

IZZY

I got plenty of friends.

JULIANA

You can't always count on your  
parents' money.

A teen boy wraps his arm around the back of Izzy's neck. ELI,  
18. A senior high school student.

Izzy kisses him on the cheek --

Eli looks at Juliana --

ELI

-- She has me.

Eli and Izzy step away --

Juliana looks at her arm in the sling and looks at Izzy walk  
away with Eli.

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT**

Eli's silver pickup truck sits parked underneath a tree.

CUT TO:

**INT. ELI'S TRUCK-NIGHT**

He kisses Izzy's neck, forcefully -- Izzy pushes his head  
back --

IZZY

(laugh)

Stop!! It tickles!!

Eli opens the driver door --

ELI

-- I got to take a leak --

-- He kisses her on the cheek --

IZZY

That's an overshare!

Eli gets out of the truck -- and slams the door shut --

Izzy opens a can of **Diet Coke** -- and takes a sip --

Izzy looks at her watch --

She rocks herself back and forth --

IZZY (CONT'D)  
-- Thanks a lot, Eli! Now I have to  
go!

Izzy opens the passenger door -- and gets out -- She slams  
the door shut --

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT**

Izzy rushes towards the tree -- She crouches down -- and  
closes her eyes --

Footsteps approach slowly --

IZZY  
-- Forget it, Eli! You missed your  
chance. It's time to take me home!!

ELI  
(scream)

Izzy opens her eyes -- and stands up --

IZZY  
-- Eli!!

An **arrow** flies past Izzy -- and hits the tree -- Izzy looks  
at the arrow and looks at a woman wearing deer antlers. A  
**crossbow** in her hands.

DAISY  
Surprise!

IZZY  
Daisy!

DAISY  
In the flesh.

IZZY  
How?

DAISY

A friend can pretend, like you can.  
You tried to trick me, and you let  
him take me away.

IZZY

You knew?

DAISY

Yes.

IZZY

You got me. All three of you!

DAISY

Yeap.

IZZY

Friends?

DAISY

(laugh)

Daisy raises the crossbow -- and shoots an arrow at Izzy --

CUT TO:

**INT. RILEY'S BEDROOM-AFTERNOON**

Daisy steps into the bedroom. Riley turns her head -- She looks at Daisy --

RILEY

-- Hey.

Daisy steps towards the bed -- Riley sits up -- Daisy leans down -- and hugs her --

RILEY (CONT'D)

-- Ahh --

-- Daisy back away --

DAISY

-- I'm sorry --

RILEY

-- It's cool.

Daisy sits down --

DAISY

-- I'm sorry that you have broken  
ribs.

RILEY

I'm sorry about the prank that we  
tried to pull on you. It was Izzy's  
idea, really?

DAISY

I know.

RILEY

How'd you know?

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT-FLASHBACK**

DAISY (V.O.)

Izzy knew it was my birthday, and I  
knew she pulled pranks on her  
friends for that reason.

Daisy holds a **compact mirror** in her hand over Izzy's  
shoulder. Izzy types on the screen of her cell phone.

DAISY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(Izzy's voice)

Twelve o'clock.

CUT TO:

**EXT. FRONT YARD-EVENING**

Izzy stands across from a man in the front yard. She hands  
him a **wad** of **cash**. ACTOR, early 30s.

DAISY (V.O.)

Mama didn't raise a fool.

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-NIGHT**

Juliana sits on the ground and leans against a tree. She  
types on her cell phone --

DAISY (V.O.)  
Because she couldn't do the job  
herself, she sent Juliana to fetch  
the Actor.

JULIANA  
(wave)  
Bring her out!!

The Man-Like Thing appears alongside of Juliana. She looks at him.

JULIANA (CONT'D)  
(scream)

Juliana runs away -- and trips over a **pebble** -- She falls onto a **big rock** -- and hits her head --

JULIANA (CONT'D)  
(moan)

The Actor rushes towards Juliana --

ACTOR  
-- What happened to you!!

Juliana looks at the Actor --

JULIANA  
-- Something's back there!!

ACTOR  
Who!

JULIANA  
A monster!

The Actor pulls out his cell phone -- and types --

ACTOR  
-- I'm gone --

-- The Actor runs off --

CUT TO:

**INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT**

Izzy sits up on her bed -- and looks at her cell phone -- She stands up -- and rushes towards Daisy --

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS-CONTINUOUS**

DAISY (V.O.)  
 Izzy saw that thing drag me away  
 and she didn't stop it.

Izzy looks at the Man-Like Thing. It drags Daisy away -- Izzy smiles. The Man-Like Thing pulls her further into the woods --

CUT TO:

**INT. FIELD-NIGHT**

The Man-Like Thing drops Daisy's foot to the ground -- and steps away from her -- Daisy opens her eyes -- and backs away quickly -- She runs away --

DAISY (V.O.)  
 It let me go.

**INT. BEDROOM-BACK TO PRESENT**

Daisy reaches into her sweatshirt pocket -- and pulls out a few **polaroid** pictures. She hands them to Riley -- Riley takes them -- and looks through them --

Daisy stands up -- and steps towards the door -- She grabs the doorknob --

RILEY  
 -- Daisy --

-- Riley looks at a picture of Izzy -- and then the next picture of Eli --

RILEY (CONT'D)  
 -- Are they dead?

DAISY  
 (wink)

Daisy opens the door -- and steps out -- The door shuts --

CUT TO:

**INT. HALLWAY-AFTERNOON**

RILEY (O.S.)  
 Daisy!!!

Daisy smirks.

CUT TO:

**EXT. STREET-AFTERNOON**

A *moving van* drives' past. Maria rides her bike alongside of the road.

CUT TO:

**INT. CAR-AFTERNOON**

Izzy sits in the backseat. Her face down. She looks outside the window at Maria.

CUT TO:

**EXT. STREET-AFTERNOON**

A smile stretches across Maria's face.

MARIA  
(wave)

TITLE CARD: MIDNIGHT

**FADE OUT:**

**THE END**