

DEVIL'S NIGHT

by
Jeff Hare and Rick Bitzelberger

Registered WGAW

Final Draft

Bad Bunny Pictures
Roxy Pictures Inc.

FADE IN:

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - NIGHT

LIGHTNING pops and THUNDER rattles. Rain lashes the stone and mortar walls of this huge, Gothic hospital.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT

Under flickering lights, a young NUN nervously restocks cabinets. Just then...

The doors burst open! An ORDERLY and a NURSE frantically push a gurney into the middle of the room. The PATIENT is covered with MOIST GAUZE. A BLOOD-SOAKED SHEET drapes the patient's legs. Seconds later, a DOCTOR enters.

DOCTOR

Talk to me.

NURSE

Name's Sadie. Been in the burn unit for eight months, scheduled for a c-section in 3 weeks. Found her hemorrhaging ten minutes ago.

DOCTOR

Vitals?

NURSE

BP 80 over 50. Heart rate 78.

DOCTOR

The baby?

NURSE

Steady at 110.

The orderly yanks over a CUT DOWN TRAY as the nurse hooks up OXYGEN. The doctor turns to the baby-faced nun.

DOCTOR

You. Saline drip.

The nun just stands there; frozen. The doctor notices.

DOCTOR

Please, we need you. 20mg potassium.

The nun nods, crosses herself and turns to the cabinet. Just then... SHRILL BEEPS pierce through the room.

NURSE

BP 60 over 40. We're losing her!

DOCTOR
I'm going after the baby. Is the
mother on something for pain?

NURSE
Diprovan.

DOCTOR
Then just give me a local.

The nurse grabs a large NEEDLE from the tray.

DOCTOR
(to the Orderly)
Get me a radiant warmer. I have no
idea what shape this kid's going to
be in.

ORDERLY
Yes sir!

The Orderly runs out as the doctor grabs SURGICAL SCISSORS.
The Doctor cuts through the gauze revealing the stomach. His
eyes grow wide... We don't see what he sees. Yet...

DOCTOR
God have mercy. (beat) Ten blade.

The nurse hands him a SCALPEL. He struggles to make an
incision as the nun returns.

NUN
Which arm?

DOCTOR
Doesn't matter.
(to the Nurse)
Suction.

The nun squeamishly looks away from the growing incision.

DOCTOR (O.C.)
Retractors...

The nun hangs the IV BAG on a stand then slowly peals the
gauze from Sadie's arm. The FLESH is HORRIBLY BURNED. LARGE
WEEPING, LEATHERY MOUNDS OF PURPLE AND BROWN SCAR TISSUE
COVER THE ENTIRE ARM! Hands shaking, the nun presses the
NEEDLE against the flesh. It won't go in.

NUN
God in heaven...

She clutches her crucifix and presses down harder on the
needle. A beat passes and...the needle pierces the ravaged
skin.

DOCTOR (O.C.)
Here we go!

The nun turns to see...the Doctor pull an INFANT from inside Sadie and wrap it in towels. The baby cries.

DOCTOR
Good job, sister.

They share a smile. The nun turns back to Sadie. Leans in.

NUN
You did it, Sadie, you did it.
You've got a healthy little...

Then...

SADIE RIPS THE OXYGEN MASK FROM HER MOUTH AND WAILS A TORTURED SHRIEK! GAUZE pulls from her face... along with BLOODY SCRAPS OF FLESH! SADIE GRABS THE NUN BY THE THROAT!

SADIE
KILL IT!!! KILL IT!!!

NUN
GET HER OFF ME!

SADIE
KILL IT!!! KILL IT!!!

NUN
AAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!

The nun's face turns purple as the Doctor and Nurse struggle against Sadie's unwavering frenzy...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

A THREE-YEAR-OLD GIRL sits on a chair. Her eyes convey loss and pain. This is TESS. A bulky, HEAVYSET NUN waddles over, cup of WATER in hand. She hands the cup to the tiny girl.

HEAVYSET NUN
You ready to see your mommy, Tess?

Tess nods her head. Apprehensive...

HEAVYSET NUN
Now remember, she might not look like your mommy but deep down she still is. Ready?

Tess smiles. The nun takes her by the hand. They enter a...

INT. HOSPITAL DAYROOM - DAY

A massive room occupied with various RECOVERING PATIENTS, SCURRYING NURSES and DOCTORS. Bright sunlight pours through a large arched window. Tess squints. Through the haze Tess sees a solitary FIGURE in a wheelchair... a woman. She faces away from Tess and is draped in a HOODED, RED SATIN CLOAK.

The Nun guides Tess over to the woman and releases her hand.

HEAVYSET NUN

Sadie? Someone's here to see you.

Slowly, the Nun turns the wheelchair around...

CLOSE ON TESS' FACE

A look of horror washes over the young girl. Tess drops the water and screams as she runs from the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Tess bolts down the corridor. LIGHT BULBS in the ceiling explode as she passes! SHATTERED GLASS and SPARKS rain down! PATIENTS and NURSES scream! An ALARM BLARES!

TESS'S POV

A TWO-YEAR-OLD BOY rounds the corner. His parents, visible only from the waist down, walk on either side of him, holding his hands. Time slows down. The boy breaks into a grin as he locks eyes with the passing Tess.

Tess runs to the end of the hall and drops to floor. Through shaking hands she looks up to see the boy has stopped walking. He looks back, continuing his stare, face fixed in a maniacal grin. Then...

WHOOMPH! THE SMALL BOY BURSTS INTO FLAMES!

Tess's eyes go wide in terror. Through the flesh searing fire, Tess still sees the young boy's evil smile. A FIRE ALARM drowns out her screams.

SMASH CUT TO

INT. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MICHIGAN DORM ROOM - DAWN

The ALARM continues. Tess, now 21, bolts up in bed.

LISA(O.C.)

Will you turn that off!?

Tess looks over to see LISA, her 22-year-old roommate and Lisa's jock boyfriend DYLAN staring at her. They're both naked... Lisa on top in what appears to be mid coitus...

Tess slaps the alarm off.

TESS

Sorry.

LISA

God, some people have no respect...

Immediately, amid a chorus of grunts and groans, Lisa and Dylan are back at it. Tess gets out of bed. She wears a long sleeve shirt and sweatpants. She pulls on a bulky bathrobe, grabs her shower kit and EXITS.

INT. USM DORM BATHROOM - EARLY MORNING

Tess enters. Looks around. Empty. She turns on the shower. STEAM fills the room. Tess disrobes and steps into the stall. The mist partially obscures NUMEROUS BURN SCARS on her back. Tess lets the shower cascade over her body. She's at peace.

INT. USM CAFETERIA - MORNING

A bored COOK grills sausage patties over an OPEN FLAME as Tess blearily moves down the food line. Nothing looks good. Behind her in the dining hall, a LARGE SCREEN TELEVISION blares GOOD MORNING DETROIT. Tess turns. On the screen...

- A CAR EXPLODES as "revelers" whoop and holler.
- A WAREHOUSE burns as FIREMEN battle the blaze.
- A BURNING TRASHCAN smashes through a store's window.

TV ANCHOR (V.O.)

Tensions run high in Greater Detroit as we brace for what is traditionally a night of arson, looting and mayhem. Last year, over 200 incidents of arson were recorded on this one night alone...

- MORE IMAGES appear. A MAN, his clothes on fire, rolls screaming in the middle of the street.

TV ANCHOR

Tomorrow may be for wholesome trick or treating but tonight, as anyone in our fair city knows, is Devil's Night...

Tess continues to stare, transfixed on the images. Then her hands begin to shake. She steadies herself from falling. Squeezes her eyes shut.

VOICE (O.S.)

JESUS CHRIST!

Tess turns to see the GRILL engulfed in flames! WORKERS attack the fire with TOWELS and POT LIDS. Finally, a FIRE EXTINGUISHER does the job. Smoke fills the kitchen when suddenly, a LARGE, GRUFF COOK appears in front of Tess. The cook points to his nose.

LARGE GRUFF COOK
You alright?

Tess reaches to her nose. BLOOD!

TESS
Yeah! I'm okay...

She leaves her tray and hurries off.

INT. USM CAFETERIA - LATER

Tess sits alone at a table, staring into a bloody napkin. A LONG, SILENT MOMENT PASSES. Then a HAND grabs her shoulder! Tess jumps, turns.

TESS
Carla!

It's CARLA, 20, bouncy and attractive. Tess's friend.

CARLA
What the hell happened to you?

TESS
Just a nosebleed. I'm fine.

CARLA
Fine. Fucked up, irrational,
nervous and emotional. Sounds just
like the Tess I know and love.

With a huge smile, Carla pulls a bright ORANGE INVITATION from a binder.

CARLA
You ready to freak the fuck out?

TESS
Isn't it a little early in the day
to freak the fuck out?

CARLA
Never too early, especially when
you hear something like this...
(reading it)
"On Devil's Night, burn down the
house with us!" Is that sweet or
what?

TESS
(sarcastic)
Yeah, real sweet, Carla.

CARLA
Hey, show a little enthusiasm here.
This is only going to be the
premiere social event of the
semester. Delta Pi is throwing it!

TESS
Good for them.

CARLA
You don't get it. Somebody at
Delta Pi invited me to this party.
And I get to take a guest. You.
You starting to understand what
this means?

TESS
Yes. Someone at Delta Pi is
desperate.

CARLA
Ouch and no. It means we've
finally begun to claw our way up
the social ladder around here.

TESS
I'm perfectly content being on the
bottom rung.

Tess packs up her books and heads for the door. Carla follows.

CARLA
Come on Tess, this is a once in a
lifetime opportunity for you.

TESS
For me?

CARLA
Okay, for me too. It's a chance to
finally meet some guys and get in
on the right party circuit. *

TESS
What about your boyfriend?

CARLA
Same situation as always... he goes
to University of Wisconsin and...

TESS
(interrupts)
And...that allows for the "100 mile
rule" to go into effect.

CARLA

Exactly.

(as if reciting from a
rule book)

If said partner is, at the time of
a spontaneous sweaty dalliance,
over 100 miles away, the
aforementioned spontaneous sweaty
dalliance is NOT considered to be
infidelity.

TESS

Great rules you have there, Carla.

CARLA

Some day I'll fill you in on the
"eating is not cheating" clause.
You'll go with me, right?

TESS

Wrong.

CARLA

Okay, I hate to have to pull this
out but... who was the only one who
talked to you the whole first
semester? Who was the one who
helped you cram for any and all
tests? And, who was the one who
drove you all the way across town
just so you could get a gallon of
"butter nut ripple" after you
tanked your Statistics mid-term?

TESS

You, you and you. Although I do
remember you eating over half the
butter nut ripple.

CARLA

Irrelevant. By my account you owe
me at least one night of fun.

TESS

Carla, I've got an art history test
next week. Ironically, the same
test you should be studying for.

CARLA

There's a time for study and a time
for freaking. This is the time for
freaking.

Carla turns to Tess with a pleading look on her face. Tess
tries to remain STONE FACE. Finally, she cracks. Smiles...

TESS

Alright. Just to shut you up.

CARLA
 Awesome. I promise a great night!
 Gotta go pick out an outfit.

Carla hugs Tess and rushes off. Tess glances guiltily back to the kitchen. Workers wipe soot from the wall.

INT. POLICE STATION - DUSK

A bustle of activity. An OFFICER busily fields calls while others usher in VANDALS who seemingly got an early start on their Devil's Night activities.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

CARDBOARD BOXES litter the floor. SHERIFF NATE STANTON, 42, unpacks. PLAQUES. AWARDS for meritorious service. DIPLOMAS. He reaches deep into a box. Stops...

He pulls out a FRAMED PICTURE and brings it close to his face. He's lost in it. On Nate's RIGHT PALM we see...a LARGE CRESCENT SHAPED SCAR. A BURN.

NATE'S POV

The photo is of Nate, 20 years old, with a smiling, RAVEN-HAIRED WOMAN, and an INFANT. A HAPPY FAMILY.

VOICE (O.C.)
 Hell of a week to come back, huh?

Nate looks up. Spell broken. DEPUTY KOLZAC, 25, stands at the door.

NATE
 What?

DEPUTY KOLZAC
 I said, hell of a week. Devil's Night, Halloween, you know...

NATE
 I guess. What is it Deputy?

DEPUTY KOLZAC
 Bad news, I'm afraid. Got a body up at the old water tower.

Nate's expression --- it looks like time has stopped.

DEPUTY KOLZAC
 Statives are on site. You want me out there too?

NATE
 No, stay here. I'll go.

Nate EXITS.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

A RUSTED WATER TOWER sits in the middle of a ragged lot. An AMBULANCE and PATROL CAR sit at the base with their lights flashing as Nate drives up. He's met by a STATE TROOPER.

STATE TROOPER
Couple of kids found it. Not pretty. Been there a while.

NATE
Great.

STATE TROOPER
Gets worse. Real crispy critter.

NATE
What?

STATE TROOPER
Vic was burned. CU's up there now. I'll lead the way.

NATE
I know the way.

Nate walks past the Trooper and starts climbing.

INT. WATER TOWER - NIGHT

A CRIME UNIT TECH snaps pictures of HUMAN REMAINS as rats scurry away. Nate steps through the hole and approaches the GRISLY SCENE.

NATE
Jesus.

TECH
Yeah, welcome to the cook out.

NATE
Whadda we got?

TECH
Male, about 40. Vagrant, probably. Don't have to tell you cause of death, do I?

NATE
You find an accelerant?

The Tech holds up the charred remnants of an OIL LAMP.

TECH

Think he regrets having to use a night light at his age?

NATE

Bet he does now. I.D.?

TECH

Nothing that survived.

Nate grabs a flashlight and scans the darkness. BOXES are piled against the far wall. He kicks them over. CANNED GOODS and BOTTLES OF WATER tumble out.

NATE

Looks like he was here long term.

Nate finds a knapsack, opens it and pulls out some clothing. A WEATHERED POLAROID falls to the floor. Nate shines his light on it.

CLOSE ON PHOTO

Five young men's faces stare back. It looks as if the picture has been taken at an old NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC. There are X's through three of the faces. One of the faces not X'd out is a YOUNG NATE.

TECH

You find an ID?

Nate tucks the photo into his pocket.

NATE

Maybe.

INT. CARLA'S CAR - NIGHT

Carla drives. Tess has her nose in an ART HISTORY TEXTBOOK. She stares into the faces of THE DAMNED from the Michelangelo painting LAST JUDGEMENT. Mesmerized as she watches the tortured souls fall into the fiery vortex of HELL...

CARLA (O.C.)

Can I ask you a question?

TESS

(not looking up)
Go ahead.

CARLA

Tess, I need you to focus.

Tess closes the book.

TESS

Ask.

CARLA
 Okay. Does this top make me look
 slutty?

Tess takes a moment to look her over.

TESS
 Yes.

CARLA
 Excellent.

They laugh as the car pulls over. The laughter ends when...
 Tess looks out the front window.

TESS'S POV

A ragged, abandoned hospital looms over a weed strewn parking
 lot. Windows on the first floor glow red. Music pulsates
 from within.

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Tess slowly gets out of the car but doesn't make a move
 forward. Ten feet in front, Carla turns back.

CARLA
 What's the matter?

TESS
 I don't know. This place...

CARLA
 Cool, huh? Atmosphere...

TESS
 It feels... wrong.

CARLA
 Come on, it's been closed for,
 like, five years. Stop being all
 "Tess" and let's go.

Carla pulls Tess by the hand and practically drags her up the
 walkway. Tess nervously eyes the near-empty parking lot.

TESS
 Doesn't look like a huge crowd.

CARLA
 Told you. We're too early.

TESS
 That just gets me home sooner.
 Remember, one hour. Not a minute
 longer.

CARLA
 Alright, captain fun, chill.

They get to the arched front door, push it open...

CARLA
 Hello...?

...and disappear inside.

INT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Tess and Carla move down a long corridor lit solely by candles. The walls are marred with graffiti.

TESS
 They couldn't have the party at their house?

CARLA
 It's Devil's night. Get in the mood.

TESS
 (sarcastic)
 Maybe if I randomly destroy something.

CARLA
 There's an idea. Start with your crummy attitude.

Tess shoots her a look as they continue on.

INT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - COMMON ROOM - NIGHT

Tess and Carla enter a LARGE CIRCULAR ROOM. Several arched hallways lead off into darkness like spokes on a wheel. Each guarded by a LARGE STEEL DOOR with a tiny GLASS WINDOW cut into it...

The walls glow in fluorescent images of FIRE. RED LIGHT BULBS hang from exposed beams, casting eerie shadows. In the center of the room, a towering THIRTY FOOT TALL pyramid of hideously carved JACK-O-LANTERNS looms. A SINGLE CANDLE burns inside each...

CARLA
 (pointing to the pumpkins)
 That took some effort.

TESS
 A lot of effort for not many people.

They look around. About a half-dozen others are there. All seem to be in their late teens to mid 20's. They DON'T mingle...

TESS

So where exactly are the guys? *

Carla looks around.

CARLA

There's one... *

She points to JIM, 23, a tall scruffy townie-type angrily spitting CHEWING TOBACCO on the floor.

TESS

Yeah...nice prospect, Carla.

CARLA

Give it some time. So, where do you think they hid the bar?

WOODY (O.S.)

(interrupting)

Hey, there... what's up?

The girls turn to see WOODY 20, all high-energy nervousness. He carries a PLEDGE PADDLE.

WOODY

Just get here? Pretty cool, huh?

(re: him)

Woody. So... I'm guessing you two are little sisters, right?

TESS

Little what?

WOODY

You know... little sisters.

CARLA

Are you Delta Pi?

WOODY

No, Sig Ep. Well, not officially.

(smiles slyly)

But after tonight; last night of pledging, ya know what that means, right?

He playfully swats Carla in the ass with the paddle. Carla rips it from his hands and sends it skidding across the floor.

CARLA

Next time I break it off in your scrawny ass.

Jim approaches.

JIM
Did I hear you say this is some
kind of pledge thing?

WOODY
Absolutely.

TESS
(to Carla, angry)
It better not be.

Woody moves closer to Jim.

WOODY
Although I haven't seen you before.
You pledging through another
chapter?

JIM
Back off, dick-less.

WOODY
What?

JIM
Wait, are we being recorded? You
work for K-107, don't you?

WOODY
What...who?

JIM
The Morning Madhouse? Cause if
this is some bullshit radio prank,
I'm still getting the 42" plasma!

WOODY
I have absolutely no idea what
you're talking about.

LAUREN (O.S.)
Couldn't help overhearing...

LAUREN, 25, briefcase in hand, approaches the group.

LAUREN
I'm guessing none of you are from
Oakland County Redevelopment?

They all stare at each other blankly.

LAUREN
Well, this has been delightful.
Good evening.

She starts to walk away. Jim grabs her by the arm.

JIM
Hold up. Nobody's leaving 'til I
find out who's got my TV.

LAUREN
Will you remove your hand, please?

Across the room, fraternal twins MAYA and SYDNEY, 20 and
dressed to the nines, stand. Maya pulls earphones out.

MAYA
(calling out)
Are any of you with Lambert Cole?

TESS
(to Carla)
This just keeps getting better and
better.

LAUREN
(to Jim)
I asked you kindly to remove your
hand. Next time will not be so
kind.

JIM
(feigning fear)
OOhhh... you got me pissing in my
pants.

Jim removes his hand as Maya and Sydney approach.

SYDNEY
(all smiles)
Hi. How's it going?

TESS
(sarcastic)
Great. You?

MAYA
We're here for the Kohl's catalogue
shoot. Are you all with the ad
agency Lambert Cole?

CARLA
Sorry girls. This was supposed to
be a fraternity party.

WOODY
For pledges. (beat) Certain ones,
anyway...

SYDNEY
(she drops the smile)
I told you this wasn't the right
place, Maya!

MAYA

It's the place on the stupid card.

Maya yanks an ORANGE CARD from her purse. Seeing it, Woody pulls one out of his shirt pocket.

WOODY

Hey, that looks a lot like...

JIM

...exactly like.

Jim holds an orange card in his hand. On it, "KDKO PLASMA TV GIVEAWAY."

LAUREN

Wait a minute. You're here for a photo shoot. You're here for some pledge thing. You're trying to win a TV...

CARLA

What about you?

Lauren pulls out her own orange invitation.

LAUREN

I'm a grad student. Architecture. There's a design competition where the winner gets to remodel this building. I was told this was the night to submit plans.

TESS

I think we should go. Something's really messed up.

VOICE (O.S.)

Something's messed up, alright.

They all turn. In a DARKENED COVE, a ZIPPO flares. A cigarette lights. CLOSE ON the Zippo, we see the initials "A. M.". This is DREW. 21. Bad news.

DREW

Anybody seen Anthony Marino?

JIM

Who the hell are you?

DREW

I haven't seen him for a while. Last week I get a letter asking me to meet 'em here. Tonight.

MAYA

This is getting real trippy.

DREW
It's long past "getting"...

JIM
Okay tough guy, I'm gonna ask one
more time... who the hell are you!?

Suddenly, a SHOT rings out! PLASTER CHUNKS fall from the
domed ceiling and smash to the ground.

MAYA
OH MY GOD!

Drew tucks a snub nose .38 back into his belt.

DREW
Now, I'm gonna ask one more time.
Has anybody seen Anthony Marino?

Scared, they look back and forth to each other.

CARLA
I'd say that's a "no".

DREW
Then get the fuck outta here.

TESS
Not a problem.

Quietly, they all turn and move towards the entrance hallway.
Jim pushes past the others and up to the door. Just as he
gets to it... THE DOOR SLAMS shut.

JIM
Whoa...

Then... ONE AFTER ANOTHER, ALL THE DOORS AROUND THE CIRCULAR
ROOM SLAM SHUT!

CARLA
What the hell is going on?

Tess moves past Carla to the entrance door. She shakes the
handle. Locked. Jim brushes her aside, tries the handle.
Nothing...

TESS
(to Woody)
Check the other doors.

Woody moves to the next door. Lauren to the next. All
locked.

DREW
What did you assholes do?

LAUREN

We took a vote and decided we wanted to hang a bit longer with the gun-toting lunatic.

DREW

Kiss my ass.

LAUREN

Unlikely.

She pushes past him. Drew is left staring into the confused face of Woody.

DREW

What!?

WOODY

Actually I think I can explain what happened.

He points to the top of the door.

WOODY

See up above the hinge... there's some kind of spring mechanism.

DREW

So?

WOODY

So, I think it's just an accident. Old building. Old mechanics.

DREW

All of them? At the same time?

Woody can't answer that one.

WOODY

A draft?

DREW

Keep working on it Einstein.

Drew pushes past him.

INT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - COMMON ROOM - LATER

Drew stands alone by the wall as the others sit on the floor. Trapped. Waiting. Sydney slams her cell phone shut.

SYDNEY

Gawd! I hate Verizon!

MAYA

I told you to switch.

SYDNEY

You did not.

LAUREN

It's not Verizon. I'm Cingular and I can't get anything either.

WOODY

Maybe someone burnt down a cell tower. You know, Devil's Night?

JIM

Well, you're just Mr. 411, aren't you?

WOODY

Fine. I won't say anything else.

JIM

That would be a nice change.

(Jim stands)

Well, I sure as shit ain't sitting around here anymore.

With that Jim picks up a chair and smashes it against the wall. Maya and Sydney scream. Jim takes one of the broken legs and approaches the front door. He starts clubbing the glass.

WOODY

Won't work. It's safety glass.

JIM

I thought you were shutting up.

Jim continues the barrage, his frustration growing with each strike.

Across the room, Tess sits slumped on the floor. Head in her hands. Then, she looks up. Sees...

Across the room, a DOOR IS OPEN!

TESS

Um, hello? Think you may wanna see this...

They all turn. Tess points to the open door, which leads into a long, dark hallway...

LAUREN

How'd we miss that?

CARLA

We didn't. I checked that door.

JIM

Well, you must not have checked too good, princess.

He tosses down the chair leg down and heads for the door.

CARLA
I swear...it was locked.

MAYA
I'm so outta here.

SYDNEY
Let's go.

Drew stands and follows Jim, Sydney, Maya and Lauren.

TESS
You think we should?

DREW
You can sit here with the pumpkins
for all I care.

Tess walks over to Carla.

TESS
Why do I have the feeling this
isn't a good idea?

INT. FIRST FLOOR HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

They stand at the door. Drew's Zippo illuminates a long, ragged hallway. LARGE CHUNKS OF PAINT hang from the walls and arched ceiling like withered Spanish moss.

LAUREN
(sarcastic)
Well, ...looks inviting.

DREW
Better than sitting here.

Drew moves through the doorway and begins down the hall. One by one, the others follow. Fifty feet in, Woody stops.

WOODY
Dang!

JIM
What?

WOODY
I left my paddle.

JIM
Your what?

WOODY
My pledge paddle.

LAUREN

Forget it.

WOODY

No way. I don't have that paddle
the brothers will kill me.

Woody moves back down the hall, past Carla, then Tess.

WOODY

(to Tess)

I'll be right back. Wait here for
me?

TESS

Okay. Hurry.

Woody smiles, charges back down the hall and into the...

INT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Woody sprints past the Jack-o-lantern pyramid, over to the
far wall, scoops up the paddle, and starts to sprint back.
From the DOORWAY, Tess watches. Then...

Something catches Tess' eye. She looks up...

TESS' POV

The Jack-o-lantern at the top of the pyramid starts to shake.
It topples down the stack and...

TESS

LOOK OUT!

Woody stops dead in his tracks!

The pumpkin splatters right in front of him. He looks down
at the squashed, still flaming gourd, then up to Tess. He
smiles a relieved smile. She smiles back... and looks up
again...

The entire pyramid shakes, each evil, flame-filled smile
convulsing manically. One pumpkin falls, rolls and smashes
against a wall. A DRAPE IGNITES. ANOTHER... A TABLE
ENGULFS!

TESS

RUN!

Before she can finish, the door slams in her face! Locks!

TESS

NO! NO!!!

She pounds on the door. It door won't budge! Tess looks
through the door's small, dirty window...

THE ENTIRE PYRAMID OF PUMPKINS IS IN FLAMES!!! Pumpkins roll off the pile, igniting every part of the room!

Just then, a FLAMING PUMPKIN EXPLODES AGAINST THE GLASS! Tess jumps back. Cautiously, Tess moves back to peer into the room. Nothing but deep grey smoke and soot. She stares. A beat passes. Then...

WOODY APPEARS AT THE GLASS! FULLY ENGULFED IN FLAMES!!!

WOODY
HHHHEEEELLLLLLPPPPPP MMMEEEE!

He drops...

Carla runs back to the door.

CARLA
OH MY GOD!!! OH MY GOD!!!

As the others watch in horror down the hall, Tess frantically feels around in the darkness for something to swing at the door. Finally, she finds it, ripping a rusty fire extinguisher off the wall. Furiously, Tess strikes the door lock... once... twice! She raises it over her head again and... Drew snatches it from her hands.

DREW
STOP!

TESS
NO! WE GOTTA GET HIM!

Drew hurls the extinguisher down the hallway.

DREW
HE'S GONE! You open that door and we all die!

Tess glares up at Drew. A BEAT. Then...

DREW
This is a fire door! The only thing separating us from what happened to him is that door.

Drew turns to head back down the hallway.

DREW
You coming?

Tess doesn't move.

DREW
Suit yourself.

Drew knives through the others, who turn and follow him down the long, dark hall. Tess turns back towards the door. Her eyes go wide.

TESS

Carla?

Carla turns. Looks back into the common room...

CARLA AND TESS' POV

SMOKE pours under all the locked doors, disappearing from the large room. The walls are charred black. The fire...out.

BACK

CARLA

(scared)

Holy shit...

TESS

Yeah...

CARLA

Let's get out of here.

Carla starts off down the hall. Tess slowly follows, continuously shifting her gaze from the hallway in front of her back to the common room.

INT. FIRST FLOOR NURSE'S STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jim runs the length of the hall, trying doors. All locked. The others are gathered at the creaky NURSE'S STATION.

MAYA

I swear to God, I'm freaking out right now!

SYDNEY

Just stop it, okay?

MAYA

What? You didn't see that?

SYDNEY

Yes but I don't want to think about it, so just shut up!

MAYA

Don't yell at me!

JIM

Both of you shut up!

Jim moves on to check more doors.

CARLA

Don't you think it's weird that the fire put itself out?

DREW

Steel fire doors. Hospital. Room's probably designed to do something like that.

LAUREN

Is that your expert opinion?

DREW

Something you'd like to add, architect?

LAUREN

I wouldn't want to infringe on your area of expertise, Frank Lloyd Wrong.

SYDNEY

Why are you being such a bitch?

LAUREN

Oh, I don't know! Maybe you've all seen somebody die in front of you before. First timer here!

SYDNEY

Still no reason to be a bitch.

LAUREN

Jesus!

DREW

Okay, everybody just chill out.

JIM (O.C.)

GOT ONE!

They all turn. Jim stands where this hallway dead-ends. To his left and right, other hallways continue.

JIM

Fire exit. Down here.

Jim disappears behind a corner Drew takes off towards him. The rest follow. Tess brings up the rear. At the hallway intersection she stops, turns back towards the common room. Looks...

TESS

No...

TESS' POV

THE COMMON ROOM DOOR is WIDE OPEN! WOODY'S REMAINS SMOLDER IN THE DOORWAY! Then, things get worse...

A FIGURE, entirely shrouded in a BRIGHT RED SATIN CLOAK, steps over the charred body! Tess is frozen in fear. Face awash in the same look of horror she had as a 3-year-old.

CARLA (O.C.)

Tess?

Tess wheels around to Carla, then back to the doorway. The cloaked figure now...gone.

BACK

Tess slowly backs down the hall towards the others.

INT. FIRE EXIT STAIRWELL - MOMENTS LATER

JIM

FUCK!!!

Jim slams his shoulder over and over into the door that leads out onto the side lawn. CHAINED. From the outside...

Drew turns to see Carla holding a shaking Tess... white as a ghost.

DREW

What's wrong with her?

CARLA

You mean other than just seeing someone die? She's OK.

DREW

Just asking.

Drew turns away. Carla turns to Tess.

CARLA

(quiet)

You are OK... right?

TESS

Yeah... (beat) Carla, back there... I think I saw...

Carla looks up the trash strewn stairs. An idea.

CARLA

(ignoring Tess)

Wait,...we should go to the roof.

TESS

Won't that take us further away from an exit?

CARLA
Yeah. But it might take us closer
to a cell signal.

Slowly, Tess looks up. Focuses on what Carla is saying.

TESS
Say something.

CARLA
I'm not running the show.

TESS
(loud)
We should go to the roof!

JIM
Great, you can be the first to
jump. Give me something soft to
land on.

DREW
(to Jim)
Shut up.
(to Tess)
Why?

She points to her cell phone.

TESS
(duh)
Cell phone... clear signal.

Drew realizes. Smiles.

DREW
Not bad.

He starts up the steps. Jim, Lauren, Maya and Sydney follow.
Carla and Tess bring up the rear.

CARLA
You know brilliance when you steal
it.

EXT. ROOF - MOMENTS LATER

Tess sits on the ledge, dejected. She looks down to her
phone. NO SIGNAL. She closes it and tucks it in her jeans.

The others zig-zag across the roof as they search for an ever-
elusive signal. Maya shakes her head. She won't even look
at her cell phone.

MAYA
It was, like, so horrible! That
poor guy... I can't imagine...

SYDNEY

God! I can't stand this!

Jim crosses to Sydney and Maya.

JIM

Keep yapping, girls. I'm sure that
will help us get a signal.

SYDNEY

Jerk.

Sydney and Maya walk away from him. Jim's eyes follow them,
then veer off to see...

At the far side of the roof, rusted HANDRAILS poke up and
over the pigeon shit-covered ledge...

JIM

Perfect.

Jim runs over to the ledge and peers down on a RUSTED FIRE
ESCAPE.

JIM

(under his breath)
It's been fun...

He lifts his leg over and is about to step onto the fire
escape when...

LAUREN (O.S.)

WAIT!

JIM

(turning back)
What?

Lauren approaches.

LAUREN

We need to do a stress test.

JIM

I'm stressed. I pass.

LAUREN

No moron. That metal could be 100
years old.

Jim grabs the handrails and gives them a good shake. Solid!

JIM

You coming, architect?

Lauren steps back, nervously shakes her head.

LAUREN

I'm not good with heights.

JIM

You see another way down?

Lauren watches as Jim gingerly drops down to the first landing. A BEAT passes. Then, he hops up and down. The metal CREAKS and GROANS. Jim stops. Waits. Nothing.

JIM

It's safe.

(calling to the others)

Yo! Got a way down! Come on!

Just then, a BOLT holding the fire escape to the building POPS and falls to the ground below. Then another! Another! Rusted metal pulls away from brick. From top to bottom, bolts fire from the wall like bullets!

JIM

SHIT!

Jim clumsily dives forward and clutches the ledge. Lauren stands frozen as Jim grasps for a finger-hold in the ancient stone and mortar.

JIM

HELP! HELP ME!

Lauren doesn't move. Jim's screams become lost in the sounds of metal twisting and crumpling as the fire escape totally breaks free from the building. It twists and tumbles down the side of the building and smashes into the ground with a deafening crunch! Jim continues to dangle by his fingertips!

The others rush over. Drew reaches down and grabs Jim's belt. Drew's gun slips out of his pants and clatters down the side of the building.

DREW

Shit!

Tess reaches down to help. Together, Tess and Drew pull Jim up and over the ledge. Jim sprawls down onto the tar covered roof, catching his breath. Then...he springs to his feet... right into Lauren's face.

JIM

Thanks for your help you fuckin' bitch!

DREW

Back off, asshole.

JIM

(menacing, to Lauren)

I'm not gonna forget this.

He shoves past her. Drew turns to Tess.

DREW
(sarcastic)
The roof's working out really well.
Any more bright ideas?

He walks away. Tess stares at him; incredulous. Then she sees an old PAINTER'S TARP poking out from underneath a pile of 2x4's...

TESS
(re: Drew)
Yeah, maybe. Jerk.

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

Nate gets out of his patrol car. He looks up at a yard overrun with weeds and a house in bad need of a paint job.

Nate moves up onto the porch. A CAT hisses from atop a rusted FRIDGE as Nate rings the bell. The front door opens on GEENA, 42. Familiar. We've seen her before... in the picture with young Nate and the infant. Her raven-hair now choked with grey. She blows out a long drag of smoke and chuckles.

GEENA
Deputy. What's this, the return of the prodigal father?

NATE
Hi Geena. It's Sheriff now.

GEENA
Well, pardon me. Sheriff...

NATE
Anthony around?

GEENA
Hoped maybe you were here to see Drew instead of his piece of shit step father.

Geena flicks the cigarette onto the lawn, turns and heads back inside. Nate follows.

INT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Smoke strangles the air. TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS and EMPTY BEER BOTTLES litter the floor. Geena flops into a recliner and lights another cigarette. Nate hangs by the entrance way.

NATE
So...Anthony?

GEENA
What he do?

NATE
I just need to talk to him, Geena.

GEENA
Well, get in line deputy. Step way
to the back cause it's a long one.

NATE
Geena, please.

She can see in his face it's serious. She shifts gears.

GEENA
Prince Charming took off about a
year ago. Ain't seen or heard shit
from 'em since.

NATE
What about Drew?

GEENA
What about Drew!?

NATE
Look, I was just wondering if maybe
Drew heard anything from his
father..

He stops himself. Geena stares a hole right through him. He
can't meet her gaze.

GEENA
No. He hasn't. In a very long
time. Hasn't heard from Anthony
either.

She crosses into the kitchen, throws an empty in the sink,
opens another. Nate can't move...her words have cut deep.

Geena launches into a throaty cough. Nate steps into the
kitchen but she waves him off. Geena takes a quick swallow
of beer and settles.

GEENA
(off her cigarettes)
Doctor tells me I gotta quit.

NATE
You still tell him the same thing?

GEENA
Yep. (she smiles) Never been a
quitter. Not gonna start now.

They share a smile. A tiny memory of a happier time.

NATE
Where's Drew?

GEENA
Probably out tearing up the town.
Devil's Night, remember?

NATE
Yeah. I remember...
(shifting gears)
So Geena, did Anthony leave
anything behind? Papers, mail..?

GEENA
Right back to business, huh deputy?

He doesn't answer.

GEENA
Look in the shed out back. That
was his "territory."

NATE
Okay.

He turns to go, then stops.

NATE
You need anything, Geena?

She chuckles. In disgust.

GEENA
Everything. You?

Nate nods and turns for the door. On the way out he passes
a FRAMED PICTURE of Geena, Anthony and Drew. All smiles.

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

Everybody is off alone. Tess stands over the 2x4's as Carla
approaches.

CARLA
What do you think of that Drew guy?

TESS
I don't.

CARLA
I think he's kinda hot.

TESS
Carla...stop. Please.

CARLA
What's your problem?

TESS
Oh, I don't know, maybe that
somebody just died downstairs?

CARLA
Yeah, and we're alive up here. So
like they say in that movie, *carpe
diem*. Grab the day.

TESS
Seize the day?

CARLA
Seize, grab, same general motion...

Tess kicks a 2x4 off of the pile, revealing more of the tarp.

CARLA
What are you doing?

TESS
Gotta be helicopters or planes that
fly over here, right?

Carla realizes.

CARLA
You really are brilliant at times.

TESS
Even when I don't steal it?

CARLA
Even then.

Carla turns to the others.

CARLA
OVER HERE!

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - SHED -- CONTINUOUS

The shed is old but the door and windows are sealed tight. Nate jams his FLASHLIGHT between the door and the padlock. He pulls... Nothing. Solid. Nate crosses to the blacked out window. He looks back to the house. TV lights flicker. Nate smashes the glass with the butt of his flashlight.

EXT. ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Drew wraps a ripped length of cloth around one end of a broken 2x4. The others hold similar. Torches.

TESS
Lighter?

Drew tosses his Zippo. Tess lights the TRASH inside a STEEL BARREL. One by one, they all light their torches.

DREW
Spread out.

Carla approaches Drew.

CARLA
(suggestive)
Going my way?

DREW
(dismissive)
Yeah. Come on.

Carla and Drew walk past a large grime covered SKYLIGHT and head towards the west side of the roof. Tess rolls her eyes and heads east. Jim and Lauren move north while Maya and Sydney go south. All wave their torches against the cold, starless sky.

INT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - SHED - CONTINUOUS

Nate fumbles in the darkness, making his way around boxes and broken furniture. He reaches blindly for a light switch. Finds a string. Pulls it.

An exposed bulb swings back and forth. Yellowed NEWSPAPER ARTICLES line the walls. Pictures and paragraphs circled in RED INK. Nate stares into the collage.

"TRUCK DRIVER DIES IN FIERY EXPLOSION". The man's name is circled: "DALTON YATES". Nate follows a red scribbled line to another headline. "APARTMENT FIRE CLAIMS ONE". Another name circled in red: "SCOTT 'SCOTTY' TURNER. Then, another. "MAN DIES IN RESTAURANT BLAZE." Another name: "WILLIAM 'BEAR' CAWLEY".

Nate pulls out the photo he found at the water tower.

NATE
My God...

The "X'd-out" faces on the photo are the same ones from the newspaper pictures. Just about 20 years younger.

EXT. ROOF - MOMENTS LATER

Maya sits frustrated on the ledge as Sydney lowers her torch.

SYDNEY
Okay, this officially sucks.

MAYA
Tell me something I don't know.

SYDNEY
 Alright. You want "long division"
 or "how to hold onto a boyfriend
 for longer than two weeks"?

MAYA
 Why do you always gotta be like
 that?

SYDNEY
 I'm sorry. I'm just freezing.

MAYA
 Hey...

Maya points. Sydney turns. FLAMES shoot from the top of the trash barrel.

MAYA
 Wanna go play "construction
 worker?"

Sydney tosses her torch off the building.

SYDNEY
 Beats "air traffic controller".

Maya and Sydney take off toward the barrel. Twenty feet from it, Maya falls. Face plant!

MAYA
 Ouch! Goddamnit!

SYDNEY
 Nice move Princess Grace.

MAYA
 Think you could stop being a bitch
 for just one minute?

SYDNEY
 What the hell did you trip over?

Maya looks down. A RUSTED PIPE runs the length of the roof. Maya extends her hand to Sydney.

MAYA
 Make yourself useful, will you?

Sydney helps her up and together they continue on to the barrel. However...we hear a sound. A HISS...

CLOSE UP ON PIPE

The camera skims across the entire length of the pipe...the noise getting louder and louder as the camera travels. The camera stops when it finds... the hiss is coming from a CRACK in the pipe just before the sky light!

INT. NATE'S PATROL CAR - MOMENTS LATER

The DISPATCH RADIO drones on as Nate drives. He's a million miles away. On the radio, we hear the words "fire"... "arson"... "vandals". Nate's attention is focused on the passenger seat littered with the newspaper clippings and photos. Just then...

He looks up. A CAR IS STOPPED AT A RED LIGHT TEN FEET IN FRONT OF HIM! Nate brakes but its too late! He swerves into the oncoming lane and out into the intersection! ANOTHER CAR barrels down the crossroad and slams on it's brakes! The cars just narrowly miss a horrible collision.

Shaken, Nate checks his rearview mirror. Everyone is fine. He wipes his damp forehead across his sleeve and drives on.

EXT. ROOF - MOMENTS LATER

Jim, Lauren, Maya and Sydney all try to get warm around the flaming barrel.

MAYA

We couldn't get trapped in a creepy hospital during summer?

JIM

Yeah, I'll have to fire my travel agent for this one.

SYDNEY

You guys smell something funny?

JIM

Burrito for dinner, ladies.

LAUREN

Real nice.

JIM

I'm serious.

SYDNEY

So am I. You can't smell that?

Tess walks over to them.

MAYA

No. Wait... it smells like...

Tess eyes go wide.

TESS

Gas...

SYDNEY

That's what I thought.

JIM
As I said, burrito...

He looks around. No one smiles.

JIM
What, fart jokes aren't funny anymore?

TESS
DREW!

Drew runs back to them.

DREW
What?

TESS
You smell gas?

DREW
What?
(he does)
Where's it coming from!?

Tess and Drew turn. Their eyes follow the pipe as it runs across the center of the roof. Then, they see...

AIR RIPPLES! GAS!

DREW
Shit...TORCHES!

Drew yanks the torches from Jim and Lauren's hands and stomps them out! Tess tosses hers into the flaming barrel.

TESS
HELP ME!

Like a hot potato, Tess, Drew and Jim push the barrel away from the pipe! When they get to the ledge, Drew looks around, spots a BARREL LID, grabs it, and slams it down on top of the fire. Out! They breathe a sigh of relief until...

CARLA (O.S.)
What's going on!?

They all turn. Carla stands right beside the crack in the pipe... FLAMING TORCH STILL IN HER HAND!!!

TESS
CARLA NO!

DREW
GET AWAY FROM THERE!

CARLA
What?

TESS
RUN! NOW!!!

Carla throws down her torch and turns to run! Too late...

THE GAS IGNITES! A HUGE FIREBALL rockets her through the air and right down through the glass of the skylight!

TESS
CARLA!!!

A PLUME OF ORANGE WHITE fire stretches thirty feet high.

Tess sprints around the fire towards the shattered the skylight. Drew grabs Jim by the shirt.

DREW
Find a shut off valve!

Jim takes off in one direction and Drew rushes after Tess.

At the skylight, Tess and Drew peer down into darkness.

TESS
CARLA!? I don't see her!

DREW
CARLA!

TESS
CARLA!

Suddenly, the FIRE GOES OUT! Tess and Drew squint down through the broken glass. Now they see...

CARLA! Flat on the floor about thirty feet down!

TESS
Carla! I'm coming!

Drew grabs her arm!

DREW
TOGETHER! WE GO TOGETHER!

TESS
Get off me!

Tess jams an elbow to Drew's ribs and races through the door and down the stairs.

LAUREN
Tess! Wait!

Lauren follows, then Maya and Sydney. Jim walks over, a perplexed look on his face.

DREW
Thanks for shutting that down.

JIM
It was nothing. Really....

Drew notices the look on Jim's face.

DREW
What?

JIM
Look, I found the shut off valve...
about three seconds *after* the fire
went out. Want the kicker?
(beat)
Valve's welded shut. No way that
gas could have even been on.

DREW
Don't say anything to them.
Alright?

JIM
You think I'd know what to say?

INT. SIXTH FLOOR - DAYROOM - NIGHT

Tess rushes into a dark massive room. Stops.

TESS
Carla?

Tess stands directly underneath the broken skylight. Glass and SMOKING EMBERS litter the floor... Carla is gone! Tess frantically scans the room.

TESS
CARLA!?

She stops. Slowly, all the color drains from her face...

TESS
Oh my God...

In the MOONLIGHT, Tess realizes where she is. A familiar spot... one that has haunted her nightmares for years.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL DAYROOM - FLASHBACK

The room looks just as it did 18 years ago. Various RECOVERING PATIENTS, SCURRYING NURSES and DOCTORS. Bright sunlight pours through a large arched window. Sitting in front of that window is the RED-CLOAKED FIGURE! SADIE!

Tess watches her 3-year-old self enter the room behind the heavysset nun.

TESS

No...

Tess' breath catches in her throat as she watches the nun lean down and whisper in Sadie's ear, then back away. Young Tess steps closer. Slowly, Sadie turns...

CLOSE ON SADIE'S FACE

It's HORRIFIC! Charred black and weeping purple swatches of skin stretch intermittently across grey/white bone. Sadie attempts to smile... Blood dribbles from cracks in her cheeks and lips!

TESS

NNNNNOOOOOOO!!!

Tess watches her young self race past. Suddenly, a HAND grabs her by the shoulder!

TESS

NNNNNOOOOOOOOOO!

She takes a swing. The hand stops her fist. A Zippo lights. Drew... Maya, Sydney and Lauren stand a few feet behind him.

DREW

Easy there, slugger.

Immediately, Tess turns back to the arched window...

For a split-second, Tess sees Sadie smiling...laughing... FULLY ENGULFED IN FLAMES! As quickly as she appears, she's gone again!

TESS

Oh my God...oh my God...

DREW

Where's Carla?

TESS

God...oh God...

DREW

TESS! Where's Carla!?

Tess looks down to the smoldering embers under the skylight, then back up to the group. Tears roll down her cheeks...

JIM (O.C.)
She's dead. Burnt up.

They turn. Jim pokes his head in the doorway.

LAUREN
What!?

TESS
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT!

JIM
Yeah? Well let me show you what I do know.

Jim exits. Terrified, Maya, Sydney and Lauren follow. Drew waits for Tess.

TESS
She's not dead!

DREW
Alright.

INT. SIXTH FLOOR STAFF ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JIM
Somebody's fucking with us. Hard.

They all stare up at a FIFTEEN FOOT HIGH DEAD TREE. It sits in a PLANTER in the middle of a candle-lit room...

At the end of eight barren branches, a RAT hangs... a string attached to each tiny tail.

JIM
Eight of them. Eight of us when we started. Now look at this...

Jim crosses to the two farthest branches. Points. Smoke rises from two of the rats... their body's SCORCHED!

JIM
Two burnt up. Two of us burnt up.

TESS
You don't know that! Carla's...

JIM
(interrupts)
Dead! Your friend's dead! It's fucked up but she's toast!

TESS
Fuck you.

JIM
Rain check.

DREW
Why don't you back off, Jim?

JIM
You know dude, I'm getting a little sick of you telling me what to...

MAYA (O.C.)
(interrupts)
Look!

SYDNEY
What?

MAYA
That... up there. What is that?

Maya points. They all look. SOMETHING drapes from the top of the tree. Drew finds a broken broom handle. He moves close to the tree's gnarled trunk. Holding the handle as high as he can, Drew pokes at what looks to be a LARGE PIECE OF CLOTH. He doesn't notice the dangling rat beside his face... Suddenly, the rat awakens! Jagged black claws dig into Drew's cheek!

DREW
FUCK! FUCK!!!

In one quick move, Drew smacks the rat off his face, swings the broom handle like a baseball bat and rockets the rodent across the room. It splatters against the wall. Drew wipes blood from his cheek and turns to Jim.

JIM
I just hope that was your designated rat. Not mine.

DREW
I'm sure yours would be uglier.

JIM
Soon as we get out of here, funny man, you and I are gonna have...

Before Jim can even get the words out of his mouth, Tess rushes the tree, slams her shoulder into the trunk and pushes with all her might. The tree topples and smashes to the ground. Tess walks around to the top of the fallen tree, reaches down and...

MAYA
What is it?

SYDNEY

Looks like some kinda coat...

Tess holds up the "coat". RED SATIN... HOODED... covered with BURNS and SMOKE STAINS. Sadie's cloak!

TESS

(small)

No...

JIM

Now what's your problem?

TESS

(each one getting bigger)

NO...**NO...NO!!!**

A CANDLE explodes! THE CLOAK BURSTS INTO FLAMES!

JIM

MOTHER FUCKER!

Tess flings it to the floor. Like a scared animal, she turns to flee but finds no exit only wall. She drops down into the corner, sobbing...

JIM

What the hell is with this bitch?

DREW

(to Jim)

Shut it!

(slowly approaching Tess)

Tess? What is it? What's wrong?

A BEAT passes. Slowly, Tess raises her head. Eyes crimson. Nose bloody. Face streaked with tears...

TESS

That's Sadie's.

JIM

Who?

TESS

Sadie. My mom. She was here.

LAUREN

Here, as in a patient here?

Tess nods. Drew kneels down beside her.

TESS

I only saw her one time, must have been about three. Right over in that dayroom. Didn't even realize this was the same place until five minutes ago.

LAUREN

What was she in here for?

TESS

She was... she burned in a fire.
Never recovered. I guess she had
brain damage or something and had
to be under constant care.

(beat)

I remember when I saw her... I was
so scared I ran away screaming.
They never brought me back.

DREW

Where is she now?

TESS

I don't know.

JIM

What do you mean you don't know?

TESS

When they closed this place they
moved all the terminal care
patients to other facilities.
After I turned eighteen I went
looking for her. I couldn't find
anything. No record of where she
was sent, nothing...

Drew puts a comforting hand on Tess's shoulder. She shrugs
it off.

TESS

Don't... Its just a horrible memory
anyway.

JIM

Hold up, hold up...

The others turn to him.

JIM

You're behind this, aren't you
Tess?

LAUREN

What are you talking about?

JIM

I'm talking about... eight rats on
a tree, two burned up. Two of us
burned up. I'm talking about
things just randomly going up in
flames! I'm talking about a psycho
broad who's mom just happened to be
a Duraflame psycho broad!

Jim steps towards Tess.

JIM
What's it gonna be Tess? You gonna
tell us the truth!?

TESS
(quietly)
Stay away from me.

JIM
Come on, Tess! You know what's
going on here, don't you? WHO'S
DOING THIS? WHY ARE WE HERE!?

Jim goes to grab Tess.

TESS
STOP IT!

Drew shoves Jim against the wall and holds him there.

DREW
BACK OFF!

JIM
(struggling)
Oh, ain't this cute? Nut case part
two protects her! If I remember,
you're the one who shot up a
ceiling tonight, right? What a
couple. Mr. & Mrs. "Padded Room"!

A right hook from Drew stops Jim's rant cold. Jim skids
across the filthy floor on his back. He wipes blood from his
lip as he pulls himself to his feet.

JIM
I'm outta here.

DREW
And where exactly is that?

JIM
Down. Out. Bye-bye. If I gotta
tear a wall down brick by brick I'm
getting outta here.

TESS
You can't!

Jim stops in the doorway. Turns back.

TESS
We gotta find Carla!

JIM
Fuck you.

He turns to the others.

JIM
Anybody else?

No one answers. Jim heads out of the room.

JIM
Alright then...

SYDNEY
Wait! I'm in.

MAYA
Yeah... me too.

JIM
(to Lauren)
You?

Lauren turns to Tess.

TESS
We have to find Carla. Please...

LAUREN
I'm sorry...

She moves past Jim and out into the hall.

JIM
You two kids have a great Devil's
Night.

Jim exits.

Drew crosses back to Tess and extends his hand.

TESS
You can go, too. It's okay...

DREW
Thanks, I'm planning on it...

She looks up at him.

DREW
But just for kicks, whaddaya say we
find Carla first.

She smiles slightly and takes his hand. He pulls her up.

TESS
Thanks.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Deputy Kolzac sits behind Nate's desk, staring into a TV. "CARNIVAL OF SOULS" plays. Kolzac nervously pops Gummy Bears as he watches zombies poke up from ink-black water. Then...

VOICE (O.C.)

Kolzac...

Gummy Bears fly! Kolzac turns to see... Nate, ashen.

DEPUTY KOLZAC

Jesus. What happened to you?

NATE

Nothing. Almost had an accident.

DEPUTY KOLZAC

You okay?

NATE

Yeah. Need you to do something.

DEPUTY KOLZAC

Sure.

NATE

Pull these files. My eyes only.

Nate drops a note pad onto the desk. Five scribbled names. "Dalton Yates. Scott 'Scotty' Turner. William 'Bear' Cawley. Anthony Marino. Sadie Lynch..."

INT. HOSPITAL STAIRWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Using only the lights from their cell phones to guide them, Jim, Lauren, Maya and Sydney slowly make their way down the stairwell. At the FIFTH FLOOR LANDING, Maya stops.

MAYA

Can we hold up a second?

JIM

Why?

MAYA

I gotta pee.

JIM

So pee.

MAYA

Here?

JIM

Hey, the world's one big toilet...
I don't give a shit.

MAYA
Nice world you live in, pig. Syd?

SYDNEY
I don't have to go.

Maya grabs Sydney's arm.

MAYA
YES YOU DO!
(to the others)
We'll be right back. Don't leave.

JIM
Just go.

Maya and Sydney push through the door and out into the hall.
Jim plops down on the stairs. Lauren sits next to him.

LAUREN
You know, you didn't have to be
such a dick up there.

JIM
What?

LAUREN
Talking about her dead mother like
that. It was wrong.

JIM
You're serious?

LAUREN
Absolutely.

JIM
Okay architect, just so you
understand something, I know what
it's like to lose a parent, okay?
And I'd never in a million years
call my dad a "horrible memory".
Don't get so high and mighty.

LAUREN
High and mighty?

She stands...

LAUREN
You ever think that maybe you're
not the only one who's lost a
parent? Asshole...

...and exits out into the hall.

INT. SIXTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Tess and Drew walk down the hall, cautiously peering into each dark room as they pass.

TESS

So, Carla and I thought this was going to be some great party. What's your excuse?

DREW

I was supposed to meet somebody.

TESS

Right. Anthony...

DREW

Marino. Yeah.

TESS

He's a friend?

DREW

Stepfather. Asshole stepfather.

Drew tries a door. It's locked. He peers in the window. Nothing.

TESS

There's got to be more to that story.

DREW

There is.

TESS

It's OK... you don't have to tell me.

Silence. Drew turns to her.

DREW

He skipped out on my mom a year ago. Left her a wreck. Although I don't know why she even gives a shit. Then, few weeks back, the abusive son of a bitch writes me a note saying he wants to meet up. Tonight. Says he's thinking of coming back. I couldn't have that.

TESS

How bad was it?

DREW

(emphatic)
I couldn't have him coming back.

TESS
Is that why you brought the gun?

Drew doesn't answer. He turns and silently walks ahead.

TESS
Drew?

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Guided by the hazy green light from their phones, Maya and Sydney navigate around MOLDY HOSPITAL BEDS. Leather restraints dangle from bent bed rails.

SYDNEY
This place is so freakin' gross.

MAYA
Don't look at it.

Finally...

MAYA
Here.

She pushes open the bathroom door... then stops.

MAYA
You coming?

SYDNEY
No. I'm gonna try to find a signal.

Sydney moves on down the hall, holding her phone up high. Maya just stares at her incredulously, then tentatively enters...

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Faucets drip brown water. Jagged shards of mirror hang from a rusted aluminum frame. Trash litters the floor. Maya opens the first stall and gags at what she sees. The second stall is a tiny bit better. Maya steps inside. From outside, we see her feet as her pants fall to the floor.

MAYA
(calling out)
Syd?

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Sydney is still trying her phone.

SYDNEY
 (calling back)
 What?

MAYA (O.S.)
 Just checking.

SYDNEY
 I'm here, dumb ass. Hurry up!

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - BATHROOM - NIGHT

We still see Maya's feet.

MAYA
 You can be such a bitch when you
 wanna be...

SYDNEY (O.S.)
 What?

MAYA
 (calling out)
 I said "this is great, now I can't
 pee." Happy?

SYDNEY (O.S.)
 Ecstatic. Let's go!

The CAMERA drifts from Maya's stall over to the next to
 reveal... a PAIR OF FEET step down from the toilet!

MAYA
 (to herself)
 Screw it.

Maya pulls up her pants, unlatches the door, and steps out.
 She approaches the shattered mirror. On the ceiling above
 her, a STEAM PIPE rattles. Maya doesn't notice. She stares
 into a broken shard and sees dirt all over her face.

MAYA
 Nice...

She wipes the dirt from her face as the rattling intensifies.

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Sydney walks away from the door, phone in the air. Then...

SYDNEY
 I got a signal!

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

MAYA

What?

Silence...

MAYA

Syd?

As she waits for a response, Maya looks in the mirror and sees... a stall door slowly swing open. Through the darkness, a figure appears... RED CLOAK draped head to feet... face shrouded in shadow!

MAYA

(small, terrified)

Oh, shit...

(screams)

SYDNE...!!!

Before she can finish her scream, steam bursts from the pipe! A VALVE explodes and shoots towards her like a bullet!

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Down the hall, Sydney reacts to the sound...

SYDNEY

Maya?

She slowly moves to the bathroom and pushes the door open.

SYDNEY

Maya? You okay?

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Sydney peers into an open stall... all the color drains from her face as she sees...

Maya slumped against a toilet like a broken doll... a STEAM PIPE VALVE BURIED IN HER FOREHEAD!

SYDNEY

NNNNNNNOOOOOOOOOO!!!

INT. SIXTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Tess and Drew hear the screams. They rush into the stairwell and bolt down the stairs.

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Drew opens the door, charges out into the hall and... BAM! He slams right into Jim.

JIM
Hey! Asshole!

Tess enters from behind Drew as Lauren approaches.

TESS
What is it? What's going on?

LAUREN
It's the twins.

The foursome hurries down the hall...

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Around the corner, Sydney sits collapsed against the wall opposite the bathroom, hysterical. The others rush up to her.

TESS
Sydney, what happened?

Through her tears, Sydney can only manage to raise a finger and point. Tess and the others tentatively open the bathroom door and peer in.

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Steam fills the room. Drew follows the pipe and turns a shut off valve. As the steam dissipates, they recoil at the gruesome sight.

LAUREN
Oh my God.

JIM
Oh man...that is fucked up.

INT. FIFTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Drew pulls the door shut. Tess goes back to Sydney.

TESS
What happened, Sydney?

Sydney opens her mouth, trying the best she can to form words. Just then...

A DOOR SLAMS. Everyone turns. The Cloaked Figure stands at the opposite end of the hallway. Staring...

LAUREN
Who the hell is that?

Slowly the Cloaked Figure moves towards them.

JIM
I don't want to find out!

Jim runs back to the stairs. Lauren follows. Drew grabs Sydney, pulls her to her feet and pushes her down the hall. Tess just stands, staring at the Figure, unable to move. Drew comes back and pulls her away.

INT. STAIRWAY - NIGHT

They burst into the stairway and run down a flight of stairs. As they get to the fourth floor landing, Jim trips over a thin wire. BOOM! A HUGE FIREBALL explodes from the floor below! They're thrown back against the wall. With no other exit, they are forced out into...

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - NIGHT

JIM
What the fuck was that?

Drew rips a WHEELCHAIR RAILING from the wall and jams it into the steel handle, barring the door.

LAUREN
The other stairs!

Everyone runs down to the opposite end of the hall. They slam against the door but...it's chained shut!

JIM
Damn it!

LAUREN
Who was that?

JIM
Yeah, any thoughts on that, Tess?

Tess turns away.

TESS
No.

JIM
I'll bet.

SYDNEY (O.C.)
(quiet)
That thing killed Maya and now it's gonna kill us...

They all turn. Sydney is hysterical.

SYDNEY
ISN'T IT!!!!???

DREW
NO! This floor is locked tight.
Whoever that was can't get in.

LAUREN
Which also means... we're trapped.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Nate stares out the window as Kolzac enters, files in hand.

DEPUTY KOLZAC
Got 'em. Might be a little musty,
think we got a leak or something
down there.

NATE
Thanks.

Nate takes the files. Kolzac lingers.

NATE
Gimme a minute, okay.

DEPUTY KOLZAC
Yeah. Sure thing.

Kolzac exits. Nate opens the files. Each contains a photo of a dead man and a police report. Words leap out: FIRE, ACCIDENT, BURNT REMAINS. The last file contains a picture of a beautiful young girl. SADIE LYNCH. Nate can barely look at it but when he does, his mind smashes to...

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A WATER TOWER looms above a remote field. We've seen this place before. On the tower, five SILHOUETTES move...

EXT. WATER TOWER - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)

A ZIPPO ignites. A flame is brought to an oil soaked rag. A bottle launches. It smashes on a SHOPPING CART and EXPLODES!

SCOTTY, DALTON and BEAR, (all 20's), drunkenly celebrate while ANTHONY, 24, fills another bottle. (*We've seen them all before in POLICE FILE PHOTOS*) Behind them, NATE, 22, pulls a fifth of JIM BEAM and downs the last drops.

NATE
I'm outta here. I told Geena I'd
help put the kid to bed.

DALTON
I thought we're going downtown.

SCOTTY
Yeah, stop being a pussy, Nate.

NATE
Fuck off, Scotty.

DALTON
We all got places to be, Nate.
Doesn't mean we can't have fun.

NATE
Fun? You don't think we've
outgrown this? Even a little bit?

Nate, Scotty and Bear laugh and toss insults at Nate.

ANTHONY
He's right.

They stop and look to Anthony.

ANTHONY
But if this is our last Devil's
Night, I say we make it memorable.

SCOTTY
Whaddaya got in mind?

ANTHONY
We could drop in on the witch.

The other nod in approval... except Nate.

ANTHONY
Come on Cadet Stanton. One last
Devil's Night. For old times.

EXT. SADIE'S HOUSE - LATER - (FLASHBACK)

A modest home in serious need of a paint job. It sits alone.
Eerily dark. Quiet. Anthony leads the others around to the
back of the house. Nate reluctantly follows.

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER - (FLASHBACK)

A match strikes. SADIE appears; attractive, late-20's,
wearing a RED SATIN HOODED CLOAK.

She lights CANDLES that illuminate a DIRT FLOOR BASEMENT. As she passes a small window, we see Anthony and the other guys watching.

The room glows. Sadie picks up a bottle of clear liquid, pours it around her in a circle, strikes a match and drops it. A RING OF FIRE leaps forth. Sadie drops the cloak. Naked. Sadie closes her eyes and begins to chant.

SADIE
 Domina perchanta gristole encarcha.
 Domina perchanta gristole encarcha.

As she chants, her body sways, trance-like. Her movements seductive... her hands caress glistening skin.

EXT. SADIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

BEAR
 God damn, look at that ass.

Anthony stands.

NATE
 Where you going?

SCOTTY
 Yeah dude, she just started.

ANTHONY
 I'm gonna help her finish.

He heads for the storm cellar door.

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Sadie is lost in her dance. It's raw. Sensual. Flames bend towards her and lick at her skin. BLOOD trickles from under her fingernails and drops to the floor.

Sadie's shadow writhes against the back wall. Suddenly, ANOTHER SHADOW appears. Sadie turns to see Anthony.

SADIE
 What are you doing down here?

She attempts to cover herself.

ANTHONY
 I heard you calling. You brought me back from the dead.

SADIE
 Get out! I'll call the cops!

Anthony steps over the small ring of fire and Anthony stares up and down her naked body.

ANTHONY
What if we party a bit first?

She slaps him. Hard. Blood forms on Anthony's lip.

SADIE
Filthy dog...

ANTHONY
If that's the way you want it.

Anthony punches Sadie. She drops to her knees, clutching her bleeding nose. Anthony grabs the back of her hair.

ANTHONY
You know, as long as you're down there...

NATE (O.S.)
Knock it off, Anthony!

Anthony turns. Nate stands in the doorway behind the leering Bear, Dalton and Scotty. He pushes past the others and up to Anthony.

NATE
Come on Anthony, this isn't funny.

ANTHONY
Yeah. I guess you're right...

Out of nowhere, Anthony hauls off and punches Nate square in the jaw. Nate stumbles backwards, hits the wall, and drops to the floor.

ANTHONY
But that's kind'a funny, ain't it?.
(to the others) Party time, boys.

Bear, Dalton and Scotty move forward and crowd around Sadie. Nate struggles to open an eye. He looks...

The shadows on the wall mixed with Sadie's screams leave no doubt of the crime Anthony and the others are committing...

NATE
Don't...

Nate closes his eyes. Passes out...

FADE TO BLACK.

ANTHONY (O.S.)
Wake him...

FADE IN:

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER - (FLASHBACK)

Scotty slaps Nate's face.

SCOTTY
Come on there Sleeping Ugly.

Nate opens his eyes. He stares right into Sadie's blood-splattered face! He's naked and laying ON TOP OF HER!

NATE
Oh God, no!

Nate rolls off Sadie and stands.

NATE
WHAT HAPPENED!?

ANTHONY
What happened is... you went John Holmes on the witch.

NATE
What!?

Nate looks down to his hands. CAKED WITH BLOOD!

NATE
Shit. We gotta call 911.

ANTHONY
And tell them what!? You raped and beat this demon worshipping bitch half to death!? You're training to be a cop, Nate. Remember!?

NATE
I don't care...we gotta call...

ANTHONY
No! Not gonna happen. I'm not pissing away my life because you went psycho fucking some whore!

NATE
Well, we can't leave her like this.

ANTHONY
Now, that I agree with.

Anthony grabs the lighter fluid and pours it around the room.

NATE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

ANTHONY
Its called getting rid of evidence.

NATE
That's it. I'm calling the cops.

Anthony grabs Nate and slams him into the wall.

ANTHONY
Nate, we're all in this. You wanna
lose Drew?! (beat) DO YOU!?

SCOTTY
I ain't losing my girls, Nate. Not
for some skanky whore.

NATE
This isn't right, Anthony.

ANTHONY
And this ain't about right or wrong
now. It's about survival.

Anthony pulls out his Zippo and lights the fuel.

NATE
NO!

A trail of fire quickly shoots up the walls. The guys rush
the door, pushing Nate along with them. He looks over his
shoulder. Sadie reaches out her hand through a wall of
flames.

SADIE
Please...

Nate charges back to Sadie. Bear grabs him by the neck.

NATE
NO! WE GOTTA HELP HER!

Bear drags Nate through the door.

NATE (O.C.)
NNNNNOOOOO!

Sadie's skin blisters! Her eyes bulge wide!

SADIE
Please... upstairs...

We follow the fire up as it shoots through the ceiling.

EXT. SADIE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER - (FLASHBACK)

The living room windows EXPLODE as Bear drags Nate across the front lawn. Suddenly... they both fall. Tripped by something in the darkness. Nate looks...

An upended TRICYCLE.

NATE
She's got a kid. SHE'S GOT A KID!

Bear leaps the hedge and runs down the street towards the others, never looking back. Nate bounds up onto the porch.

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE - SECONDS LATER - (FLASHBACK)

The front door bursts open with one mighty kick.

NATE
Oh God...

The entire house ROARS with flames! Just then, Nate hears... A CHILD'S SCREAM! He bounds up the steps to the...

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - (FLASHBACK)

Wallpaper peels off in flames. Holding his mouth and nose against the intense heat and smoke, Nate lumbers down the hall. Another SCREAM! Nate reaches for the DOORKNOB.

NATE
AAAAAAHHHHHHH!

Nate's face contorts from intense, searing pain!

EXT. LOT ACROSS FROM SADIE'S - LATER THAT NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

The fire is out. In a shed a few houses away, Nate, his right hand WRAPPED in a TOWEL, hides, watching. Over at Sadie's house, FIREFIGHTERS give oxygen to a small child while OTHERS hurriedly perform CPR on a gauze covered body. Tears stream down Nate's smoke-ravaged face as he watches...

DISSOLVE TO:

DEPUTY KOLZAC
Sir?

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT (BACK TO PRESENT DAY)

Nate brushes away a tear as Kolzac waits at the door.

NATE
What is it?

DEPUTY KOLZAC
 Someone to see you. Say's she's
 your ex-wife...

Before Nate can respond, Geena steps past Kolzac.

DEPUTY KOLZAC
 Ma'am, I asked you to wait...

NATE
 It's okay, Kolzac.

Kolzac steps away. Geena approaches Nate. She looks scared.

NATE
 What's is it?

GEENA
 It's Drew. After you left I went
 through some of his things.

She hands over a TYPED NOTE on the same orange stationary as
 the other invitations. Nate reads...

GEENA
 Say's its from Anthony.

NATE
 Seems kind'a flowery for Anthony.

GEENA
 Yeah, he can't put a noun and a
 verb together. And he can't type.

Nate checks for a return address on the card. None...

NATE
 I'll check it out.

GEENA
 He's dead, isn't he?

NATE
 What?

GEENA
 Anthony. That's why you came to
 see me, right?

Nate turns away.

GEENA
 Nate, the only thing I care about
 now is Drew. I just need to know.

Nate turns back to her. Nods "yes". Geena takes that in.

NATE

I'm sorry.

Nate gathers his gun belt, clips.

GEENA

Drew's in danger, isn't he?

NATE

I'll call as soon as I find him.
You can wait here if you want.

Nate heads for the door.

GEENA

Nate...

Her look of pain seers into him.

NATE

I'll bring him home.

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - NIGHT

Lauren comforts the sobbing Sydney while Jim rockets broken pieces of concrete into a dangling EXIT sign. Drew approaches from the nurses station.

DREW

Do you have to do that?

JIM

Yep.

Drew walks to the far end of the hall where Tess sits on the floor, head buried in her arms. Drew plops down next to her. Pulls a SODA from under his shirt.

DREW

Just busted open a 20 year old machine. Reagan-era Fresca, anyone?

Tess looks up. Smiles.

TESS

That's mighty tempting but... no.
(beat)
Now, if you find some Pop Rocks...

DREW

With Fresca? Could be lethal.

TESS

I know, right? That's how "Mikey" off-ed himself. Hey, there's an idea.

(MORE)

TESS (cont'd)
 We could make our own little
 cyanide pills. One for you, one
 for me. Just in case that thing
 gets too close.

Drew stops smiling. That wasn't funny.

DREW
 We won't need 'em. We're getting
 out of here.

TESS
 I know. (sensing he doesn't
 believe her) *I know...*

Just then, Jim rips the exit sign off of the wall and slams
 it to the floor.

TESS
 What's his problem now?

DREW
 No clue...
 (yells down the hall)
 What's your problem now?

JIM
 Oh, I don't know...

Jim nonchalantly tosses the exit sign down the hall. It
 skids to a stop at Drew's feet.

JIM
 Maybe I'm still waiting for one-
 half of the cutest couple on the
 ward to tell me what's really going
 on!

DREW
 You gonna start again?

JIM
 I never finished.

TESS
 I told you I don't have a clue.

JIM
 And I told you...bullshit.

LAUREN
 (to Jim)
 Give it a rest, why don't you?

JIM
 Oh... why don't you blow me!?

Lauren stands. Takes a step towards him.

LAUREN
Why don't you pull it out and put
it in my hand, see what happens.

JIM
Standards a bit too high. Sorry.

LAUREN
You know, I'm getting so sick of
you and your bullshit!

Sydney lifts her head slightly.

SYDNEY
(a whisper)
Stop it...

JIM
If you're so sick, stop listening.

DREW
Jim, we're all getting sick of it.

SYDNEY
(louder)
Stop it...

JIM
You want me to shut up? I'll shut
up. As soon as Tess tells us why
HER FUCKING MOTHER IS FUCKING
TRYING TO KILL US!

TESS
THAT'S NOT MY MOTHER!

Drew stands, smashes the soda against the wall. He walks
towards Jim. Jim walks towards Drew. Just as Jim passes
Sydney, she springs to her feet!

SYDNEY
(hysterical)
STOP IT!!!

In a rage of raw emotion, Sydney slams into Jim, pounding her
fists into his back.

SYDNEY
STOP IT STOP IT STOP IT!

Jim sidesteps Sydney and she falls to the ground. Tears of
sadness now overwhelm her rage. Lauren rushes to Sydney.

JIM
Great... another pyscho.

LAUREN
(to Jim)
Are you happy now?

JIM
I didn't do that.

LAUREN
Yeah well, you didn't help did you?
(to Sydney)
It's okay sweetie. Calm down.

Sydney chokes back tears. Mumbling under her breath.

SYDNEY
(very quiet)
First daddy, now Maya... first
daddy, now Maya...

Lauren uses her shirt sleeve to blot Sydney's tears.

SYDNEY
First daddy, now Maya... first
daddy, now Maya...

LAUREN
What's that sweetie?

SYDNEY
First daddy dies on Devil's
Night... now Maya.

Lauren looks as if she has seen a ghost. She stands up and backs away from Sydney.

TESS
Lauren?

SYDNEY
First daddy, now Maya...

LAUREN
No...

TESS
Lauren, what is it?

LAUREN
Sydney, did your father die on
Devil's Night?

SYDNEY
Two years ago. His truck... there
was a fire...

LAUREN
Oh my God...

TESS
What?

LAUREN
My father was killed on Devil's
Night... three years ago.

JIM
Son of a bitch!

Jim slams his forearm into a wall. Slowly, Tess turns to him.

JIM
Yeah. Grease fire in the
restaurant he worked at. Four
years ago. Devil's Night.

LAUREN
That's the connection. That's why
we're here.

DREW
That's a weird coincidence, not a
connection.

TESS
What about Anthony Marino?

DREW
What about him? He's alive.
Remember, I was supposed to meet
him here?

JIM
That's you're father?.

DREW
Step father.

JIM
Wow, what a touching reunion that
would have been.

Drew says nothing.

TESS
Wait a minute, Drew. You said he
split on you and your mom, right?

DREW
So?

TESS
So when was the last time you saw
him?

DREW
I don't know. Some time last...

Drew stops.

TESS
Devil's Night?

Drew nods.

JIM
Oh, Christ...

Just then, a RUMBLE sounds from the end the hall. Slowly, they turn... The barricaded door at the end of the hall GLOWS RED. Then another sound. Rushing water. Above. They look up.

LAUREN
Oh my God...

The sprinkler pipes glow ORANGE!

TESS
We gotta move!

Just then, the SPRINKLERS burst on. The cascading water is SCALDING HOT! Jim pushes Lauren and Sydney into an empty room as Drew and Tess dive for cover under a desk.

LAUREN
(calling from the room)
The sprinklers aren't on in here!

TESS
Let's go!

Drew and Tess dash across the hall an into...

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - PATIENT ROOM - NIGHT

Everyone shakes the burning water off their skin and clothes.

DREW
Why aren't the sprinklers on in here?

LAUREN
Be thankful they're not.

DREW
I'm not so sure we should be.
We're being herded.

LAUREN
Herded?

DREW
Whoever is doing this has been pushing us through this building the whole time.

JIM

What are you talking about?

DREW

Got us off of the roof. Pushed us off the fifth floor. Trapped us on this floor. Now,...in this room.

LAUREN

So, what do we do?

Drew crosses to the window and peers down. Hell of a drop but directly underneath, a curtain flutters. Open window.

DREW

There's a window right below.

LAUREN

No way.

DREW

Yeah, way.

Drew takes off his jacket and holds it over his head.

TESS

What are you doing?

DREW

Changing the game plan.

Drew charges out of the room and back into the...

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Boiling water splashes all around him. Drew runs to a FIRE HOSE and smashes the glass. Looks to the barricaded door. It glows even hotter now. Drew yanks the hose across the hall and back into...

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - PATIENT ROOM

DREW

Help me with this.

Jim steps over and together they yank the hose all the way into the room. Drew carries it over to the window and throws it out. It dangles down just past the open window. He pulls on it to test it's strength.

DREW

Let's go.

LAUREN

I can't.

DREW
Yes you can.

LAUREN
No. Don't do heights, remember?

DREW
Then that thing'll get you.

LAUREN
(panic)
If I go out there, I fall! If I
fall, I die! I'm not...you can't...

JIM
STOP!

Everyone turns to Jim.

JIM
(to Drew)
You go first. Make sure it holds.
Sydney goes after you, then Tess.
(he turns to Lauren)
You're afraid of falling four
stories, right?

Lauren nods.

JIM
Okay. I go right in front of you.
If you fall, you fall two feet. I
catch you.

A BEAT. Lauren calms.

LAUREN
Promise?

JIM
Promise.

DREW
Alright. Let's go.

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

Hand over hand, Drew climbs down the last few feet of stone wall, kicks jagged glass out of the third floor window, and drops inside. Seconds later, he pokes his head out...

DREW
It's easy. Come on, Sydney.

INT. FOURTH FLOOR - PATIENT ROOM - NIGHT

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

Jim hands the hose to the almost catatonic Sydney.

JIM
You're turn.

He guides Sydney towards the window.

Down below, Drew hangs out of the third floor window.

DREW
(yelling up)
Just hang on tight, Syd.

Sydney climbs across the windowsill, through the window, down the bricks and into Drew's waiting arms.

Back upstairs, Jim hands the hose to Tess. She eyes him suspiciously.

TESS
Prove me wrong about you. Okay?

JIM
Just go.

Tess turns to Lauren.

LAUREN
It's okay, Tess. Go.

TESS
Alright. See you both down there.

Tess wraps the hose around her wrist, throws her leg across the windowsill, and drops out of sight...

Just then...a LOUD CRASH comes from outside in the hallway.

LAUREN
What the hell was that?

Jim charges out into the hall. Looks...

The barricade is trashed. Slowly, menacingly, the Cloaked Figure walks toward him through the scalding rain. Jim sprints back into the room.

JIM
We gotta go!

LAUREN
What is it!?

JIM
 (a calm voice)
 Just trust me please. Now.

Through her tears, Lauren nods. Jim climbs out the window. He holds his position until Lauren climbs over behind him.

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Jim starts the slow climb down the hose, Lauren almost on top of him.

JIM
 That's it. Hand over hand. Just
 keep listening to my voice. Don't
 look down...

LAUREN
 (meek)
 Okay...

JIM
 You're doing great.

LAUREN
 Thanks. I guess it's not so...

Her words catch in her throat... her eyes wide in panic! The cloaked figure peers down at her from the 4th floor window! Lauren freezes. Jim looks up... sees...

JIM
 Don't look at it! Hand over hand;
 keep coming!

Jim's foot is almost to the third floor window. Drew reaches for it.

Up above, the Cloaked Figure grips the taught hose. A FLAME ignites and quickly travels down the hose like a burning fuse.

LAUREN
 No! NOOOOOOOO!!!

TESS
 Hurry Lauren!

JIM
 Keep coming, you're doing great!

Drew reaches up to grab Jim's ankle. Up above, the fire burns down the hose even quicker, chasing Lauren's hands. Drew pulls Jim's leg inside the window.

DREW
 Got ya...

The fire leaps down the hose and... singes Lauren's hand! She screams, lets go of the hose and slams into Jim, knocking him over backwards.

TESS

LAUREN!

Drew hangs tight onto Jim's leg. Jim grabs Lauren's wrist... They stop with a jolt and hang there, three stories up!

Upside-down, Jim fights to get a better grip on Lauren.

LAUREN

DON'T LET GO!

JIM

I won't! I got ya! PULL US UP!

Drew, Tess and Sydney grab on to Jim's legs.

DREW

PULL!

Lauren and Jim move up a few inches... Then a few inches more... Higher... Higher.... Lauren looks up. Sees...

The Cloaked Figure leans out of the fourth floor window, the METAL HOSE SPOOL in it's hands, ENGULFED in FLAMES! The Cloaked Figure rockets the flaming hose spool down!

LAUREN

NNNNOOOOOO!!!

The spool smacks Jim in the face, knocking him cold. His hand slowly opens...

LAUREN

No... NOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

Lauren falls. She lands on the ground with a sickening THUD!

As Drew pulls the unconscious Jim in the window, Tess peers out. In the parking lot below, thick crimson pools from under Lauren's head.

Tess looks back up. The Cloaked Figure stares down at her...

TESS

Stop this... Please...

In an instant, the figure disappears back through the window.

DREW

Tess!

She swings around to see Drew has Jim in a fireman's carry.

DREW
 Let's get outta here before that
 thing makes its way downstairs.

Tess nods...

They exit the room and disappear out into the dark hallway...

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

Nate rockets his cruiser down the lonely two-lane road.
 Through barren, swaying branches, the decrepit monolith of
 Brookside Hospital appears.

In a WINDOW, an ORANGE LIGHT flickers, then ceases. Nate
 sees...

NATE
 What the hell...?

INT. THIRD FLOOR - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jim lays among trashed scaffolding, torn cloth tarps and
 rusted cans of paint. Slowly, his eyes open. Tess, Drew and
 Sydney are about ten feet away. Tess wraps a torn piece of
 cloth around a broken broom handle.

JIM
 (groggy)
 What are you doing?

DREW
 Hey... How are you feeling?

JIM
 I've felt better. What're you
 doing?

DREW
 Torches... again. Cell phone
 lights ain't cutting it anymore.

JIM
 (sarcastic)
 Great, more fire. Haven't seen
 enough of that tonight...

Jim looks around.

JIM
 Where's Lauren?

Drew, Tess and Sydney look to each other.

JIM
 What? Where is she?

DREW

Jim, Lauren... she didn't...

He can't finish. Tess steps forward...

TESS

You did everything you could...

JIM

What? I brought her down... I got her down that hose!

TESS

Jim... Lauren fell. It wasn't your fault...

JIM

That's bullshit. BULLSHIT!

A tear forms in the corner of Jim's eye. Then he remembers. He lowers his head into his hands.

JIM

Son of bitch...

A BEAT passes. Drew puts his hand on Tess's shoulder and steps past her.

SYDNEY

We're all going to die, aren't we?

DREW

Listen, there's four of us left. I want four of us walking out that front door.

Slowly Jim lifts his head. Nods...

DREW

Sydney?

She nods.

DREW

Good...

Drew pulls his ZIPPO from his pocket.

DREW

Let's head this way. There's gotta be an open stairway...

Drew lights the Zippo... The torch IGNITES...

DREW

If not, a laundry chute. A vent...

Suddenly, Sydney's eyes grow wide. TERROR STRICKEN. SHE SCREAMS! The others turn. In the torch's light, five feet behind Drew, the Cloaked Figure stands.

DREW

SHIT!

Drew pushes the torch into Tess's hand, runs over and pulls Jim to his feet. The four of them take off down the hall.

Slowly, methodically, the Cloaked Figure follows...

Tess, Sydney, Drew and Jim push through a FIRE DOOR and sprint through a crumbling WAITING ROOM. The figure follows.

They run down another hall, slamming against locked doors, looking for a way out. Still, the figure stays with them.

They push through another fire door and into a...

INT. THIRD FLOOR - NARROW SERVICE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Drew and the hobbled Jim are out in front, Sydney just behind. Then Drew notices... The hall is darkening; the torch light waning. He slows. Turns...

DREW

Tess?

Fifty feet behind them, Tess stands stopped in the middle of the hall, facing away. The Cloaked Figure pushes through the door and begins a slow, steady walk towards her.

DREW

TESS!

Tess doesn't turn...

TESS

Keep going...

SYDNEY

Tess, don't be crazy!

Tess swings around... BLOOD dribbles from the ends of her fingers. A SMALL RED DROP rolls from her eye down her cheek.

SYDNEY

(off the blood)
Holy shit...

TESS

(screams)
RUN! NOW!!

Tess turns back to the approaching figure...

CLOSE ON TESS

Her muscles twitch... The Cloaked Figure gets closer...

Tess' fingers pour blood as she tightens her grip on the torch... The Cloaked Figure now just ten feet away...

Tess closes her eyes... She can almost feel the Cloaked Figure's HOT, RANCID BREATH on her...

Then...

BOOM! A WAVE OF FIRE BURSTS FROM HER TORCH! FLAMES SHOOT FORWARD AND BACKWARD, DOWN THE CEILING TOWARDS DREW, JIM and SYDNEY!

DREW
GET DOWN!

They dive to the floor! The flames pass over their heads, down to the end of the hall... and vanish!

A fire's crackle is the only sound we hear. Drew stands to see Tess, on the other side of a wall of fire, shaking like a scared child.

Ten feet in front of her, the Figure lies on it's back. It's cloak smoldering... Not moving...

DREW
Tess...?

Tess swings her head around like a trapped animal. Face streaked with blood. Drew stares into her terrified, ashamed face.

DREW
It's okay...

Before he can finish, the Cloaked Figure stands behind her.

DREW
TESS! LOOK OUT!

Tess slowly turns back. It's red cloak still smoking, the Cloaked Figure takes a slow step backward, then another... Finally, it turns and runs away...

Tess turns back to Drew as Jim and Sydney pull themselves from the floor. The three of them stare through the wall of flame at Tess.

TESS
(small)
I'm sorry...

Drew, Jim and Sydney are silent. Until...

SYDNEY
 (scared, quiet)
 What are you?

Tess can't answer...

SYDNEY
 (screams)
 WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU!?

Hysterical, Sydney turns and runs. She slams through the door at the other end of the hall.

DREW
 (to Jim)
 Get her.

Jim nods and hobbles down the hall, through the door. Drew stares through the flames, trying to find the words.

TESS
 You're better without me.

She turns and runs off in the opposite direction.

DREW
 Tess!?

Tess disappears through the door at the end of the hall as... the FLAMES GO OUT!

DREW
 TESS!?

INT. COMMON ROOM - NIGHT

The door is kicked open. Gun out in front, flashlight aglow, Nate steps into the room.

NATE
 Mary Mother and Joseph...

The walls are seared black. Pumpkins still smolder on the floor. In front of the only OPEN DOOR, a pile of ASHES lie. Cautiously, Nate walks over to the pile. Taps it lightly with his foot. The ashes are from BURNT LEAVES. Nate steps over the pile and out into the hall...

INT. THIRD FLOOR - HALLWAY - NIGHT

With a 2x4 in hand, Jim slowly makes his way down the hall...

JIM
 Sydney? Come on Syd...

INT. DIFFERENT THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

In the darkness of another hall, Drew does the same...

DREW
Tess? Tess?

INT. FIRST FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

ALL THE DOORS that were previously locked are now open. Some creak as they gently swing in a breeze. At the end of the hall one door remains closed.

Gun at the ready, Nate approaches the closed door. Turns the knob... Pushes it open... Suddenly...

THINGS fly at Nate's face from all angles! Tearing at his cheeks, his forehead! Nate drops to the ground and the things soar out the door and down the hall. He points his flashlight beam. DOZENS of OWLS bid a hasty retreat...

NATE
Jesus...

Nate collects himself, stands, and enters the...

INT. FIRST FLOOR PATIENT'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A horrific smell attacks Nate's lungs and nose. He covers his mouth and shines his light on the far wall.

NATE
Oh my God...

On the wall are a SERIES of PHOTOGRAPHS, arranged to spell out "WELCOME NATE". Each photo is of a horribly disfigured BURN VICTIM. Directly below the photos, it's even worse...

A LONG, THIN, LINEN-DRAPED TABLE sits there. A burning CANDELABRUM reveals five chairs. The CENTER CHAIR unoccupied. The other four contain the propped-up remains of BURNT, DEAD DOGS. In front of each carcass is a maggot-filled bowl of dog food and a WHITE PLACE CARD. Written on the place cards are the names "Anthony", "Bear", "Dalton", "Scotty", and on the middle one..."Nate". Slowly, Nate moves to his card. Opens it. Reads... **"Soon, the filthy dogs will all run together again..."** Just then...

A LOUD BANGING NOISE shatters the silence! Nate charges back out into the...

INT. FIRST FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

And stops! Down the entire length of the hallway, the doors open and slam, open and slam, open and slam. It's like demonic applause... as if the building itself is mocking him!

Nate cups his hands over his ears, run to the stairs at the end of the hall, takes them two at a time, and disappears into the quiet darkness of the second floor...

INT. THIRD FLOOR - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jim nervously scans a four-way intersection of hallways. Then, he hears... Weeping.

JIM

Syd?

He runs toward the sound, through large double doors and into the...

INT. THIRD FLOOR - CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Jim scans the large, ramshackled room. Through the moonlight he sees Sydney sitting on a windowsill. She cries softly while lightly tapping on the yellowed PLEXIGLAS.

SYDNEY

(to the outside)

Help me? Please?

He crosses to her.

JIM

Sydney? What is it?

Sydney looks back to him then gestures with her eyes. Jim looks out... Nate's Patrol Car sits directly below them.

JIM

Never thought I'd be happy to see one of those.

Jim jumps up on the windowsill. Taps on the Plexiglas.

JIM

(trying to be quiet)

Hey! Help! HELP!!!

Suddenly, down a distant hallway, a CRASH is heard. Followed by, the sound of scampering feet...

Jim and Sydney turn to each other... terrified.

SYDNEY
 (whispers)
 Sadie's not gonna let us go, is
 she?

Jim turns, scans the room, looking for something; anything.
 On the KITCHEN WALL, he finds it. A DUMBWAITER.

JIM
 She's not gonna have a choice.

He jumps down from the windowsill and they quietly move
 towards the kitchen...

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

At a different part of the floor, Drew cautiously moves
 towards a door. Light flickers from underneath...

DREW
 Tess? Is that you?

Drew pushes the door open and enters...

INT. HOSPITAL CHAPEL - NIGHT

Candles glow everywhere. By the alter, Tess kneels, staring
 up into a STAINED GLASS WINDOW. Numerous Biblical stories
 are represented. Drew walks down the aisle and kneels next
 to her. Tess focuses in on one... the winged LUCIFER falling
 into the sea of fire.

DREW
 Can't say that was one of my
 favorites.

TESS
 It reminds me.

DREW
 Reminds you? Of what?

TESS
 That fire swallows evil things.
 (beat)
 But it also lives inside of evil
 things...

Drew stares at her, not knowing what to say. Finally...

DREW
 Tess, don't do this to yourself.

TESS

Why not? You heard Sydney. "What the fuck are you?" I don't have an answer. You should go.

DREW

Not without you.

TESS

You wanna tell me you're not afraid to be around me?

DREW

Not in the least.

TESS

Really?

DREW

Tess, what's going on?

She sighs. Gives in...

TESS

For my sixth birthday, my foster parents threw me a little party. Their biological daughter, who hated my guts, said that, for my present, I was getting sent to an orphanage.

DREW

Nice.

TESS

Yeah, kids can be so sweet, huh? Even then, I knew it was stupid but I got so upset... then they brought out the cake and candles. I just started crying and lost it. The candles flared up and caught the table on fire. Nobody was hurt but ever since then if I get worked up and there's an open flame around... boom. Lately, if I concentrate, I'm able to focus it a bit.

Tess closes her eyes and concentrates. Suddenly, all the candles flare up at once. The flames swirl together like a small FIERY TORNADO, then subside.

A small amount of blood dribbles from Tess' ear. She wipes it away. A BEAT passes... Drew hasn't moved away one inch...

TESS

It scares the shit out of me. You saw what happened upstairs... I could have killed you all... I don't know what the fuck I am...

She looks up to him. He stares deep in her eyes...

TESS
Don't you do that.

DREW
Don't do what?

TESS
Don't you feel sorry for me. The
last thing I need is pity.

Tess stands, walks away and collapses in a pew. Head in her hands. Defeated...

DREW
Tess?

TESS
What?

DREW
Is it your mother after us? Is it
Sadie?

A BEAT. Tess looks up. Honesty in her eyes.

TESS
I don't know. Maybe...

Drew walks over to her.

DREW
Tess, if that is your mother, I
think you're the only way any of us
gets out of here alive. We need
you.

Tess stares at him; sees his honesty. She smiles.

TESS
Okay.

He offers his hand. She takes it. Together they walk up the aisle towards the door...

DREW
Besides...if we get out of here,
I'd like to ask you out. I can't
stop thinking how handy this little
skill of yours will be during
summer cookout season.

She smacks him on the arm.

TESS
(smiles)
Bastard.

They push through the door, smiling.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - CAFETERIA KITCHEN - NIGHT

Covered in GREASE and SOOT, Jim pulls himself out of the top of the DUMBWAITER CHUTE.

JIM
Okay. I got the chain back on the pulley.

SYDNEY
Now what?

JIM
I'm going down to the basement.

Sydney steps back, a look of terror and betrayal on her face.

JIM
(reassuring)
Hang on. As soon as I know its safe, I'll yank this chain three times. You pull the cart back up and come down. We'll find the cop and have him go get Tess and Drew.

SYDNEY
What if it's not safe?

JIM
Then I'll be coming back up fast.

Jim pulls the chain, lifting the cart into place. He climbs inside.

SYDNEY
You'll wait for me down there?

Jim reaches out and strokes her hand.

JIM
We'll both be outta here in ten minutes.

He slides the ALUMINUM DOOR closed. Sydney nervously watches through a tiny CIRCULAR WINDOW as the cart drops out of view.

INT. DUMBWAITER CART - CONTINUOUS

DUST and GRIME drop all over Jim as, hand over hand, he pulls the chain to lower the tiny, cramped cart.

Further down... Further... Then...it stops! Basement... Jim slides the door open. Looks. Sees something... Smiles.

JIM
 What the hell are you doing down
 here!?

INT. THIRD FLOOR - CAFETERIA KITCHEN - SECONDS LATER

Sydney's eyes dart around the room as she leans against the wall. Terrified... Silent... Suddenly...

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!!!

The chain clangs against the wall right beside her head. Three times. Hand over hand, as fast as she can, Sydney pulls the chain up.

Closer... Closer... Through the tiny window, she sees the top of the cart come into view. Then...

The cart slams into place with a large, metallic CLANG.

Excited, Syd slides the aluminum door open and...

Jim's DEAD, SHOCKED eyes stare back at her. His body crumpled! His face burnt! His head...on backwards!

SYDNEY
 AAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!

In a DEAD PANIC, Sydney charges from the kitchen and out of the cafeteria!

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

In the distance, Tess and Drew hear the screams!

TESS
 Sydney...

DREW
 Come on!

The race towards the horrified shrieks!

INT. ANOTHER THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Tess and Drew round a corner and stop. Silence. They listen...hear the screams again!

TESS
 This way!

They take off down another hall.

INT. STILL ANOTHER THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They slide on broken plaster as they round the corner. At the opposite end of the hall, Sydney runs by. They follow...

TESS
Sydney...wait!

SYDNEY
STAY AWAY!!!

A rusted ULTRASOUND MACHINE lies upended on the ground. Sydney doesn't see it and hits it at full speed. She sprawls to the dust covered floor! Tess and Drew catch up.

SYDNEY
Get away from me, Tess!

Sydney crawls backwards to try to escape. Drew drops to a knee next to her.

DREW
Sydney, it's OK. She's OK!

SYDNEY
(Hysterical)
No! Keep that fucking bitch away
from me! No! No!

Drew grabs her shoulders and shakes her...

DREW
Sydney stop it! Stop it!

Finally, Sydney stops screaming. Starts weeping. Drew pulls her close.

DREW
Sydney, where's Jim?

SYDNEY
Oh, God...

DREW
Where is he, Syd?

SYDNEY
He...Sadie got him...

Drew and Tess exchange a look.

SYDNEY
He was trying to get to...there's a
cop down stairs.

DREW
A cop?

Suddenly the LIGHTS in the HALLWAY FLICKER ON! Ancient fluorescent bulbs glow greenish white.

DREW
What the fuck...?

Just then... DING! The ELEVATOR DOORS at the end of the hall open. Scratchy Muzak plays from inside. The Doors "Light My Fire".

TESS
You gotta be shitting me...

Then, at the opposite end of the hall, a DOOR SLAMS open.

SYDNEY
What's happening!?

Out of the shadows, the Cloaked Figure appears. Drew lifts Sydney to her feet...

DREW
Let's go.

...and starts to move towards the elevator. Tess stops him.

TESS
No, wait. Like you said, that thing's been herding us all through this God damn place.
(to the Cloaked Figure)
Haven't you?!

In response the Cloaked Figure slowly raises its arms...and drops them. Just then, the floor below it ignites. The flames rush towards them like an oncoming tide.

DREW
(to Tess)
You see a choice?!

TESS
Fuck...

They sprint to the inside of the elevator. Drew frantically pushes the buttons. No response. The wave of fire gets closer... Closer...

SYDNEY
Do something!

DREW
It's not working!

TESS
Excuse me...

Tess snatches the Zippo from Drew's pocket. Lights it. Concentrates...

VEINS in her forehead and temple twitch. Blood dribbles from just under her hairline. Then...

Fire shoots from the lighter and out across the hall ceiling. A HUGE CHUNK of the plaster falls to the floor, blocking the approaching fire on the floor.

The First Floor Button lights. The doors close. The elevator starts down. Tess wipes blood from her forehead and hands the lighter back to Drew.

DREW
Thanks.

TESS
Don't mention it.

Sydney takes a step back, getting as far away from Tess as she can. The NUMBERED, FLOOR INDICATOR LIGHT above the door flashes on "1". The elevator keeps moving down...

DREW
No... Stop...STOP!!!

Drew and Tess bang on the door!

INT. FIRST FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Nate hears the voices and bangs. He runs down the hall.

NATE
Drew! Drew!!!

The only light comes from one single tiny source at the end of the hall. The light above the elevator. It changes from "1" to "B". Nate slams into the hard metal doors.

NATE
DREW!!!

INT. BASEMENT

The elevator doors open.

TESS
Oh...my...God...

It's as if they have descended into HELL. PLUMES OF FIRE burn everywhere. Drew and Tess tentatively step out. They turn back for Sydney.

SYDNEY
No way.

TESS
You can't stay in there.

SYDNEY

Yes I can, I'm not going out...

Suddenly, the elevator doors slam shut!

DREW

SYDNEY!

He rushes to the door and tries with all his might to pull them apart. He can't...

SYDNEY (INSIDE ELEVATOR)

TESS! DREW!!!

The elevator rises.

TESS

No! NO!!!

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

As the elevator climbs at breakneck speed, Sydney claws at the doors. The lights flicker in quick succession. "1, 2, 3, 4..." Suddenly the elevator lurches to a stop. Sydney looks up. The light frozen between "5" and "6".

SYDNEY

Oh God, no...

Down below, she can hear Tess and Drew call out...

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

DREW

Sydney! What floor are you on!?

SYDNEY

I DON'T KNOW!

With shaking hands, Sydney presses the DOOR OPEN button. They part... Through moonlight pouring in the hall windows, Sydney can see that she's just below a floor. She stands on her toes to look out.

SYDNEY

I think I'm between the fifth and sixth floor!

DREW

Can you get out!? We'll come find you!

SYDNEY

I think so...

Sydney reaches out a hand, then another. She stands on the elevator's handrail, pulls herself up and...her wrist is grabbed! A horrible, mangled BURNT HAND tightens its grip.

SYDNEY
NNNNOOOOO!!!

TESS
Sydney!

Sydney breaks free and falls back into the elevator. She scampers into the corner. Slowly, menacingly, the Cloaked Figure sticks its face inside...

SYDNEY
GET AWAY FROM ME!!!

The figure doesn't reach for Sydney. It rips open the button panel. SPARKS FLY all throughout the inside of the elevator, enveloping Sydney. Then... the elevator drops like a stone!

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Drew and Tess hear what sounds like an oncoming train. They look up to the rapidly descending numbers, then back to each other. They dive off in different directions. The elevator slams to the ground with a deafening CRASH. LARGE CHUNKS of a WALL collapse...

In different parts of room, Tess and Drew pull themselves up. Dust hangs thick in the air. They peer through it to see... the elevator doors now open. Sydney's eyes stare back at them...emotionless. Dead. Her face and body twisted in a horrible contortion. Then...

VOICE (O.S.)
Drew?

Terrified, Tess and Drew turn towards the voice. From deep in a darkened hall, a figure appears. Nate.

NATE
Drew?

DREW
Dad?

TESS
(to Drew)
Dad? That's Anthony?

DREW
No. Anthony's my step-father.
That's Nate... my Dad.

Gun out in front, Nate cautiously approaches. When he gets next to them, he drops the gun to his side.

NATE
Drew, what's going on?

DREW
I can't tell you how happy I am to see you. Somebody's trying to kill us. It got six of us already.

NATE
Who is it?

Drew looks to Tess. She looks away.

DREW
We're not sure.

TESS
It may be my mother.

NATE
Your mother?

TESS
Maybe. Her name's Sadie. (beat)
Sadie Lynch.

Nate turns to her, looking like he's just had a kick to the stomach. Devastated...

NATE
(small)
You're Tess...

DREW
How the hell did you know that?

Nate's eyes fill with tears. Slowly, he reaches his right hand towards her, his horribly scarred palm illuminated by the fire's light...

NATE
(choking back his words)
I am so sorry...

CAMERA stays close on his hand as it moves to hers. Then...

CUT TO:

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE, SECOND FLOOR (FLASHBACK)

Young Nate's hand SEARS to the DOORKNOB!

NATE
AAAAAAHHHHHHHHHH!

He rips it away, leaving most of his palm cooking on the scalding metal! *His scar...*

The child SCREAMS again! Nate slams into the door, shattering it, and falls into...

A CHILD'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)

A DOLL'S FACE melts in this macabre furnace. STUFFED ANIMALS ignite from the heat! The scream comes again. Nate turns through the throat searing smoke to see... a ONE YEAR OLD BABY GIRL! SCREAMING FROM HER CRIB! Colorful drops of MOLTEN PLASTIC sear into her back. With each drop, the hysterical child releases a blood-curdling scream!

Nate sprints over to the child, scoops her up, tucks her into his coat, sprints from the room and down the hall... Above the crib, a hanging MOBILE of COLORFUL PLASTIC LETTERS melts. The letters are - T...E...S...S...

BACK TO:

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Nate releases his grip. Tess pulls her hand back. Stares up at him.

TESS

It was you. You're how I got out of that fire.

Nate nods. Smiles slightly.

TESS

Thank you.

NATE

(devastated)

Please don't thank me.

Nate turns away from them. A BEAT.

DREW

Dad?

NATE

That night... the night of the fire. We were stupid...

DREW

What happened?

Nate turns back. Tears in his eyes. He breaks down.

NATE

We... we were drunk and... we assaulted her... Anthony started the fire to destroy the evidence... we all had kids... God forgive me.

Nate looks back at Tess. She's frozen.

NATE
Everyone of those guys is dead now.
Killed in fires... Devil's Night.

DREW
Anthony..?

NATE
Yeah. We found a body in the water
tower. Probably there a year...

DREW
Christ. When he took off.

NATE
I'm sorry Drew.

TESS
So, everybody here tonight... they
were the sons and daughters of the
men who raped my mother? Then
she's come back for revenge.

In the shadows behind Nate, Drew sees something move!

DREW
DAD!

Nate lifts his gun and wheels around. In the darkness at the
end of the hall, a figure stands.

NATE
FREEZE!

Nate takes three steps towards the Figure, then stops. A
BEAT passes. Slowly, Nate drops the gun to his side.

DREW
Dad...?

NATE
(to Drew and Tess)
You two get out of here...

DREW
Dad come on, we'll all go!

NATE
Tess, Drew, get out of here. Run!

Nate turns back to the figure.

NATE
Please let them go. They're
innocent. If you have to take
someone, take...

BAM! A GUNSHOT rings out!

NATE
(small)
Sadie... I'm so sorry...

Nate turns back to Drew and Tess. BLOOD dribbles from a bullet hole in his chest. He falls! DEAD.

DREW
DAD!

Drew charges to his fallen father.

DREW
(shaking Nate)
DAD! DAD?!

Drew begins to sob. At the end of the hall, the cloaked figure points a snub nose .38. Drew's gun.

Drew looks down to the SERVICE REVOLVER in his father's lifeless hand. Snatches it!

TESS
No, Drew!

DREW
YOU FUCKING BITCH!

Drew turns towards the figure. BAM! Another shot...

TESS
NNNNNNOOOO!

Drew falls to the ground right in front of Tess. A hole in his shirt just above his heart...

TESS
DREW!?

Tess drops to her knees next to Drew. His eyes closed. Then...

BAM! ANOTHER BULLET slams into the OLD HEATING OIL TANK just above her head. OIL sprays everywhere. Tess looks up...

Gun out in front, the Cloaked Figure walks directly towards her!

TESS
(pleading)
Please? Mom...?

ANOTHER BULLET explodes even closer to her head. More oil! The Cloaked Figure unleashes an EVIL SHRIEK!

Tess looks down to Drew's closed eyes, reaches out and touches his face, then...

...springs to her feet, running as fast as she can to get away from the approaching evil! She sprints down a hallway, pushes through an OLD WOODEN DOOR and turns out into the...

INT. BASEMENT CATACOMBS - SECONDS LATER

The arched, rock ceiling is so low that Tess has to crouch as she runs through. Sporadically placed torches flicker along the walls. Small, BARRED ALCOVES house the twisted, tortured bones of long-forgotten patients. In the distance, the horrible shrieking continues.

Tess charges from one tunnel to another and another. Death and decay all around her at every turn. She's terrified. Frantic. Lost... Finally, she pushes through a LARGE STEEL DOOR and out into...

TESS

Oh my God...

INT. BASEMENT MORGUE - CONTINUOUS

The stone walls weep with dew. Moonlight pours in from tiny arch shaped windows at the top of a wall. Rusted GURNEYS glow in faint light. Each gurney draped with a filthy SHEET. Each filthy sheet draped over...a BODY.

Shaking, Tess moves to the first gurney. Slowly reaches for the sheet. Pulls it back...

TESS

No...

Jim's body lies belly down on the cold steel. His face, however, stares straight up at her. Horribly burned, his features frozen in a surprised stare... On his toe is a TAG. It reads "BEAR'S".

With a trembling hand cupped to her mouth in order to squelch a scream, Tess moves to the next...Lauren. BURN BLISTERS line both hands. Her legs folded up under her back. She's been broken in half. On her toe is another tag. This one reads, "DALTON'S".

Tess can barely walk as she makes her way past the line of gurneys. Each with a burned, crumpled body on it. Each crumpled body with a hand-scrawled toe-tag attached.

Tess leans against a moldy sink, trying to catch her breath, trying not to scream out, trying not to give up. On the sink counter is an old SCALPEL, SKULL CHISEL and BONE SAW. Blood stained TOOLS from autopsies completed a half-century ago.

Suddenly, Tess feels a PRESENCE behind her. Slowly, she turns...

The body on the last gurney, still covered with the sheet, now SITS BOLT UPRIGHT! Tess is frozen in fear as the body begins to shake. The sheet drops, revealing.....Carla! Bruised and burnt. Gagged and tied up. But alive! Carla mumbles a "Get me out of here" grunt. Tess rushes to her; unties the gag.

CARLA
(hysterical)
Oh my God... Tess...

TESS
Carla! I knew you weren't dead!

Tess unlatches the restraints around Carla's wrist. As soon as she's free, Carla throws her arms around Tess, hugging her.

CARLA
I knew you wouldn't leave me! I knew it!

TESS
How long have you been down here?

CARLA
I don't even know where "here" is.

Carla turns. Sees the full gurneys. The bodies...

CARLA
Wait, is that...?

All Tess can do is nod "yes". Carla brings her hand to her mouth. Starts to cry.

CARLA
Oh God... I heard her. I heard Sadie bring 'em in. I pretended I was still out but I was awake. Oh, shit, why didn't she kill me?

TESS
Let's get outta here.

CARLA
I'm just so glad you're not dead...

Tess moves over to Carla, grabs her feet, and lifts them over the side of the gurney. Just then, something falls and SMASHES to the floor. Tess looks. DREW'S GUN! Shocked, Tess looks back to Carla, who playfully inches the sheet down even further. A RED, SATIN CLOAK peeks out. Carla smiles an evil grin. Tess takes a step backwards.

TESS
(devastated)
Carla...

CARLA
Like I said, I'm glad you're not
dead...

Carla leaps from the gurney and scoops up the gun.

CARLA
...so I can put a bullet in your
brain myself.

Carla points the gun at Tess and takes a step forward. Tess
backs up until she can't move anymore...blocked by the sink.

CARLA
Looks like I'll be needing a new
best friend come winter semester...

TESS
Carla, please...

Tess fumbles behind her back, looking for something,
anything. Finally, she finds what she's looking for...the
handle of the BONE SAW. Carla takes one last step, and
presses the gun's barrel into Tess' forehead.

CARLA
Happy Devil's Night, Tess.

TESS
Happy Devil's Night...

Carla squeezes the trigger. The CHAMBER turns. The HAMMER
inches back. Tess closes her eyes. And...

Drops to the floor! With one mighty swing, Tess imbeds the
ancient bone saw in Carla's calf! Carla screams!

Tess rolls away from Carla, springs from the floor and
charges down a hallway. Carla punches at the bone saw's
handle, manically trying to dislodge it from her leg...

CARLA
YOU FUCKING BITCH!!!

INT. BASEMENT HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Tess charges down the hall frantically checking all the
doors. Locked! The hallway ends. Tess stares up at a THICK
STEEL DOOR. She pulls the latch. Unlocked! She slides it
open, disappears inside, and closes it. High on the wall,
unseen by Tess, is a FADED PLAQUE. "CREMATORIUM".

INT. CREMATORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Tess slams BOLTS at the top and bottom of the door, locking it. She turns into the room. Focuses...

TESS
(child-like)
Oh...my...God...

It's as if she's gone back in time eighteen years. Moonlight streams down on a SOLITARY FIGURE sitting in a wheelchair. Facing away. Wearing a hooded, red satin cloak. Not moving.

TESS
Sadie?

No response. Gathering all the courage she can find, Tess moves further into the room. Past the twisted DUST PANS and BROOMS used to gather the remains. PAST the CARDBOARD BOXES used to store them. Past the large, soot-covered OVENS... there's no doubt what these were used for.

Tess moves up behind Sadie and slowly crosses in front of her. Then, Tess stops. A look of horror washes over her.

TESS
Oh, Mom...

It's even more HORRIFIC than when Tess was a child... Charred swatches of DECOMPOSING skin stretch intermittently across grey/black bone. Sadie's face frozen in a macabre smile. DEAD.

Tess falls to her knees and lowers her head... ALL SOUND disappears, except for the sound of Tess' crying. A LONG BEAT PASSES...

Then...

A RANCID, DECOMPOSING HAND lunges forward and grabs Tess by the hair. It lifts her face up! Tess SCREAMS! Sadie leans in close. Opens her horrible mouth...

SADIE
Kill it... KILL IT!!!

Then...

BOOM! The steel door EXPLODES into the room, just missing Tess and Sadie! Sadie releases her grip on Tess' hair.

Tess stands and stares through the smoke...

The cloaked figure enters, holding the .38. It leans against the doorway wall. Not moving. Silent...

TESS
Carla. No...

Then, DREW STUMBLES IN! As if pushed... His shirt soaked red with blood! He collapses in front of Tess.

TESS
DREW!? DREW!!!!???

She rolls him over. He tries to speak, but can't... Tess turns back to the cloaked figure.

TESS
Carla, please let us go!

CARLA (O.C.)
I'm afraid that's not my call...

Carla ENTERS! Bleeding and limping, still holding the bone saw... She tosses something across the room. A red, satin cloak lands at Tess' feet. Tess looks from the cloak to Carla, then to the Cloaked Figure.

CARLA
Yeah, little confusing, isn't it?
Oh wait, almost forgot something...

She limps over to Drew, pulls him up by the hair, and drags him toward the oven! Tess bolts towards her...

TESS
LEAVE HIM ALONE!

Suddenly, a FIREBALL shoots from the outstretched hand of the Cloaked Figure. It slams Tess in the chest, lifts her off her feet, and smashes her into the far wall! Just as quickly as it appeared, the fireball vanishes...

Tess pulls herself to her knees just in time to see...Carla throw the barely-alive Drew into the oven!

TESS
No...

CARLA
This is gonna be cool. Just like cooking your brother's GI Joes in your Easy Bake Oven. (beat) Oh wait, you were an only child, weren't you?

TESS
What do you want?

CARLA
It's not just about what I want.

Carla turns to the Cloaked Figure.

CARLA
It's what we want...

Slowly, the Cloaked Figure raises its hands to the red satin hood. Pulls it back... Tess' eyes go wide...

TESS

Woody?

Woody moves into a shaft of moonlight. His skin pristine...

WOODY

Hiya Tess.

CARLA

(to Tess)

Remember the fiance from Wisconsin?
Say hi!

TESS

That's impossible! I saw you burn,
Woody! I saw you die! How did..?!

WOODY

(interrupts)

Real name's Lawrence. Named by the
nuns in this hospital. Just over
20 years ago.

Woody crosses over in front of the trembling Tess.

WOODY

They got it from "Saint Lawrence".
Apparently, in 256 AD, he pissed
off some Roman soldiers so they
strapped him to a metal grate and
laid him across a roaring fire.
(beat) Now, those Romans expected
Lawrence to scream. They expected
his fat to boil and his eyes to pop
and run clear. Know what happened?

Woody waits for an answer. Tess is too terrified to speak.

WOODY

Lawrence didn't burn. That's how
he became the Patron Saint of Fire.
They finally had to lop off the old
guy's head just to put him down.

TESS

(quietly)

What do you want?

WOODY

We're getting to that. See, Saint
Lawrence didn't die because he had
God around him. And I didn't die
twenty years ago...

Woody points to Sadie.

WOODY
Because I had that shriveled up
woman's pussy around me.

TESS
What? What the fuck are you...?

CARLA
Say hi to your baby brother, Tess.

TESS
NO! THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!

WOODY
Oh, it's more than possible. It's
true, sis...

TESS
(fumbling for words)
But I don't,...why...?

CARLA
"Why's" a good question. Tell her
why, honey.

WOODY
A lot of answers to that question,
but let's start at the top. Why
did I steal Sadie out of that home
in Pittsburgh five years ago? She
really wasn't that hard to find,
Tess. I don't think you tried very
hard.

Sadie shakes in her chair. Woody crosses to her and gently
rubs the top of her head. Just from body language, we can
see that Sadie is terrified of Woody.

WOODY
I needed to learn from the best.
Mom... Some weeks she didn't want
to teach, so some weeks she didn't
eat. We usually arrived at a
mutually acceptable agreement. She
showed me I didn't need to have an
external flame in order to control
fire. She showed me I could build
it from right down inside of me.

Woody turns to Tess. Notices something. He slaps Sadie on
the top of the head and moves towards Tess. Woody rubs the
hair away from Tess' forehead. Sees the DRIED BLOOD.

WOODY
You still bleed when you do it. I
lost that when I was six...

Tess pulls away from him.

TESS
Why did you kill everybody?

WOODY
Well that part's obvious, isn't it?
Revenge. (with a twisted smile) So
sad...all my daddys are dead.
(smile fades) Then as an added
bonus, I cut their bloodline.
Finished that legacy, right here,
right now.

CARLA
Tell her why your gonna kill her.

WOODY
Well that's easy...

Woody raises the gun to Tess' temple. Moves in close.

WOODY
You've got the power, but you fight
it. I don't want you around if
there's a chance you'll ever stop
fighting, and embrace it.

Woody pulls the hammer back. Tess turns to Carla.

TESS
Carla, please...

CARLA
Whaddaya want me to say, Tess?
He's my fiance...

TESS
Fuck you.

CARLA
Terrible last words. (to Woody)
Kill her...

Woody presses the barrel into Tess' temple. Squeezes the
trigger. The cylinder turns...

CLOSE ON TESS' EYES

They close...

SOUND FX - BAM! The BULLET fires! Tess winces...

A BEAT passes.

Tess opens her eyes. Looks across the room...

TESS' POV

Carla staggers. Her eyes wide in a look of shock. Her throat ripped open by a .38 slug. She falls. Dead...

BACK

Tess slowly turns her head to Woody. He looks down to her.

WOODY

I think the wedding's off...

Immediately, Tess tries to break away from him. Screaming, biting, clawing. Woody scoops her up over his shoulder, walks her over to Sadie, and slams her down on the floor.

Woody sits on the floor next to Tess. Puts his arm around her.

WOODY

You were such a shy introverted little sophomore. I needed Carla to become your best friend so I could get you here. It's what I like to call my master plan. But I don't need her anymore.

Tess pushes his arm away but he's too strong. Suddenly... BANG! BANG! BANG! Drew slams against the grates of the oven door.

WOODY

(re: Drew)

Lover boy's trying to protect you.

TESS

(pleading)

Let him go...

WOODY

He'll go soon enough. I want to talk about our family first.

Woody grabs Tess' chin and moves it up so she stares into Sadie's sad, ravaged face...

WOODY

Her powers are weak compared to mine. Even yours...

TESS

Please let us go.

WOODY

Let me finish. So that got me thinking. If the power increases from generation to generation...

Woody brushes the back of his hand against Tess' breast.

WOODY

Think about how powerful the next
one will be?

Tess turns to him. Her look says it all...she knows exactly
what he is talking about.

TESS

Oh, God...

WOODY

Call me Lawrence.

Woody suggestively runs his hand down Tess' neck to the
buttons of her shirt. He unhooks the first one...

WOODY

It's not like we're "full" brother
and sister anyway.

Woody unbuttons the next button. Tess is frozen in fear.

WOODY

That's why you're here Tess. To
build our tribe. To give birth to
our children. To carry on our own,
very special legacy.

Woody reaches his hand inside her shirt. Veins in Tess' face
begin to convulse. Blood dribbles from her fingers...

WOODY

Besides, I don't think our parents
will disapprove.
(he looks up at Sadie)
Right, Mom?

Sadie's head drops. She stares at him and... unleashes an
ear-piercing, TORTURED SCREAM, right in his face!!! Sadie
reaches out a mangled hand and grabs Tess' arm. Then...

A FIREBALL slams into Woody's chest, knocks him end over end,
and slams him into the far wall. He doesn't move. Tess
turns to Sadie...

TESS

How the..? How did we..?

SADIE

You have it's power. Kill it...

Sadie closes her eyes. Passes out. Then...

ANOTHER FIREBALL slams into Tess! It rockets her behind the
ovens. Woody stands, moves away from the far wall.

WOODY

Not bad, sis. But check this out.

Fireball after fireball slam into the walls and ovens! Tess pokes her head up to see Woody walking towards her. Then from the oven, she hears...whimpers. Pained breathes. She moves over to a GRATE in the oven and peers inside. Drew lays on the floor...barely hanging on.

WOODY
Don't you hate it when siblings
fight?

More fireballs rain down on the entire area. Tess looks from Drew to Sadie...then up to the ripped open doorway. She leans in close to the oven grate.

TESS
I'll be back, Drew. Promise...

Tess sprints out from behind the ovens and bolts towards the open door. Fireballs explode against the wall as Tess charges out into the...

HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The hallway wall rips open as fireballs from inside the crematorium slam into it, just missing Tess. She scampers down the hall and disappears into the morgue...

CREMATORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Flaming chunks of wood and plaster fall to the ground. Woody sighs. Turns to Sadie.

WOODY
Be right back Mom. Love ya...

Woody exits the room.

INT. BOILER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Woody moves cautiously down the hallway into the boiler room. He stops right next to the leaking heating oil tanks.

WOODY
Come on, Tess. This is no way to
treat your loving family.

Woody waits. Listens. Nothing. He slowly continues through the room.

Up above, Tess's fingers grip an AIR VENT GRATE, holding it into place. Suddenly she lets go and the grate crashes to the floor! Woody turns, smiles. He walks back and peers up to the air vent.

WOODY

Hey, sis. You know this "hard to get" thing is growing old.

TESS

Yeah, I'm just full of disappointments.

With that Tess shoots a FIREBALL towards Woody's feet igniting the heating oil! Tess ducks back into the vent as the fire engulfs Woody. She peers back through the opening to see Woody writhing in flames.

WOODY

(screaming)

OH MY GOD! OH MY GOD!

Tess looks away. Suddenly the screaming stops. Tess looks back. Woody stares up at her from within the fire.

WOODY

You really think this is having any effect at all?

With that the flames part and extinguish. Woody stands there unscathed.

WOODY

(off Tess's shocked look)

Yeah, another little trick I picked up. Bet mom wished she had learned this one. Wanna give it a try?

Woody hurls a fire ball up into the vent. Tess turns and scurries away as FIRE BALLS EXPLODE behind her.

At a turn in the vent, Tess sees another grate just above her. She slams her shoulder into it.

INT. COMMON ROOM - NIGHT

A grate in the floor pops open. Tess pulls herself out. Looks around. The walls are charred black. Smashed pumpkins litter the floor. She's back in the Common Room; where it all started...

TESS

Shit.

Tess moves towards the center of the room. Hears a noise. Stops. A rancid pumpkin rolls towards her. Gaining speed. Then, it shoots from the ground and flies directly at her face. Tess ducks. The pumpkin zips past her. Immediately, a folding metal chair soars through the air and cracks Tess in the back of her head. She sprawls to the floor. Rolls over. Looks up...

A HUGE LIGHTENING FIXTURE falls towards her. She rolls out of the way. It smashes just inches from her. DUST hangs heavy in the air as Tess stands.

Just then, a door BLASTS OFF it's hinges. Woody steps through. Tess stares him down. Braces for a fight.

WOODY
How about a little fire, scarecrow?

He hurls a huge fireball at her. On instinct, Tess focuses her concentration and... stops the fireball in mid air! Her body convulses then the fireball shoots right back at Woody! It hits him flush in the chest! He stumbles but doesn't go down.

Sensing weakness, Tess shoots off a rapid succession of fireballs. They smack into Woody like concussion grenades. He falls against the wall. Tess smiles. Then...

WOODY
Good, but not good enough.

All at once, Tess hurls into the air and smashes against the ceiling. Pinned. She struggles against the unseen force as Woody steps underneath her. Blood dribbles from HIS nose.

WOODY
One thing you haven't learned,
Tess. If we can manipulate fire,
we can pretty much manipulate
anything. There's no limit...

Tess rolls to her stomach and attempts to crawl away.

WOODY
Imagine us working together, Tess.
Imagine our kids...

All at once, Tess is stopped! She's slammed over on her back again. Slowly, her legs are forced apart...

TESS
No...

WOODY
We can do this easy or rough...
your call.

TESS
Fuck you!

WOODY
Rough it is.

Her arms fly up above her head. Her legs spread wider. One by one, the buttons on her jeans unclasp...

TESS

No...NO!!!

Blood begins to pour from Tess' fingernails... from her nose... her eyes... her ears! She struggles...convulses, building into a BLINDING FURY. She looks side to side. All around her, the RAFTERS shake! Flames zip across them, cutting through the old wood like a welder's torch. Tess sees it... Concentrates. Just then...

Woody's expression drops as he looks up... the ENTIRE CEILING vibrates!

WOODY

Tess...?

Before he can finish, the ROOF COLLAPSES. Tess, the rafter beams and huge chunks of plaster all slam down on top of Woody! The room goes silent.

A LONG BEAT. Then...

Through the choking haze, Tess pulls herself from the rubble, sore, dirty, bleeding, but alive! She stops. Sees...

A MANGLED, BLOODY HAND pokes from underneath debris. Not moving. Tess stares at it, waiting for it to twitch... to reach out. Nothing.

With eyes locked on the cold, dead hand, Tess slowly moves across the destruction and staggers out through the doorway...

INT. CREMATORIUM - NIGHT

Tess stumbles into the crematorium, exhausted; out of breath. She drops to her knees in front of Drew's oven.

TESS

Drew...

He sits up, weak but alive. Tess tries the door latch.

DREW

(labored)

I tried...jammed...

TESS

Hold on.

Tess scans the room for something to bust the lock. Then she sees... the bone saw. She crawls over to it, scoops it up, and feebly slams it against the latch. She's too weak. It won't budge. Just then, a HISS comes from inside the oven.

DREW

Gas...

TESS

I know...

Spent, Tess slams the latch as hard as she can. Still, it doesn't move... One by one, the other ovens ignite!

DREW

Hurry...

Tess slams it again! Again! Then... she stops. Pulls herself to her feet. Drops the saw. Takes a step back.

DREW

Tess?

TESS

Give me a second...

Tess focuses. Concentrates. Barely able to stand as the blood comes again. And... THE LATCH SPRINGS OPEN! Tess collapses to the floor. She crawls slowly to the oven, yanks the door open and pulls Drew out... A split second later, it ignites! Tess rolls to her back, breathing heavily...

DREW

Tess... what happened?

TESS

We gotta go...

Tess staggers to her feet and pulls Sadie's wheelchair over to Drew. Using the chair for support, Drew climbs to his feet. Tess struggles to support his weight and pull the chair. They make it to the door and out into the...

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They slowly struggle down the dark hallway past the huge holes from the earlier battle...

WOODY (O.C.)

Exhausting, isn't it?

Woody steps out of the shadows. Battered, bloody. The side of his face crushed.

Drew steadies himself... then steps towards Woody.

WOODY

(annoyed)

Oh, please...

With that, Drew slams against the ceiling and wall like a tossed doll. Out cold. Woody turns to Tess.

WOODY

I remember my first time. When I really got to experience the power. Exhausting. Slept for a week...

Tess stumbles backwards... right into Sadie's wheelchair.

WOODY

I tried to be nice... I really did.

Through the holes in the wall, Tess sees the oven fires flare up. Woody steps closer...

WOODY

I'm beginning to think this thing isn't gonna work out.

TESS

Please, Woody...

WOODY

That's all I asked. "Please Woody". You couldn't even do that...

A SHORT BURST OF FIRE from the oven shoots through a wall hole. It engulfs the passed out Drew then immediately disappears... not burning him. Woody steps over the smoking Drew... Kicks him; moves closer.

WOODY

And so now your boyfriend, you, and dear old Mom here...

ANOTHER SHORT BURST OF FIRE engulfs SADIE. Just like before, it immediately goes out. Tess pats out small fires on Sadie's cloak.

WOODY

You're all gonna die. And it'll all be your fault, Tess.

Suddenly, Sadie grabs Tess' hand. She looks to Woody.

SADIE

(pained)
Lawrence...

WOODY

Too late, Ma.

Fire shoots out of the holes, engulfs them, and immediately goes out again! Sadie looks up to Tess.

SADIE

Saint Lawrence...

A BEAT... Tess knows. She looks through the hole in the wall. On the crematorium floor, THE BONE SAW SHAKES!

Woody takes another step. Stops. Right next to a hole!

Tess looks down to Sadie; her eyes closed. Concentrating. Tess tightens her grip on Sadie's hand. Closes her eyes. Inside the crematorium, the BONE SAW STARTS TO SPIN!

WOODY

You two should know better... The man will always be stronger...

Suddenly, the bone saw lifts into the air! Still spinning, it flies across the room, out through the hole and...

...LOPS WOODY'S HEAD CLEAN OFF! HE FALLS... IN TWO PIECES!

TESS

Maybe. But the women are smarter.

Just then...THE OVEN'S EXPLODE! Fire rips through the walls! Tess is knocked from her feet... she slams down near Drew. Then, she turns to see a wall of fire separates her from Sadie!

TESS

Mom!

Fire dances across the ceiling! The walls buckle! Tess crawls back towards Sadie but a flaming beam breaks off and crashes to the floor, blocking her path. Tess sees Sadie's cloak ignite through the roaring inferno...

TESS

MOM!

Tess tries to get to Sadie but more beams and debris falls.

TESS

MOM! NO!

Sadie, now fully engulfed in flames, lifts her head... a look of absolute peace on her face.

SADIE

Go... Please.

The fire swallows Sadie. Then, another EXPLOSION showers flaming debris onto Drew. Tess crawls back to him, knocks the debris away, and yanks him to his feet. Together they hobble down the hall.

At the end of the hall, Tess turns back. Looks... Sadie can no longer be seen through the roaring inferno.

TESS

(teary)

Mom...

INT. BOILER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Fire spreads through the room. Tess and Drew struggle to stay just ahead of it as they lurch towards the stairs...

INT. COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Fire right on their heels, Tess and Drew scurry across huge mounds of debris over to the...

INT. ENTRANCE CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

They trip down the hall and slam into the door. It opens.

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Tess and Drew tumble onto the ground as a huge fireball erupts. They turn back to look at the hospital as flames pour out of all the first and second floor windows.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - DAWN

Fire crews shoot water on the smoldering hospital as an AMBULANCE pulls away.

INT. AMBULANCE - MOVING

Drew is on the stretcher, eyes closed. Tess sits on the bench next to him. Near his feet, an EMT checks a MONITOR. Drew wakes. Pulls the oxygen mask from his face. Tess leans in close.

DREW

Hey.

TESS

Hey.

DREW

You okay?

TESS

Yeah. You?

Drew nods. Tess takes his hand. Squeezes it... A BEAT.

DREW

They're gonna ask a lot of questions.

TESS
Probably.

DREW
I'm not sure what to tell them.

TESS
I say we get our stories straight
and tell exactly the same thing.
They'll never believe us anyway.

Drew doesn't answer. Tess slowly releases his hand.

TESS
Right. This is the part where you
realize you actually are afraid of
me. And what you said last night
was total bullshit.

DREW
No...

He takes her hand back again.

DREW
I told you. I'd like to take you
out... at least through next
cookout season.

Tess turns to the EMT.

TESS
Can we put him back to sleep again?

Tess and Drew share a small laugh. First time in a while...

INT. CREMATORIUM - DAWN

Fire Crews pack up equipment. An INSPECTOR stands over
Woody's burnt, headless corpse. Then...

FIREMAN
Found the head.

The Inspector walks over, sees the head, then glances over to
Sadie's chair. Empty.

INSPECTOR
My God... what happened in here.

EXT. BROOKSIDE HOSPITAL - DAY

The camera drifts above FIRE TRUCKS and POLICE CARS to the
top floor of the hospital. In the darkness of a corner room,
we can make out SOMETHING. A figure. It doesn't move...

The camera drifts closer. Closer... Then we see... the
horrifically mangled and burnt face of Sadie. Her eyes open.
Her lips part. She smiles a broken grin as we...

FADE OUT.

*