Confessions

Pilot

by

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INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE- DAY

RAVEN (mid 30's) is seated at her dining table with her eyes closed. Church bells ring. She looks at the pendulum clock across her.

RAVEN

(whispers) The 11th hour...

She gets up, her eyes glued to the clock. The church bells stop. And she smiles devishly.

RAVEN

(whispers) She's right on time.

She walks towards the main door. She looks through the peep hole. She sees a WOMAN (mid 20's) dressed in black, with round glasses at the brim of her nose, staring back at her. Raven opens the door with a plastered smile.

> WOMAN Is this Raven Black's residence?

RAVEN This is the Semetrees, you must be Kennedy...

Raven extends her hand to the woman.

KENNEDY (shaking hand) I am... I guess the realtor must've told you I'm stopping by.

RAVEN

Yes, someone did mention it.

KENNEDY releases her hand from Raven's grasp. Raven moves out of the door way, granting Kennedy entry with her eyes. She slams the door and the church bells ring. Kennedy gasps.

> KENNEDY (hand to heart) I wasn't expecting that...

Raven smiles and takes the lead. They walk into the dining area. Kennedy looks at the neutral display of the room.

KENNEDY CTD It's a beautiful clock.

RAVEN The bells are at the hand of the clock. They charge you guilty everytime... (looks at clock) And if you're here long enough, you won't know what for... Kennedy is confused. Raven turns her back and leads Kennedy into the kitchen area. It's the same colour scheme with only one object in place; a knives block.

> KENNEDY (looking around) It's spacious... (looks at block) What happened to all the knives?

> > RAVEN

KENNEDY

Miss Bla- Miss, do you feel unsafe in your home? Is there some history I should be aware of?

RAVEN

Somebody is...

KENEEDY Somebody's unsafe?

RAVEN (smiles) Somebody is, nobody knows.

Raven leads Kennedy to the staircase. Kennedy notices the empty frames on the wall as they go up. Raven opens the door to the room with the number one pinned to it.

CUT TO:4 WEEKS AGO

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE.ROOM 1- NIGHT

The floor is covered in blood. Raven's body is bent over a figure with a knife in her hand. Her face smudged with red blotches. The bells ring. She looks over the chopped pieces on the floor, removes her gloves and pulls out her phone from her back pocket. She punches in a number and listens to the dialer.

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy is in the middle of a conversation with her colleague in the next cubicle. She sees the redlight go on on the handset. She puts on her headset, switches off the mute button and takes the call.

> KENNEDY Halfway Confessions Line, this call may be monitored or recorded for (MORE)

KENNEDY (cont'd) quality and control purposes. Good evening, my name is Carol, how may I help you?

On the phone.

RAVEN

Will you be the saviour of the broken, beaten and the damned?

KENNEDY I give advice, what it does, that's up to you ... so how can I help you?

RAVEN Justice; it's a free man's prison...

There's thumping sounds in the background.

KENNEDY I tend to think of it as a playground.

More thumping sounds.

RAVEN Graves were made for ideals Carol ... You haven't lived to crave such a fate.

KENNEDY I wouldn't kill my destiny with my words if I were you.

RAVEN Yes... I could do it in other ways.

Kennedy hears the sound of church bells.

RAVEN CTD Do you hear that?

KAREN Yes... what can I do for you miss?

RAVEN I need a name for this darkness, something tangible, vivid, more concrete...

The line goes dead.

KENNEDY Hello? Hello? Kennedy shrugs. She looks to her computer screen and cue's the next call.

MAN

The person hung up?

KENNEDY I think she stopped at a chapel... (looks at colleague) In search of a saviour.

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE.ROOM 1- NIGHT

Raven walks to the deep freezer at the corner of the room and begins to load packages inside.

RAVEN (whispers to herself) Don't kill your destiny with your words... (loads last package) We climb mountains in our own way Carol..., (slams the freezer) In our own way.

CUT TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE- DAY

Kennedy looks at the cold room with only a freezer in place. Raven stands beside it, and watches as she assesses the room.

> KAREN Is this room used for storage?

RAVEN Somebody must have. I'm not sure.

KENNEDY (confused) Do you sublet the rooms?

RAVEN Sometimes by the hour, other's by the day but not longer for the week.

CUT TO: 3 WEEKS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy sees the red light go on in her cubicle. Her headset goes on.

Halfway Confessions Line, this call may be monitored or recorded for quality control purposes. Good evening my name is Jennifer, how may I help you?

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE.GARDEN- NIGHT

Raven is seated on a bed, with grub all over her body and her phone to her ear.

RAVEN A lot of us are going through a lot of things, it makes it difficult to talk.

KENNEDY (recognizes voice) We don't need to do it all at once. We can start with pieces...

RAVEN I did some gardening today.

KENNEDY What are you planting?

RAVEN Graves, for the dead, all deaths.

KENNEDY You have a cemetery in your back yard?

RAVEN For the idealists- the people they're made for.

Kennedy facial expression changes.

KENNEDY How may I help you today miss?

RAVEN

(in thought)
We're taught to conceal our real
feelings, to cover up our hatred
and fears. We appear sad but retain
presence of mind and control. So
who do you help? Who's worth
saving; the mask or the person
behind it?

KENNEDY Well- well, I can only help the face that asks.

Raven gets off her back. She picks up the spade beside her.

They don't ask all at once Jennifer- just in pieces.

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

The line goes dead. Kennedy takes off her headset. She clears her desk and walks to her supervisor's desk. The supervisor offers her the sign out sheet.

SUPERVISOR I listened to your last call. She sounds like a very abstract caller. It's in your discretion to either entertain or end those type of calls Kennedy.

KENNEDY I know. But abstract beats the routine affair confessions we stock.

The supervisor takes the sign-out sheet from Kennedy.

SUPERVISOR Just be careful with those kind of callers; they create a safe place, only to become dangerous.

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Raven drops the spade and picks up the rake. She begins to level the soil.

RAVEN (smiling) Who's asking?

CUT TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE-DAY

Raven closes the door behind Kennedy. They continue their walk to the next room; door number two. Raven gives way for Kennedy to take the first look. Kennedy pretends to examine the lines on the blank walls. She moves to the single bed on the floor.

> KENNEDY I sense a pattern in this home; from the walls, to its covers...

Kennedy presses her hand against the duvet of the bed.

KENNEDY CTD Everything's black and white, no gray, no colour, noRAVEN A house where somebody walks in and yet nobody lives here. (solemnly) If you've never lived in the dark, Miss Kennedy, you've never lived at all... (in a whisper) everything happens in the dark.

KENNEDY

Like what?

Church bells ring. Kennedy looks thrown off.

KENNEDY CTD I don't think I'll ever get used to that...

RAVEN (sullenly) I wouldn't kill my chances with my words.

Kennedy looks at Raven curiously.

KENNEDY

I wouldn't.

Kennedy walks to the window. She fidgets with the lock. She sighs as she manages to push the window open.

KENNEDY CTD (to herself) What a work out!

Raven smiles back at her.

RAVEN Are you looking to buy the house or takeover the lease?

KENNEDY I'm open to both... How long have you been living here?

RAVEN Over five years on paper but far less if I'm ever around.

Raven turns her back towards Kennedy as they walk towards the final door. The door labeled number 3.

KENNEDY

This is the master bedroom right?

Raven nods her head as she pulls the nob. The church bells ring again.

CUT TO: TWO WEEKS AGO

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

The reading lamp is lighting the room. Raven is seated behind the reading table with a paper and pen in hand. She begins to write profusely. She stops, smiles back at her words and picks up the phone at the corner of her desk.

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy looks at the clock on her screen. It's the eleventh hour. The redlight goes on and she takes the call.

> KENNEDY Halfway Confessions Line, this call may be monitored or recorded for quality control purposes. Good evening, my name is Lexie, how may I help you?

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

Raven holds the letter to the light. She leans into her seat and begins to read.

RAVEN Prostitutes, drug addicts, unwanted children, runaway teens; souls whose light went out long before leaving their bodies. We don't worry about them dying so much because we say they've never lived. But somewhere along the line, they have morphed into a bubble of ghosts, poltergeists, spirits and inordinate haunting obsessions, waiting to come out in the dark.

KENNEDY I'm not sure what it is that you want to tell me?

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy's is rolling her eyes in the back of her mind.

RAVEN These are the confessions of the dead.

Kennedy's supervisor walks behind her. They exchange brief smiles and go on about their duties.

RAVEN CTD Everyday,common things, like the sound of a bell, the mirrors in a (MORE)

RAVEN CTD (cont'd)

room, the blanks in the walls... Everday these things represent nameless terrors-

KENNEDY

I'm sorry miss, I hate to cut you off but I can only be of service, if you have a confession to make.

RAVEN

All at once or in pieces? I'm not even halfway.

KENNEDY I beg your pardon-

RAVEN

The body in my room, wearing my face; at first, she's agressive with a suspect, then she's sensitive and solicitous with a victim. Now she's dead.

The sounds of curch bell's echo in the background.

KENNEDY Miss... Miss... Miss..

Dead line.

CUT TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

Kennedy gasps at the open casket in the middle of the room.

RAVEN (solemnly) Don't worry it's empty.

Raven stands by the empty desk in the corner. Kennedy holds her heart as she nervously walks towards the casket.

RAVEN (hints a smile) I didn't put that there, one of the tenants brought it in... I just come in here to write.

Kennedy looks at the desk. She carefully moves towards it, and sees there are no writing materials on it. She looks at Raven oddly and then turns her attention back onto the casket.

> KENNEDY Have you met any of your tenants Mrs Black

RAVEN

Miss Semetrees.

KENNEDY Sorry, Miss Semetrees, how many people live here?

RAVEN

Two- two mysterious people.

KENNEDY Where you not present when they signed their contracts?

RAVEN

Somebody was.

KENNEDY

Who?

RAVEN

Nobody.

Kennedy looks confused. She bends over the casket. As she touches it her finger tips are red. She raises her finger to her nose and looks at Raven.

> RAVEN 'Two mysterious people live in my house. Somebody and Nobody. Somebody did it and nobody knows who.'

> > CUT TO: 5 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy sees the red light.

KENNEDY

Halfway Confessions Line, this call may be monitored for quality control purposes. Good evening, my name is Carol, how may I help you?

MAN

I know a dead woman. She sits in the dark for too long, and even that desserts her. And now she knows the true meaning of loneliness, yet she doesn't want to feel it alone. And so she takes others with her.

KENNEDY Who's this dead woman to you? MAN What does it matter if she has a name?

KENNEDY It's easier to relieve yourself of that which brings you terror, if you know what it is.

VOIC OVER (RAVEN) I need a name for this darkness...

KENNEDY Should it remain nameless,

VOICE OVER (RAVEN) ...nameless terrors...

KENNEDY

.... sightless, senseless, it takes its form in you, binding you chaotically.

VOICE OVER (RAVEN) ...Concrete, tangible,...

MAN

Hmmm

Kennedy listens to the silence at the end of the line. Her colleague next to her gives her a smile. She widens her eyes in frustration.

KENNEDY

It's food for thought sir. But if you'd rather this woman remains anon, that's your perogative...

MAN

She's a raven; dark, mysterious, protective and then depressed, angry and hates everybody. She's not meant to be a pet, is she?

KENNEDY

(sits up) Now this Raven, what is she charging you guilty of?

MAN

She needs a hero. She wants to be saved. I couldn't do it. But how'd you save a corpse?

KENNEDY

(confused)
You're feeling guilty that you
couldn't save a dead woman? Is that
what I'm hearing?

Line goes dead. Kennedy sighs and stretches the back of her neck.

KENNEDY (whispers to herself) I swear this job, will be the death of me.

The red light goes on.

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE.GARDEN- NIGHT

Raven is standing by the floral beds dressed in a black veil, tissue in one hand and a letter in another. The church bells ring. She dries her eyes with the tissue and removes her veil. She puts her hand in the pocket of her dress and pulls out her cell, dials a number.

> RAVEN (on phone) You know what I like about fall Carol?

Kennedy is taken back.

KENNEDY

(timidly)

What?

RAVEN

It reminds us nothing lasts forever; if you don't stay too long, they'll never get used to you, then they'll really have nothing to say because they never really knew you.

KENNEDY

Miss, it's in my job description to try and help you but if you want to shoot the breeze and have nothing to confess, you're going to have to try therapy.

RAVEN

(beat) The flowers are dying, the sky's in mourning and darkness will only favor the brave.

KENNEDY Honestly, you need-

RAVEN

The crumbs are left to the ear, the rest is face to face... This is a rough area, so don't take any short cuts.

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

The phone line ends. Kennedy looks at her colleague.

KENNEDY I can't get rid of the feeling I'm being stalked by ghosts, alive and well.

COLLEAGUE (referring to her last call) Another wanderer?

KENNEDY It started out that way, but now it feels like she has a destination in sight. And wherever it is, I'm apart of it... (deep in thought) And she's not giving it up easily that's for sure. She's just...

COLLEAGUE

Just what?

KENNEDY (astonished) Leaving crumbs..."the crumbs are left to ear, the rest is face to face."

COLLEAGUE

What?

Her colleague dawns a blank expression.

KENNEDY I'm starting to sound like-

The red light goes on. Kennedy raises her finger to excuse herself and takes the call.

MAN

Yes, this call's for the books. I feel guilty for liberating the dead.

KENNEDY What does that mean?

MAN

There used to be hollowness in her eyes, but now there's an unkindess of warmth.

KENNEDY

An unkind-

MAN

Yes, the garden is full.

Church bells ring. Kennedy's heart sinks.

MAN CTD Everyone dies for the transplant.

KENNEDY I'm not following sir...

MAN CTD (seriously) Do not walk where it's not well lit.

CUT TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

Kennedy sniffs the stains in her hand.

KENNEDY (again) Have you ever met these people?

RAVEN Never. Not once. But I know when they're here. They like to leave clues, like the casket.

Kennedy touches the casket again, and extends her palm to Raven.

KENNEDY This isn't paint.

RAVEN

(hint of a smile)
It's the colour of my smile; I
remember all these happy memories,
but I just can't smile.
 (makes eye contact)
So I have to recreate...

Raven moves towards Kennedy, who stumbles in her steps backwards. She walks past her and kneels over the casket. Her finger caressing the edges in nostalgia.

RAVEN CTD Do you hear that?

KENNEDY (nervously)

What?

The church bells ring. Raven rests her head on the edge of the coffin. Kennedy begins to quietly move backwards.

KENNEDY Miss Semetrees-

RAVEN

Don't go.

CUT TO: 3 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy walks up to her supervisor's desk. He gives her a pen and the break sign-in sheet.

KENNEDY

What time is it?

Supervisor looks at the clock on the screen.

SUPERVISOR It's quarter after eleven.

KENNEDY I missed the eleventh hour.

SUPERVISOR What's its significance?

KENNEDY I'm still figuring that out. But it all begins with church bells.

SUPERVISOR Forgiveness maybe?

KENNEDY

(looks up)

Maybe.

Kennedy walks to her booth hastily. She sees the red light go on. She rapidly grabs her headset to take the call.

KENNEDY

Halfway house-

RAVEN (frantic) Who calls here? Is it him? His using you to get me, isn't he?

KENNEDY Ma'am, I'm not sure I understand-

RAVEN If he calls here again, tell him you're next! STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM ME!

Church bells ring.

BACK TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

Raven is staring into the distance, as Kennedy contemplates shifting to the door.

RAVEN We never should've met, because then at least, I wouldn't have to go through so much suffering.

Her eyes are teary and a smile appears on her face.

KENNEDY

Miss Semetrees-

RAVEN The last one, her only currency was her body, just like yours is your voice.

The church bells ring. Kennedy jumps in fright.

KENNEDY I think I've over stayed my welcome.

Raven brushes the tears from her eyes, smudging her face with the blood from the casket.

RAVEN You don't need to buy the place to be welcome, it's given freely. You just need to believe that you're worthy of the reception.

Raven pulls out a pocket knife from the back of her pockets.

KENNEDY Miss Bla- miss semetreesRAVEN You can start running now, I could use the exercise.

KENNEDY (shiver in her voice) Which doors are open?

RAVEN You've asked the right question! (beat) The main door. You can always get out, but if you try, you'll never make it to the end.

CUT TO: 3 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy hangs up on the caller. She rubs her temples with her fingers, sighs and takes the next call.

MAN

Carol?

KENNEDY

Ken-yes, yes, it's Carol from Halfway House confessions-

MAN We're family now, we're here to help each other out.

KENNEDY (recognizes man's voice) What do I need to help with?

MAN I'm sure you want to know how it ends.

KENNEDY

Ends?

MAN The confessions of the dead.

Kennedy recalls Raven's words; 'confessions of the dead.' Church bells ring in the background.

> KENNEDY Is she there? Are you with her?

MAN Is who with me?

KENNEDY The dead woman- RavenMAN She has a name. So you met her! Wait- which ONE did you meet?

KENNEDY

What do you mean?

MAN

The one I HATE, the one I LOVE, or the one I can't LIVE WITHOUT. They're not the same woman.

KENNEDY (confused) Which one of them is dead?

MAN

The church bells ring.

MAN CTD The other is in search of forgiveness.

KENNEDY (to herself) Forgiveness-

MAN What's your confession?

BACK TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE. ROOM 3- NIGHT

Kennedy is standing by the edge of the door. Raven smiles wickedly and makes her way to the desk. She pulls a chair out and takes a seat. She tosses the knife on the table. The church bells ring.

> RAVEN (wryly) You're still not running? They all run, they always do, but not you?

KENNEDY (repeating) This is a rough area, don't take any short cuts... Raven grimaces and begins to fidget with the drawer on the desk. Kennedy remains still, watching Raven.

KENNEDY There are no switch's- just lamps.

Raven pulls out the drawer. She takes out a sheet of paper, a stylistic pen and a bottle of red ink. Raven opens the bottle, raising it to her nose.

RAVEN

It's fermented, you'd never know.

She puts the ink down.

RAVEN CTD

If you're not going to run, what do you want to say? What do you want to stay buried?

Kennedy storms out. She paces herself down the stair case, paying attention to the walls, in search for switch lights.

VOICE OVER 'Don't go where it's not well lit.."

KENNEDY

(gasps) This is the place...

Raven appears at the top of the staircase.

RAVEN Are you afraid of the dark?

Raven comes down menancingly.

RAVEN CTD If you've never lived in the dark, you've never lived at all.

CUT TO: 3 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy pulls in her chair.

KENNEDY

The church bells? You want forgiveness- from me?

MAN

'Even in the name of justice,violence leaves wounds, wounds breed hatred, which in turn breeds violence.' KENNEDY (fed up) What is it you seek forgiveness for?

Silence.

KENNEDY

You haven't killed anyone, you haven't had an affair, you haven't robbed a bank, you have no offensive record whatsover.

MAN

Is confession subjected to the guilt hearted?

BACK TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE- EVENING

Kennedy eyes the main door. Raven catches her eye.

RAVEN Tempting- I know, yet you keep walking. And you haven't screamed yet? They always scream, every life needs a CODA.

KENNEDY

(weakly) No short cuts.

Raven walks down the staircase.

RAVEN

(menancing tone) No sounds, no runs, he schooled you very well.

CUT TO: 3 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy is uncertain.

MAN There's no innoncence in this dying world, so we have to live it apologetically. One must forgive, the other must be forgiven.

Kennedy rolls her eyes at the back of her mind.

MAN CTD And the more you run, you'll hurt the same, but if you stay, the pain will fade.

KENNEDY

Maybe my level of understanding is off, but are you the one running in this scenario? Is that why you haven't said I'm sorry?

MAN

We're all bound to a place, once we accept the invitation... I'm tied to the Raven, condemned to its Darkness, engraved in the Cemetery.

KENNEDY But what have you done to be sorry for?

MAN I freed a dead woman.

BACK TO: PRESENT

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE- EVENING

Raven steps off the final step and Kennedy steps backwards. Raven walks past Kennedy, leading her to the dining area. Kennedy takes a look at the clock.

> VOICE OVER (RAVEN) The bells are at the hand of the clock, they charge you guilty every time...

Raven pulls out the chair at the head of the table and takes a seat. She catches Kennedy eyes on the clock.

> RAVEN I was hoping you'd be the tenant for the day.

KENNEDY I thought you're never around when your tenants come...

Kennedy walks behind her. The church bells ring. Kennedy walks down the table.

RAVEN Somebody is always here. Always.

Raven eyes Kennedy as she moves down the table fearfully.

RAVEN CTD Have a seat. You want to know what nobody knows, don't you?

Kennedy looks at Raven with caution. She timidly walks towards a chair. She begins to pull it out...

RAVEN

Not next to, not beside me, across.

Kennedy continued to pull the chair.

RAVEN

(sternly) Not next to, not beside, across.

Kennedy pushes the chair back in and walks to the opposite end of the table. The church bells ring as soon as Kennedy settles into her seat.

> KENNEDY What's the story?

RAVEN You want to know about the bells?

KENNEDY

No I-

RAVEN They announce every guest in the house.

Kennedy gives her a quizzical look.

KENNEDY There's no one here beside you and me?

RAVEN I told you before, it's a house were somebody walks in, yet nobody lives here. (slowly) Somebody walks in, nobody knows who.

Kennedy gulps.

RAVEN CTD (points at Kennedy) The other girl sat right there. (looks at the clock) She only lasted for the week. She liked scarlets. What are you favorites?

KENNEDY

Tulips.

RAVEN CTD

The girl was a runaway. Life dealt her the wrong crowd, then she lived to pay for it... (sighs) so she confessed? RAVEN Same thing as you, I suppose; secrets, curiosity, bells?

KENNEDY

(whisper) The bells...

RAVEN

Everyone arounded here is shrouded in mystery; the mask you can't remove, the past you can't unravel until one must forgive-

KENNEDY The other must be forgiven.

Their eyes meet and Raven breaks out with dangerous smile.

RAVEN

He did call you... He does that a lot. He wants to takeover when I'm missing. But he keeps sending the wrong girl.

KENNEDY

The wrong girl?

RAVEN

She won't be missed, like you; she didn't have a walk to remember.

Kennedy takes offence.

KENNEDY

What makes you think the life I lead is not memorable?

RAVEN

(she leans in) I warned you about the graves, and you're too young to crave such a fate.

(leans back into her chair)

But you're here. You came here looking for somebody, and yet nobody knows you.

(locks eyes with Kennedy) You have something worth burying, and he knew.

KENNEDY

Is there any truth to what you have to say?

Raven turns to look at the walls.

RAVEN Somebody told me I speak in circles; my words are subliminal, so they say. (darts her eyes) My messages lack substance and it's hard to follow. But it's true what they say... (looks to Kennedy) 'Emotions are like streets, so many, you get lost in them all.'

The church bells ring. Kennedy's eyes rapidly circle the rooom with expectation. Raven giggles.

RAVEN CTD The more uncomfortable you are, the easier it is to hide.

KENNEDY

(timidly)
Maybe they're right.
 (more assertive)
I think we're never going to get
anywhere if you keep talking like
that.

RAVEN

(frankly) I never undertsood his taste for the others. But you, I see... You feign innnocence, it's admirable.

KENNEDY

What innoncence? I'm-

RAVEN

There's something your sorry for. The longer you stay here, the more you'll know, the less you'll fear and the more guilt free you'll become. (soothing)

Nobody will ever know, because you would never last.

KENNEDY

(agitated)

The other girl lasted for a week?

RAVEN

I told you about the fall, didn't I?

KENNEDY

You did...

RAVEN

(lights up) You believe me then! It's good you're giving it up, skepticism never lasts.

Raven gets up hastily. The chair screeches the floor. She gestures Kennedy to follow her.

CUT TO: 3 DAYS AGO

INT. HALFWAY DCI.EMPLOYEES OFFICE- NIGHT.

Kennedy's supervisor taps her on the shoulder. She presses the mute button in the midst of the MAN's silence.

> SUPERVISOR Wrap it up, it's not going anywhere.

Kennedy nods her head (secretly disappointed) and returns to the call.

KENNEDY Sir, I hope you find it in your heart, to forgive yourself for liberating this dead woman.

MAN You want to know don't you?

KENNEDY

I do want to help you sir, but I feel you'd rather have me grasping for straws.

MAN

I can't give you a name, but I could give you a place.

KENNEDY

What for? It's ok-

MAN

1301 Semetrees, nobody should find her. But somebody tells me you would.

The church bells ring in the background.

KENNEDY

I'm flattered but-

MAN

The confessions of the dead, don't stand on tales alone. SOMEBODY HAS TO DO THE TELLING.

INT.SEMETREES RESIDENCE- EVENING

Raven and Kennedy are in the kitchen. Raven pulls out the kitchen drawer and begins to shuffle equipment around.

KENNEDY

(low) The noise...

Kennedy looks at Raven in fright. Raven begins to slowly place knives on the kitchen counter. She pulls the knives block towards her and begins to place the knives in there.

RAVEN

Every knife has a stamp...

Raven stares at her reflection of the blade. She tilts her head to examine the inking on the edge of the blade.

> RAVEN CTD Every stamp has a name...

Her wander aimlessly round the contours.

RAVEN This is a Granton Edge...

She places the knife in front of her face and flashes a smile.

RAVEN

(obsessively) These are hollowed out grooves on the sides of the blade. It allows for thin, even cuts without tearing or shredding the skin.

KENNEDY

Skin?

RAVEN Nobody said skin- I said meat.

Raven shoots a stern look at Kennedy and returns her focus to the knife.

RAVEN The grooves also help shed the material being cut from the blade, helping to reduce sticking. (nonchalantly) It's been pretty useful!

She shoves the knife into the block. And carefully places the rest in.

RAVEN CTD (to herself) You heard the noise... RAVEN Now! The garden, you must see the garden.

She moves towards the back door. Kennedy is hesitant at first but follows nevertheless. Kennedy goes through the back door. She is taken by the colourful display.

> KENNEDY All the colour lives outside.

RAVEN (looks around) The home of ideals, the colour of freedom; all reserved for the dead.

Kennedy notices the scarletts, roses, buttercups, lily's etc. Her eyse stumble on a bare plot.

KENNEDY What are you growing here?

RAVEN

Tulips...

The church bells ring. Kennedy's eyes widen in fear.

KENNEDY I told you they were my fav-

RAVEN

So you confessed.

Raven shrugs with a dangerous look.

RAVEN CTD

He did call you... He does that a lot. He wants to takeover when I'm missing, but he keeps sending the wrong girl.

KAREN You said that already!

RAVEN You wanted me to make more sense.

The church bells ring. Raven's voice deepens and becomes more masculine.

RAVEN CTD You came! You've met her then- the dead woman. The one I love...

Karen recognises the voice and her legs weaken.

VOICE OVER (RAVEN) Two mysterious people live in this house... RAVEN The one I hate... VOICE OVER We never should've met... RAVEN The one I cannot live without... KAREN (panic) Are you sure they're just two? VOICE OVER Somebody and nobody... RAVEN I need a name for this darkness... KAREN I told him that! VOICE OVER (RAVEN) Don't walk where it's not well lit... RAVEN We create a safe place, to get dangerous. Karen is shaken and moving backwards. KAREN (eyes widen) You've been watching me! You planned this! Raven's voice returns to it's softness. RAVEN I told you he does that. KAREN You did that! It was you! RAVEN (gentle but firm) I warned you to stay away.

Karen's attentive to Raven's body langauge.

KAREN (faint whisper) An unkindness of warmth... VOICE OVER (RAVEN) Who's worth saving? The mask or the person behind it.

Karen turns to run.

RAVEN

No short cuts!

Karen stumbles into the house. The church bells ring. She's panting recklessly. She looks at the hands of the clock. She sees Raven's reflection through the clock. She turns around in surrender.

KAREN

I can't be here-

RAVEN I told you, you're always welcome. You have to feel your worthy of the reception.

KENNEDY (in between breaths) Who are you?

RAVEN Nobody you know... Somebody you'll remember.

Kennedy takes a look at the main door. Raven stands in her way and draws a knife from her back. She flashes a deadly smile as she moves towards Kennedy.

> RAVEN CTD (manly voice) Everyone dies for the transplant.

> > THE END