Fatal Wounds

by Trent Chapman (11/07/07 INT. GRUMPY'S BAR AND GRILL - NIGHT

The bar is relatively dead as MARK and HENRY sit in a booth across from ASHLEY and KRYSTAL. The men are in their mid to late thirties, the women are slightly younger.

> MARK So she turns to the guy and she's all like: "What kind of Doctor did you say you were again?".

They all laugh, Krystal a bit harder than the rest. She's clearly wasted.

KRYSTAL (to Ashley) I gotta go pee.

Ashley slides out of her seat to let her pass.

Krystal stumbles and almost falls over as she exits the booth but Ashley catches her.

ASHLEY

You okay?

KRYSTAL Yeah. Yeah, I just gotta go pee.

Krystal stumbles off towards the bathroom.

ASHLEY (to the guys) I'll be right back.

Mark turns in his seat to watch Ashley walk away.

MARK Is that a sweet piece of ass or what?

He gets up and takes a seat across from Henry.

HENRY MORT Indeed it is.

MARK She might just be the hottest I've landed since High School.

HENRY MORT What do you mean you've landed?

Mark stares back blankly.

### HENRY MORT

I thought we agreed that you were gonna be the wing man tonight?

Mark's expression stays blank.

### MARK

...So?

HENRY MORT So, that means I get first pick and you get the friend.

MARK

Since when?

#### HENRY MORT

Since always! The wing man never gets to pick the girl! Besides she's not even into you.

MARK Well, *I* drove so I guess that makes *you* the wing man.

HENRY MORT That's bullshit! We already agreed.

MARK

When?

HENRY MORT Last Friday.

Mark squints and Henry trying hard to remember.

HENRY MORT At Kari's birthday party.

Mark still doesn't have a clue.

#### HENRY MORT

The only way you could get Lisa to fuck you was if you found someone to give her fat, sweaty, stank ass sister a ride home.

### MARK

Oh that doesn't even count, you just gave her a ride home, it's not like you fucked her or anything.

Henry glares at Mark.

MARK (stifling a chuckle) Holy shit, you fucked her?

Henry tries his best to remain emotionless as mark starts laughing hysterically.

# MARK

(through the laughs) Oh man, what was that like?

### HENRY MORT

Honestly? The only thing I remember is that she was on top and I threw up about five minutes into it.

### MARK

(laughing even harder) Well, that's your own damn fault.

## HENRY MORT

Ya know, most of that night was pretty fuzzy but I do seem to remember you shoving Tequila shots down my throat for most of the night.

### MARK

That might be true, but it's not like I made you sleep with the girl.

(he shudders violently)
I wouldn't have even asked you to.
But it's not like you're going home
with a troll tonight, right?
Krystal's pretty fucking hot too.

### HENRY MORT

Something tells me she's gonna be a lot less attractive when she comes back from the bathroom.

MARK Hard to argue with you on that one.

HENRY MORT Fuck this, I'm walking home.

Henry moves to get out of his chair.

#### MARK

Oh, come one! Alright, alright, I'll tell ya what. How about we Rock, Paper, Scissors for it? If you win, you get Ashley. If I win, you stay and chaperone Krystal.

HENRY MORT Rock, Paper, Scissors?

MARK

Yeah.

HENRY MORT For a girl?

#### MARK

Yeah.

Henry thinks on it for a second.

HENRY MORT

Alright.

Mark sets down his drink and rolls up his sleeves. MARK HENRY MORT 1...2...3.

Mark lays down a rock while Henry lays down a pair of scissors.

HENRY MORT

Damn it!

MARK (obnoxiously cocky) Deal's a deal, bitch.

HENRY MORT

Fuck you.

Mark turns to look at the bathroom.

MARK They're probably gonna be awhile. I'm gonna step outside for a smoke.

Henry finishes his beer as Mark struts his way to the patio.

Henry downs Mark's beer as soon as he's outside and just before Ashley makes her way back to the table.

ASHLEY Where'd Mark go?

HENRY MORT (making a smoking gesture) Have a smoke.

ASHLEY Ah, you don't smoke?

HENRY MORT

Nope.

CATHY, the waitress stops at the table.

CATHY How are you two doing?

HENRY MORT Can I get another tall one and a shot of vodka?

CATHY

Sure thing.

Cathy writes this down on her note pad before turning to Ashley.

CATHY How 'bout you honey?

ASHLEY I'll have the same, thanks.

Cathy makes another quick note before she as she walks off.

HENRY MORT So, how's Krystal doing?

ASHLEY

I'm pretty sure she's throwing up, but she yelled at me to go away, so I did.

HENRY MORT Makes sense.

A new tough looking WAITRESS stops at the table holding a tray with four shots of Tequila on it.

HENRY MORT Uh, this isn't what we ordered. WAITRESS Your buddy did before he went outside.

HENRY MORT (under his breath) Fucking prick.

WAITRESS Excuse me?

HENRY MORT Huh? Oh, I said what a trick.

Henry's already getting the salt ready on his hand before the waitress even leaves.

He slides the salt shaker across the table to Ashley.

#### ASHLEY

Shouldn't we wait for Mark?

She taps glasses with Henry before they lick, swallow, and suck in unison.

### ASHLEY

(wincing from the shot) What do we do with the extra one? I think Krystal's done for the night.

Henry grabs the salt and applies more to his hand before picking up Mark's shot.

HENRY MORT You mean the two extra ones?

They both down their shots just as Cathy comes back with their beers and vodka.

ASHLEY God, I'm gonna be so wasted.

HENRY MORT Think you can handle one more?

### ASHLEY

Oh yeah.

They tip their glasses together again and down them in unison before using their beers as chasers.

HENRY MORT So, you said you two are from Wisconsin?

ASHLEY

Yep.

HENRY MORT So what brings you to the Twin Cities?

Ashley hesitates for a second before she answers.

ASHLEY I don't know. Just needed to get away I guess.

Henry's about to respond when Mark finally makes his way back to the table.

MARK Damn, is she still in there?

ASHLEY

Yeah.

Mark spots all the empty shot glasses on the table.

MARK You drank my fuckin' shot!

HENRY MORT Oh, I thought that it was for me.

MARK One of them was for you!

HENRY MORT (shrugging) My bad.

MARK You drank the rest of my beer too?

HENRY MORT

Yep.

Mark reaches to take the fresh beer but Henry slaps his hand away.

HENRY MORT If you want another one you're gonna have to act fast, last call's in like two minutes.

Mark checks his watch.

MARK You're a fucking douche bag.

Mark heads for the bar. Henry and Ashley chuckle a bit as soon as he's out of earshot.

HENRY MORT So, what do you do anyway?

ASHLEY I'm a teacher. How about you?

HENRY MORT Right now, I'm just living off the Government.

ASHLEY You're on welfare?

HENRY MORT (chuckling a bit) No. No, I was in the Army. Got discharged a couple months ago.

### ASHLEY

How come?

HENRY MORT

Um, I think they classified it as some kind of post stress syndrome, or something like that.

ASHLEY

You see any action?

HENRY MORT

Not for awhile. I spent most of my time in North Carolina actually. Teaching other soldiers how to survive in enemy territory.

#### ASHLEY

So you were like a SERE trainer or something than?

### HENRY MORT

(clearly impressed) As a matter of fact that's exactly what I was. How do you know about SERE?

#### ASHLEY

I come from a military family. Grandpa, Dad, brothers. Pretty much everyone in my family with a dick was in the service.

HENRY MORT What branch?

ASHLEY (slightly wincing) Navy.

HENRY MORT Ah, I knew you were too good to be true.

The two laugh as Mark sits back down in the booth a little less aggravated.

# ASHLEY

I'd better go check on Krystal.

She get's up and heads for the bathroom. Mark turns to Henry who takes a sip of his beer with a grin.

MARK What the fuck are you so happy about?

INT. COPPICE CABANA APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

Henry and Ashley stumble through the door arm in arm and head up the stairs.

Mark catches the door just before it shut on him dragging a mostly passes out Krystal through it.

MARK (mostly to himself) Cock blocking son of a bitch.

Henry and Ashley stop at Henry's door while he tries to find his keys. Mark catches up to them just as Henry gets the door open. MARK

Hey man, can I just set her on your couch? I really don't have it in me to play nurse maid right now.

Henry pretends he doesn't hear him and slams the door in Mark's face.

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Henry's apartment is anything but clean. Empty beer cans and plates of partially eaten meals cover every flat surface.

> HENRY MORT Well, it's not much, but it could be worse, I guess.

Henry finishes locking the door before he heads to the kitchen.

HENRY MORT You wanna beer?

ASHLEY I just wanna go to bed.

Ashley makes a beeline for the bedroom taking her shirt off as she goes.

HENRY MORT

Um, okay.

Henry grabs a beer out of the fridge and twists it open as he heads to the bedroom.

INT. HENRY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ashley is passed out face down on the bed in her bra and panties by the time Henry enters in the room.

### HENRY MORT

Perfect.

Henry takes a few deep chugs of his beer before quietly moving next to the bed and folding the duvet over Ashley and exiting the room. INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Henry continues to drink his beer fast as he stumbles his way through the living room and to the kitchen.

He finishes off the beer and drops it before opening the fridge and grabbing another and a bottled water.

He grabs a bottle of aspirin off the counter on his way out of the kitchen and stumbles back to the bedroom.

INT. HENRY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Henry sets the bottled water and aspirin down on the night stand and stops to take one last look at Ashley before turning off the light and closing the door.

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Henry twists open his new beer before sitting down on the couch and turning on the TV with the remote.

The television buzzes to life as SEANNA SUMMERS, a young and pretty newscaster fades onto the screen.

HENRY MORT (slurred) This isn't Sports Center.

Henry drunkenly mashes buttons on the remote trying to change channels but inadvertently turns it off.

Frustrated he drops the remote and pulls a throw pillow over his face.

FADE TO:

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Henry is still in the exact same position on the couch as RUNNING FOOTSTEPS can be heard in the hallway outside.

The footsteps are loud and fast as if multiple people are running past the door.

A LOUD CRASH covers the FOOTSTEPS startling Henry awake in time to hear the last of the running feet fade off down the hall.

## HENRY MORT (muttered/slightly confused) What the fuck?

He gets up slowly, groaning and holding his head as he stumbles to the door.

Henry pokes his head out the door far enough to see a broken TV set laying in the hallway.

### INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

He takes a step out the door to find the hallway is deserted and quite a few apartment doors are left open.

> HENRY MORT (muttered/slightly more confused) What the fuck?

He steps out further to investigate when he hears a loud CRASH outside.

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

He rushes back into the apartment and looks out the nearest window to see a smoking cop car wrapped around a telephone pole.

TWO OFFICERS get out of the car with guns in hand and make a run for it.

GUN SHOTS can be heard once the cops get off screen.

HENRY MORT (muttered & even more confused still) What the fuck?

Henry goes to the kitchen, picks up the cordless phone, dials 911 and puts it to his ear only to realize that it's dead.

He notices the TV is still on and sees Seanna Summers is still on, but now looking tired and scared.

Henry finds the remote control under the coffee table and unmutes it before sitting down on the couch.

### SEANNA SUMMERS

Early reports seem to indicate that the outbreak began somewhere in Sawyer County, Wisconsin and is rapidly making it's way across the mid west.

# HENRY MORT

What the-

Henry stops mid mutter as his front door creaks open.

He stands up straight and turns around to see Mark stumble through the front door holding his neck.

Everything he says comes out slow and raspy.

MARK I think we gotta problem man.

HENRY MORT What the hell is going on?

MARK She attacked me. I didn't wanna do it?

HENRY MORT What? What are you talking about?

As Mark stumbles closer Henry notices that he's covering up a nasty wound on his neck.

HENRY MORT Holy shit! What happened to you?

MARK She bit me.

Mark sits himself down on the coffee table looking woozy.

HENRY

What? Who?

MARK

Krystal.

HENRY MORT

Why?

MARK She was passed out on the couch. I thought she was dead. She fuckin' looked dead.

HENRY MORT But she wasn't?

### MARK

I put my ear to her mouth to see if she was breathing. Before I knew it she was clamped on like a fucking wolverine.

HENRY MORT Where is she now?

MARK She's dead.

HENRY MORT What? You killed her?

MARK

She wouldn't let go, so I grabbed the lamp off the end table. I thought it would just knock her out, but it went right through her skull.

Henry's head is spinning as he tries to figure out what's going on.

MARK

I'm not feeling so good man.

HENRY MORT Hold on, let me get you some towels.

Henry goes to the kitchen and returns quickly with a hand full of towels.

HENRY MORT Here man, throw some of these on there.

He presses one of them to Mark's neck, but Mark just slumps over on his side, dead.

HENRY MORT Mark? Come on man, get up. Mark? Henry puts two fingers to Mark's neck, checking for a pulse but finds none.

## HENRY MORT Oh man, Oh man. What the fuck is going on?

Henry's pacing, trying his best to make sense of it all when he hears a faint scream somewhere out in the hallway.

He pauses for a second not sure if he really heard the scream until it happens again.

He gets up and cautiously heads to for the door as mark sits up straight on the coffee table behind him.

Mark gets to his feet and as he does so he knocks a beer bottle off the table. It hits the hardwood and shatters sending glass and stale beer all over the floor.

Henry turns around to find Mark stumbling towards him.

### HENRY MORT

Holy shit, I thought you were dead! Throw a towel back on that and sit down. I'm gonna try and find my cell phone, see if it still works. Maybe we can find out what's going on.

Henry grabs another towel and tries handing it to Mark when he lunges at him trying to bite Henry's forearm.

Henry rips his arm away before Mark can really clamp down and backs away more confused than ever.

## HENRY MORT What the fuck are you doing?

Mark is clawing at Henry trying to get a hold of any piece of him that he can until Henry finally restrains his arms.

Henry's about to say something when he notices that Mark's eyes have gone completely white. Henry pushes him away and steps back a bit.

> HENRY MORT I'm too hung over for this shit.

Henry rushes to the kitchen scanning the counter tops for a weapon. The first thing he finds is a frying pan.

Henry holds the frying pan out defensively as Mark makes his way to the kitchen.

# HENRY MORT I don't know what the fuck is wrong with you right now, but I swear to god if you come any closer I'm gonna knock you the fuck out!

Mark continues forward clamping his jaws feverishly.

HENRY MORT

I'm serious, man.

Mark just keeps coming. Henry swings the frying pan connecting with the side of Mark's head.

Mark collapses to the floor with the frying pan still embedded in the side of his skull.

### HENRY MORT

Holy shit!

Henry stands over Mark's body staring at it in horror as he crouches down for a closer look until he's startled by the sound of and open aspirin bottle hitting the floor.

He turns with a start to see Ashley standing in his bedroom doorway still in her bra and panties with tiny white pills scattered at her feet.

### ASHLEY

Oh my god!

Ashley's eyes are fixated on Mark's head until Henry stands up and reveals that he's covered in Mark's blood.

> ASHLEY What did you do?

HENRY MORT I swear to God this is not what it looks like.

ASHLEY Where's Krystal?

HENRY MORT (he hesitates) She's dead. But, listen I can expl-

ASHLEY Where is she? HENRY MORT She's at Mark's place but it's not safe out there.

ASHLEY Where's Mark's place?

HENRY MORT It's just down the hall but I'm serious. Something really fucked up is going on out there.

ASHLEY More fucked up than what's going on in here?

Henry looks down at Mark's corpse.

HENRY MORT

I think so.

ASHLEY Well, she's my cousin so I'll take my chances.

Ashley pushes past Henry as she makes her way to the door.

HENRY MORT

Hold on.

Ashley stops with her hand on the door knob.

HENRY MORT I'll show you the way.

INT. MARK'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Ashley and Henry stand in the doorway to Mark's apartment staring at Krystal who's sprawled out on the couch with a table lamp sticking out of her forehead. The couch is covered in a mix of blood and vomit.

### ASHLEY

Oh my god.

Ashley slowly makes her way to the couch with a hand over her mouth as tears start to form.

ASHLEY Who did this? HENRY MORT Mark did. He said it was an accident.

ASHLEY How do you accidently put a lamp through somebody's forehead?

HENRY MORT The same way you accidently put a frying pan through somebody's head I suppose.

She shoots him a look.

HENRY MORT She was biting him. He was just trying to get her to stop.

#### ASHLEY

Biting?

HENRY MORT Yeah, he stumbled into my place missing half his neck, said Krystal did it, and then he died. Why?

Ashley rushes to the TV and tries to turn it on but it's dead.

ASHLEY What's wrong with this thing?

HENRY MORT Hasn't worked in years. Why, what's going on?

ASHLEY Does yours work?

HENRY MORT

Yeah, but-

Ashley storms past him and out the door.

INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Henry is trying to catch up to Ashley as she rushes down the hall to his apartment.

### HENRY MORT

Is there anyway you could tell me what the fuck's going on?

### ASHLEY

On the road me and Krystal stopped at a little truck stop diner in \*GOOGLE EARTH\*. Some guys came in talking about a nearby town where people just started eating each other for no reason. Nobody really took him seriously though.

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Ashley heads straight for the TV almost stepping in the broken glass from the beer bottle.

HENRY MORT You think this is the same thing?

#### ASHLEY

It's gotta be.

Ashley pushes the volume button on the TV and it slowly glows to life.

Seanna is still on looking as tired as ever with a superimposed video of a pack of zombies attacking an ambulance.

EXT. CITY STREET - FOOTAGE

Some of the zombies have pulled one of the medics out of the window and are beginning to pull him apart while another group are eating the victim in the back.

CAMERA MAN Oh my God do you see that?

FEMALE FIELD REPORTER This can't be happening.

The camera zooms out and turns quickly to the left to show that the camera man is locked in a car with another zombie outside his window and the camera goes fuzzy. INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS HENRY MORT ASHLEY Jesus Christ. Oh my god!

> SEANNA SUMMERS The footage you just saw was recorded in Sawyer County, Wisconsin just over twelve hours ago. Sawyer County, as we reported earlier, is the confirmed origin site of this "disease" as officials are calling it. Top medical professionals are calling this the most aggressive virus this world has ever seen and have all but given up hope in trying to contain it.

Henry notices for the first time that he's covered in Mark's blood all over him and gets up and heads to the bathroom taking off his shirt as he does.

SEANNA SUMMERS In the less than half a day since the virus was first reported it has spread West as far as Montana and as far East as Ohio leaving citizens both near and abroad demanding a swift resolution nobody seems to be able to deliver.

ASHLEY Where's your phone?

HENRY MORT (O.S.) In the kitchen but it's dead.

ASHLEY Gotta cell phone?

HENRY MORT (0.S.) Yeah, it should be around here somewhere. Check the cushions.

IN. HENRY'S BATHROOM - MORNING

Henry grabs a wash cloth and attempts to get the blood off his arms when he spots the bite mark in the middle of his forearm. The bite doesn't appear to be that bad as it's mostly just indentations but one tooth has broken the skin and is dripping blood.

Henry grabs a red long sleeve shirt out of the hamper as he exits the bathroom.

SEANNA SUMMERS (O.C.) We're going to go to Warren here in a moment live from our Channel 8 Newscopter with an in-depth, bird's eye view of the damage caused so far, but first, for those of you who may be just joining is we're going to check back in with Detective Burt Dambers and go over the signs you should be looking for when trying to detect an infected person.

CUT TO:

## INT. CHANNEL 8 NEWS STUDIO - TELEVISION

We see a young but grizzled, unshaven, and visibly exhausted DETECTIVE DAMBERS seated across the desk from Seanna.

A list of "Safety Zones" scroll across the bottom of the screen beneath some kind of catchy slogan.

SEANNA SUMMERS Detective, first off could you just begin by explaining to the people who may have missed it earlier, exactly what this infection consists of?

DET. DAMBERS

Well Seanna, as you know we're dealing with an extremely deadly and rapidly spreading virus that not only kills the people it infects, but it somehow also causes the corpses of the recently deceased to reanimate with one goal and one goal only. To infect any living human it can.

SEANNA SUMMERS And how is it that they spread the infection? DET. DAMBERS Oh right, I probably should have mentioned that first sorry.

Dambers tries to shake the cobwebs from his head.

DET. DAMBERS Um, as far as we know the only way you can contract the virus is if you've been bitten or scratched by one of the already infected. So far we've seen no indication of any other methods.

INT. HENRY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Henry, now in a new outfit, puts his shoes back on and heads out to the living room. Ashley is sitting on the couch still watching the News.

> HENRY MORT So what the hell's going on?

ASHLEY It sounds like they're trying to

evacuate people into "Safety Zones" but nobody knows how they're gonna do it. The closest on is in Fairibault, an old abandoned prison or something. Oh, and I couldn't find the phone.

HENRY MORT I must have dropped it in Mark's car or something last night. Last night's pretty fuzzy.

ASHLEY Yeah, I was meaning to ask you. Did we, uh...

HENRY MORT I don't think so. I woke up on the couch so it's-

Henry's cut off by the muffled sound of his cell phone RINGING.

They both pause for a second straining to hear until Henry picks up the remote and mutes the television.

ASHLEY (pointing at Mark's corpse) I think it's coming from over there.

Henry rushes over to Mark and listens again for a second before quietly creeping into the kitchen.

He finally spots the sounds location and rips open the fridge to see his phone vibrating on the shelf next to the beers.

He pulls out the phone and pushes the answer button.

HENRY MORT

Hello?

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) Henry is that you?

HENRY MORT Katherine? Yeah it's me. Are you okay?

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) The power went out about an hour ago but I'm fine. How about you?

HENRY MORT I'm good, how are the girls holding up?

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) That's actually why I called you.

HENRY MORT You don't know where they are?

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) They spent the night over at Lisa's house but nobody's answering the phone over there. Bob tried to go get them but he was attacked before he could even make it to the car.

HENRY MORT Is he alright?

### KATHERINE MORT

He says he's fine, he's resting now. I wanted to take him the hospital but the news said that's the worst place to go right now.

### HENRY MORT

Yeah, okay, good, where does Lisa live?

### KATHERINE MORT

I'm sure they're staying safe, Henry. Besides, the news said to stay inside until they can come up with a plan.

#### HENRY MORT

Yeah, well the news also said that people are eating each other for no reason. Where are my little girls Katherine?

### KATHERINE MORT

I don't know exactly. Lisa's parents just got divorced, I'm not sure if she still lives at the address I have. Hold on a second, I'll get it.

### HENRY MORT

Okay.

Henry hears the phone get set down and focuses his attention back to the TV set which is now showing live footage from the traffic helicopter as panicked people jam the highways trying to evacuate.

Zombies are ripping people out of their cars and eating them right there on the side of the road.

### HENRY MORT

Jesus.

Henry hears DEEP SLOW GROANING coming from the other end of the phone.

# HENRY MORT Kathy, you there?

Henry can hear as Katherine SCREAMS. The sound is muffled as if she's holding the phone against her body.

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) (still muffled) Oh Bob, you scared the shit out of me, I thought you were still asleep. How are you feeling? Another LOW GROAN is the only response. Henry's getting worried.

KATHERINE MORT (V.O.) (still muffled) Are you alright? You look terrible.

Another GROAN and Henry's getting really worried now.

HENRY MORT Talk to me, Katherine. What's going on?

Ashley gets up off the couch and joins Henry in the kitchen.

KATHERINE MORT Bob, what are you doing?

Katherine SCREAMS for her life before dropping the phone.

HENRY MORT Katherine!? Katherine!

The phone is dead.

Henry turns it off and slides it into his pocket.

ASHLEY What's going on?

Henry rushes to his room and comes back out with a light jacket as he responds.

HENRY MORT My daughter's are missing and I think my ex-wife's new boyfriend is trying to eat her.

ASHLEY So, what are you gonna do?

HENRY MORT I'm gonna go find my daughters and take them to that prison on the news.

He turns for the door.

ASHLEY Can I come with you? Henry gives her a look over. She's still just wearing her bra and panties.

HENRY MORT You might wanna put some clothes on first.

Ashley looks down surprised as if she just realized she's been half naked this whole time.

ASHLEY You wouldn't happen to have a change of clothes I could borrow, would you? A mini skirt and heels isn't exactly the best survival attire.

HENRY MORT If you can find something that fits go ahead.

ASHLEY Thanks, just give me two seconds.

She heads for the bedroom as Henry pulls his phone back out of his pocket and hits the re-dial button but get's an automated "service not available" message.

He puts the phone back in his pocket and spots a flask sitting on the kitchen counter.

He takes a swig of the flask only to realize it's empty so he grabs a bottle of Jack Daniels and fills it up.

ASHLEY (O.C.)

You ready?

Henry turns to see Ashley heading towards him wearing a pair of his jeans and a button up flannel shirt, both are too big for her.

HENRY MORT

Yeah.

Ashley looks down at her feet and we see that's she's wearing a pair of Henry's boots.

ASHLEY Has anyone ever told you that you have really small feet? As soon as they enter the hallway they see a pack of zombies fighting for the remains of a small child's corpse in the far corner.

### ASHLEY

Oh my god!

The Zombies turn to the sound of her voice and a few of them abandon the child in favor of Henry and Ashley.

HENRY MORT

This way.

The two rush down the hallway in the opposite direction where they round a corner and crash into JARED who's carrying a baseball bat.

Henry instinctively reaches out and grabs Jared by the throat squeezing hard.

JARED (gasping for breath) Wait, wait, wait! It's just me, it's just me!

Jared drops the bat.

HENRY MORT You haven't been bitten?

JARED No man, I'm clean, I swear to God.

Henry lets him go and picks up his bat for him.

HENRY MORT Where are you going?

Jared takes back the bat.

#### JARED

To your place. I figured if anyone's gonna survive whatever the fuck's going on out there it'd be you.

HENRY MORT We've gotta keep moving. There's a pack of them behind us. Where are you guys going?

HENRY MORT To find my daughters and then to the prison in Fairibault.

Henry and Ashley walk on and Jared picks up his bat before running after them.

JARED What, you mean like outside?

HENRY MORT

Yep.

JARED Dude, you can't go out there. Have you seen how bad it is in *here*? It's gotta be at least four time worse out there.

HENRY MORT I'm not gonna find them in here.

JARED Well, is it cool if I tag along? I don't really like my chances here alone.

HENRY MORT Sure, come on.

JARED

Cool. Cool, hang on a second.

Jared ducks into an open apartment door and begins rummaging around.

Henry follows Jared in but Ashley grabs him by the arm.

ASHLEY You sure about this guy?

HENRY MORT Yeah, he's cool.

They follow Jared into the apartment.

INT. RANDOM APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

HENRY MORT What are you doing, man?

JARED We gotta find you a weapon. You can't go out there unarmed.

Henry gives Ashley an "I told you so look".

HENRY MORT (to Jared) Yeah, I suppose. Good idea.

Henry begins to search for a weapon while Ashley stands watch at the door.

JARED How about this?

Jared taps a wooden chair with his foot.

JARED We could rip off the legs and you could swing'em all double fisted style.

Jared kills a few invisible zombies with invisible chair legs to demonstrate.

HENRY MORT Yeah, that could work.

Jared lifts his foot to break off one of the chair's legs but stops when they all hear a CRASHING SOUND in one of the bedrooms.

> JARED What the fuck was that?

Ashley leaves her post at the door as Henry cautiously moves towards the source of the sound.

HENRY MORT (pointing towards a closed door) It's coming from in there.

Whatever's in there can be heard SLIGHTLY MOANING on the other side of the door.

HENRY MORT Um, just kick open the door and beat the shit out of anything that comes out?

## ASHLEY

Sounds good to me.

Henry reaches out and twists the door knob.

### HENRY MORT

Here we go.

He kicks the door open and both Ashley and Jared scream as a MOANING PARROT flutters out of the apartment and into the hallway.

HENRY MORT Was that thing moaning?

Jared is about to respond when a Zombie stumbles into the bedroom's doorway.

### ASHLEY

Oh my god.

#### JARED

(Tossing his bat to Henry)

Here!

The throw is way off target and ends up falling at Ashley's feet.

Ashley picks up the bat and crushes the zombie's skull with it.

### JARED

Zombies zero, lesbians one.

Jared lifts his foot to break off a chair leg again.

### ASHLEY

What the fuck did you just call me?

Jared freezes in mid motion.

JARED

Well, I jut thought you were... I mean with the lumber jack outfit and all, that you were, you know...

ASHLEY (to Henry) How do you know-

She stops when she sees that Henry has walked off deeper into the bedroom. She follows him in.

INT. RANDOM APARTMENT BEDROOM. - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom is adorned with framed hockey jerseys on the walls and street hockey trophies on every flat surface.

Henry us making his towards an open closet.

ASHLEY

What is it?

HENRY MORT (while reaching into the closet) I think I found my weapon.

He pulls out a street hockey stick.

ASHLEY Are you sure? It looks like cheap plastic.

HENRY MORT The blade's plastic but I'm pretty sure the shaft's metal.

He taps the shaft of the stick on the metal bed frame confirming that it is indeed metal.

ASHLEY

Could work. There another one? Even if it's just cheap aluminum it's better than nothing, right?

Henry pushes the closet door open all the way to reveal a whole row of sticks.

HENRY MORT You got a color preference? INT. RANDOM APARTMENT - MORNING

Ashley and Henry exit the bedroom carrying their hockey sticks. Henry has two and holds one up to Jared.

HENRY MORT

You want one?

JARED Nah, I think I'll stick with my bat.

HENRY MORT

Cool. Let's go.

Henry drops the extra stick and they all turn to leave only to see three zombies stumbling through the doorway.

ASHLEY At least we don't have to wait long to test out the new sticks.

HENRY MORT I guess that's one way to look at it.

The two walk up to the zombies and just wail on two of the zombies until they're motionless.

The third zombie steps forward and both Henry and Ashley jab their sticks at it in unison, sending they're blades through it's eyes.

The now eyeless zombie slumps to the ground between them and lands at Jared's feet.

JARED That's just nasty.

Henry and Ashley continue out into the hallway as Jared spends a couple seconds staring at the zombie.

INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX HALLWAY - MORNING

Jared rushes to catch up but bumps into the two as he turns a corner.

JARED What the hell?

Henry and Ashley both motion towards what's in front of them and Jared finally sees the five zombies down the hall clawing at a closed door about three apartments down.

JARED

Oh.

Henry steps forward and cracks the lead zombie over the skull.

He takes out two more before him and Jared simultaneously dispatch the final two.

# HENRY MORT

Alright, let's-

Henry stops when he notices that Ashley isn't behind him anymore. He turns to see her shoving the end of her hockey stick through a Zombie's eyes.

She pulls the stick out as the Zombie falls at her feet along with the other two.

Ashley trots back to them as Jared is trying to wipe the spattered blood off his shirt.

#### JARED

Today sucks ass.

### INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX STAIRWAY - MORNING

The three slowly make their way down the staircase towards the sound of MOANING zombies.

The MOANING gets LOUDER as the Trio descends the staircase.

ASHLEY We're getting close.

HENRY MORT Yeah, I think they're all at the bottom.

They finally make it to the second floor landing to find a massive amount of Zombies crowded around the exit.

JARED What the fuck are they doing?

HENRY MORT They're trying to get outside. Henry goes to the stairwell window with the other two right behind him.

## ASHLEY What are you thinking?

Outside the window is a landing that covers the entrance below them.

HENRY MORT It doesn't look like any of them are outside yet and my car is right over there (pointing at the parking lot) We should be able to drop down from here pretty easily.

ASHLEY Sounds like a plan.

JARED Are you shitting me? Like we don't have enough ways to die by just going out there in the first place? You guys wanna jump out of a fucking window?

# HENRY MORT

Well, you can walk around the building and try to find a better exit if you want, but me? I'm taking the shortcut.

Henry's smashes out the window with his stick before climbing out onto the landing. Ashley quickly follows.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - CONTINUOUS

HENRY MORT (to Jared) You coming?

Jared sighs deeply.

JARED Yeah, I'm fucking coming. Jared climbs out of the window as Ashley lays down on her stomach and looks over the edge of the landing.

ASHLEY We're clear.

HENRY MORT Alright, let's do it.

JARED Great. Who's going first?

Ashley jumps down without hesitation and lands perfectly on her feet before turning to the guys.

ASHLEY You boys coming, or not?

JARED (to Henry) Where'd you find this chick?

HENRY MORT

The bar.

Henry jumps off landing perfectly as well.

JARED

God damn it.

Jared tosses down his bat before sitting down on the edge of the landing and sliding off it.

He lands on his feet but his momentum takes him forward and he stumbles to the ground.

Jared caresses his new bruises as Henry helps him up.

HENRY MORT You alright?

### JARED

Just great.

The zombies are a mere five feet away struggling to get out the apartment door.

HENRY MORT Alright, off we go. ASHLEY Which one's yours?

HENRY MORT The grey one, right there.

Henry starts patting his pockets down before digging through them.

HENRY MORT

Fuck!

ASHLEY What's wrong?

HENRY MORT I don't have the fucking keys!

JARED You're kidding me, right?

HENRY MORT

I wish.

ASHLEY If we can get inside it I think I can hot wire it.

JARED What, so now your some kind of car thief or something?

ASHLEY Something like that, yeah.

They all take turns trying the doors but they're all locked.

JARED Well shit, let's just break a window or something.

He pulls his bat back ready to bust a window when Henry grabs it and stops him.

HENRY MORT If we smash the window we'll be totally exposed. JARED

Oh, and we're totally safe right now?

HENRY MORT For the time being, yes. But what happens if we get on the open road and those things swarm the car?

JARED So what do we do for a ride then?

ASHLEY Let's try to find one that isn't locked.

Ashley pulls the handle of the car next to Henry's but it's locked so she walks around it trying all four doors before moving on to the next.

GLASS BREAKING can be heard from the entrance of the building and they all turn to see that the Zombies have finally broken through the door.

HENRY MORT

Fuck.

JARED So far this rescue mission really sucks.

ASHLEY (O.S.)

I got one.

Jared and Henry turn to find Ashley hopping into the driver's seat of an old Navy blue station wagon with wood paneling.

JARED No way man, no way in hell am I getting in that thing.

HENRY MORT

Why not?

JARED That's Mrs. Jenkin's car.

HENRY MORT

So?

#### JARED

So!? Have you ever tried breathing and walking past her apartment at the same time? Smells like a dead gorilla just shat out an entire Somalian family covered in old Indian food.

Ashley pops out of the wagon holding a set of keys in one hand and pulling her shirt up over her mouth and nose with the other.

> ASHLEY Can you believe the keys were just sitting on the seat? Smells like ass though.

JARED See? I fuckin' told you.

HENRY MORT You're covered in human blood and brains and you're gonna complain about old woman stench?

JARED Fuck yes! I am not getting in that car.

HENRY MORT (with an impassive shrug) Your choice.

Henry get's in the passenger seat as the Zombies slowly make their way across the parking lot.

JARED

Damn it!

He opens the back door and climbs in.

### JARED

Oh my God.

Jared gags on the smell as he reaches for the handle to roll down the window.

HENRY MORT Hey don't roll that down too far. At least not until we know it's clear. Jared rolls the window up a bit before pulling his shirt up over his face.

Ashley backs the wagon out of the spot and we see that the Zombies are now covering most of the parking lot and heading towards the wagon.

> HENRY MORT (sarcastically) Nice.

## JARED

Great, how are we gonna-

Ashley slams the car in drive and floors it towards the Zombies.

#### JARED

Oh shit!

The car collides with the Zombies and just plows right through them all before hitting the open road.

ASHLEY

Okay, where to?

INT. STANK WAGON - LATER

The trio drives the mostly deserted street with the windows fully down now. Jared is sticking his head as far out the window as he can.

HENRY MORT (to Jared) And you afraid to go outside.

Jared pulls his head back in.

JARED The news made it sound like it was a lot worse. Where do you think they all are?

Jared sticks his head back out the window and sucks in a lung full of air.

### HENRY MORT

Before we left they showed the highway on the news. Traffic was completley stopped and the zombies were just picking them off one by one. My guess is they're all still there.

### JARED

You guys really think they're Zombies?

ASHLEY What else would you call dead people that come back to life and eat the living?

HENRY MORT Holy shit, check that out.

Henry's pointing at an elderly POSTMAN in riot gear rushing to stuff envelopes into mail boxes as a trail of Zombies follow about twenty behind him.

> JARED What the fuck?

ASHLEY Should I stop?

HENRY MORT

Uh, yeah.

She pulls the car to a stop next to The Postman.

HENRY MORT Sir? You know you really shouldn't be out here.

POSTMAN I've got a job to do, son.

Ashley chuckles from the driver's seat.

HENRY MORT I don't think anyone's gonna blame you if you take the day off.

POSTMAN I'm afraid I can't do that. I took an oath. You kids run along though, I'll be okay. JARED

How much do you get paid? Cause I guarantee you this ain't on the list of things covered by hazard pay.

The Zombies are starting to catch up now.

POSTMAN

It's not about the money! I took an oath! This is my life and my life is this!

HENRY MORT Let's keep going.

ASHLEY

You sure?

HENRY MORT

Definitely.

Ashley stops and slams the car in reverse taking out most of the Zombies trailing the Postman before putting it back in drive and taking off down the road.

Jared turns around to see the Postman spraying mace at what's left of the Zombies in vein.

JARED

Fucking moron.

EXT. THE MORT HOUSEHOLD - AFTERNOON

Henry turns the knob and finds it to be unlocked.

HENRY MORT

Figures.

The trio enters the house to find it completely quiet.

HENRY MORT Katie? Katie, are you still here?

KATHERINE MORT (O.C.) Henry, is that you?

Henry rushes to the family room to find Katherine bleeding from the neck on the floor.

A LOUD THUDDING can be heard coming from the bedroom as Henry rushes to Katherine's side. She looks like she's unconscious.

HENRY MORT

Katie?

KATHERINE MORT God, I hate it when you call me that.

HENRY MORT Are you okay?

KATHERINE MORT I don't think so.

HENRY MORT What happened?

KATHERINE MORT I'm not sure. Bob woke up and he just attacked me. He didn't say a word, the just started biting me. I managed to get him in the bedroom and shut the door.

Ashley comes in from the kitchen with a towel and hands it to Henry.

Henry presses the towel to Katherine's wound with tears in his eyes.

HENRY MORT I'm sorry, Katie. I'm just... I should have been here. I'm sorry.

Katherine puts her hand on Henry's cheek.

KATHERINE MORT (getting weak now) I know.

HENRY MORT Where are the girls, Katie?

KATHERINE MORT (barely audible) The fridge.

Henry's confused.

HENRY MORT

What?

Henry doesn't get a response so he shakes her.

### HENRY MORT

## Katherine?

He shakes her once more before accepting that she's dead. He puts his hand over her face, closing her eyes before taking a deep breath and collecting himself.

HENRY MORT Could anyone make out what she just said?

JARED Kinda sounded like "the fridge".

Henry's confused for a second but gets up and rushes to the kitchen as Ashley and Jared follow.

### ASHLEY

Are you okay?

Henry doesn't respond he just starts scanning the fridge until he finds a yellow piece of paper with Lisa's phone number and address.

Henry grabs the phone off the wall and puts it to his ear but it hangs it right back up.

He pulls out his phone and we see a close up of it's screen reading "No Service".

HENRY MORT I guess phones are totally dead now.

ASHLEY I'm not sure but I think this might come in handy.

Henry and Jared turn to see Ashley grabbing a gun off the refrigerator.

JARED Your wife keeps a gun?

HENRY MORT It's probably her Fiance's. He's a cop.

Ashley pulls out the clip and examines it before sliding it back into place.

JARED How'd you know how to do that? HENRY MORT I forgot about that part.

Henry sighs deeply as he pulls out his stick and moves forward but Ashley grabs his arm.

ASHLEY (holding up the gun) I'll do it.

Henry doesn't respond he just lowers his stick and turns his back.

Ashley fires a single shot through Katherine's skull before tucking the gun into her pants.

HENRY MORT Alright, let's go.

ASHLEY Are you sure you're okay?

HENRY MORT

Yeah let's go.

Just before they can get to the front door they hear the bedroom door BREAKING DOWN.

HENRY MORT

God damn it.

Henry and Ashley both make for the living room to find BOB stumbling towards them.

Ashley starts to pull the gun back out but Henry stops her.

HENRY MORT I got this one.

1 900 0000 0000

Henry steps up and bashes Bob over the head with his stick. Bob goes down but Henry continues to beat on his until his head is basically pulp.

He finally lets up before getting to his feet and brushing past the other two.

He get's to the front door as the now zombified Postman darkens it.

Henry swings the stick again and crushes the Postman's skull in one fell swoop before heading out the door as if unfazed.

Ashley quickly follows after him and Jared kind of trails behind shaking his head as he looks over the mailman's corpse.

JARED Fucking moron.

EXT. LISA'S HOME - DAY

Henry pounds on the door before ringing the doorbell but doesn't get a response so he pounds again.

JARED Looks like nobody's home. What do we do no-

## HENRY MORT

Shut up.

We can hear muffled talking through the door.

LISA (0.C.) He's just looking for his daughters, Dad!

There's silence for a moment until the door swings open and a very large man is now standing in front of the Trio.

LISA'S DAD They aren't here.

HENRY MORT Do you know where they are?

LISA'S DAD Not a clue, haven't seen your girls in almost a week.

## HENRY MORT

A week?

Lisa pushes past her Dad and into the doorway.

LISA'S DAD They're probably at Sam and Ted's.

Henry just shrugs his shoulders.

HENRY MORT I have no idea who they are.

LISA Their boyfriends.

Henry cringes a bit.

HENRY MORT Do you have an address?

LISA Yeah, just a second.

INT. STANK WAGON - DAY

The trio drives down the nearly deserted street once again.

RADIO DJ (V.O.) Folks we're about to go off the air for awhile but we strongly urge you to keep your radio tuned right here to 85.2 The Ledge as we present an extended block of commercial free music to hold you over until those evacuation procedures are released.

JARED Ten bucks says that fuck's already out the door.

Outside Zombies are pounding on the sides of house trying to break through windows.

Every now and then some will turn when they hear the car's engine and try to follow it only to give up and return to the houses.

ASHLEY It's getting worse out there.

### HENRY MORT

Yeah.

EXT. THE WILLIAMS' HOME - DAY

Ashley pulls the car to a stop on the road outside the house. The yard is surrounded by a chain link fence and five Zombies trying to figure out a way around it. HENRY MORT I think it's that one but I can't see the numbers.

The Zombies turn away from the fence and start advancing on the car.

Henry gets out and whacks four of them before Ashley get's around the wagon and takes out the last one.

Jared finally get out and the three make their way up to the front door where Henry knocks as hard as he can.

TED (O.S.) What the fuck was that?

MELANIE MORT (O.S.) I think it was the front door. Did you invite anyone?

INT. THE WILLIAMS' HOME - CONTINUOUS

MELANIE MORT (16) and TED (18) are sitting on the couch in the living room.

The two are frozen in place listening for the sound again. Ted is holding a still lit and smoking bong in his right hand when Henry, Ashley and Jared enter the house.

#### MELANIE MORT

Dad?

Ted quickly tries to hide the bong.

HENRY MORT Where's your sister?

MELANIE MORT Upstairs. What the hell are you doing here? Is that blood?

HENRY MORT Yeah, are you both okay? Have either of you been bitten?

MELANIE MORT We... Did you just ask if I'd been bitten?

Henry grabs the television remote and begins flipping through the static filled channels.

## MELANIE MORT

Jesus Christ, Dad, are you drunk? Because you know Mom's already this close to having your parental rights revoked.

## HENRY MORT I'm not drunk, just wait a second.

Henry finally finds a station that's still working.

The channel is showing more helicopter footage of the zombies attacking the traffic jam on the highway.

This time the Zombies clearly out number the living as they rip and chew apart the flesh of people trying to evacuate.

> SEANNA SUMMERS -appears as if there's no stopping this deadly virus as it continues to sweep the continent.

The camera zooms in on a family being ripped out of a minivan and eaten alive.

TED WILLIAMS Oh shit dude, leave it here I've never seen this one!

HENRY MORT This is the news! This is happening for real less than a mile away!

TED WILLIAMS (more excited than scared) No fucking way!

FOOTSTEPS can be heard coming down the steps. Henry turns to see TIFFANY MORT (18) and TED WILLIAMS (18) walking down the steps with ERICA (17) trailing behind them.

TIFFANY MORT Dad? What are you doing here?

ASHLEY How can you guys know absolutely nothing about what's going on?

TED WILLIAMS (to Sam) There's fucking zombies out there man! ERICA (to Melanie) How baked is he?

MELANIE MORT Very, but it's true, look.

Melanie points to the TV and everyone huddles around it, staring in shock for a moment.

SAM WILLIAMS This can't be real.

ASHLEY Trust me, it is.

Henry's looking out the window at three Zombies shaking the fence in unison trying to knock it over.

TIFFANY MORT So you like, came here to warn us or something?

SAM WILLIAMS What's wrong with here?

Before Henry can even respond the sound of GLASS SHATTERING is heard across the house.

HENRY MORT It's not safe.

Henry and Ashley go to investigate and find two zombies have broken into the dining room through a sliding glass door.

They dispatch the zombies pretty quickly and everyone except Jared and Ted follow them after them.

MELANIE MORT Where *is* safe then?

HENRY MORT There's an abandoned prison in Fairibault being use as a shelter.

MELANIE MORT

But how are-

HENRY MORT

Look, you can ask all the questions you want once we're on the road but right now we've gotta get going. (to Ashley) HENRY MORT(cont'd) Can you get the car and put it in the garage?

### ASHLEY

Sure.

HENRY MORT (to Sam) Do your parents have any guns in the house?

SAM WILLIAMS

Oh yeah.

HENRY MORT Great, I need you to get all the guns and ammo they've got and bring it all to the garage.

Sam heads back to the living room.

HENRY MORT Ladies, I need you three to go to the kitchen and gather up as much food as you can. Preferably things in cans.

The girls head towards the kitchen as Henry cautiously walks through the sliding glass door to the backyard.

### EXT. THE WILLIAMS' BACKYARD - DAY

He spots an open gate in the fence and heads to close it. He slams the gate shut and flips the latch before turning back to the house.

As he turns he gets a nasty dizzy spell and has to lean on his hockey stick to keep from falling.

INT. THE WILLIAMS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jared and Ted sit on the couch watching the news and smoking the bong when Henry walks in.

## JARED You need me to do anything?

Henry takes the bong from him and points out the front window.

HENRY MORT Just keep an eye on the front yard. Make sure they don't get past that fence.

Henry takes a hit off the bong before handing it back to Jared and leaving for the garage.

TED WILLIAMS So what's the deal with the lesbian?

JARED I don't know exactly, but do not let her hear you call her that.

EXT. THE WILLIAMS' HOME - DAY

The William's garage is about twenty feet from the rest of the house and seemingly Zombie free as Henry makes his way to the front.

INT. THE WILLIAMS' GARAGE

Ashley opens up the wagon's rear hatch and pulls her shirt over her mouth.

ASHLEY Ugh, I think it's even worse back here.

Sam enters the garage carrying a large bag in both hands.

HENRY MORT How'd you do?

SAM WILLIAMS Four rifles and five pistols. There's only a few boxes of ammo though, Dad must have been out shooting recently. I just need to make one more trip and I'll have it all.

HENRY MORT Good work, go ahead and toss that in the wagon.

ASHLEY Just a second, I think there's something under the blanket. Ashley pulls the blanket out of the back of the wagon to reveal eleven dead cats spread out across the back. HENRY MORT ASHLEY What the fuck? Jesus.

All of the cats are in different stages of decomposition.

SAM WILLIAMS Where the hell did you guys get this thing?

HENRY MORT (to Sam) Go get that ammo, we'll take care of the cats.

ASHLEY By "we" you mean "you", right?

## HENRY MORT

Yeah.

Sam turns to leave but freezes in his tracks.

SAM WILLIAMS (pointing at the driveway) Holy shit!

Henry turns around to see an ELDERLY ZOMBIE half way up the driveway.

Ashley pulls out Bob's gun and starts towards the Zombie but Henry stops her.

HENRY MORT

Hold on.

He holds his hockey stick out to Sam.

HENRY MORT Hit him in the head as hard as you can.

SAM WILLIAMS Are you serious?

HENRY MORT Gotta learn sometime.

Sam drops his bag of guns and grabs the stick with trembling hands before slowly approaching the Zombie.

When he gets close enough he takes a hard swing and crushes the Elderly Zombie's skull.

SAM WILLIAMS

Whoa.

He walks back to the garage and holds the stick out to Henry.

HENRY MORT Nice job. Go get that ammo and we should be ready to leave here pretty soon. Push that button on your way out too.

Sam heads for the garage's small door and pushes the button next it as he exits, closing the large door.

Tiffany, Melanie, and Erica enter a few seconds later, each with a paper grocery bag full of food.

Henry inspects one of the bags.

HENRY MORT Perfect. Good job ladies. Set them down next to the car and we should be ready to go in a few minutes.

Henry goes to the back of the garage and begins searching the counter tops and drawers.

TIFFANY MORT Well, why don't we just pack them in the-

Tiffany spots the dead cats in the back, drops her bag and screams her head off.

The other two girls look through the back windows and react the same as Tiffany.

ERICA Oh my God! Are those dead cats?

Henry finds a pair of gardening gloves and puts them on before opening a trash can in the far corner of the garage and heading back to the wagon.

HENRY MORT

Yep.

MELANIE MORT Why are they in the back of your station wagon? Henry goes back to the wagon and picks one of the cats up by the tail.

## HENRY MORT

It's not mine. We kind of stole it.

He tosses the cat at the garbage can and it bounces off one wall before smacking the other and dropping into the trash can with a THUD.

## MELANIE MORT

From who?

HENRY MORT Remember that crazy old Mrs. Jenkins that lives in my building?

Henry tosses another cat with another round of sick THUDS.

### MELANIE MORT

No.

HENRY MORT Well, it's hers.

Henry stops throwing cats for a second.

HENRY MORT Can you guys do me one more favor?

TIFFANY MORT

Sure.

ERICA Anything to get away from this.

HENRY MORT I need you guys to find me a clean blanket and as many air fresheners as you can find.

Melanie and Erica start to leave until the realize that Tiffany stayed behind.

TIFFANY MORT

Dad?

HENRY MORT

Yeah?

He picks up another cat by the tail.

TIFFANY MORT We're gonna stop at Mom's before we leave for the prison, right?

Henry tosses the cat but it slides out of his hand as the cat's fur slides off it's tail. The cat lands way short of the trash can and hits the cement with a THWACK before sliding and THUDDING into the side of the can.

There's a brief awkward silence as Henry takes off the gloves and sets them down next to the remaining cats.

> ASHLEY (to Erica) Why don't we go get those air fresheners.

They exit quickly and Henry's daughters move closer to him with worried looks on their faces.

HENRY MORT I've already been to your mother's place today.

MELANIE MORT

And...?

HENRY MORT She'd already been bitten by the time I got there.

TIFFANY MORT So like, she's at the hospital now?

HENRY MORT

No.

Melanie steps in closer.

MELANIE MORT What, so you just left her there? What's wrong with you? How could you-

Henry grabs Melanie by the shoulders.

HENRY MORT Melanie, listen to me.

She struggles to get free and Henry just lets her go.

### HENRY MORT

Just listen! Once one of these things bites somebody they're infected. Eventually they die and become one of them. There was nothing I could do for her.

Tiffany's in a state of semi-shock as she tries to come to terms with what she's been told.

TIFFANY MORT What about Bob?

HENRY MORT He was infected too.

TIFFANY MORT So you...? They're both...?

HENRY MORT They're both dead.

Tiffany's eyes begin to well up with tears as Sam gets back to the garage with five boxes of ammo.

SAM WILLIAMS This is all I could find. It's not much but all the guns are loaded already.

Ashley rushes into the garage carrying a blanket with Erica right behind her holding a box of cleaning products.

ASHLEY They broke through the fence.

HENRY MORT

How many?

ASHLEY Between ten and fifteen.

Jared and Ted finally wander into the garage baked as hell.

Jared's still carrying the bong and now Ted is eating a bag of sour cream and onion chips.

JARED (to Henry) Dude, they got past the fence.

HENRY MORT

Thanks.

Jared spots the dead cat next to the garbage can.

JARED Are those dead cats?

HENRY MORT

Yeah.

JARED I knew that bitch was crazy!

Henry puts the gloves back on quick and takes what's left of the cats to the trash as he gives orders.

## HENRY MORT Alright, I need you guys to get the car sprayed with everything you've got in that box there, then put the blanket down over the floor in the back and load it up. Try and leave enough room for two people to sit back there though, space is gonna be tight.

Henry takes the gloves off and tosses them in the trash.

## HENRY MORT Me and Ashley are gonna go out front to buy us some time and clear a path. Now, who here knows how to get to Fairibault?

Everyone stares at him blankly.

JARED (O.S.)

I do.

Everyone turns to Jared who has a huge billow of smoke pouring out his nose.

HENRY MORT

You sure?

## JARED Yeah. My Grandpa used to live in Fairibault. We used to go up there all the time.

HENRY MORT You know where the prison is?

JARED

Yeah.

#### HENRY MORT

Alright, you're driving. When the car's all loaded up get everyone in and pick us up outside. Make sure you leave the back hatch open so we can get in quick.

Henry pulls out three pistols and hands one to Ashley.

JARED

Cool.

HENRY MORT (to Ashley) You ready?

ASHLEY Sure. (to Jared) Here.

She pulls the car keys out of her pocket and tosses them to Jared who completely misses them.

EXT. WILLIAMS' HOME - DAY

Henry and Ashley make their way around to the front of the garage with guns at the ready.

ASHLEY You sure he's going to be able to drive?

HENRY MORT He'll be fine.

They stop right in front of the garage and begin opening fire on the zombies heading up the driveway.

They shoot until their out of ammo then pull out their sticks and begin crushing skulls until the garage door opens.

## ASHLEY

About time.

When the door finally opens all the way Jared rolls the wagon out and Henry and Ashley hop into the back of it side by side.

## INT. STANK WAGON - CONTINUOUS

Henry slams the hatch shut.

HENRY MORT Alright, we're in. We need to stop and pick up some ammo before we get to far out of town.

JARED Cool. I know just the place.

Jared squeels the wagon out of the driveway and down the road.

INT. STANK WAGON - DAY

Henry is fast asleep and sweating profusely in the back of the wagon.

A hand reaches out and bumps him on the shoulder waking him up.

We see Henry's point of view now as a zombified Ashley lunges in at his neck.

Henry tries to fight her off when he realizes that everyone in the wagon is a zombie now too. All of them are crawling over the seats trying to get a piece of Henry.

Henry pulls out a gun and fires it at Ashley.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. STANK WAGON - DAY

Henry snaps back awake for real this time sweating even worse than he was in the dream.

Ashley startles awake next to him.

ASHLEY

You okay?

HENRY MORT Yeah, justa bad dream.

ASHLEY You look like shit. Henry wipes the sweat from his face.

HENRY MORT I guess that hangover's finally starting to get the best of me.

The car pulls to a stop.

JARED We're here.

EXT. GUN A LIQOUR DEPOT - CONTINUOUS

Everyone piles out of the car and takes a deep breath of fresh air. A few Zombies roam the huge parking lot.

ASHLEY Wait, so this place is a gun shop and a liquor store?

JARED Beautiful isn't it?

ASHLEY I thought they only had these things in Alabama?

HENRY MORT (to Sam and Ted) Can you two handle the ammo?

SAM WILLIAMS

Yeah.

The two head off for the gun shop.

ASHLEY I'm gonna pick up a few things too.

She trails after the boys.

JARED I'm gonna go raid the liqour store.

HENRY MORT (to the girls) You three stay here. (points at the parking lot Zombies) If those guys get past that sign before we get out come straight in and get me. ERICA So, it's pretty much the end of the world, we could be eaten alive at any time, and you guys are making a beer run.

MELANIE MORT (sarcastically up-beat) Oh, didn't I tell you? My Dad's a full blown alcoholic.

HENRY MORT Just stay with the wagon.

Henry follows Jared into the liqour store as Erica searches her pockets.

ERICA Damn it. Do either of you have a cigarette I can bum?

The other two check their pockets before Tiffany pulls out a pack.

TIFFANY MORT I've got one left.

MELANIE MORT We could share it?

ERICA

Sure.

Tiffany lights the smoke, takes a drag and passes it on to Melanie.

ERICA (exhaling) Well, like everyone is kinda freaked out, ya know? But your Dad's just all like: "We need to do this" and "We should do that". It's almost like he's been planning for this, ya know?

MELANIE MORT I know, it's kinda creepy, right?

TIFFANY MORT Well, this is pretty much what he used to do for a living. ERICA He used to fight zombies for a living?

TIFFANY MORT No, but he was born and raised to be a military man. Before he was discharged his job was to teach Army Rangers how to survive in enemy territory.

Erica is handed the cigarette again and takes another drag.

ERICA Screw this I'm gonna go grab a couple cartons from in there.

She hands the cigarette to Tiffany and heads for the tobacco shop next to the gun/liquor store.

She enters the building as a white truck covered in blood squeals into the parking lot.

The truck slows down as it approaches a pack of zombies until the passenger sticks his head out the window and shoots each of them in the head.

The truck peels out once all the Zombies have been killed.

INT. TOBACCO SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Erica tries to reach above the counter to grab some cigarettes but is too short.

She puts her knee on the counter to try and climb up and knocks a glass jar of beef jerky off the counter.

It hits the floor and shatters, scaring the shit out of Erica and causing her to scream before she realizes what happened.

### ERICA God damn it!

INT. GUN SHOP - DAY

Ashley is loading pistols and stuffing them into the waist of her pants before she spots a row of holsters.

Sam and Ted are on the other end of the store filling a shopping cart with various rifles and boxes of ammo.

INT. TOBACCO SHOP - DAY

Erica is on her knees now on the counter top pulling out packs of cigarettes and stuffing them into the pockets of her hooded sweatshirt.

She drops a pack on the floor and looks down when she hears it SPLASH.

She screams again when she looks down to see the STORE CLERK is lying in a thick pool of his own blood with a shotgun in what's left of his mouth.

Erica hops off the counter quickly and backs into a Zombie who takes a bite out of her neck. She screams again.

She tries to fight off the Zombie but two more show up and pull her off screen.

INT. LIQOUR STORE - DAY

Henry opens the freezer and pulls out two bags of ice as Jared sets down a cooler.

JARED So, where'd you meet the dyke?

Henry hands one of the bags to Jared.

HENRY MORT She's not a lesbian. Me and Mark picked her and a friend up last night at the bar.

They both rip open their bags and pour them into the cooler full of beer.

JARED Wow, so you hit that?

HENRY MORT No, we passed out before anything happened.

They each grab a handle on the cooler and head for the door.

JARED So where's the other one?

HENRY MORT She's the one that turned Mark. JARED

Talk about a questionable hook up.

EXT. GUN AND LIQOUR DEPOT - CONTINUOUS

They both chuckle a bit until they turn to see the bloody white truck with two tough looking middle aged men in it.

It's the same truck that pulled the drive by on the Zombies earlier.

THE PASSENGER (to Tiffany and Melanie) You ladies sure you don't need a ride somewhere? We got plenty of room and I promise me and Frank here'll take real good care of ya.

HENRY MORT Something I can help you with?

THE PASSENGER notices Henry for the first time.

THE PASSENGER I don't think so. I was just offering to escort these pretty ladies to somewhere safer.

HENRY MORT They got a ride.

The Passenger chuckles a bit at the cooler full of beer.

THE PASSENGER I see you boys care about the essentials.

HENRY MORT

Yep.

THE PASSENGER

Same here.

The Passenger lifts his arm a bit to reveal he's had a pistol in his hand the whole time.

A SHOTGUN COCKS off camera and everyone turns to see Ashley aiming it straight at The Passenger's head.

The Passenger lowers the gun without hesitation.

THE PASSENGER Hey, hey, hey, we're all on the same side here!

Henry and Jared set the beer in the back of the wagon.

HENRY MORT You guys on your way to the prison?

THE PASSENGER The Fairibault Prison?

HENRY MORT

Yeah.

THE PASSENGER Fuck now! I'll shove this pistol up my ass and empty the clip before I go back there.

HENRY MORT So, you're just gonna wander the street until you run out of gas?

THE PASSENGER Something like that.

HENRY MORT Well, good luck with that.

THE PASSENGER Yeah, you too. (to Frank) Let's get the fuck outta here, man.

The truck roars off out of the parking lot.

Ashley lowers the shotgun and Henry finally notices all the different kind of gun holsters she's wearing.

HENRY MORT You run into any trouble in there?

ASHLEY No, the place is deserted. Doesn't look like it's been raided yet either.

HENRY MORT Same with the liqour store. You almost got everything you need? ASHLEY Yeah, I've just got to make one more trip.

HENRY MORT Make sure you bring the brothers with you when you come back. Looks like all the noise those guys made drew some attention.

Ashley looks around and notices there are quite a few more Zombies entering the lot before she rushes off to the gun shop.

> JARED I'm gonna go pick up a couple bottles, you want anything?

HENRY MORT Jack and a flask if you can find one.

Jared hurries off to the liqour store.

Henry finally notices that Erica is not with the wagon.

HENRY MORT (to the girls) Where's your friend?

Tiffany points to the Tobacco Shop next to the gun shop.

TIFFANY MORT She went to get smokes.

HENRY MORT

Get in the car.

Henry pulls one of the rifles out of the wagon and begins firing on the closest Zombies when Sam and Ted come rushing out of the gun shop with a cart full of guns and ammo.

> HENRY MORT I need one of you to start stuffing ammo under the seats and the other to go inside and find Jared so we can get the hell out of here.

Ted wheels the cart up to the side of the wagon and begins handing boxes into the girls who stuff them under the seats.

Sam heads towards the liqour store as Henry makes his way to the tobacco shop with a pistol in hand now.

INT. TOBACCO SHOP - DAY

He enters the tobacco shop gun in hand to find three zombies eating Erica.

He draws his pistol and places three bullets in each skull before standing over Erica's body.

She's now missing a leg and both arms. Most of her torso is as well. Henry aims the rifle at her.

## HENRY MORT Sorry about this.

The front door swings open and scares the crap out of Henry who turns with his rifle at the ready.

JARED Easy, it's just me.

Henry hesitates before lowering his weapon and Jared steps in closer staring at what's left of Erica.

Ashley rushes into the shop behind Jared with a rifle in hand.

## ASHLEY Everyone okay?

# JARED

Not exactly.

Henry notices the television behind the counter is showing the same aerial shot of the highway only now it's all Zombies and most of them have left the road.

He walks around the counter and turns up the volume.

SEANNA SUMMERS Tom, if you had to guess, how many infected people would you say are down there now?

TOM RUCKER (V.O.) Well Seanna, I would say that at least a hundred have already left the highway headed east, but it looks like there might still be close to two hundred or so, not including the one locked inside vehicles.

## TOM RUCKER(cont'd)

One thing's for certain Sally, and that is that there are no survivors left.

HENRY MORT They're coming straight for us. We gotta hit the road before they block it.

He walks between Ashley and Jared out the door as Ashley takes in the scene on the television.

Erica's red hooded sweatshirt is torn apart and packs of cigarettes and beef jerky are scattered about it.

Jared crouches down near Erica's body and takes a few packs of cigarettes and a hand full of jerky.

JARED Ya know, if we took a picture of this it'd make one hell of an antismoking ad.

Ashley sighs in disgust as she exits the tobacco shop.

JARED What? Too soon?

EXT. GUN AND LIQOUR DEPOT - DAY

Henry arrives at the Stank Wagon while Ted is still unloading ammo into it. Sam is firing off shots at Zombies that are now coming around the side of the building.

Ashley hurries to the stank wagon arriving just before Jared.

There's only three Zombies left but more are beginning to approach from across the parking lot.

HENRY MORT (to Jared) Get in the car and get it started. (to the brothers) You guys get in too.

Sam kills one more before he finally gets in the car. Henry and Ashley finish off the last two.

Henry tosses the last few ammo boxes in the back and both he and Ashley hop in and shut the hatch.

INT. STANK WAGON - CONTINUOUS

The back of the wagon is considerably more cramped now.

JARED (chewing on beef jerky) Everybody in?

HENRY MORT

Yep.

#### JARED

Away we go.

Jared peels out of the parking lot leaving the crowd of Zombies in the dust.

Henry pulls two beers out of the cooler and holds one up to Ashley.

HENRY MORT

Thirsty?

ASHLEY

Hell yes.

INT. STANK WAGON - LATER

Henry and Ashley are sitting side by side facing each other in the back of the wagon drinking beers. Melanie is crying on Ted's chest while Sam rides shotgun.

## TED WILLIAMS

I don't get why we're running. We just took out like thirty of them back there in a couple minutes. At that rate we could wipe'em all out before the sun even sets.

JARED

(still eating his jerky) That's what I'm talking about.

HENRY MORT

Actually, we took out seventeen, and at least fifty on their way into the parking lot with close to three hundred more coming in from the highway. HENRY MORT(cont'd)

Even if we did survive until night fall all the gun fire would have drawn thousands of them to us. We'd be dead by morning.

Ashley gives Henry a curious look.

HENRY MORT

What?

ASHLEY Why did you really get discharged?

HENRY MORT I told you last night.

ASHLEY Yeah, but I don't buy it.

HENRY MORT Which part is it that you don't buy?

### ASHLEY

The fact that you've remained calm and level headed today, after all you've been through but you somehow managed to have a nervous breakdown while serving in North Carolina.

Henry grabs two beers and hands one to Ashley.

## HENRY MORT

It wasn't a nervous breakdown. It was just a matter of too much booze and too little to do.

ASHLEY

So when you're bored and drunk you shit in people's boots?

### HENRY MORT

Well, not always. Sometimes it's their boots, sometime it's hats, sometimes it's their pillow case. It just depends on what's closest.

They both chuckle a bit.

HENRY MORT What about you?

ASHLEY What about me?

### HENRY MORT

What's your story? I can't see I've ever seen a school teacher handle a gun the way you do.

ASHLEY I used to be a cop.

#### HENRY MORT

No shit? How'd you decide to make the jump from police to teacher?

## ASHLEY

It's actually not as big of a jump as you'd think. But, I don't know, I guess I just never really anticipated that the job would be as boring as it was. The days can get pretty dull when you're policing a population of less than a thousand.

## HENRY MORT

I suppose.

# ASHLEY

I mean, my biggest bust in three years was when I got a guy for going forty-five in a thirty-five with an open container.

They both start laughing but Henry cuts it off short when he hears that the radio has stopped playing music and a DJ is now speaking.

HENRY MORT Jared, turn that up.

The DJ, DAN, sounds as if he hasn't slept in days.

## DJ DAN

...internet seems to be the only reliable source of information right now and even that's a bit shady to be honest. If you've still got a working internet connection I'd recommend checking out Zday630.blogspot.com. For those of you who don't have access to a computer here's a rundown of what's going on in the Twin Cities and surrounding areas.

### ASHLEY

Damn, we should have checked the computers in the stores.

## DJ DAN

First and foremost let's run down the updated list of secure fallout shelters or "Safety Zones" as the TV was calling them. It seems that active and safe shelters are hard to come by in the area, but as of right now it seems that both the Target Center and the Excel Energy Center remain secure. Anyone headed to the Fairibault Prison should turn around now. We've gotten word that the facility is no longer secure and it's former occupants are now leaving in droves.

### HENRY MORT

Fuck!

# DJ DAN

Based on what I'm reading it sounds like security wasn't as tight as it should have been and infected citizens were being let into the prison, allowing rapid and massive outbreak to occur.

JARED Fuck, what do we do now?

Henry pulls a road map out of his back pocket.

HENRY MORT Just stay on this road, I'll figure something out.

ASHLEY Where'd you get a map?

HENRY MORT The tobacco shop.

#### EXT. STANK WAGON - CONTINUOUS

The Wagon reaches the top of a hill giving it's occupants a clear view of the road ahead which is full of cars heading towards them in both lanes.

JARED

Fuck!

HENRY MORT (pointing to the next intersection) What does that sign say, what road is it?

Everyone squints as they whizz past the road.

TIFFANY MORT Aberdeen Trail.

Henry scans the map again.

HENRY MORT Alright, take the second left.

JARED

I don't think we're gonna make it, man. Those fuckers turned this into a one way street.

HENRY MORT Well, it's our best bet so do what you can.

They hit the peak of another hill to see the oncoming cars are even closer.

TIFFANY MORT Oh my God! Look!

Everyone turns to Tiffany to see her pointing at hundreds of Zombies off in the distance to the Wagon's right.

#### SAM WILLIAMS

Holy shit!

Jared puts the pedal to the floor and the Stank Wagon barrels back down the hill closing the gap between them and the oncoming traffic.

They pass the first left as the train of oncoming traffic is only a few seconds away from blocking their turn.

> TED WILLIAMS Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck!

JARED Hang on to something! Almost everyone in the Stank Wagon is screaming as it tears through the corn for a moment before reconnecting with the road.

#### JARED

(clearly shaken) So uh, what now? Where are we going?

# HENRY MORT

There should be a small neighborhood up the road. Keep your eyes peeled for any house with two stories that looks like it might be empty.

#### MELANIE MORT

Wait, so you pulled us out of a perfectly safe home and dragged us half way across the state just to hide in a different house?

# HENRY MORT

First of all the house we came from was far from safe. I don't know if you remember but those things were all but breaking down the doors when we left.

### MELANIE MORT

So how are you gonna to make a different house any safer?

# HENRY MORT

We have more time. Those Zombies we just saw are at least a ten or fifteen minute drive away from where we're stopping. As slow as they walk we should have at least an hour to board up a house.

#### TED WILLIAMS

What happens if we get to this place and it's swarming with Zombies?

#### HENRY MORT

Chances are any Zombies that used to live anywhere near here are with the ones headed towards us. The stank Wagon is slowly creeping through the seemingly deserted suburban neighborhood as everyone inside is scanning for "the perfect house".

INT. STANK WAGON - CONTINUOUS

JARED How about that one?

HENRY MORT

No.

TIFFANY MORT What about that one?

HENRY MORT

No.

MELANIE MORT What exactly are we looking for again?

MELANIE MORT What exactly are we looking for again?

HENRY MORT A two story house with a wooden fence in the backyard.

JARED What if we can't find one?

Henry is about to respond when he sees an Army soldier in a nearby front yard out of the corner of his eye.

He jerks around to get a better look but the soldier's gone.

ASHLEY

What is it?

HENRY MORT Did you see that?

ASHLEY

What?

HENRY MORT The guy in the uniform with the big gun. You didn't see him?

ASHLEY

Um, no.

JARED You guys find one?

HENRY MORT (turned around pointing) He was in that yard, right over there.

Everyone's turned around and looking at Henry now.

ASHLEY Are you sure you're feeling okay?

HENRY MORT I'm the only one that saw him?

SAM WILLIAMS

I think so.

TED WILLIAMS I didn't see shit.

Just then a group of five Army Rangers appear in front of the wagon.

HENRY MORT Jared look out!

Jared tuns back to the road just in time to jerk the wheel hard to the left and avoid the soldiers.

The Wagon swerves past the Army men and connects with the front of an abandoned sports car before flipping on it's side.

INT. STANK WAGON - EVENING

Henry snaps awake from another fever dream.

ASHLEY Jesus Christ, you scared the shit out of me!

HENRY MORT

Sorry.

Ashley gives Henry a worried look as he turns back around.

ASHLEY You look like shit.

HENRY MORT I feel like shit. Just hoping we find a house with some aspirin.

SAM WILLIAMS Hey, how about this house?

Sam is pointing at a two story house with a high wooden fence around the backyard. The garage is open and empty.

HENRY MORT Looks perfect. Let's go see if anyone's home.

INT. SAFE HOUSE GARAGE - EVENING

Jared pulls the Wagon to a stop and everyone piles out of it.

HENRY MORT Alright, here's the plan. It looks like this place is pretty much empty but just to be sure Ashley and I are gonna go check it out.

SAM WILLIAMS Wouldn't it be faster if we split up and had everyone search?

HENRY MORT

Yeah, you're right. Um, you and your brother take the basement, me and Ashley will take the upstairs then we'll all meet up and do the floor together.

JARED What about me?

HENRY MORT

Stay here with the girls. Check out all these cabinets and see what they've got for tools. Hammers, nails, crowbars. Just gather up anything that looks useful. Henry and Ashley cautiously make their way down the hall with their pistols pointed forward.

#### ASHLEY

Jesus.

Henrys is startled for a moment until he realizes Ashley is reacting to something outside.

He stands next to her and sees that way off in the distance the Zombie Army has reached the train of traffic they so narrowly avoided earlier and caused a traffic jam.

> HENRY MORT Well, that should buy us some time.

Just then there's a banging on the door at the end of the hall.

INT. SAFE HOUSE BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Ted reach the bottom of the stair case to find a long dark hallway. Sam flips on the light switch but the bulb just pops and burns out.

SAM WILLIAMS Check the laundry room, I'll check this room.

Ted ducks into the laundry room as Sam makes his way down to the next door.

He kicks open the door and is about to enter when he hears a noise at the end of the hallway.

INT. SAFE HOUSE UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

All in one fluid motion Henry kicks open the door and Ashley fires a single shot through the skull of an Adult Male Zombie.

Henry continues into the room to find it empty.

HENRY MORT All clear in here, but I really doubt this guy lived alone. Ashley picks a framed picture up off the night stand and shows it to Henry. The picture shows the man, his wife, two young twin girls, and a teenage son.

#### ASHLEY

I think you're right.

INT. SAFE HOUSE BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sam continues on down the hallway with his gun ready until he sees two little girls with there backs turned to him trying to claw their way up the wall and out the window.

SAM WILLIAMS Hey Ted, get out here there's two of them. They're young, like maybe six or seven.

The little girls turn around at the sound of Sam's voice and begin walking towards him as Ted finally emerges from the laundry room holding a cardboard box in both hands.

> TED WILLIAMS Dude, check it out! I found a whole box full of fireworks!

Ted gets to the door that Sam had just kicked open when he notices the little girls and stops dead in his tracks.

# TED WILLIAMS Holy shit! It's the Olsen twins!

Before Sam can respond an Adult Female Zombie stumbles out of the open doorway and attacks Ted taking a huge chunk of flesh from his right cheek.

#### SAM WILLIAMS

TED!

Ted pulls himself free and falls to the ground as Sam fires a shot killing the Zombie.

Sam makes his way towards Ted as he raises a pistol to his own temple.

SAM WILLIAMS Ted don't. We can-

There's a loud bang as a pink mist sprays out of the back of Ted's head. He falls lifeless to the ground as Sam stares in shock and horror. The twins continue to approach Sam and he shoots them each in the head without thinking.

Henry and Ashley come storming down the stairs ready to shoot only to find Sam on his knees and sobbing over Ted's body.

> ASHLEY Oh my god! What happened?

SAM WILLIAMS We got distracted.

Jared finally comes rushing down the stairs.

JARED We heard shots from the garage and thought you guys could use some-(he spots Ted on the floor) Oh.

Everyone stays motionless for a moment taking in the scene. Henry turns and heads back up the stairs with Ashley and Jared trailing close behind.

INT. SAFE HOUSE MAIN FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

ASHLEY

What now?

HENRY MORT We're gonna have to get to work if we're gonna get this place boarded up in time. (to Jared) What'd you find for tools?

JARED Four hammers, two crowbars and a shit load of nails. Oh, and a nail gun.

INT. SAFE HOUSE GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Tiffany and Melanie are waiting anxiously when the Trio enters the garage.

TIFFANY MORT What happened?

It's Ted.

### MELANIE MORT

No!

Melanie rushes passed and into the house already in tears. Tiffany takes a moment to study Henry's face coming to terms with what she's about to see before following her sister.

Henry silently walks to a small door that leads to the backyard and opens it.

# ASHLEY

What's the plan?

He takes a moment soaking in the details of the yard.

# HENRY MORT

We climb into the neighbor's yard, take apart their fence and use the wood to board up the doors and windows.

ASHLEY Sounds like a plan.

HENRY MORT You two go ahead and get started on that I'll be right back. And be careful.

ASHLEY Where are you going?

HENRY MORT Downstairs.

INT. SAFE HOUSE BASEMENT - EVENING

Melanie and Sam are on the floor each holding one of Ted's hands and crying. Tiffany sits alone on a couch with an empty expression on her face.

Henry reaches the bottom of the stairs with a crowbar in hand.

### HENRY MORT

I know how hard this is on you all, I mean, this has been one really fucked up day for everybody, but we could really use all the help we can get up there.

MELANIE MORT What? You want us to just go on like nothing happened?

Sam stands up, wipes away the tears and turns to Henry.

SAM WILLIAMS What do you need me to do?

HENRY MORT (holding out the crowbar) Take this and start pulling out the steps on the staircase upstairs. Pull the nails out then put the steps back where they belong.

Sam takes the crowbar and heads upstairs. Tiffany gets up off the couch and follows him up Henry and Melanie alone.

> MELANIE MORT Why is this happening?

HENRY MORT I don't know, baby.

MELANIE MORT He's already so cold.

Henry's heart breaks.

HENRY MORT Why don't you come upstairs with the rest of us?

MELANIE MORT I want to stay here.

HENRY MORT I just don't think you should be alone down here.

MELANIE MORT Well, we've been relying on what you think all day and look how good that's turned out. Henry doesn't respond he just walks over to where the twins are laying on the ground and picks them up, tossing one over each shoulder. Without another word he carries the girls up the stairs.

INT. SAFE HOUSE NEIGHBOR'S BACKYARD - LATER

Sam and Henry are prying the boards free and tossing them into a pile on the other side as Jared approached.

JARED What do you say we take a beer break?

HENRY MORT How much have they covered in there?

JARED All the doors and all but one of the front windows.

HENRY MORT Alright, bring one more load in then take a break.

Henry goes back to work on the fence as Jared collects more wood and brings back to the house.

SAM WILLIAMS How long do you think we're gonna be here?

HENRY MORT I don't know, it could be weeks or even months before anybody shows up. If anyone shows up at all.

Henry begins coughing violently until he's hacking up blood.

SAM WILLIAMS

You okay?

HENRY MORT I'll be fine. What do you say we take that break now?

# SAM WILLIAMS

Sure.

The two sit down next to the cooler of beers.

SAM WILLIAMS Did you just cough up blood?

HENRY MORT Can I tell you a secret?

SAM WILLIAMS

Go for it.

Henry pulls out two beers and hands one to Sam.

HENRY MORT I've been bitten.

SAM WILLIAMS (inching away from Henry) What, when?!

HENRY MORT Earlier this morning, before I showed up at your house.

SAM WILLIAMS But, shouldn't you be dead or at least like one of them?

HENRY MORT The news said it depends on how bad a bite you've got. I barely got scratched. Thought I'd be fine...

Henry pulls up his sleeve revealing a nasty infected wound.

HENRY MORT (CONT'D) ...but it's been getting worse and worse all day.

SAM WILLIAMS What are you gonna do?

### HENRY MORT

I don't know. I'd say I've only got an hour two at the most. Right now I'm just trying to focus on making this house as safe as possible before it's too late.

ASHLEY (O.C.) You guys give up?

The guys look up as Ashley pokes her head over the fence.

ASHLEY Oh, I get it, drinking on the job, huh?

HENRY MORT

Want one?

ASHLEY No, I'm fine. Tiffany found some stuff on the internet you should take a look at.

HENRY MORT The internet's still working?

ASHLEY

Yeah, T.V.'s out though and the guy on the radio sounds like he's starting to lose it.

Ashley heads back to the house as Sam and Henry get to their feet.

Sam starts for the house but Henry stops him.

HENRY MORT Hey, let's keep the bite between the two of us for now. At least until I figure out what to do about it.

Sam is reluctant but nods his head in agreement.

INT. SAFE HOUSE FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

Henry and Sam enter the family room to see everyone huddled around a laptop. Even Melanie has rejoined the group now.

HENRY MORT So what've you got?

TIFFANY MORT It's a web site run by some guy in New York. It's got up to date lists of all the Safety Zones, survival stories, even a message board.

HENRY MORT Does it say anything about whether or not anyone's come up with a cure or anything?

## TIFFANY MORT

Nope, we looked. The longest anyone's survived is ten hours, but everyone that's been bitten has died and come back without exceptions.

## JARED

Yeah, the only cure is a bullet through the skull.

Sam and Henry share an uneasy glance.

MELANIE MORT (in a nasty tone directed at Henry) Yeah, they all seem to agree that trying to survive in a house is suicide.

### TIFFANY MORT The Safety Zones haven't exactly gotten a shining recommendation

gotten a shining recommendation either though.

# HENRY MORT

We'd better get back to work. (looks at the windows) Looks like we don't have much left to do. Did you guys put boards on the outside too?

### ASHLEY

Yeah.

HENRY MORT (clearly impressed) Nice work.

### ASHLEY

Well, I figured we had more than enough wood and the nail gun made it a breeze.

#### HENRY MORT

I think we should have enough boards piled up out there to take care of that last window and the sliding glass door. I'm gonna go upstairs and see if I can tell how much time we got before our friends show up. INT. SAFE HOUSE TWINS' BEDROOM - EVENING

Henry enters a typical little girls room covered in pink and stuffed animals.

Henry is staring out the window as the sun sets behind the horde of Zombies.

Off in the distance a few hundred Zombies have begun marching straight for the safe house's little neighborhood.

There's a knocking sound behind Henry and he turns with a start to find a zombified Katherine in the bedroom's doorway.

Henry's shocked and confused but instinctively pulls up his gun and aims it at Katherine's head.

> KATHERINE MORT Henry, what are you doing?

Henry's even more confused now.

KATHERINE MORT Henry, it's me. Henry?

Henry squeezes his eyes shut for a second and re-opens them to find Ashley standing in Katherine's place.

He drops the gun immediately and sits down on the end of one of the two pink beds with his head in his hands.

Ashley cautiously enters the room and sits down on the other bed.

ASHLEY Are you okay?

HENRY MORT

No.

ASHLEY When was the last time you had something to eat?

Henry doesn't respond. He's staring at a framed family photo sitting on a small pink dresser in front of him.

HENRY MORT I made the right choice didn't I? I mean, they'll be safe here won't they? Ashley slides onto the bed with Henry and grabs one of his hands with both of hers.

#### ASHLEY

I think this might be one of the safest places in the country right now. Hell, maybe even the world for all we know.

# HENRY MORT

It just feels like someone dies everywhere I take us.

# ASHLEY

If it wasn't for you we'd all be dead. Hell, me and Jared probly wouldn't have even made it out of the apartment if it wasn't for you.

#### HENRY MORT

If it wasn't for me you wouldn't have been there at all, and my best friend wouldn't have killed your cousin.

#### ASHLEY

Listen to me. Nothing that's happened today has been your fault. You can't blame yourself for what's going on out there. You've kept us safe all day and we really, really need for you to focus on keeping us that way because I don't think we can get through this without you.

Henry's heart breaks a little more as he closes his eyes.

HENRY MORT I think you're gonna have to.

ASHLEY What are you talking about?

Henry doesn't say anything he just pulls his hand free and rolls up his left sleeve.

Ashley lets out a horrified gasp as she gets off the bed and quickly steps back away from him.

#### ASHLEY

How? When?

HENRY MORT Mark. This morning.

ASHLEY But, that was almost fifteen hours ago. You should be dead by now.

HENRY MORT

I know.

ASHLEY So you're going to be fine?

Henry shakes his head slowly.

HENRY MORT No, I don't think I've got much time left.

Ashley starts to cry for the first time today, though she tries with everything she's got not to.

ASHLEY So, what are you going to do?

HENRY MORT I think I gotta plan, I just need a couple minutes to think about it. Can you get everyone together in the living room?

#### ASHLEY

Yeah.

HENRY MORT Thanks. I'll be down in a few minutes.

Ashley exits the room and quietly closes the door behind her.

INT. SAFE HOUSE UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Ashley takes a few steps before the tears burst out of her. She falls to the ground trying to muffle the sobs with her hand.

INT. SAFE HOUSE TWINS' BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Henry is still sitting on the bed when he spots a teddy bear bride and groom on the second dresser. He gets up and makes his way to it picking up the groom and fixing his tie. Henry sets the bear back down before pulling the bride's veil over her face.

He takes a look out the window to see the sun beginning to set behind the horde of oncoming zombies.

INT. SAFE HOUSE FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

Henry reaches the bottom of the staircase to see everyone gathered around the laptop again.

MELANIE MORT What's going on?

HENRY MORT

I'm leaving.

TIFFANY MORT

What?

MELANIE MORT Where the hell are you going?

HENRY MORT The Zombies from the highway are headed straight for us. I'm gonna try and lure them as far away as I can.

JARED Why? This place is a fortress. What could they possibly do?

HENRY MORT It depends how much time they have. This thing could be over tomorrow or it could never end. We don't really have a clue.

SAM WILLIAMS How are you going to lure them away?

HENRY MORT (to Jared) What'd you do with those fireworks?

JARED They're still downstairs.

HENRY MORT

Go get'em.

Jared heads down to the basement as everyone else is looking at Henry with curiosity.

ASHLEY So, what's the plan?

HENRY MORT

Those things are attracted to sound, so I figure as long as I keep a safe distance and light off a few rounds every now and then I should be able to draw them far enough away that they just keep going on into town.

Jared makes it back upstairs with the box of fireworks and hands them to Henry.

JARED Found this down there too, thought you could use it.

Jared holds out a Samurai sword.

HENRY MORT Whoa. Is it real?

JARED

I think so.

Henry takes the sword and slightly pulls it from it's sheath admiring the blade.

MELANIE MORT What's to stop them from following you back?

Henry snaps back to reality.

HENRY MORT I'm not coming back.

TIFFANY MORT What are you talking about? Why would you not come back?

HENRY MORT I've been bitten.

Jared quickly takes a few steps back.

TIFFANY MORT (teary eyed) What?

HENRY MORT It happened this morning, before I even knew what was going on.

Melanie tries to pretend as if she's not fazed.

MELANIE MORT But, if you've been fine all this time how do you know anything's even gonna happen at all?

Henry puts down the box of fireworks and rolls up his sleeve again drawing gasps from the girls.

JARED Holy shit, dude.

HENRY MORT It wasn't a bad bite before, barely even broke the skin, but it's been getting worse and worse all day.

MELANIE MORT When are you leaving?

HENRY MORT Right after we bury Ted.

INT. SAFE HOUSE - EVENING

Henry stands in the doorway watching as Sam and Jared dig a grave for Ted in the far corner of the backyard while the women dig one for the house's original occupants.

Henry quietly retreats into the house where he pulls a picture out of his wallet and sets it on the dining room table.

He swings the sword over his back before putting on the back pack and picking up his gun.

He takes one last look out the back door before heading into the attached garage.

# INT. SAFE HOUSE GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

He gets to the small door at the front of the garage and reaches out for the knob.

MELANIE MORT (O.S.)

Wait!

Henry turns around to find Melanie standing in the connecting doorway with tears streaming down her face.

HENRY MORT

Hey.

MELANIE MORT You're going to leave without saying goodbye?

HENRY MORT I thought it would be easier this way.

MELANIE MORT I could check the internet again, maybe somebody's found a cure.

HENRY MORT Even if they did there's no way I'd be able to get to it in time.

MELANIE MORT So you're just going to give up?

HENRY MORT

No.

There's a brief silence as the two stare at each other for a moment, both trying maintain composure.

Melanie breaks down first, sobbing uncontrollably as she rushes to her father.

MELANIE MORT Oh Daddy, I'm so sorry.

The two embrace in a tight hug as henry whispers in her ear:

HENRY MORT

Don't be.

They hold the embrace for a long moment.

I've gotta go.

Henry tries to break the hug but Melanie won't let go and Henry starts to tear up.

MELANIE MORT You can't. You can't leave us again. Not like this.

HENRY MORT It's the only way to keep you safe.

MELANIE MORT I love you Daddy.

The tears finally stream from Henry's eyes.

HENRY MORT I love you too.

Henry kisses Melanie on the forehead before leaving her in the garage with a face covered in tears.

MONTAGE:

(The entire montage plays out in slow motion to the song "Falling Down" by Joe Purdy.

Sam, Ashley, Jared, and Tiffany continue to dig graves as Melanie enters the backyard and picks up a shovel.

Henry uses his hockey stick like a cane as he forces himself away from the Safe House towards the oncoming Zombies and the setting sun.

He gets to an intersection a block away from them when he opens fire and takes a right turn.

Sam helps Ashley out of the shallow grave. The whole scene is silent but we get the picture that everyone's curious about where Henry is until Melanie tells them that he's left.

Tiffany starts to cry again as Sam attempts to comfort her. Jared sits down on the edge of the grave and picks up his beer. Ashley drops her shovel and runs into the house while Melanie place one of the twins in the big grave.

Henry is opening fire on the Zombies again as they make their way around the corner. He takes down a hand full of them before he keeps walking on. Ashley is in the Twins' room now looking out the window as the zombies begin to turn away. She can just see the light of Henry's gunfire behind the houses.

In the backyard Sam and Jared are lowering Ted's body into his grave while Melanie and Tiffany hold each other and cry.

Henry stops to shoot at the Zombies again but gets light headed as he turns and has to lean heavily on the cane to keep from losing his balance.

When he rights himself and focuses his aim on the Zombies again he finds them to not be Zombies anymore at all but instead all of them are wearing matching green scrubs with the words SERE printed in big bold letters on their chests.

He shakes his head but the image doesn't change and Henry starts shooting while screaming in frustration until he's out of ammo and suddenly the Zombies are back to normal.

We see from TED'S POV now as Melanie and Tiffany walk up and place flowers in his grave before walking away. Jared kneels down next and places the bong beside Ted's body.

Sam kneels last and says something to Ted that we can't hear before tossing a shovel full of dirt over the camera.

Ashley is still watching the Zombie horde from the window noticing that a few Zombies are starting to stray out of formation.

Henry notices too and walks a few more feet to give himself time to pull out a string of M-80s. He lights the end before tossing them further on down the road.

From Ashley's vantage point we see that the Zombies are instantly attracted to the sounds and keep pressing forward after Henry.

Sam and Jared toss the final mounds of dirt onto the graves as the girls head for the house. Jared picks up his beer to find it empty and asks Sam if he wants one. Sam says no and follows the girls into the house as Jared pulls a piece of jerky out of his pocket.

Henry finally drops his cane at a four way stop and pulls off the bag before opening it up and setting it down in the center of the street. He lights three strands and stumbles a safe distance away.

Ashley can't see anymore so she rushes out of the Twins' room and down the hall to the Master Bedroom where she now has a clear view of Henry in the intersection. Jared grabs the beer cooler by the handle and tries to lift it but it's too heavy when he sees that they left their tools on the other side of the fence.

Henry has his back to the Zombies and the backpack with his eyes closed when the fireworks erupt about ten feet behind him.

Jared is collecting the tools when a Zombie wearing pajamas attacks him taking a huge chunk out of his neck.

The fireworks finally cease and the smoke begins to clear but Henry's eyes remain closed. He seems relaxed and peaceful.

Ashley's getting worried and fears the worst until she sees Henry pulling out the sword as the zombies stumble closer.

We get close on Henry's closed eyes as the Zombies stumble closer still.

With the Zombies about three feet from Henry's back he finally opens his eyes and the slow motion ends as he turns a sharp 180 with the sword out slicing off the heads of at least seven Zombies.

Ashley watches from the window as Henry begins to cut his way through the pack of zombies dropping at least five with every swing of his sword.

Jared is on his back now with the Zombie on top of him and he's struggling to get free. The blood loss finally takes it's toll as Jared slowly begins to pass out.

Henry is swinging madly with everything he's got as the rage and frustration continues to build with every blow.

The music begins to fade into a silence as Sam pokes his head over the fence to see Jared dead and being eaten. He draws his pistol.

Fatigue finally brings Henry to his knees but he continues to swing as the Zombies engulf him. In the chaos we see Henry fighting to pull out a pistol before the Zombies obscure him from our view.

Ashley has her back to the window now as the silence is suddenly broken by a single gunshot and we:

SMASH CUT TO BLACK: