Now You Gonna DIE

An homage to the 70's Horror Cult Classic:
"I Spit On Your Grave"

Written
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INT. BEDROOM - NYC APARTMENT - NIGHT

POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA: ON EYES

... anxious, beautiful but tear-full.

JESSIE
Why do you have to video me?

MALE VOICE
Don’t be a hypocrite. It’s what you do.

JESSIE
So-- this is what you want?

MALE VOICE
YES. No more talking. Look at her not me and be sexy.

A SLOW PULL REVEALS A “3-WAY”

JESSICA “Jessie” CARTER (27)... stare to camera looks powerless & drunken. She’s in lingerie on her still-made-bed with a naked HOT BLONDE GIRL coming-on to her.

HOT BLONDE
You’re hot.

JESSIE
I love you, Ricky.

RICKY
Shhh-- you’re killing the fantasy. Kiss her.

The Hot Blonde holds her hand. KISSING. Jessie tries to mask her discomfort.

The MALE VOICE is her boyfriend, RICKY (30) STAR CAMEO. He’s standing over them-- undressed-- with the video camera & SWAGGING from a bottle of champagne.

RICKY
You want things to be hot, don’t you?

JESSIE
Yes.

The room is low lit... but for the electric shine of an NYC skyline out large windows.
MUZAK & MURMMER comes from... the bedroom door when it opens... CASCADES NOISE & light from the party. It’s Ricky’s HIP FRIEND, with another champagne bottle.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NYC APARTMENT - PARTY

After 2 am & the party is thinning. A swank apartment but furniture bulimic. A mix of FRIENDS & INDUSTRY CONTACTS. All with cocktails & DJ SPINS on turn-tables.

A BANNER READS: Internet Video Queen 2009

BEST FRIENDS

BROOKE
I can’t believe she’s in there with him like that.

LINDA
Whatever.

SHAWNA
Oh, she loves drama.

PARTY PEOPLE

PARTY GOER 1
Oh my god, what are they doing in there?

PARTY GOER 2
I think she’s so cool.

INDUSTRY CONTACTS

INDUSTRY CONTACT 1
I heard from someone that knows-- it’s not happening.

INDUSTRY CONTACT 2
No reality show?!

INDUSTRY CONTACT 1
That too. I was talking about her documentary for IFC... she just let it go.

BACK TO:
INT. BEDROOM - BED - “3-WAY” - CONTINUOUS

The Hip Friend POPS the bottle-- over flows-- pours some in the mouth of the Hot Blonde.

    RICKY
    Eh, take this Jimmy.

Jimmy takes the camera, swapping with bottle... as Ricky strips & STARTS SEX with Hot Blonde from behind.

POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA

Ricky PUMPS the Hot Blonde... ALL OVER Jessie.

    JIMMY
    Porn my be your future.
    RICKY
    Fuck you.
    JIMMY
    It’s gotta be hot.
    RICKY
    Or nasty. Eh, gimme that.

He takes back the camera.

    JESSIE
    It’s only for you, Ricky.

The Hip Friend is back into the SEX MIX... Ricky watches them part through video camera: part with a dismissive gaze.

A TEXT MESSAGE: hits Ricky’s phone. He reads it-- GIDDILY.

    JESSIE
    Come here, Ricky.

Ricky is more interested in the TEXT.

    JESSIE
    Ricky?!
    RICKY
    SHUSH.

Ricky drops the camera to the bed & quickly puts himself together. Grabs his bottle of champagne & LEAVES.

    JESSIE
    What’s wrong?! Ricky?!
INT. LIVING ROOM - PARTY - CONTINUOUS

Ricky pushes through the party, champagne to his mouth, crossing the living room. He’s a TV star so heads snap.

A half-naked Jessie chases behind him... UPSET.

DOOR - APARTMENT

Ricky stops-- pushing the INTERCOM.

RICKY
“Ricky Ray, apartment 404. The green Carrera.”

JESSIE
Where are you going?!

RICKY
OUT.

INT. HALLWAY - APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

He’s out the door without care. Jessie scraps behind.

JESSIE
Why are you doing this?!

RICKY
Why? Why?

She’s fallen to her knees... grabs hold of him. He stabs at her with his eyes.

RICKY
Who are you? Where’s your respect?

JESSIE
It was for you. I love you.

He takes a long swag from the champagne bottle in stare... then SPITS IT in her face. DROPS the bottle before her, walking for the elevator.

Jessie SOBS. Grabs the bottle, throwing it against the wall.

JESSIE
Fuck you! I don’t need you.

FLASH FORWARD:
EXT. FOREST – NEXT TO LAKE – DAY (JESSIE’S HORROR)

Jessie is naked, dirty, and looks beaten... but walking forward. In a woody clearing from swamp mud, next to the lake, where sunlight is snuffed but in slivers.

Blood is on her face... scratched & bruised skin. The pain of her horror fills tears with a quivering mouth.

TITLE SEQUENCE:

Now You Gonna Die!

BACK TO:

SHE STORMS the hallway to slip into the elevator...

INT. ELEVATOR – BUILDING – CONTINUOUS

JESSIE & RICKY

JESSIE
Just tell me why you’re doing this?

RICKY
I’m over it.

The elevator is going down and Ricky is distant. Making Jessie more a MESS. ELEVATOR MUZAK.

JESSIE
What-- so, now you’re on a show again and you don’t need me?!

RICKY
Think what you want?!

JESSIE
I was there when you had nothing!

RICKY
It was a slow spell.

JESSIE
Two fucking years?!

RICKY
FUCK YOU.
JESSIE
It was my video show that got
people talking about you again!

RICKY
The “Video Queen of U tube” has
gone to your head.
(beat)
I’m the real star.

His cell RINGS: A TEXT. He’s too it: TEXTING BACK.

JESSIE
I thought I was going to marry you.
I thought we would have babies.

Jessie jumps at him. LOSES IT-- as the elevator doors open.

INT. LOBBY - APARTMENT BUILDING - LATE NIGHT

Ricky heads outside with Jessie still stumbling after.

JESSIE
Leave then!

RICKY
I am.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NYC SIDEWALK - LATE NIGHT

Ricky is to his Porsche Carrera waiting idle at the VALET.
A FEW PAPARAZZI outside FIRE FLASH on “the scene”.

JESSIE
I HATE YOU!

RICKY

Handing the Valet ten bucks with a smile.

JESSIE
FUCK YOU!

Ricky JAMS THE GAS & the Carrera is a blur to the city.

JESSIE
I LOVE YOU!!
Jessie is left half-naked in TEARS on the sidewalk... the Paparazzi FLASHING ON her misery.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

EXT. CAFE - NYC SIDEWALK - MORNING: 24 HRS. LATER

Jessie sits at a side-walk table with Best Friends for a late breakfast. A trendy cafe on a gorgeous day.

JESSIE
Oh, you’re nuts.
(beat)
So everyone that matters got a show.

LINDA (26) is a sexy PR Girl.

LINDA
It was bad.

JESSIE
Bad?!

SHAWNA (30) is family rich/ Family’s Lawyer.

SHAWNA
AWFUL.

BROOKE (28), an Advertising Creative.

BROOKE
You two stop!? Let her breathe.

JESSIE
Screw him!
(beat)
Can you believe him?

SHAWNA
Yes.

BROOKE
Yes.

SHAWNA
He’s a dick. Hot... but a dick.

JESSIE
I keep calling & texting.

BROOKE
Jezzz let things be a second.
The Waiter brings the check. Shawna gets out a $50. The others throw-down credit cards.

JESSIE
Shawna if you want my apartment, I gotta move.

WAITER
Ladies, pleasure.

SHAWNA
Really?!
(sad for her)
Oh, hun.

JESSIE
I’m broke.
(then)
It was a terrible scene!?

SHAWNA
Yes.

BROOKE
Yes.

LINDA
Hey, you know a clip of your “three-way” is all over the net!?

The “bomb drop” lingers.

LINDA
Didn’t really want to say anything.

After LOOKS from the girls.

LINDA
What-- not say anything?!
(...)
It’s already at 5 million views. 50,000 “favorites”.

JESSIE
Crap-- that’s a lot.

SHAWNA
(checks the time)
Poo. Gotta go.

GROUP
BYE.

And Shawna is out.
BROOKE

Jess-- I’ve never seen you so desperate. So needy.

LINDA

Yeah, it’s a little scary and you guys are fighting a lot.

JESSIE

I saw my life with him.

The girls can’t help touch hands. The Waiter comes back.

WAITER

Excuse me, but there’s a problem with one of the credit cards.

JESSIE

“Jessica Carter”.

WAITER

Yes.

BROOKE

Just put it on mine.

Pointing hers out. He leaves.

JESSIE

Thanks.

(then)

I want “responsibility”.

LINDA

You can move on.

BROOKE

This is not the worst thing.

Jessie’s CELL PHONE RINGS.

JESSIE

It’s RICKY!

She grabs the $50 from the table before leaving.

JESSIE

For taxi’s! BYE!!

EXT. SIDEWALK – NYC – DAY

She TALKS, hurrying down the sidewalk.

JESSIE

There’s a sex video of us out there?!

(MORE)
JESSIE (cont'd)
(listens)
You’re sorry, but...
(listens)
Why are you yelling at me!?
(then)
I coming by the set. NO.
YES.

Phone-- closed... & she’s to the curb hailing a cab.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND STAGE - STUDIOS - DAY

Jessie charges through a BUSTLING CREW off stage of Ricky’s show... heading for his dressing room. A SECOND AD comes to deflect her charge, headset & all.

SECOND A.D
Jessie, Ricky’s in his room but were about to shoot in 5.

JESSIE
Just wanna give him a quick kiss!

INT. RICKY’S DRESSING ROOM - BACK STAGE - CONTINUOUS

She KNOCKS ONCE at the door... GOES INSIDE.

JESSIE
Ricky?

Ricky is at the couch CLOSE with a HOT ACTRESS. Maybe flirting... maybe they just kissed.

Jessie stands not sure to cry, yell, or piss her panties.

RICKY
JESSIE!??!

A “sad stand-off”. The Hot Actress quickly leaves.

Jessie STORMS OVER... SLAPPING HIM. He pushes away.

JESSIE
You broke my heart. Do you enjoy doing this!? And what about the video Ricky!??
“Sex tapes sell”... that was Jimmy. He’s a dick-head but hell of a Manager.

So you use me!

No.
(then)
Oh, I was bored!

Fuck you.

I don’t know, I thought it would be hot. I’m sorry.
(beat)
It is ironic. The show-all Video Queen... “shows all”.
(beat)
“Price we pay for the life we choose”.

If I’m getting dumped & humiliated at least make it original!

Jessie drops to the couch. TEARS.

Jessie walks like a zombie in the MASSES. A CALL HITS her cell phone. She looks-- ANSWERS.

Hey, Audrey.
(listening)
I know.
(listening)
Okay.

Jessie sits watching YouTube: PLAYING the “sex video” off Apple TV to her Aunt’s FLAT SCREEN.

JESSICA?!
Jessica’s eyes & mouth are wide. Her PRODUCER/ AUNT AUDREY (50), is genuine and a strong business-woman.

    JESSIE
    I wanted to be a famous now I’m just infamous.

Audrey’s large wood desk is stacked in VIDEOS & a life-time of memorabilia, awards & photos.

    AUDREY
    Look-- it’s a thing. And I’m sorry to say your new reality series has been “shelved”.

    JESSIE
    What?! Why?! It’s called, “All’s Fair In Love & Sex”. Kinda is a perfect promo.

    AUDREY
    Cute. But corporate doesn’t see it that way. We were promoting you as much as the show and “the host” has to have some discretion.

    JESSIE
    “All publicity is good publicity”.

    AUDREY
    Not when your theme is “love triumphs over sex”. And the sponsors jump ship.

    JESSIE
    But I’ve got like 35 million views for “Hot Guy” and “Babe in the City” series-- just hit 50 million views!

    AUDREY
    TV is still king and your audience also watches that sexy bastard Ricky Ray. He’s got a hit show and if we try to spin... it’d look desperate.

    JESSIE
    Celebrity sucks.

    AUDREY
    Let’s hammer this out. We have tons of great “love”, “relationship” footage from the reality pilot.

(MORE)
AUDREY (cont'd)
What about that documentary footage you were working on with the IFC grant?

JESSIE
Mostly sex stuff: “First times” & “Goodbye sex”. It’s kinda hot if I was going for X rated.

(...) I’ve spent the money & missed the dead line for this year’s programming... so they want their money back and there’s a “cease usage” on the material.

AUDREY
Well now you are screwed.

JESSIE
I was in love. I was hoping this reality show would get me back.

(then)
I got lost in Ricky.

AUDREY
Don’t let a man get in the way of your drink order let alone career.

JESSIE LOOKS AT THE VARIOUS PHOTOS

of Audrey and Jessie at different ages: with her parents, Audrey and her sister (Jessie’s mom), “Holidays”.

JESSIE
I miss them.

Audrey COMES & SITS next to Jessie on the couch.

AUDREY
I know.

The wide window behind then shows a sliver of beautiful Central Park.

AUDREY
What about the house in Santa Barbara? You cash-flowing from the rent?

JESSIE
Barely pays for itself. God damn, “option arm” banking crooks. That’s home. It’s THEM.
She’s tearful. So is Audrey.

AUDREY
You have to get tough, kid-o. A change.

JESSIE
What?

AUDREY
We have a ton of footage-- so use it but for a new project. New title. A new spin. Think about what you can do to create a feature expose’. I’ll call over to the IFC people, settle them... if you get to work on something new.

JESSIE
How?!

AUDREY
Honey, you’re not living. You’re not creating. You’re at critical!

Both somehow LAUGH.

AUDREY
What kind of documentarian are you?

JESSIE
Critical Realist.

AUDREY
Then put yourself into it. You already have your “opener” with your sex video. Use him, he’s famous. Look, I’m going out on a limb here. My companies’ furious about dropping the reality show.

JESSIE
So what now?

AUDREY
Go to my lake house, Upstate. For as long as it takes. You remember it?

JESSIE
Yes. With them.
AUDREY
Re-edit video. Shoot new stuff... a contrast to city life. Get dirty. A little time in the country will do you good.

JESSIE
The country?!

AUDREY
It’s extreme and it’s what you need. And not just for this new film.
(beat)
And it’s free. Prestine & remote. Who knows, maybe you will find love.

JESSIE
With some hick? Gross.

Both LAUGH AGAIN... Jessie with MIXED-TEARS.

INT. JESSIE’S BEDROOM - APARTMENT - SUNSET

Jessie is in lingerie on her bed: 2 VIDEO CAMERAS set on tripods. One-- on the bed stand, one-- from distance: about to film her “premise statement”. She pushes RECORD on the remotes (for the cameras): red lights BLINK ON.

QUICK CUTS TO:

2 CAMERA POVS

JESSIE
“My “untitled” new film... is a show-all-tell-all expose on love and sex. City vs. Country. About people... what we want and what is missing. Are we all the same? Is it Social or is it environment? (beat)
Or is it just me, Jessica Carter, that doesn’t get it? A lost girl from the city going to find herself in the country? (then)
This is where my story began... now lets see how it ends”.

A DING-DONG-- front door... HEARING feet & voices.
INT. JESSIE’S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Linda, Shawna and Brooke, hang with Jessie on a blanket with glasses of wine, 2nd bottle. MUZAK PLAYS. The apartment is near bare-- a “sale” of her furniture.

LINDA
It’s hitting me. Can’t believe you’re leaving!

JESSIE
I just wanted someone to love me. To cherish me.
(then)
So now it’s off to the country!

They LAUGH.

LINDA
And what’s with all this equipment?

Off in a corner by the wall socket are BOXES OF GEAR: new video cameras-- plugged in charging & more.

JESSIE
That’s my gear. Hello... sold my possessions so I can make this new film work.

Linda goes over & investigates.

JESSIE
I got two new HD cameras that I can work wireless-- secret filming. It shoots perfect HD... but better is they work electronically through the computer-- a program I bought-- feeds footage digitally.

SHAWNA
Like a satellite?

JESSIE
Well, it’s a digital information signal. Cool as hell and I got my 2 others. New laptop & editing program... edit it myself, thank you.
LINDA (O.C.)
There small.

JESSIE
Bring 'em over.

BROOKE
You’re gonna make it happen?

Linda’s back.

JESSIE
I’m gonna get something juicy.

Jessie TURNS ON ONE: RANDOM FILMING.

SHAWNA
And I’ll take great care of your apartment.

Jessie sticks a tongue at her.

BROOKE
So what about this Pleasant Ville. What’s it like?

JESSIE
Okay, last favor. I want us all to take the camera and tell “your best sex” or “greatest love moment”... and “the worse”.

LAUGHS. Linda gets out a joint.

LINDA
Glad I got this.

JESSIE
From here on-- I gotta be filming everything. I gotta be agro.

LINDA
At least you’ll have something to do. Help you get over Ricky.

JESSIE
Ricky!!

SHAWNA
Oh, no.

BROOKE
MOTHER OF GOD!

She sparks up the joint and they start filming their secrets.

DISSOLVE TO:
INT. JESSIE’S BEDROOM - APARTMENT - LATER NIGHT

About midnight. Her bedroom is bare but for a mattress on the floor, a lamp & electric glitter coming from the windows. A big suitcase is packed. She HEARS SOMETHING.

JESSIE
Someone there?!

RICKY
It’s me.

JESSIE
Ricky?!

Jessie quickly grabs her REMOTES: TURNS ON.

Ricky comes to her bedroom sheepish & holding champagne.

JESSIE
Champagne’s for celebrating.

RICKY
I heard. You’re leaving?

JESSIE
You care?

He POPS THE TOP.

RICKY
I’m gonna miss you.

And comes walking to her... on the bed.

JESSIE
Good.

He drinks from the bottle, now sitting next to her. She takes a BIG GULP.

RICKY
For what it’s worth, my publicist says that the video gave me talk... mostly that “I’m scuzzy”.

JESSIE
You are.

(then)

Do you get that you hurt my heart?

RICKY
My heart hurts.
JESSIE
You came for your “good-bye” fuck.
Didn’t you?!

They’ve been sharing the champagne. He KISSES her.

She SLAPS HIM. They KISS MORE—long & hard. His hands all over her. She’s naked. *(NOTE: sex scene option)*

JESSIE THEN STANDS

with a hand pointed to the door.

JESSIE

OUT.

RICKY

Oh, please. You’re trying to be “strong” now? You’d rather be alone?!

JESSIE

Spit is not a kiss.

He leaves Jessie standing naked & alone.

INT. / EXT. BUS - MOVING - NYC - LATE MORNING

Jessie STARES OUT the window to a shrinking NYC. Her purse and carry-on next to her.

JESSIE

Is CRYING. Her old life behind her now.

DISSOLVE:

BUS - JESSIE - SCENERY

the BUMP & HUMMIN’... now rural & woodsy... a highway turned single-lane country road.

CUT TO:

INT. SHERIFF’S STATION - PLEASANT VILLE - DAY

A small-town Sheriff’s Station. A handsome Sheriff, TOMMY MERCY (35), is at the front desk about to go on patrol.
DISPATCHER
Tommy? Chief’s been buzzin’.

SHERIFF TOMMY
What’s he want?

DISPATCHER
Wouldn’t say.

Sheriff Tommy goes down the hall.

TWO KNOCKS for the Chief’s door.

CHIEF (O.S.)
Come in.

INT. CHIEF’S OFFICE – DESK – DAY

Behind a big wood desk is THE CHIEF (65), a good-ol-boy. The
office is darker with the shades pulled nearly closed.
Antlers, trophy fish & such mount walls.

CHIEF
You picking up the City Girl? Bus
should be in.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Was going now. Jessica Carter,
right?

CHIEF
That’s right. The Old-Becker lake
house. I know her Aunt. Make her
feel welcome.

EXT. TOWN OF PLEASANT VILLE – BUS – LATER DAY

THE BUS COMES into town... pulling into the main strip of
stores: a Gas Station, Garage and Market.

It PULLS TO A STOP out front it all.

EXT. MARKET/STATION – BUS – CONTINUOUS

Jessie CLUNKS off the steps. Hope actually fills her eyes
until... seeing what’s before her.

She takes out her video camera: first pointing at herself.

JESSIE
Oh, God.
Then turning it to what she’s looking at.

JESSIE’S POV THRU CAMERA

across from her is the garage... the Market and Gas Station to the right. Seeing the dock with boats & the lake.

There’s the mechanic GREEN-EYED MIKE, “GEM” (26), with his fat black helper, WILLIE (25). Both greasy & unpolished... Green-Eyed-Mike spits in his hand & wipes it through his hair, as if making himself look-good for camera.

CAMERA focuses on a GTO parked there. On the hood is a young-pretty Country Girl (15).

Jessie ZOOMS IN on the hot rod’s licence plate: 4Dbabes

JESSIE

Oh, God.

An ARMY KID (19) in fatigues & wounded, is the only other getting off. He’s hugged & KISSED by MOM & GIRLFRIEND.

She quickly puts the camera on them: “something good”.

The BUS DRIVER puts her suitcase at her feet... GETS BACK on & DRIVES OFF.

Jessie’s left in the warm of late day and dust kicked up.

JESSIE NOW ROLLS

her suitcase headed for the Market... when Green-Eyed Mike let’s out a LONG PERVERTED WHISTLE. Starts walking to her.

JESSIE

Yeah, that’s hot.

She’s fronting guts in a dress & minor heels.

GREEN-EYED MIKE

A lil’ sass mouth to go with all that.

JESSIE

“Sass mouth”?

(...)

Is there a taxi? Gotta phone number?

Holding out her IPhone.
GREEN-EYED MIKE
I got me a GTO and a Silver Star?

JESSIE
Wow. You’re a real “gem”.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
That’s right. You heard of me?

JESSIE
What?

GREEN-EYED MIKE
I’m “Green-Eyed Mike”. But the girlies call me “gem”... ‘cause, that’s my name, G E M.

Pointing to his eyes like “sexy” & gold tooth when he smiles.

JESSIE
Clever.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. MARKET - REGISTER WINDOW - SAME

The Owner JUNIOR (33) handsome but scruffy, is in a preppie shirt, Rolex, just staring at her from the big window. Next to him is a big wrestler-looking-guy, STEVIE (28).

Both don’t break stare-- HEARING a throat-clear. It’s his Country Hottie WIFE (24), pissy & holding their BABY GIRL.

Junior pulls out his ROLL & gives her two hundred.

JUNIOR
Yeah go do some shopping.

COUNTRY HOTTIE WIFE
Just two hundred?!

JUNIOR
Make it stretch.

He KISSES HER on the mouth. Before she LEAVES.

COUNTRY HOTTIE WIFE
Be home at a descent hour. I’m cooking.

BACK TO:
EXT. MARKET - SAME

Jessie ROLLS her suitcase with the Country Girl walking with her. She seems sweet.

COUNTRY GIRL
Those are cool sunglasses.

JESSIE
Try 'em on.

COUNTRY GIRL
Coolio.

Jessie gives them over.

STEVIE (O.C.)
Beat it, Cassie.

Jessie LOOKS UP to see Junior & Stevie standing before them. Cassie WALKS OFF handing over the glasses.

JUNIOR
You need a ride or something?

JESSIE
Ummm, well, yeah. I’m going to my lake house.

JUNIOR
You from the City?

She throws up hands: “you must be the smart one”.

STEVIE
Whatcha doing here?

JESSIE
Heard this was the new Hamptons. Where’s the party?!

ON GREEN-EYED MIKE

GREEN-EYED MIKE
Manhattan slut.

BACK TO:

JUNIOR
Oh, you’ll fit right in. I’m Junior, I own this place. I’ll take you. You should see the lake, especially at this hour.
Stevie takes her bag and Junior waits for her to come.  
SHE Follows.

INt. SHERIFF’S SUV - MOVING / EXT. MARKET - SAME
They head into the Market, as Sheriff Tommy PULLS IN.
He watches (Jessie) go with Junior and Stevie, way to the back docks. He parks and heads in.

INt. MARKET - SHERIFF TOMMY - CONTINUOUS
Sheriff Tommy STOPS at the register and OLD CLERk (65) there.

SHERIFF TOMMY
They get any groceries?

SEEING them getting into Junior’s MOTOR BOAT.

OLD CLERk
Nope.
(beat)
But fresh blood is always good.

ON SHERIFF TOMMY

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE - MOTOR BOAT - LATE DAY
Junior DRIVES over a lake of serene beauty.
Jessie has her video camera out & SHOOTING with a big smile.

JESSIE
(about the camera)
You mind?

JUNIOR
Just make sure you get my “good side”.

JESSIE
Okay. Which side?

JUNIOR
Just kidding. They’re both equally good.
He PULLS UP out front “her” lake house & SLOWS THE ENGINE. Pointing it out. It’s picturesque.

JESSIE
I used to come here when I was a little girl.

JUNIOR
My family place is up at the Point.

JESSIE
So, what do you do for fun here?

JUNIOR
Well, it ain’t Manhattan but you’d be surprised. How long you gonna be with us?

JESSIE
God knows.

JUNIOR
This Friday is last of the month... my “private party”.

JESSIE
Whoooo.

THE BOAT GROUNDS into the sandy shore just out front.

JUNIOR
Just select folks and the best entertainment. I think you’ll have fun. Wanna come?

JESSIE
Friday? Okay.

She climbs out staring at her Lake House.

EXT. LAWN - LAKE HOUSE - EARLY SUNSET

Junior gets her suitcase and follows her across the stretch of lawn. She’s actually EXCITED.

JUNIOR
I’ll pick you up then. And no cameras.

Junior is already headed to the boat before her answer.

HE FIRES the ENGINE... & gone to the lake.
JESSIE IS WIDE-EYED

A shimmering lake with houses far & few. Total privacy.

Jessie quickly goes to THE PORCH, key-in-hand, and INSIDE with her luggage.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A perfect cottage, remodeled, country-contemporary.

First things first... Jessie OPENS WINDOWS and pulls sheets from furniture. Now the luggage & she GOES UPSTAIRS.

MASTER BEDROOM

Her suitcase is to the bed with some dust FLOATING UP from the sheet-covering.

Jessie opens the bedroom’s big window... to lake & gold.

INT. CLOSET/ BATHROOM - JESSIE - CONTINUOUS

Brings clothes to hang. In there are “country dresses” & a cowboy-girl hat. She GIGGLES. Puts it on.

The bathroom is clean & ready... Jessie looking at herself in the mirror. Sad, scared & feeling lonely but she is a fighter. A sorta-brave “wink” for herself.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - FRONT - SUNSET

Jessie SCAMPERS across the wide lawn, carry a towel and video camera on a tripod over shoulder to lake’s edge. GIDDY.

She SETS UP QUICKLY. The water is pure crystal blue & green. The camera: RECORDING... when she STRIPS NUDE, unabashed-- a sexy figure in sunset light & last warmth.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. SHERIFF’S SUV / EXT. BRIDGE - SAME

THROUGH BINOCULARS

seeing a naked Jessie PLUNGING into perfect water.
Sheriff Tommy’s SUV sits idle on the bridge. A perfect vantage to her lake house at a distance.

EXT. LAKE - WATER - SUNSET

Jessie SWIMS free. Truly happy for the first time in awhile. A heavenly red-purple-gold sun finally hushes on the horizon.

She gets from the water.

SHORE - LAKE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jessie, nude, is to her towel but air-drying... when HER CELL RINGS. She answers: LINDA.

JESSIE
Hey, you... Oh my god, I’m filming the most gorgeous sunset, ah, naked on my shore after swimming in this perfect lake.  
(listening, GIGGLES)
NO. they were kinda creepy. It’s all a little bizarre.  
(listens)
That sounds like so much fun! Wish I could be there.  
(listening)
No, I know. The house is great.

QUICK CUT TO:

EXT. PROPERTY - LAKE HOUSE - SAME

A POV

Is crouched quietly in nearby bushes... watching her.

JESSIE - SHORE - CELL PHONE - SAME

JESSIE
Let me get settled first.  
(listening)
I know, right?! I’m in country.

She HEARS/SEES headlights from the SUV COMING. She wraps herself in the towel.
JESSIE
Oh, I have a visitor... nice, the
sexy Sheriff. Gotta go.
(listening)
They’re for me. I miss Ricky!

Sheriff Tommy is nearly to her.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Hello.

JESSIE
(cell phone)
I know, FUCK HIM. Bye, babe!
(HANGS UP, then)
Well, hi there. Who are you?

He’s holding two-bags of groceries dressed semi-regular, just
off work. He looks at her, towel & all & can’t help a smirk.
Fresh blood is good.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Well... welcome. I’m Sheriff Tommy.

He would shake but can just stand awkward with groceries.

JESSIE
“Tommy” your last name?

SHERIFF TOMMY
It’s Mercy. But you know, it’s a
bit funny-- “Sheriff Mercy”.
(...)
It’s kinda funny. You’re Jessica
Carter, right?

She’s GIGGLES.

JESSIE
Yes, I am. What did you bring me?

SHERIFF TOMMY
I was supposed to pick you up but
saw you “go off” with Junior and
didn’t get any food.

JESSIE
Country hospitality?

SHERIFF TOMMY
You’ve heard of it.

Jessie WALKS for her house, carrying her camera. He follows.
JESSIE
This way. I’m starving. And call me, Jessie.

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - JUST NIGHT

MUZAK PLAYS from an IPod: attached to the house stereo. A fire burns & lights are hushed.

SHERIFF TOMMY
I thought I’d cook.

JESSIE
A renaissance man.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Maybe.

Both smile in a nice-awkward flirt. Tommy moves for the kitchen. Jessie puts down her gear.

SHERIFF TOMMY
I guess you’re serious about your home movies.

JESSIE
It’s what I do, actually.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Films on nude swimming?

JESSIE
Documentaries, thanks.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Well like it so far.

There’s electricity between them.

JESSIE
YOU do and I’ll get dressed.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Okay.

She HURRIES UP the stairs.

INT. KITCHEN - LAKE HOUSE - NIGHT

Tommy COOKS. Jessie is dressed casually but looking sexy. A natural beauty... peeping into pots & pans.
JESSIE
Yummy. Love artichoke.

Both have glasses of Pinot Noir. DRINKING. He’s fussing over the chicken & she pours more wine.

SHERIFF TOMMY
I think we’re ready. Can you grab the Palegrino from the frig?

Jessie gets plates. And does.

JESSIE
I’m not that fancy.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Well it’s for me, I like the bubbles. You can have some.

They walk out to the PORCH & TABLE— all grins.

EXT. LAKE - PORCH / TABLE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jessie and Tommy sit at the table on the porch. Good food, wine & a single candle light between them...

SHERIFF TOMMY

JESSIE
21st century girl. Can’t all be barefoot and pregnant.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Yeah, that’s going around.

She likes him.

JESSIE
And it’s my Aunt’s lake house. Thank god, otherwise I’d be homeless. I have to re-cut, hell, complete a new film or I am severely screwed.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Sorry about that. But good.

JESSIE
Excuse me?!
SHERIFF TOMMY
Well, you’ll be with us awhile then?

JESSIE
God, I hope not.

Then realizes her rudeness.

JESSIE
Sorry. That was shitty.

The lake water shimmers under a severe full moon, creates a glow in this country-black sky. Birds WHISTLE.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Pristine beauty may not be for everyone.
(then)
What’s your documentary film about?

JESSIE
It’s evolving... but at core it’s a show-all-tell-all expose on love and sex. City vs. Country. About what we want and what’s missing... blah, blah... did I lose you?

SHERIFF TOMMY
No... gritty yet existential. Got a title yet.

JESSIE
“Spit Is Not a Kiss”.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Like it.

JESSIE
I have a bunch of great video already... city people and now being here maybe a contrast.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Or not.

JESSIE
Is that a warning?
(then)
I donno, I thought this piece might be sappy and all “good feeling”, but pain & hurt seems to be all my footage. Maybe it’s me?
SHERIFF TOMMY

Maybe.

JESSIE

Hey!?

Tommy cuts the heart of the artichoke. They share.

SHERIFF TOMMY

Well, you can use me anyway you like. Permits, crowd control, personal chef & body guard.

JESSIE

Bodyguard?

SHERIFF TOMMY

You’re going to be a big shot around here. I bet you’re already stirring things up.

Both a bit intoxicated in wine & company. Tommy lights a cigarette. She PUFFS.

JESSIE

Do you know “Junior”? I think he asked me out... and I said “yes”.

SHERIFF TOMMY

His private party? I went to High School with Junior. He’s married, you know. With a baby girl.

JESSIE

Nothing to worry about then.

SHERIFF TOMMY

Those others... Nice guys?

JESSIE

The best.

SHERIFF TOMMY

Well... “all the best people” are going to be at the party, proclaims Junior. Am I going to see you?

SHERIFF TOMMY

I don’t make that “guest list”.

He’s a little jealous. She knows it & likes.

Then Tommy actually YAWNS. She sees.
JESSIE
Thanks a lot! Am I boring you!?
Can’t keep you’re interest?

SHERIFF TOMMY
Excuse me. No, I’ve been up since six. You’re the only thing keeping me going.

Her CELL RINGS from inside her pocket.

JESSIE
And I get reception here!

SHERIFF TOMMY
Yup. Got de fancy poles with de fiber-optic an everythin’!

Jessie sticks her “tongue out”-- her phone in hand.

JESSIE
Sorry. Give me a sec... my boyfriend-- ex boyfriend.

CLICKS ON PHONE: GOING INTO the house. But he can HEAR.

JESSIE
Oh, hello... what do you want?
(listening)
Don’t act like you miss me.
(listening)
Having diner by the lake with a hottie local Sheriff.
(listening)
Maybe... more I think about it!

Tommy just smirks. GETS UP. Leaves.

INT. LIVING ROOM - HOUSE - SAME

JESSIE
Maybe I will fuck him-- get over you!... No-- you can’t come visit.
Fine. FINE.
(listening)
You want to be on your own. You got it! I have things to do.
(listening)
Yeah-- how about make my film ASSHOLE!!

CLICK. She turns off the phone & is quickly back...
EXT. PORCH - TABLE - CONTINUOUS

JESSIE

Really sorry about that--

But Tommy is gone. It was her bad form not his. Bummed. She lights a cigarette left there. She stares quietly out at the lake shimmering in slick silver.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LAKE HOUSE - DAY

JESSIE EDITS AT HER "WORK STATION"

her computer on the desk in the corner with a hood over it, help cut the glare, making VIDEO EDITS on her Final Cut program. Many MINIDV TAPES are next to her & a video camera to download.

OUT THE WINDOW

is the lake & a warm sun.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FRONT - LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Jessie SUNNING HERSELF. Laying on her back near the water, her IPOD is ON & skin glistening with oil, wearing just bikini bottoms & nothing covering her chest.

QUICK CUT TO:

DOWN THE LAKE / INT. BOAT

A small gas boat MOTORS her way.

GREEN-EYED MIKE

Is grinning. And Willie drives.

The boat WHINES CLOSER with plumes of exhaust sputter from the engine. Now pulling out front where she is.

BACK TO:
EXT. FRONT OF LAKE HOUSE - LAWN

Jessie finally HEARS THE ENGINE. STARTLED.

SHE WATCHES THEM “do circles” with the boat & covers herself quickly. They’re creepy. Recognizes them from the Garage.

AS A POV

walks up on Jessie across the stretch of grass. She’s unaware, fixed on the boat... WHEN THE SHADOW CASTS over her. Jessie jumps. SCREAMS-- then LAUGHS.

IT’S THE COUNTRY GIRL

CASSIE

Sorry!

JESSIE

That’s okay.

(beat)

No, it was those guys. Whatever?!

Hi!

CASSIE

Hey.

Both GIGGLE A BIT. Cassie is starved for it. Sad.

JESSIE

You’re “Cassie”?

CASSIE

Yeah.

JESSIE

I’m “Jessie”. Is that short for Cassandra?

Shakes her head, “yeah”.

JESSIE

Pretty name.

CASSIE

No one calls me that.

She’s wearing little booty shorts, cowboy boots, tight T with cigarettes rolled in the sleeve. She’s developing young.
JESSIE
You wanna sit?

CASSIE
K.

They plop back down on the towel laid on the grass.

CASSIE
Probably shouldn’t lay with your boobs out. *Not with these pigs around.*

JESSIE
Good advice.

JESSIE
Hey-- do why you with those guys at the garage?

CASSIE
Big-fat one is my cousin.
(then)
What’s with the video camera?

JESSIE
I film people.

CASSIE
Wanna film me?!

JESSIE
Okay.

Cassie grabs her sunglasses laying there & PUTS THEM ON.
Jessie now SHOOTING...

SOME THROUGH VIDEO LEN

CASSIE
Do I look glamorous?

JESSIE
Yes. So state your name, please.

CASSIE
I’m “Cassie” from Pleasant Ville.

She lights a smoke from her pack.

CASSIE
Want one?
JESSIE

Sure.

She hands her fresh-lit-one & lights another.

JESSIE

Where do you live?

CASSIE

Down the way a bit. Blue house. Well, it wuz green, but it’s faded blue now. I like it better.

(beat)

You’re from New York City?

JESSIE

Yeah. Not originally, but, yeah.

CASSIE

I’d love to go somewhere far away like that.

JESSIE

You don’t luv it here?

CASSIE

Hate it.

(...)

I do video work too, you know. For my Uncle. Internet “modeling”.

They take long drags in quiet.

JESSIE

Internet?! Where are your parents?

CASSIE

Don’t really have any. My dad died in Iraq. My mom is gone. I live with my cousin and Uncle.

JESSIE SOMETIMES NOT FILMING: THEN DOES

JESSIE

Oh. So do you have a boyfriend?

GIGGLES.

CASSIE

Don’t be silly. Well, gotta go!

She hands back her sunglasses.
JESSIE
Keep ‘em, they look good on you.

Cassie puts them back on with a big smile.

CASSIE
Thanks!

JESSIE
Cassie, come by anytime. Okay?

She “nods” & SKIPPING AWAY.

EXT. / INT. GARAGE - LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Jessie walks from the house to the garage dressed for the day. A bag over her shoulder & video camera around her neck.

Jessie finds a Vespa draped under a thick cover. Pulls it off with a huge smile.

JESSIE
Nice, Auntie.

She finds a small gas can and pours what’s left in the tank. STARTS IT UP & MOTORS OFF.

EXT. COUNTRY LANE - VESPA MOVING - DAY

Jessie cruises the perfect country lane... WIND in her hair.

EXT. TOWN - VESPA MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Jessie MOTORS through town... a bit of sight-seeing & waving “hello” to TOWN FOLKS. No one’s too friendly & the town has a depressed look to it.

Jessie PULLS UP to the Sheriff’s Station. GOES IN.

INT. SHERIFF’S STATION - FRONT COUNTER - DAY

Jessie talks with the DISPATCH WOMAN.

DISPATCHER
No. He’s on his “lunch-date” with Dorrene.

JESSIE
Oh, okay. Dorrene? They high-school sweethearts or something?
Oh, god no... Dorrene has tons of experience on him. “Everybody wants a little bit of Tommy!”
(GIGGLES)
That’s from an old commercial.

Sheriff Tommy’s smooth, I’ll give him that. Just tell him that Jessica Carter stopped by. I had a concern, I’m sure it’s nothing.

Oh, wait hold on Jessica, the Chief wanted to say “hello”.

The Chief?
BUZZES the Chief.

Oh, and Sheriff Tommy’s having lunch in the park. Just back up the street, turn right, there’s the park. Best view of the lake. Can’t miss it. He’d like the extra company-- trust me.

Threesomes?!  
Jessica Carter?

Jessie whips around to see the “grandfatherly” chief--smiling at her. She walks over to him.

And you’re “the Chief”.

Just want you to feel welcome, say hello. I know your Aunt, so, anything you need.

Thanks.

Guess I’ll be seeing you tonight at Junior’s?
EXT. ROAD/ PARK - DAY

Jessie comes DRIVING to the park & sees Sheriff Tommy lunching with DORRENE: an elderly woman.

Tommy sees her too. She gets from her Vespa, now sheepishly WALKING TOWARDS them.

EXT. PARK - LUNCH TABLE - CONTINUOUS

SHERIFF TOMMY
Will you, a, excuse me?

DORRENE
Shut up and go!

He is up & headed to Jessie under cover of green tree and backdrop of blue lake.

JESSIE & TOMMY

SHERIFF TOMMY  JESSIE
Look, I hope your not upset. Sorry to run you off last night.

SHERIFF TOMMY
No. It was rude of me to just have left without saying "good-bye".

JESSIE
No. I was rude.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Okay.

JESSIE
You’re bad! It was my ex-boyfriend & I’m still a bit angry & maybe I was gloating a bit because I was having a good time & he was jealous.

(...)

Sorry.
SHERIFF TOMMY
Well as long as you apologized.
(and)
It’s your private business... use me how you see fit.

Both GIGGLE. She’s loving him.

JESSIE
I tracked you down for a reason.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Not just say “hello”.

JESSIE
And the police-lady said you were up here, on a date, having lunch. So, then I had to see... is that her?! Dorrene? Your date?

SHERIFF TOMMY
Yes, we lunch. Her husband passed last year. He was Sheriff before me.

Jessie sparkles at this.

JESSIE
That’s pretty sweet. Sorry to interrupt, but a couple things are bothering me.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Tell me.

JESSIE
You know that, Cassie?

SHERIFF TOMMY
Yeah, sure. Lives with her Uncle and dip-shit cousin Stevie.

JESSIE
She came by and it seems like something’s wrong. She mentioned she does “modeling” on the internet? For her Uncle.

(beat)
That’s weird. Wouldn’t ya say?

Tommy has a “knowing look”.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Yes I would.
JESSIE
And I don’t want to sound like a total girl... but a couple of those guys from the garage, drove a boat out front my house in the lake, doing circles. Kinda was creepy.
(then)
Is that normal for here?

CHUCKLES.

SHERIFF TOMMY
No. Come with me.

Sheriff Tommy LEADS Jessica to Dorrene.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Dorrene, this is Jessica Carter. Now, I havta get but she’d luv to finish lunch with you. Jessie is our newest resident.

DORRENE
And I think I’m the oldest. My pleasure. Pretty-thing sit.

JESSIE
Thanks. I think I could learn a lot from you.

DORRENE
From you too.
  (for Sheriff Tommy)
Pretty and smart.

SHERIFF TOMMY
I’ve noticed.

He nods & smiles... walking away.

DORRENE
Tommy Mercy is all the fuss around here.

JESSIE
I bet.
EXT. CASSIE’S HOUSE – NEAR LAKE – DAY

Sheriff Tommy’s SUV... PULLS to Callie’s green-turned-blue house. It’s in complete despair, with tin foil on most windows. In the back: BRIGHT LIGHT SHINES out the creases.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. CASSIE’S HOUSE – BACK ROOM – SAME

There’s MOVING & ENERGY & something sweaty happening behind A HAND PEELING BACK part of the foil... watching him.

EXT. CASSIE’S HOUSE – FRONT DOOR – CONTINUOUS

Sheriff Tommy walks to the front. KNOCKING. BANGS AGAIN.
The door finally CRACKS to the gristly-faced OLD UNCLE (60).

OLD UNCLE
What?!

SHERIFF TOMMY
Mr. Dixon, Cassie home? Can I speak with her, please?

OLD UNCLE
She gone with friends.

SHERIFF TOMMY
She’s supposed to be in school. How about Stevie. He in there?

OLD UNCLE
What you want?!

SHERIFF TOMMY
Stevie.

OLD UNCLE
He’s gone too. You want in... bring one of those papers.

DOOR SHUTS in his face.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE / INT. LIVING ROOM – EARLY NIGHT

Jessie is at the desk & lap top under hood-- EDITING VIDEO.
NEW FOOTAGE: " some of Pleasant Ville“ & “Dorrene talk".
MUZAK PLAYS & FIRE BURNS.
See Jessie LAUNCH a “video capture program”... shows 3 CAMERA INPUTS: VIDEO SCREENS.

She turns VID CAMS ON-- by remote. NOW TESTING: two HD Cameras somewhere & her SPY-GLASS CAM... putting them on. Wine sits next to eaten cheese and crackers on a plate.

Jessie checks the time & BOUNCES UPSTAIRS.

RACK FOCUS:

SEEING A FIGURE

at the window. A cherry BURNING from a drag behind the glass. IT MOVES AWAY.

CUT TO:

BATHROOM - TUB - CONTINUOUS

Jessie soaks... on HER CELL.

JESSIE

The Sheriff is a hottie. And he’s sweet. I like him and I’m horny as hell!

(listening)

Whatever. But now I have a private party to go to with Junior. He’s the “country-rich-guy” here... So, gotta get dressed.

(...) Yeah, look at me! Okay, miss you!

She hangs up. GETS FROM the tub & wraps herself, going into the bedroom.

QUICK CUT TO:

STAIRS - LAKE HOUSE - SAME

THE POV IS WALKING UP

To her bedroom at the top... lighted & HEARING HER.
MASTER BEDROOM - SAME

Jessie is dressed. HEARING TWO HONKS outside, she goes to the window. Junior has PULLED UP in his Range Rover.

Jessie grabs her jacket when she SNAPS A LOOK... thought she heard something. She goes to her bedroom door-- looking.

JESSIE
Is anybody there?!

LIVING ROOM - STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Jessie descends the stairs. The front door is WIDE OPEN.

JESSIE
CASSIE?! Junior?

She sees her laptop on the desk IS ON-- something is being digitally downloaded.

FRONT DOOR - JUNIOR

JUNIOR
Nice dress.

Jessie SCREAMS.

JESSIE
GOD-- sorry. Yeah! I’m ready.

Jessie grabs her purse & SLIDES IN her “spy glasses” & remote recorder box. He waits as she shuts down the place & locking the front door.

EXT. PORCH - FRONT - CONTINUOUS

A clove cigarette burns on the top step-- she smells it. STOPS IN FRIGHT. It looks placed there.

INT. RANGE ROVER - COUNTRY LANE - NIGHT

“Johnny Cash” PLAYS: they drive a semi-private lane by the lake. Nearing “the Point” the homes are much nicer.

Junior’s is the best and is in fact on the Point.

JESSIE
Wow.
EXT. JUNIORS’ HOUSE - RANGE ROVER - NIGHT

PULLING UP to his gorgeous home, more like a Manor. GLOWS INSIDE. BODY GUARDS handle all with cars wrapped out front.

Junior ESCORTS Jessie to the front.

JUNIOR
Yeah, daddy did good. He was a tuff but smart. Started gobbling up a lot of property and such.

(then)
“Seeing is having”.

JESSIE
Probably said, Attila-the-Hun.

JUNIOR
The Emperor?

JESSIE
Something like that.

INT. MANOR - PRIVATE PARTY - GRAND HALL - NIGHT

The downstairs Grand Room is posh-in-play. Local rich & connected TEASED by conspiring YOUNG-WOMEN. Lots of drugs but discreet, with cocaine in candy bowls, pills in vases.

GRAND HALL - STAGE - CONTINUOUS

A BURLESQUE SHOW

as A SPOTLIGHT shines down on the star, LOLA, the sexy BURLESQUE DANCER... PERFORMING on a minor stage with a 3-MAN JAZZ BAND. Fine chairs & couches surround filled by men. WHISTLES & CHEERS come with a HIP SHAKE in seductive dance.

COUCH - FRONT STAGE - SAME

Jessie’s with Junior & two LOCAL YOUNG LADIES and distinguished OLDER MAN.

She WEARS her “spy glasses”... having A BLAST. Handed another drink from a WAITER. She’s very tipsy.

JUNIOR
Like it so far?
JESSIE

Yes.

JUNIOR

Have some of this. Just sips.

From a small bottle: a CAP FULL of GHB is to her lips.

JUNIOR

Go ahead.

She drinks it down. YUCK.

JESSIE

Salty. Was that G?

(holding her cocktail)
Hello... I’m drinking!

JUNIOR

So be careful.

AS THE SPOTLIGHT

Catches Jessie-- Lola DANCING to her. She brings her on stage with the CROWDS HELP.

Jessie’s all-in. Junior is CLAPPING, but now notices in her purse and “blinking light” from the small recorder box.

JUST AS 3 MEN

Walk up on Junior at the couch. He goes with them.

STAGE - LOLA & JESSIE

Dancing for Jessie, a fly in her web. It’s hot. WHISTLES & CLAPS fill with the smoky air. Jessie is danced & seduced off-stage to a JAZZY CRESCENDO.

INT. BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jessie and Lola GIGGLE & LAUGH... coming back-stage into her private dressing room. Crashing to a big suede couch.

It was a great performance. Lola goes for water bottles.

LOLA

Water?

PLEASE.

JESSIE
COUCH - LOLA & JESSIE

More GIGGLES... guzzling fresh cold water. They take deep breathes but then Lola reaches for her cocaine. BUMPS A COUPLE then LOADS the spoon & up to Jessie’s nose.

Jessie’s SNIFFING... more from being drunk and the G hitting her. Lola KISSES Jessie. She’s KISSES, but pulls away.

THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR CLOSES

... now with Junior inside.

JUNIOR (O.C.)
That will always make my guest list. Jessie, I wanted to make sure I found you, give you your purse.

COMES OVER, sitting between them on the couch.

JESSIE
Oh, thanks.

Lola’s ready with coke. SNORTS. Lola & Junior KISS DEEP.

POV THROUGH SPY GLASSES

Jessie is out-of-her-mind... Lola RUBBING & KISSING her... now Junior KISSING Jessie.

She JUMPS UP. Taking off the glasses & shoving them in the purse. The purse to her shoulder to go.

JESSIE
Oh boy, I need the bathroom!

Jessie’s looking for the door.

LOLA
Use mine.

JESSIE
No, I’d be too embarrassed.

Barely a smile... leaving Junior with Lola.

Junior just stares hard.
INT. HALLWAY - MANOR - CONTINUOUS

Jessie is shaky on her feet... moving down one hallway to another corridor. PARTY NOISE is deeper & somewhere else.

She FREEZES-- seeing a SUITED MAN bring a very YOUNG GIRL to a room. CLOSES the door behind and leaves.

Jessie gets her wits best she can... goes to the door. There is a KEY HOLE & looks through-- HORROR STRICKEN.

She gets to her bag & SPY GLASSES.

THROUGH THE KEY HOLE

PRIVATE ROOM - “A SCENE”

Jessie sees at the back of this low-lit, large room with pool table and private full bar... a huge couch where FOUR OLDER-MEN are with six YOUNG GIRL’S (early-teens)... all sexual & sorted. She recognizes one of the Older Men.

JESSIE
(more to herself)
The Chief?!

HALLWAY - SAME

JUNIOR (O.C.)
That’s not a bathroom.

Jessie JUMPS IN FRIGHT.

JESSIE
Ah, no. I think I just need some fresh air.

And heads off opposite, down the corridor and into the main of the house & PARTY.

INT. PARTY - MANOR - CONTINUOUS

Jessie quickly but casually heads for the front door.

Junior watches... with a COUPLE OF SUITED MEN going for her.
EXT. JUNIORS’ HOUSE / INT. CLASSIC TRUCK - NIGHT

Tommy is off duty, sitting out front the gates in his classic pick-up: white & in mint condition. He’s drinking from an antique flask. Smoking & feeling sorry for himself.

TOMMY
God, I’m pathetic.

Turns UP MUZAK. He knows the place is dirty.

NOW SEES JESSIE

Walking out the house-- a bit of distress. HONKS TWICE. He quickly gets from the truck and GOES to her.

Jessie sees him. RUSHES OVER. HUGS.

JESSIE
Thank god. Can you take me home?

TOMMY
Come on.

He props her close, WALKING HER to his truck.

TOMMY
Yup... all the best people.

INT. CLASSIC TRUCK - DRIVING - NIGHT / MORNING (3AM)

Jessie is close to the open window for air. Her great dress clings a bit disheveled.

JESSIE
I think I’m gonna be sick!

TOMMY
Hold on.

He PULLS the truck of the lane. The lake just out front.

EXT. CLASSIC TRUCK - SIDE OF COUNTRY LANE

Jessie PUKES a bit... out her open door.

JESSIE
Oh, god!

TOMMY
Sexy.
He hands her some mouthwash. She SWIRLS & SPITS.

JESSIE
Got a cigarette?

TOMMY
Sure, princess.

JESSIE
I’d be embarrassed... if I wasn’t so freaked out. And HIGH. I’m gross.

TOMMY
No your not.
(then)
I’m a little drunk too.

JESSIE
Sheriff?!

The MOOD IMMEDIATELY SHIFTS-- LAUGHS. She reaches for his flask & he gives it. A SWIRL & SPIT... then a fresh GULP.

JESSIE
Then we both should get home.

INT. CLASSIC TRUCK - COUNTRY LANE - CONTINUOUS

JESSIE
That place is evil. There’s something I need to show you-- when I can think and see straight.

Tommy stabs a look.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - FRONT - LATE NIGHT/ MORNING

Tommy carries Jessie to her front door.

JESSIE
So, why isn’t there a little-miss-thang in your life?

TOMMY
There was. Four years.

JESSIE
You live together?
TOMMY
A couple. She past the Bar and wanted to stay in the city. I don’t blame her.

JESSIE
Well MINE was a TV actor-star. Three fucking years!

TOMMY
Is he any good?

JESSIE
At acting?

TOMMY
YES-- acting.

She kinda shrugs & dismisses with a hand.

JESSIE
Hit & miss across the board.

CHUCKLES.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tommy carries Jessie in. It’s darkish but for the fire still burning. Jessie’s comfortable in his arms.

THEIR EYES LOCK

JESSIE
There was this sexy burlesque dancer, sweaty and kept kissing me.

TOMMY
Nice.

Jessie just points a hand & he carries her up the stairs.

JESSIE
And I kissed Junior.

TOMMY
Not Junior!?

JESSIE
Well, I was high and drunk. I was investigating! There were a lot of “young girls” there... doing sex stuff. The Chief too.
TOMMY
You sure that’s not the booze or drugs talking? Or the kiss?!

JESSIE
Never know.

MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS
They fall to her bed AND KISSING.

JESSIE
I want to clean up. Find some music.

TOMMY
Yes, mam.

JESSIE
You didn’t just say that?

TOMMY
I was playin’.

She’s gone to the bathroom... Sheriff Tommy TURNS ON the stereo. With his lighter sparks two candles sitting there.

Jessie is back for Tommy in lingerie & straddles on top.

JESSIE
Got your hand-cuffs?

TOMMY
You bet.

They KISS HARD & she’s stripped from her panties & bra. Tommy licks & KISSES skin. She helps him get naked.

He TWIRLS his cuffs on his fingers. LUST taking over.

JESSIE
I’m a bad girl... and you’re gonna have to get new ones.

TOMMY
Not a problem.

He CUFFS HER to the bed... KISSING... Rubbing. BOTH LAUGHING with MUZAK PLAYING.

QUICK CUT TO:
INT. OTHER BEDROOM - LAKE HOUSE - SAME

As FEET come from behind the bedroom door. QUIETLY MOVES into the dark hallway... SEEING Jessie & Tommy HAVING SEX.

BED - MATER BEDROOM - SAME

Jessie GRUNTS & MOANS with Tommy inside her. Good hard chemical sex.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LAKE / INT. BOAT - PRE DAWN

Tommy rows the boat over still water-- a silhouette. Jessie is wrapped in warm blanket. The lake yawns in RUSTLES of nature & WAKING WIND.

Tommy & Jessie are now wrapped tight together... waiting for the sunrise.

   TOMMY
   Wait for it.

JUST AS THE SUN CRACKS HORIZON

... paints gold everywhere in a swift stroke. CRISP RAYS hit & shine across their faces. Immediately birds CHIRP & fly. Fish JUMP as if hearing the morning alarm.

   JESSIE
   Thank you for this.

Jessie has tears.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Breakfast is eaten. Tommy still at the table & Jessie over at her WORK STATION.

POV THROUGH SPY CAM GLASSES

   JESSIE
   See-- these are what I was using.

   TOMMY
   You actually wore those?
JESSIE
Yeah, what? But I got great footage. Evidence!

TOMMY
Evidence?!

JESSIE
This is what I wanted to show you. Hey-- that video camera on the table, is the red light on?

Sheriff Tommy picks it up: looking.

TOMMY
Yes. And the box next to it is blinking.

JESSIE
Huh? That’s connected to a movement censor: “remote image capture”. Bring it, please?

TOMMY
Impressive. For secret interviews?

Walking to her & seeing video “playing back” on the screen.

JESSIE
Not so James Bond. But, you can create a shot with it. Capture something designed but still authentic.

TOMMY
And if you have naked swimming lake girls... it will be a smash hit.

JESSIE
At least one naked swimming lake girl. But I need some real conflict.

He PULLS OUT his gun in play.

TOMMY
Well, I’m game.

Both LAUGH.

JESSIE
I’m gonna set one up outside.
TOMMY
Scenic shots?

JESSIE
Well, yes... and catch those jerks
if they come back in their boat.
(beat)
It just wasn’t right.
(them)
Look at this. It’s the Chief?!

COMPUTER SCREEN

Tommy looks at the video shot through the peep-hole. It’s
not perfect but you see what’s there... very young girls &
old men & the Chief.

TOMMY
Can I get a copy of that?

JESSIE
I can burn you a disk. Who you
gonna show?

TOMMY
No one, just yet. And neither
should you.
(...)
You ever shot a gun?

JESSIE
Sheriff?!

TOMMY
Follow me. And bring the camera.

They head outside.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - FRONT - DAY

TOMMY
One sec.

Sheriff Tommy goes to his SUV... get’s a small gun case &
comes back to her.

TOMMY
You are in the country now.
(beat)
It’s actually quite liberating.

Jessie is EXCITED. They walk a tree path by the lake’s edge.
Sheriff Tommy has some bottles SET UP. Jessie has her camera filming: a WIDE SHOT.

JESSIE & TOMMY

Begin the target shoot. She’s got a hand-gun (38 Special), stretched out & eye down the barrel.

TOMMY
Pick a target, preferably nothing breathing. This arm strong— that hand cups for support. Eye down the nose... spot something specific and squeeze.

POW.

JESSIE
WOW.

TOMMY
Let it go.

POW. POW. POW. Birds SHRIEK & FLUTTER OFF.

Jessie jumps in his arms EXHILARATED. They KISS.

JESSIE
You don’t seem like some small town Sheriff.

She SLOWLY DROPS out of his arms.

TOMMY
It’s always about size.

(then)
I was in the FBI, lived in DC. 10 years in the field.

(...) The “safety” is here, leave it pushed. Some bullets. Practice. Keep it handy. And don’t take any more rides from strangers.

JESSIE
So you just left the FBI?

TOMMY
No. There was a shoot-out with these vigilantes outside a Clinic. It had been targeted. I was hit...

(MORE)
my partner was lost.
During recovery, I came to see my mother. She had breast cancer but I didn’t know. She was alone and I wanted to be here for her at the end. Stayed. Going on 3 years now.

POV THROUGH VIDEO LENS: FILMING

JESSIE
Regrets?

SHERIFF TOMMY
Not now.

She KISSES him again.

TOMMY
So do I get your phone number?

JESSIE
You gonna take me out?

TOMMY
It’s Saturday night and the carnivals in town. Try some wholesome country fun?

JESSIE
Hey, can I bring Cassie with us?

TOMMY
Sure.

JESSIE
Yes, it will be perfect for gettin’ video interviews from “descent country folk”!

TOMMY
Good luck to that.

GIGGLES & more KISSING.

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRY LANE - VESPA MOVING - SUNSET

Jessie drives to Cassie’s. PULLS UP to the crappy blue-now-green house & sadness reeks about it.
Just then... LIGHTS GLOWS from the back bedroom. She goes to the front door. KNOCKS. Waits.

JESSIE
Cassie?!

Jessie then moves along the outside to the back bedroom & that light glowing out creases of the foil windows.

LOOKING IN THE WINDOW

Jessie sees photo lights... pointed to a bed with a video camera on tripod. Wires going to a computer with MANY MiniDV tapes labeled on a shelf.

Seeing Stevie shove Cassie to the bed... wearing a “sexy-little-girl outfit”. It’s perverse.

JUST AS THE FACE

of the Old Uncle appears in the window-- staring at her.

Jessie SCREAMS. Backs away fast. The Old Uncle just keeps staring. Jessie gets to her Vespa & LEAVES.

INT. CLASSIC TRUCK - DRIVING - NIGHT

Jessie is deep in thought.

TOMMY
I’m feeling a little insecure with all your “quiet”.

JESSIE
It’s not all about you, Sheriff.

TOMMY
Ouch. It’s not “Tommy” anymore?

JESSIE
It’s Cassie. That house and Uncle.

(...)
There is something pornographic happening there-- I know it! Have you gone by there?

TOMMY
Yes. I’m trying to get a warrant to see for myself.
JESSIE
Try harder.

THEY PULL to the open field where the carnival is... flashing & blinking lights with rides & LAUGHTER of TOWN FOLK.

JESSIE
Sorry to snap.

TOMMY
No. I’ve been having a lot of the same concerns.

Jessie pulls out her HD CAM and starts to SHOOT.

JESSIE
Let’s have some fun.

EXT. CARNIVAL - NIGHT

RIDING THE FERRIS WHEEL

Lights blur with the rush of wind & their LAUGHTER. Jessie & Tommy going up & over. Jessie VIDEOS... between KISSES.

CARNIVAL - FOOD COURT - CONTINUOUS

Jessie and Tommy eat corn dogs & cotton candy with HAPPY PEOPLE everywhere.

JESSIE
You want to get me fat! I know your ploy.

TOMMY
I’m caught. I don’t want any one else to “want” you.

JESSIE
I’m gonna talk to those teens.

TOMMY
Go.

TOMMY

watches her go to them... ENERGETIC & FUN. The GROUP OF TEENS (8), mostly girls. They start TALKING to camera.
Tommy then spots: Junior, Green-Eyed Mike and the Chief huddled together in a “hushed conversation” & HEATED.

Green-Eyed Mike’s in Junior’s face... the Chief between them.

JESSIE
Hey, Tommy?!

His attention is back to her.

JESSIE
TICKETS?

They come together & gives her a bunch of the RIDE TICKETS.

TOMMY
Made some friends?

JESSIE
We’re gonna go to the House of Mirrors... maybe funny images to go with their “talk”.

She takes them & scampers off.

Tommy NOW GOES to Junior & Green-Eyed Mike... but they walk off leaving the Chief standing there.

TOMMY & CHIEF - CONTINUOUS

TOMMY
Chief-- is there anything you want to tell me?

CHIEF
Not particularly. Did you take that city-girl home from Junior’s?

TOMMY
Yeah. She didn’t feel safe. (beat) You were there.

CHIEF
What were you doing there?

TOMMY
Just passing by.

CHIEF
You don’t have to worry about that. Junior, I mean. I’ll do that.
TOMMY
No, I’ll help you.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE OF MIRRORS - CARNIVAL - SAME

MONTAGE: Jessie having “video fun” with the Teens. They are SAYING things like: “my boyfriend makes me feel like this”... & “sex for the first time felt like this”... with the mirrors making shapes with their bodies & face.

MIRRORS

The teens FINISH & GO. Jessie now films herself... when Junior comes behind her.

JUNIOR
So where did you run off to?

Jessie WHIPS around-- STARTLED.

JESSIE
Oh, Junior.
(beat)
Just not my kinda-thing.

JUNIOR
Too bad.

JESSIE
Aren’t you married?

Junior grabs her arm tight. PULLS HER IN.

JUNIOR
I already fuck her.

JESSIE
Fuck you.

When SOME YOUNGER KIDS come into the room.

Junior corners Jessie.

JUNIOR
You fuck the Sheriff?!

JESSIE
Well, he’s a real man.
JUNIOR
Funny and dangerous. You’ll get what’s coming to you.

JESSIE
Love and joy?!

JUNIOR
Yeah, who knows.

Jessie pushes him away & HURRIES OUT.

EXT. HOUSE OF MIRRORS - CARNIVAL - NIGHT
Jessie comes from the EXIT... Tommy is waiting. But she just keeps walking.

JESSIE
Take me home, please.

TOMMY
Jessie?!

INT. CLASSIC TRUCK - COUNTRY LANE - NIGHT
Tommy now coming to Jessie’s lake house.

JESSIE
There is something very wrong happening in this town. Can’t you see that?

TOMMY
Yes.

He PULLS TO a stop in her drive.

JESSIE
Well, if you’re not going to do something about it, I will.

TOMMY
What did Junior say to you?

JESSIE
Nothing I can’t handle.

TOMMY
Want me to stay with you awhile. Have a drink and calm down.
JESSIE
No. I want to look at the video I shot again. See if there’s anything more there.
(beat)
Look, call me tomorrow. I just want to be alone right now.

TOMMY
Yes, mam.

EXT. FRONT - LAKE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS
She GETS OUT quick for her front door. Tommy is out with a half-ass escort.

TOMMY
Good night, Jessie.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - LAKE HOUSE - LATER NIGHT
Jessie is at her work station: STUDYING VIDEO.

COMPUTER SCREEN
shows FOOTAGE from “remote camera”-- on the table the night before. SOMEONE crosses frame & headed for stairs... AND UP.

JESSIE
goes pure white. JUMPS UP. Now closes curtains on the window. She goes for HER GUN-- loads it. She shuts down everything. Takes her lap top & gun upstairs.

INT. CLASSIC TRUCK / EXT. COUNTRY LANE - SAME
Tommy is staked-out... watching out for her. Bummed.

BACK TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS
Jessie is safe, locked in her room. Puts the gun down by her purse on the bed stand.
She goes to her closet looking for a place to hide her computer—REMEMBERS. Goes for her key ring—one is for a safe in the floor board.

FLOOR BOARD - SAFE

She moves the hidden loose wood: UNLOCKS with key & opens the built-in safe box. Papers & such inside & now her computer—LOCKING IT.

She’s back to her bed. All’s quiet but for her HEAVY BREATHING. Her phone RINGS. JUMPS— with a SCREAM.

She gets it out but doesn’t answer: TOMMY. She sees there’s MESSAGES. PLAYS THEM over the phone speaker.

MESSAGE 1: RICKY
Look I know you’re upset right now.
I’m here if you need me.

MESSAGE 2: SHAWNA
Hey, how’s the country? Is it dirty? Hold on, here’s Brooke.
... Jessie call us! We want to come see you. Girls weekend. Any hot guys?
   (Brooke/Shawna)
BYE!!

MESSAGE 3: AUDREY
Hello. Audrey. Hope you’re loving the place and working hard. Bye.

MESSAGE 4: RICKY
OKAY, you’ve made your point. I’ve been thinking... about us... the future... babies and all that.

Jessie is CRYING: about it all—life sucking right now.

MESSAGE CONTINUES
I miss you. I love you.
   (beat)
But look-- you fuck someone, it’s over! No dreams. No fantasy.

She CLICKS OFF it off. CRIES HARDER.

FADE TO BLACK.
EXT. LAKE HOUSE - SHORE - DAY

Jessie flutters in bikini to the shore and row boat tied to a tree. She’s carrying a big towel & picnic basket.

She unties her cute row boat and JUMPS IN.

EXT. LAKE - BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Jessie ROWS letting nature revive her. She now lets the boat float loose & lays out on her towel for sunbathing-- her IPod ON. Peaceful & perfect.

CUT TO:

LAKE - MOTOR BOAT - SAME

From far off on the lake... a smaller-boat MOTORS to her. COMING FAST.

It’s Green-Eyed-Mike and Willie driving. They start doing CIRCLES around her boat. Jessie’s aware-- PISSED & SCARED.

She’s far from shore and no one to help. She takes one of the oars & swings it at them.

JESSIE

BEAT IT, assholes!

Both are CACKLING & grinning like pirates. Green-Eyed Mike grabs the oar, toying with her.

Jessie’s FREAKING. He reaches for the rope tied to the front of her boat... clinches it with his strong-greasy hands.

GREEN-EYED-MIKE

Got me a big one!

Willie MOTORS ON... with Jessie BEING PULLED BEHIND them.

JESSE

Is FRANTIC & desperate. She jumps from the MOVING boat into the water. SPLASH. CHOICKING. Tries to swim away.

LAKE WATER - MOTOR BOAT

They CIRCLE AROUND... nearly hitting her.

Green-Eyed-Mike snatches her from the water. PULLS HER IN.
INT. MOTOR BOAT / EXT. LAKE - CONTINUOUS

CHOCKING... Jessie is a wet half-naked carcass lying there.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
No more fancy parties for you
girl... just dirty country fun.

JESSIE
You piece of shit!

He comes at her & she FIGHTS HIM. He rips off her top and
SMACKS her across the face. THUD. Down.

She lays dazed & WHIMPERING with wet hair in her face... on
this motorboat ride over lake.

MOTOR BOAT - WOODSY COVE

Willie pilots to a remote cove & GROUNDING into the mud.

EXT. WOODSY COVE - SHORE - DAY

Jessie quick jumps from the boat. Her lip-- bloody.

JESSIE
You pig perverts!!

SHE RUNS past them-- an “escape” through the tall brush. But
she’s not getting away. Stevie & Junior are waiting.

JESSIE - GRASSY CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

Her sad & wet eyes... turn horror. Trapped.

JESSIE
You pussy mother-fucker!

JUNIOR
You kiss babies with that mouth?
And sorry to say... you’re off my
“guest list”.

JESSIE
DON’T TOUCH ME!

JUNIOR
Hey, you kissed me.

She tries to run but Stevie grabs her... THROWING HER to the
ground. She’s SLAPPING-- he SMACKS back. SLAPS HER HARD.
WILLIE
Shit, Junior. What the fuck now?! What are you doing?

JUNIOR
I thought all you black boys dream of white pussy?
(beat)
You’ll get yours.

Willie stands wide-eyed & scared.

WILLIE
No, I like my meat dark and thick.

JESSIE
(leaks out)
Help me.

JUNIOR
Get out of here then!

Willie runs off... lost to thick bush.

Jessie’s held down & CRYING.

Junior gets over her, pulling down pants.

JESSIE
HELP! HELP ME!!!

JUNIOR
Your boy-toy Sheriff can’t save you now.

JESSIE
I’m sorry! PLEASE.
(then)
Think about your baby girl!

JUNIOR
I told you-- no cameras. You violated my trust. Thinking you can fuck with my shit. I’m Attila-the-Hun, remember?

JESSIE
I’ll give you all the footage. I won’t saying anything! I PROMISE.

JUNIOR
Well after this you won’t.
Jessie STRUGGLES but Green-Eyed-Mike & Stevie hold her down by her arms. Junior pins Jessie’s legs & FUCKS HER HARD.

JESSIE

SCREAMS. CRYING. Junior PUMPS. All she can do is take it--MORE & MORE. Her strength looses, lying flat.

Junior’s loving it. EVEN KISSING on her face & tits like it’s good & FINISHES with a BIG MOAN.

Her arms have been let go... with them LAUGHING.

JESSIE - THE GANG

She finally gets to her feet. Staggers weak, bloody lip & WHIMPERING.

JESSIE

Sick fuck.

She stumbles away... naked... they let her go.

EXT. SWAMPY WOODS - LATER DAY - CONTINUOUS

Jessie is a MESS... STOMPING THROUGH swampy water. She keeps close to shore, headed through thicker trees. No houses & no fresh sunlight here.

TEARS FLOW. Walking & walking.

WOODSY CLEARING - LATER

Jessie’s tired eyes are glazed, red, with dried tears streaked on her dirty face.

She comes to a clearing where some sunlight shines... but Stevie’s there sitting on a flat rock.

STEVIE

is SHOOTING: with one of her cameras.

STEVIE

Ready for your close-up? Found this at your place. Been wanting a new camera. This footage will be hit on-line.
Junior & Green-Eyed-Mike now come from behind trees. All stoic. She is center to their triangle.

She makes a weak dash-for-it but Green-Eyed-Mike snares her.

    STEVIE
    Bring her over here. The lighting is good.

Green-Eyed Mike takes her to the flat rock. He’s in her face. Close. SPITS OUT chew & smiles with greasy lips & gold tooth.

    GREEN-EYED MIKE
    Where’s that sass mouth now?

FLAT ROCK

He spreads her over-- face down. Arms just hang off the rock with hair matted & tossed. “GEM” NOW FUCKING HER HARD.

    JESSIE
    Ahhhh!!!

    STEVIE
    Yeah, you like that! Fancy New York bitch!

Jessie is SOBBING. Her delicate skin getting SCRAPED & bloody... POUNDED & pressed against the rough rock.

Stevie FILMS Green-Eyed Mike FUCKING Jessie... all sweaty & BREATHING & CUMMING inside her. Finally peels himself off.

Jessie left draped over the rock like used meat.

    GREEN-EYED MIKE
    “Sex tapes sell”.

Junior comes to Jessie... still sprawled over rock.

    JUNIOR
    Now, you bring everything I need to Willie at the garage. And this is over.

Jessie is not really moving-- maybe passed out.

The gang WALKS OFF into sunlight and thick trees.
FLAT ROCK - CONTINUOUS

Raw eyes are fresh with new wet. Blood is on skin mixing with mud. Jessie finally MOVES.

She rolls from the rock onto the dirt. It’s hard for her to stand... so she mostly crawls.

EXT. TREES - LAKE HOUSE - LATE DAY

Jessie is on her feet stumbling from trees-- a walking corpse. She’s made it to her property & falls to the stretch of lawn out front.

Now moving on wobbly legs over the grass for inside.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SUNSET

Jessie has dropped to the clean carpet & quiet of the warm living room. Seemingly near dead from pain & exhaust... laying flat on her stomach.

Eyes flutter open & closed. The fire is burning & STEREO PLAYS.

    JUNIOR
    I was beginning to worry.

HER POV

gazes at the fire... BUT SEEING LEGS cross her sight.

    JUNIOR
    Where did you hide the footage?
    Can’t find it. You give to your lover? ‘Cause that’d be a mistake.

Green-Eyed Mike & Stevie are there too. Been drinking awhile looking & waiting. The place is “tossed” a bit & passing around the Southern Comfort.

    JUNIOR
    Eh, I’m talking to you!

    JESSIE
    There’s no footage. I swear, Ass-fuck.

Green-Eyed Mike GIGGLES. Junior CHUCKLES-- but not.
GREEN-EYED MIKE
There’s that sass mouth.
(then)
See-- there’s more fight in this dog. I’ll beat it out of her.

STEVIE
I want to hump her!

GREEN-EYED MIKE
Your fat stomach won’t even let you get your little dick in her.

STEVIE
Wanna find out?!?

GREEN-EYED MIKE
I’ll make you my bitch! Is that why you only fuck your cousin.

Now Junior’s LAUGHING TOO. But he HEARS SOMETHING.

JUNIOR
Eh, SHUT UP!

He goes to the window-- looking.

JUNIOR’S POV
Sees Sheriff Tommy PULL UP.

JUNIOR
Sheriff Tommy. Take her upstairs-- NOW.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
Let’s kill that pig!

JUNIOR
Cool it war hero. Upstairs!

Junior CLOSES TIGHT the window curtains & follows them upstairs. Stevie carrying Jessie.

BACK TO:

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - SUNSET

Sheriff Tommy comes to door. KNOCKS. Looks in a window but it’s hard to see, except the fire burning-- MUZAK PLAYING.

He KNOCKS AGAIN... holding flowers.
SHERIFF TOMMY

JESSIE?!

After a moment he places the flowers at the door. A nice surprise for her later. LEAVES.

BACK TO:

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

Junior, Green-Eyed Mike are peeking out the window, Stevie holding a limp Jessie quiet.

JUNIOR
Come on, we’re going.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
I could snap her neck. Sink her in the lake.

JUNIOR
We gotta get. He may come looking for us.

He walks over to Jessie alone on the bed.

JUNIOR
You may think you can hurt us... but don’t. I’ll kill Cassie.

Jessie HEARS him. Eyes open with TEARS.

JUNIOR
Okay, then.

They all leave.

JESSIE’S POV

stares at the gun on the night stand. No strength.

CUT TO:

INT. JESSIE’S BEDROOM - BED - THAT NIGHT

Jessie is clean from a bath, wrapped in blanket, a bruised face & split lip. The room is dark but for a FULL MOON shinning light.
She’s drinking from the bottle of Southern Comfort. She may as well be dead. What’s left of her tears, pain & anger... FLOOD OUT.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - LATER NIGHT

Cassie walks across the lawn, going under Jessie’s bedroom window. No lights on anywhere.

CASSIE’S CRYING

CASSIE
You up there Jessie?!  
(beat)
I’M SORRY THEY DID THAT TO YOU.  
(then)
I wish they were dead!!

INT. JESSIE’S BEDROOM - SAME

Jessie HEARS. She goes to the window.

Cassie stands sorry & hopeful. Waves-- seeing Jessie.

CASSIE
I brought you some smokes, if you want.

JESSIE
Go away, Cassie. Don’t come back here!

CASSIE
I hate them!

Cassie STAMPS her feet sad & angry. She tosses down the smokes & sunglasses... RUNS OFF.

Jessie shuffles back to her bed. She picks up THE GUN.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

Jessie comes from out the house in the big blanket... covers her whole body & head.
ON THE PORCH

Jessie sees the flowers left there but just steps over them.

EXT. FRONT - LAKE SHORE - CONTINUOUS

Jessie crosses the grass looking-like a ghost in that flowing blanket & under a spotlight of a huge FULL MOON.

She PICKS UP the smokes & PUTS ON her sunglasses... walking to the water’s edge & row boat tied neatly to the tree, as if nothing’s happened.

She lights a cigarette & unties the boat... ROWS OFF.

EXT. LAKE / INT. BOAT

Jessie ROWS OVER black water... ROWING & ROWING. The gun in her lap. She passes dotted lights of houses on the lake shore. Blue moon filters over all.

BOAT - LAKE - PRE DAWN

No more rowing. Booze is all drunk & cigarettes smoked. Her boat is adrift. THE GUN is in her hand. TEARS FLOW. The gun to her head... to her mouth... finding last guts.

SHE SCREAMS. New day is about to break with the RUSTLE in it’s first stretch-- a day she cannot face.

A GUN SHOT.

Jessie is alive-- wasn’t her gun. She stares to where the shot came... on shore out front Cassie’s house.

Stevie SHOOTS his shotgun into the air AGAIN... Cassie outside YELLIN’ & SCREAMIN’. Stevie YELLING AT HER.

LAKE - INT. BOAT - DAWN

Jessie is dead-still when the SUNRISE floods her. Newness BANGS in razor-crisp. Birds CHIRPING & fish JUMP with Jessie BALLING.

JESSIE

begins ROWING BACK. New energy. Naked in a blanket but ROWING STRONG. She’s headed dead to the shore & Cassie.
EXT. SHORE - CASSIE’S HOUSE - SUNRISE

Jessie climbs from the boat... gun in hand. She creeps around the house SEEING those same bright lights flooding inside. She goes to the back bedroom window.

JESSIE’S POV

Cassie’s on a bed near-naked & out-of-it. LIGHTS SHINE on her jacking-off Stevie, with the Old Uncle: FILMING.

Jessie STORMS to the front door... PICKING UP an old toilet laying with other crap. With all her strength... rushes the door in a SCREAM-- KNOCKS IT WIDE.

INT. CASSIE’S HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

JESSIE CHARGES, gun drawn into a dark & murky mess. Reeks. MOVING DOWN the hallway for the closed bedroom door.

JESSIE

Cassie!?!

She SHOOTS TWICE & KICKING OPEN the door.

BEDROOM - SAME

Cassie is on the bed covering herself. TEARS. Inside it’s hot & sweaty. Lights ON-- camera filming. MUZAK.

Stevie gets to his feet.

STEVIE

Fuck you, bitch!

He jumps for his shotgun-- POINTING.

JESSIE

Never PIG!!

Jessie SHOOTS HIM in the crotch and he’s down in blood & SCREAMS... a SHOTGUN BLAST hitting the ceiling.

CASSIE

JESSIE!? Behind you

A POV

COMES on Jessie. Grabs her.
It’s the Old Uncle BLEEDING & HUFFING from being shot through the door... but knocks the gun from her hand. Jessie STRUGGLES against him but gets ridden to the bed. Stevie YELLING & SCREAMING.

TWO SHOTGUN BLASTS hit the back of the Old Uncle.

PLUMS OF SMOKE

leak from out the snout. Cassie crakes the barrel.

Jessie rolls him off. DEAD. She’s on her feet-- still naked. Cassie & Jessie hug.

JESSIE
Go get what you want. We’re leaving!

She runs to her room.

Stevie’s still BLUBBERING, Jessie just stands over him.

STEVIE
I can get you money. From Junior!

JESSIE
Oh, I’m gonna collect from him.

Cassie is back with a bag... now standing with Jessie, gun drawn on Stevie.

CASSIE
He’s my cousin.
(to Stevie)
Get your fat ass on the bed!

He PAINFULLY does with difficulty... Cassie going to the shelf FULL OF MINIDVs-- looking. Finds it.

JESSIE
What is it?

CASSIE
This is mine. My first.

She goes to the camera-- takes out that tape.

CASSIE
My last.

Cassie now BEATING Stevie with the video camera on tripod. He SCREAMS.
JESSIE
Want me to shoot him dead?

CASSIE
No. Keep him there.

Cassie RUNS OUT-- on a mission. Jessie spots her video camera on the desk. Goes to it... tape still inside.

She TURNS IT ON coming back to Stevie.

JESSIE
Hey fat ball-sack... ready for your close-up?!

STEVIE
PLEASE. I’m sorry! What the fuck... you’re hot.

Cassie comes carrying a big gas can & splashes gas over all.

JESSIE FILMING ALL

CASSIE
gets a cigarette from a pack on the desk & the lighter. FLICK. PUFF... then tosses to the bed. IGNITES.

Jessie & Cassie head out.

EXT. CASSIE’S HOUSE – SUNRISE

New-morning-light is bright on Cassie & Jessie’s eyes. But they are free & outside.

They hug tight.

CASSIE
Thank you.

EXT. BOAT – LAKE – LATE SUNRISE – CONTINUOUS

Jessie ROWS wrapped in blanket. Cassie is stoic with big wet eyes. Stares at her house shrinking away... deep smoke & FLAMES leaking from windows.

She picks up the video camera: FILMING.

CUT TO:
INT. JESSIE’S BATHROOM - JUST LATER

Jessie holds Cassie in bed-- CRYING. BOTH.

Finally... Jessie gets up & dresses-- wears bikini bottoms, sunglasses, cowboy hat, boots & a sheer slip-top. Focused.

She then LOADS the gun sitting next to Cassie snug in bed. Jessie gives her a couple sleeping pills & she takes them.

    JESSIE
    When you wake, this will all be over.

    CASSIE
    Get ’em, Jessie. Get them all.

    JESSIE
    I will, lil’ babe.

Jessie closes the drapes-- make the room dark. In the blue sky, thick smoke plums from Cassie’s down the way.

    JESSIE
    Don’t answer the door for anyone.

    CASSIE
    I love you.

    JESSIE
    I love you too.

HEARING SIRENS of the Fire Truck in the distance.

Jessie heads out, closing the door behind her.

INT. GARAGE - DOOR - LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Jessie waits... sees Sheriff Tommy FLY PAST in his SUV with LIGHTS & SIRENS.

Jessie pushes open the garage door & gets to her Vespa. MOTORS OFF.

EXT. CASSIE’S HOUSE - COUNTRY LANE - DAY

The fire is out, smouldering & charred. The Fire Department at work in CLEAN-UP & DEMOLISH.

    FIRE MARSHALL
    It was deliberately set. Common gas the accelerator.
SHERIFF TOMMY
Can I walk it?

FIRE MARSHALL
Still hot, but yeah. Two bodies in the back room. That’s the focal.
(Pointed)
There’s a lot in there for you.

Sheriff Tommy shakes his head, “yeah”.

CUT TO:

EXT. TOWN STREETS - GARAGE & MARKET - DAY

Jessie COMES to the front of the Garage & Green-Eyed-Mike standing out front. He’s cool & smoking a cigarette.

She PULLS right to him.

JESSIE
Heeeey.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
“Hey” back.

JESSIE
I think my engine is acting up. Can I take you for a ride & check it out?

GREEN-EYED MIKE
You wanna take me for a ride?

JESSIE
Uh huh! Get on and hold tight.

He straddles tight to her ass-- smiling big.

The ENGINE WHINES as they head down the road.

ROAD - VESPA - CONTINUOUS

Green-Eyed Mike is feeling her up on this drive. She lets him, CRUISING ALONG.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
Everything feels right to me.

Jessie nears the old iron bridge that crosses a narrow river vein of the lake. STOPS.
JESSIE
How ‘bout you drive.

He slides forward... now she’s on back.

GREEN-EYED MIKE
I know a place.

She KISSES him. THEY GO.

EXT. BRIDGE - VESPA MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Jessie rubs him as they pick-up speed.

GREEN-EYED-MIKE
I’m gonna fuck your pussy!
(then)
Fuck Junior. And FUCK that Sheriff!

JESSIE
FUCK ‘EM ALL!

When Jessie reaches into her boot & PULLS OUT the handcuffs... CUFFING his left wrist to the bars & squeezing the gas tight. NOW FULL THROTTLE to the bridge.

Jessie steers the Vespa off the edge-- before leaping free.

HER BOOTS
Slide across asphalt in sparks... grabbing hold of the steel bridge frame.

BRIDGE - WATER

Green-Eyed Mike SCREAMS... flung from the bridge. He PLUNGES into the water & sinks in bubbles.

JESSIE
Stands, gun drawn from the her boot, looking.

QUICK CUT TO:

UNDERWATER - GREEN-EYED MIKE

Green-Eyed Mike is cuffed to the Vespa on the shallow bottom. Dark & blue. A last GASP OF BREATH and his eyes go wide.
His body becomes a bouy, stiff-chained to metal now floating taught against the current.

BACK TO:

EXT. BRIDGE - ROAD - DAY

Jessie casually walks back for town-- gun in hand.

INT. CASSIE’S HOUSE - BACK ROOM - LATER DAY

Sheriff Tommy is with mask over his mouth. The FORENSIC/Coroner walks Sheriff Tommy through it.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Stevie Collins?

CORONER-FORENSIC
Shot in the crotch-- 38 slug. Close range but the fire is what probably killed him.

SHERIFF TOMMY
The Uncle?

CORONER-FORENSIC
12 gauge-- two in the back. The shotgun was his. Initials are carved in what’s left of the handle. It feels like a hit... but shot in the crotch is a little strange. There was some internet operation going on here, I think.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Everything in this room is important.

BACK TO:

EXT. TOWN - GARAGE - JUST LATER

Jessie’s back to town & headed for the Garage. She walks behind the building, out of sight, for a back door.

BACK OF GARAGE

Jessie sees Junior out on the boat docks-- sending-off a rented motor boat.
BUT JESSIE

first goes to the back door... FLINGS IT OPEN.

INT. GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Willie’s WORKING ON a car & smoking one of those Clove cigarettes. MUZAK PLAYS. He now sees her & the gun.

She’s silhouetted in that door... white top & sunlight shining all around: true angel of death.

WILLIE
Holy Mother of Mary!

JESSIE
You left a Clove on my porche.

WILLIE
It was Junior’s idea.

JESSIE
You could’ve helped me Willie.

Willie tries for the front door.

Jessie FIRES & he freezes-- FEAR. TEARS FLOW.

WILLIE
Please!

JESSIE
That’s what I said.

WILLIE
It’s fuckin’ Junior. (beat)
Anything you want! I’ll testify!

JESSIE
Anything! Okay... get me the Pink for the GTO. Some spare keys.

WILLIE
That’s fair. Yeah I can do that. Even better white-girl.

Willie is quickly to the DESK. Gets the pink & spare-keys from the safe & leaves a 10 thousand stack on the desk.

WILLIE
And money. 10 grand... it’s yours.
JESSIE
Step back.

HE DOES... Jessie has the 38 pointed between his eyes.

A CAR MOTOR hangs from an electric wench above her. She sees it... WALKING for the lever.

JESSIE
On your knees.

WILLIE
Yes, mam.

Willie is to his knees. TEARFUL.

JESSIE
Weak men make me sick.

Jessie HITS THE LEVER on the wench... sends the motor crashing on Willie’s head. THUD. Blood. DEAD.

EXT. TOWN / COUNTRY LANE / LAKE HOUSE - LATER DAY

Jessie ZOOMS the GTO from the Market and town... PULLS DOWN her lane to her garage. Parked inside, she closes the door behind her.

EXT. CASSIE’S HOUSE / INT. SHERIFF’S SUV - SAME

Sheriff Tommy is in his SUV: ON TALKIE. Leaving the scene.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Two bodies. Stevie and Ray Dixon.
No sign of the girl. Both men shot and burned.

CHIEF
(over Talkie)
There’s more, Tommy. Some gun fire at Junior’s garage.

SHERIFF TOMMY
I’ll take it.
(then, to himself)
Dear Christ.

He DRIVES down the lane... passing Jessie’s lake house. His lights flashing but now kills the SIREN.
EXT. GARAGE - LAKE HOUSE - DAY

Jessie slinks from the garage door in lingering dust kicked up by his SUV.

She CROSSES the wide lawn for her boat... & lights a cigarette while walking. Stops.

JESSIE
CASSIE?!

After a moment... she opens the bedroom window rubbing her eyes; been sleeping.

JESSIE
Throw me down the case of bullets.

Cassie leaves the window... comes back with the box & tosses them to the grass near her.

Jessie picks them up. LOADS THE GUN & flicks away her cig.

CASSIE
You okay?

JESSIE
Feeling like Attila-the-Hun.
(then)
Go back to bed.

Cassie blows her a kiss CLOSING the window.

BOAT - LAKE - LATE DAY

Jessie ROWS. Strong, smooth strokes, headed back for the docks & Junior.

CUT TO:

INT. GARAGE - SAME

Junior is in the Garage... looking at Willie smashed on the floor. MUZAK & the POLICE SCANNER: “MAKE NOISE”.

SCANNER
(Sheriff Tommy)
Put an “APB” out on Junior and Mike Sanders.
(Dispatch)
Roger that.

Junior leaves in A RUSH.
EXT. MARKET – DOCK – CONTINUOUS

Junior hurries around the outside for the dock... his Hottie-Country Wife sees him. Yells from out the store.

    COUNTRY WIFE
    Junior, what’s wrong? Where you goin’?!

He doesn’t stop.

EXT. SHERIFF’S SUV – TOWN – LATE DAY

DRIVES for the garage with LIGHTS ON & SIRENS.

BACK TO:

EXT. DOCK – SPEED BOAT – LAKE – CONTINUOUS

Junior JAMS OFF in his speed boat... HAULING across lake.

EXT. LAKE – JESSIE’S BOAT – LATE DAY

The day is growing tired, but not her.

JESSIE

stands on the bow... waiting.

SPEED-BOAT – JUNIOR – SAME

sees her floating out in the water & standing on her bow.

He PULLS UP.

INT. MOTOR BOAT / EXT. LAKE – CONTINUOUS

He CUTS THE ENGINE as Jessie THROWS him a line.

    JESSIE
    Kiss and make up?

    JUNIOR
    You the one doing this?! Willie?
    Stevie?!

She jumps from her boat to his bow.
JESSIE
Forget them, you’re the big dog.

JUNIOR
Think you can fuck with me?!

JESSIE
Can’t blame a girl for wanting more.

JUNIOR
Yeah?
(beat)
Show me.

She peels off her shirt. Flings it at him & the cowboy hat. He slaps them away. SMILES. She’s half naked.

JUNIOR
Everything.

Jessie PEELS DOWN her bottoms. Flicks ‘em with her boot.

JESSIE
You just gonna stand there, or what?

Junior reaches for a big BUCK KNIFE.

JUNIOR
You’re gonna get it good.

JESSIE
Promises, promises.

He comes at her... WHEN JESSIE DRAWS her gun from her boot.

JUNIOR
You psycho-cunt!

JESSIE
Gun held out-- eye down the barrel & other hand to brace.

FIRES... hits his knife-hand-- bloody. SCREAMS. Junior transfers knife & COMES HARDER. FIRES... left leg. SCREAMS. FIRE... right foot. He’s WRITHING IN PAIN.

Jessie walks up and reaches for the knife. He swings on her. FIRE... left shoulder. The knife drops. CRYING.

Jessie sets down the gun & gets his knife. She UNZIPS his pants for his cock. Pulls is out.
JESSIE

At least “Junior” is accurate.

SLICE. Blood spurts with SCREAMING. He’s losing blood all over. Weak & turning white.

Jessie puts the gun in his hand.

JESSIE

One more bullet.

(beat)

And I’ll get the story straight. I got the video to prove it.

Jessie climbs to his bow. Looks back at him bloody & DIEING. She takes off her boots for a swim-getaway.

Junior tries to lift the gun but can’t keep aim.

Jessie DIVES INTO the water.

EXT. LAKE / INT. WATER - CONTINUOUS

The joined boats float-a-drift behind her as she SWIMS AWAY. A GUN SHOT... as Jessie keeps her smooth strokes. The water clean & quiet.

EXT. MARKET - DOCKS - SAME

Sheriff Tommy gets into the Sheriff’s Patrol Boat-- GOES.

INT. SHERIFF’S BOAT / EXT. LAKE - EARLY SUNSET

Sheriff Tommy MOTORS ALONG-- maybe Jessie’s on the lake.

He spots a boat floating adrift. Gets his binoculars & looks. DRIVES FOR IT.

BOATS - LAKE - CONTINUOUS

Now tied together, Sheriff Tommy looks into Junior’s... a BLOODY HORROR SHOW. He climbs into Jessie’s & just sits. Disturbed. The light tuning golden red. TEARS.

CUT TO:
INT. BATHROOM - LAKE HOUSE - LATE SUNSET

Jessie & Cassie are in a big warm bath. Bubbles & candles lit. TEARS-- the girls holding each other.

EXT. LAKE HOUSE - SHERIFF’S BOAT - LAST LIGHT

Sheriff Tommy PULLS to shore and GROUNDS IT out front.
He ties off her boat to the tree... walks across the grass. The house is “dark”-- maybe some light upstairs.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Jessie!?!?

PORCH - TABLE - CONTINUOUS

One of the flowers (he left), sits on the table placed in the bottle of Palegrino. He smiles... but that loses quickly.
A DVD sits there too & picks it up, takes it with him.

SHERIFF TOMMY

Stops in the middle of the grass before leaving.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Jessica Carter, I really care about you... whatever’s happened.

INT. BATH TUB - SAME

Jessie HEARS him.

Now the ENGINE of his boat... MOTORING AWAY.

INT. LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jessie finishes covering furniture with sheets. She locks windows & Cassie SHUTS OFF last lights. Their baggage & things by the open front door.

JESSIE & CASSIE

JESSIE
On the way to New York, we’lI tell each other everything.
(MORE)
JESSIE (cont’d)
About all this and about each other. No secrets.

CASSIE
Take care of each other?

JESSIE
Yes.

CASSIE
Jess... I want you to have those tapes of me. Use them in your film, if it helps. We’ll go through it together.

They hug like sisters.

CUT TO:

INT. TOMMY’S OFFICE – POLICE STATION – NIGHT

Sheriff Tommy sits in near dark, but for flashes of light from the TV: PLAYING the DVD. He’s drinking scotch.

His eyes are TEARFUL. TWO KNOCKS HIT his door.

CHIEF (O.S.)
Tommy? It’s me.

SHERIFF TOMMY
Come in.

He ENTERS. A drink in hand & quiet.

CHIEF
No “APB” on the GTO? Mike Sanders, Iraqi War Hero, kills his buddies?

SHERIFF TOMMY
Bad blood.

CHIEF
There will be questions.

SHERIFF TOMMY
And I’ll answer them... as the new Chief of Police. You’ll announce it in the morning and be a great help in my investigation to every thing dirty been going on in this town.

CHIEF
Okay, Tommy.
He Closes the door.

INT. GTO - DRIVING / EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT
The two ladies DRIVE from Pleasant Ville.

HEADLIGHTS SPRAY ON A SIGN

"Good Bye from Pleasant Ville. Just the Best".

FADE TO BLACK.

THREE MONTHS PASS

EXT. NYC STREETS - GOLDEN LATE DAY
The City BUSTLES in the last of a great day.

INT. JESSIES’ OLD APARTMENT – NYC – SUNSET

Jessie & Cassie, Shawna, Brooke, Linda... are all together in GIGGLES & some apprehension. Cassie looks totally different: new haircut, hip clothes, fresh & happy. Jessie too.

They have BAGS PACKED & drinking champagne. MUZAK PLAYS.

JUST AS AUDREY

Comes in, holding a POSTER for Jessies’ new film.

AUDREY
Okay. Jessie... here it is!

CHEERS. Jessie goes & hugs Audrey.

AUDREY
You earned it kid-o. I’m very proud of you. HBO came with the best deal & mocked this poster. They’re looking to promote it for an Emmy.

JESSIE
Wow.

AUDREY
You know, you don’t have to go. Your fan support has never been better... you’re a hero to a lot of women.
Well, don’t know about hero but I feel proud and I am happy.
(beat)
I want to go back home. It’ll be good for the both of us.

Champagne bottles-- POP.

A toast!

They all take GLASSES... Shawna & Linda help pour.

(to Cassie)
Just one glass.

Yeah, yeah. (then)
Can I make the toast?

You bet, babe.

Cassie is more confident & calm than she ever has been.

"Be who you are and say what you feel... because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind."

CLINK OF GLASSES.

That was great, Cassie.

She just shrugs.

Dr. Seuss.

GIGGLES.

Well we better get to gettin’.

Brooke, Linda, Shawna, start to carry things out. Audrey helps Cassie.
SHAWNA
Oh and don’t worry... when you visit we’ll go shopping.

CASSIE
I’m gonna miss shopping!

LINDA
And I will be visiting you in Santa Barbara.

BROOKE
Me too.

JESSIE
You guys better!

AUDREY
Now you listen to Jessie but always think for yourself... you’ll be ok.

CASSIE
I will.

Jessie lingers for a moment... has the bottle to her mouth & a quiet “good-bye”.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - APARTMENT BUILDING - SAME

And comes Ricky... walks the hall for the open front door. He passes all the ladies.

SHAWNA
Asshole.

LINDA
Creep.

BROOKE
You’re lame.

RICKY
Hey there, you Cassie? I’m Ricky.

CASSIE
Eat shit.

RICKY
Okay.
RICKY ENTERS THE APARTMENT

RICKY
Good-- you have champagne.

She’s caught off guard, but there’s a new strength to her.

Ricky smiles with love for her.

JESSIE
What do you want?

RICKY
I tried calling.
(beat)
I miss you. I love you.

JESSIE

She crosses the room still holding the champagne bottle-- at the DOOR COM.

JESSIE
"Apartment 404 the GTO. Miss Carter."

RICKY
You’re leaving?!

JESSIE
That’s right.

RICKY
Where are you going?!

JESSIE
I’m out.

INT. HALL - BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Jessie moves for the hall without care for the elevator...

Ricky scraps behind her EMOTIONAL. He’s fallen to his knees GRABBING HOLD.

RICKY
Look, everything that’s happened...
I want to be there for you. I was wrong.

JESSIE
I’m just not feeling it.
RICKY
Don’t leave!

JESSIE
("you’re pathetic" in her eyes)

RICKY
I love you!

Jessie stares at him on his knees-- vulnerable & desperate.

He gets out a Ring Box. Get’s the ring.

RICKY
Jessica Carter... let’s have babies... live our dreams.
(beat)
Marry me?

TEARS fill her eyes. She takes a big swallow... then SPITS IT IN HIS FACE.

FLASH TITLE:

Now You Gonna Die!

Jessie drops the bottle before him & WALKS.

He’s crushed & SOBBING. He throws the bottle: CRASHING against the wall.

RICKY
Jessie?!

He storms the hallway... SLIPPING INTO the elevator too.

ELEVATOR - GOING DOWN - MUZAK

RICKY
Just tell me why?!

JESSIE
Why? Why?

RICKY
THREE YEARS TOGETHER.
JESSIE
It was a slow spell.

EXT. ELEVATOR / INT. LOBBY - CONTINUOUS
Jessie is out first with Ricky stumbling after.

JUST AS
Her cell RINGS: A TEXT. She’s to it quickly-- TEXTING.

RICKY
Is that someone else?!

ON PHONE-- TEXT

CALLIE
(reads:)
He’s so lame.

JESSIE
(texting:)
Silly boys.

Jessie GIGGLES... not acknowledging him & HEADS OUTSIDE.

RICKY
Fine. GO!

JESSIE
I am.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NYC SIDEWALK - SUNSET
Shawna, Brooke & Linda with LAST HUGS.

HER GANG
BYE. LOVE YOU!!

PAPARAZZI are-- firing flash. Ricky trails behind it all.

RICKY
DON’T GO. I love you!

Jessie is to the GTO... Cassie inside & the VALET holding the door. Hands him some cash.
INT. GTO - IDLING - CONTINUOUS

CASSIE & JESSIE

Hug with their foreheads together. Both with big beautiful eyes, anxious & TEARFUL.

CASSIE

Ready?

JESSIE

You’ll love Santa Barbara. The beach. It’s my home. It will be home for us BOTH.

Jessie then STICKS the car & GUNS THE GAS.

EXT. GTO

“Insignia”-- tires burn rubber-- license plate: 4dbabes.

EXT. NYC STREET - APT BUILDING - SAME

RICKY

Jessie! I LOVE YOU!!!

Ricky’s left on the sidewalk BLUBBERING... the paparazzi FLASHING on his misery. The girls WAVING HANDS.

Jessie & the GTO become a blur to the city streets & red-gold of falling sun.

INT. GTO - DRIVING - NYC STREET - SUNSET

PULLING IN ON: JESSIE’S EYES

... piercing forward.

JESSIE (V.O.)

It’s your power to give. Dare the man who tries and takes.

THEME & TO BLACK:

THE END