

THE BORDER
BY
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FADE IN:

1 EXT. REFUGEE CAMP - DUSK

1

A beautiful girl, VIOLE (14) stands with her eyes closed in the middle of an North American desert. She meditates, listening to the WIND blowing around her.

The MUFFLED voice of someone interrupts her moment, she opens her eyes to her mother, MARIA (46). Viole's hearing comes back to normal, they speak in Spanish - now the most dominant language of the new world.

MARIA

Viole. It's time to go.

Viole and Maria shuffle past torn tents and burning oil drums. They join a group of walking MIGRANTS; there are Syrians, Jews, Venezuelans, English, Somalian and Japanese - all exhausted and dirty. They stop at the doors of an idling bus.

A FAT MAN exits the bus, eating a burrito.

FAT MAN

This bus will get you to the border.

There is an ECHO of ARTILLERY and GUNFIRE in the distance, spooking the migrants.

FAT MAN

The road is clear, you'll be safe...Get on.

The Migrants collect their bags and shuffle on inside, the Fat Man stays behind watching it depart.

2 INT. BUS - DUSK

2

Out the bus window, the desert moves by swiftly. Viole watches Maria counting U.S. dollars in a MONEY-BELT.

VIOLE

Is the border really what they say it is?

MARIA

It's a haven. You'll see.

Viole looks back out the window, nervously biting her nails. Maria brings Viole to her chest.

(CONTINUED)

MARIA
(stroking Viole's hair)
Everything's going to be okay.

VIOLE
What if it's not?

Maria unbuckles a small silver pendant around her wrist; a MILAGRO (Miracle Pendant) and puts it around Viole's wrist.

MARIA
Take this. It will keep you safe.

Viole looks into Maria's eyes.

MARIA
Get some sleep. Not long now.

Maria kisses Viole on the forehead as Viole gazes around the bus.

VIOLE'S POV SLOW MOTION: A JAPANESE WOMAN uses a wet cloth to wash her husband's wounded head. A SYRIAN BOY sleeps with his torn TEDDY BEAR. A YOUNG COUPLE share a small loaf of stale bread.

Viole closes her eyes, falling asleep.

3

INT. BUS - NIGHT

3

The bus BRAKES HEAVILY, waking Viole and the Migrants. They peer out the windows when suddenly they're BLINDED by bright spotlights streaming inside.

VIOLE
Mom. What's happening?

The Migrants whisper in anticipation. The DRIVER stands.

DRIVER
Everybody wait here.

The Driver exits where some YELLING ensues. Coming back with the Driver are two heavily armed officers; these are SCORPION POLICE. They wear tactical vests, balaclava's and hold automatic weapons - a SCORPION INSIGNIA is visible on their vests. The migrants GASP.

DRIVER
There's been a terrorist attack.
Get your I.D. out.

Migrants pull out their global I.D. cards while Maria discreetly tucks the MONEY-BELT underneath Violen's shirt. The Scorpion Officers slowly make their way forward, looking briefly at the cards with heavy footsteps - no one talks.

SCORPION OFFICER #1
Everyone off the bus.

The migrants PLEAD.

JAPANESE WOMAN
(in Japanese)
Please, I have my papers.

JEWISH MAN
(in Hebrew)
Where are you taking us? We're legal!

OFFICER #1 uses his rifle-butt to SMASH the Jewish Man's chest, pushing him out the door. The Migrants SCREAM.

SCORPION OFFICER #1
OFF THE BUS. NOW!

The Officer grabs another passenger and throws them out. The migrants rush off with their belongings.

VIOLE
Mom, what do they want?

MARIA
Be quiet Violen. Keep quiet.

Violen CLOSES her eyes and meditates, drowning the sound out around her.

4 EXT. DESERT ROAD - NIGHT

4

Exiting the bus, Violen keeps her eyes closed as they walk past a MILITARY VEHICLE with a dozen Officers. The Officers start to rip their bags from them.

ANGLE ON: The Syrian Boy's Teddy Bear falls to the ground.

Violen's pack is violently stripped from her, she SNAPS out of her meditation to a Female Scorpion Officer SCREAMING.

FEMALE OFFICER
IN FRONT OF THE BUS! MOVE!

Violen is pushed toward the other Migrants.

MARIA
Viole. Stay close!

The migrants stand in a line in front of the bus. There's complete silence for a moment.

ENGLISH MAN
(in English)
What's this nonsense for? We're all legally allowed to travel.

Officer #2 WHACKS the English Man in the guts with his rifle, dropping him - then stomps the rifle into the man's head. The migrants SCREAM as some of the Scorpion Officers LAUGH.

SCORPION OFFICER #2
On the road! Move it!

Officer #2 FIRES his AUTOMATIC RIFLE into the dirt. The migrants WAIT while being pushed onto the road.

ANGLE ON: The Syrian Boy picks up his Teddy Bear.

5 EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

5

The Migrants walk single file with the Officers around them. Some of the Migrants begin to CRY and PRAY.

VIOLE
Mom! I'm scared!

MARIA
Listen to me. Follow the sunset.

VIOLE
What?

MARIA
Follow the sunset. Head west.
That's the border.

VIOLE
What are you saying?

They approach a steep hill.

MARIA
Close your eyes darling.

Maria PUSHES Viole off the hill, she SCREAMS rolling down. Officer #2 runs over, Maria BLOCKS him and is pushed out of the way, he aims his rifle downhill.

6 EXT. SAND HILL - NIGHT 6

Viole ROLLS down the hill at speed, tumbling and turning until she hits the ground HARD. Viole slowly gets up.

VIOLE
(weeping)
Mom!

Three RIFLE SHOTS echo out from above, kicking dust up around Viole - she runs off.

7 EXT. DESERT ROAD - NIGHT 7

Officer #2 looks down the hill with his smoking rifle.

SCORPION OFFICER #1
Anything?

Officer #2 sees nothing, he comes back to Maria. She stands tall to him, TREMBLING.

8 EXT. DESERT DITCH - NIGHT 8

Weeping, Viole runs along the rocky ground in pitch black. She TRIPS into a ditch and cowers inside, continuing to WEEP in darkness.

9 EXT. DESERT DITCH - DAWN 9

The sun slowly rises over a vast, rocky and dead land. Viole sleeps underneath some shrub, the sunlight wakes her - she slowly rises. Her lips dry, ankle swollen, she gazes at the empty landscape.

VIOLE
(whimpering)
Mom.

In the distance, the rising dust of Scorpion Officer vehicles drive toward her - she hides back in the ditch. The vehicles drive past within inches of her.

As the sound of the vehicles disappear, Viole regathers herself and trudges along the dead earth.

10 EXT. FLAT DESERT PLAIN - DAY 10

The sun burns, Viole trips over her own feet, she sees a pile of trash among shrub. Gasping for water, Viole inspects the trash of empty plastic bottles.

(CONTINUED)

The sound of FLIES nearby gets her attention, she sees the badly decomposing remains of a human next to the trash. It's head half missing from a high-caliber wound.

Viole scampers away from the cadaver.

11 EXT. DESERT FOLIAGE - AFTERNOON 11

LONG LENS: Heat rises as Viole lumbers forward.

A tree offers some shade, Viole collapses underneath, eyes flickering. She looks into the sky above.

VIOLE'S POV: The JET STREAM of a ROCKET heads into space, pulsating as it breaks the SOUND BARRIER.

Viole's eyes close.

12 EXT. DESERT FOLIAGE - DAWN 12

Curled into a ball, a kick of DUST wakes Viole. She weakly looks up to the silhouette of a man, JACK (35) aiming a RIFLE at her. He sits on a HORSE, kicking it's hoof.

Viole scuffles backward seeing Jack holding the RIFLE. He's a rugged type covered in dust.

JACK
(in English)
Don't move!

Viole freezes.

VIOLE
No English. Español.

JACK
(switching to Spanish)
You alone?

Viole doesn't answer. Jack releases the safety of his rifle.

VIOLE
Yes. Alone.

Jack hesitates for a while, Viole doesn't look at his eyes - he holsters his rifle after a tense moment.

JACK
You have a death wish, being out here alone.

Jack gets off his horse and takes a large GULP of water from a canteen. Viole eyes it.

VIOLE
I'm thirsty.

Jack eyes Viole with contempt and throws the canteen to her. She SCULLS it but Jack quickly RIPS it off her.

JACK
That's enough.

Jack waters the horse as Viole gets up, taking a closer look at the Horse, it's eyes are INFECTED.

VIOLE
Is this a real horse?

JACK
You think I would be here if I
could afford a real horse?

She goes to TOUCH the horses fleece. Suddenly Jack SNAPS and grabs Viole's wrist in a vice-like dusty grip.

JACK
(Madness in his eyes like a
soldier suffering PTSD)
DON'T TOUCH IT!

Jack squeezes Viole's wrist hard, then SHOVES her backward, she lands heavily.

JACK
Nobody touches my horse!

Viole rubs her wrist on the ground.

VIOLE
I've never seen one.

JACK
Just what the heck do you think
you're doing?

VIOLE
I'm going to the border.

JACK
Girl. You're not gonna make it!

Viole scans the horizon and points in a direction.

VIOLE
I'm going west.

Jack shakes his head and points in the opposite horizon.

JACK
(Getting back on his horse)
There. That's west.

VIOLE
Are you going?

JACK
No.

VIOLE
What if I paid you to take me
there. To the border.

JACK
With what?

Viole brings out her money-belt. She opens it to a wad of
U.S. dollars. Jack's eyes WIDEN.

JACK
Bring it closer.

Viole steps closer for Jack to inspect the note. It's
real.

JACK
It's dangerous out there.

VIOLE
I know.

JACK
You're on your own if we get into
a fix up.

VIOLE
Okay.

JACK
And I'll put a bullet in your
head if you try anything.

Viole takes a step back.

JACK
For all you got, I'll take you
close to the border...Hand it
over.

Viole SPLITS the wad of cash in two.

VIOLE
Half.

JACK

What?

VIOLE

I'll give you half now and half
when we get there.

Jack SNATCHES half the money and trots west on his horse.

JACK

I'm not waiting.

Viole hurries to catch up.

13

EXT. DESERT TRAIN TRACKS - DAY

13

Viole walks behind Jack as sits on the horse, scanning their surroundings. He turns to see Viole at some distance.

JACK

Stay by my side. I don't like
people behind me.

Viole picks up her pace, walking next to him.

JACK

And keep your eyes open. We'll be
standing out like a mule in a
bull pit.

She sees a faded Scorpion Officer tattoo on his forearm.

VIOLE

Are you an officer?

JACK

I'm no one.

Jack covers the tattoo with his sleeve.

VIOLE

I hate trains.

JACK

That right?

VIOLE

I've travelled on train, boat,
bus...Train's are the worst. You
have to ride on the roof.

JACK

Where's your family?

(CONTINUED)

VIOLE

The Officers took my Mom...

Viole picks up a stone and THROWS it along the track.

The stone CLANKS on the rail track and rolls onto the dirt. The horse stops to SHAKE it's head, trying to scratch its eyes. JACK gets off and cleans the eyes with a wet scarf.

VIOLE

Have you got medicine?

JACK

My uncle's a doctor, he lives close to the border.

Viole looks at the horses eyes - it's going BLIND. Jack SPITS and gets back on the saddle, picking up the pace.

JACK

There's a waterhole near. We'll camp for the night.

14

EXT. WATERHOLE - DUSK

14

Jack finishes refilling canteens at the waterhole while the horse drinks. He inspects the horses' eyes, they're deteriorating quickly.

JACK

Shit.

Viole watches from the waters edge.

VIOLE

Put a blindfold over its eyes. It will keep it from getting worse.

Jack unbuckles two sleeping bags, rolling them out

JACK

Own a horse do you?

VIOLE

No.

JACK

Tomorrow we'll be at my uncles. He can fix it then.

Jack sits down, pulling out a bag of DRIED BREAD, he eats. Viole stares at the bread.

Jack reluctantly hands over some bread, she eats quickly followed by some water, she BURPS.

(CONTINUED)

Jack SHAKES his head in discomfort and shifts his sleeping bag away from Viole. He lay down.

VIOLE

Why do you think migrants are...

JACK

Vermin? Isn't it obvious?

VIOLE

No.

JACK

Okay. Where's your home?

Viole shrugs.

JACK

See, you don't have a place to call home. And you take what's not yours.

VIOLE

Like what?

JACK

Okay. My Dad had a job in a plantation factory for twenty years. Never sick, never late, never complained, just working hard for his kids. Then one day you migrants arrive and suddenly he gets fired. All these bottom-feeders take his job because they work for nothing...We had to give up everything, our home, our school, our insurance, our entire lives. Then my Dad ends up dying of disease because no one gave a shit for his medical anymore. You migrants breed like cockroaches, finding the golden gates to a new life, sucking everything up and leaving a mess behind...That's why you're vermin and that's why the world hates you.

Viole has a TEAR in her eye. She folds her jersey into a pillow and puts her MONEY BELT underneath, laying down.

VIOLE

I'm sorry. We're just trying to survive.

Jack gazes into the evening air, the JET-STREAM of a ROCKET fades into the night sky. Jack closes his eyes.

15 EXT. WATERHOLE - NIGHT 15

Jack packs his sleeping bag QUIETLY while Viole sleeps. He goes to Viole and gently slips his hand underneath her pillow, taking the MONEY-BELT without waking her.

Jack SILENTLY walks the horse away from the waterhole.

16 EXT. DESERT SHRUB - NIGHT 16

Jack hops on the horse and trots away. He sees some MOVEMENT in a shrub in the distance and STOPS.

JACK'S POV: The figure of a BANDIT stalking through the shrub toward the waterhole.

JACK
Don't do it.

JACK carries on, trying to ignore the Bandit. He stops and looks back toward the waterhole in silence.

17 EXT. WATERHOLE - NIGHT 17

Viole sleeps as the Bandit gets closer. The Bandit pulls a KNIFE out and puts his free hand out toward Viole.

Suddenly a CRACKING shot from a rifle rings out, the Bandit is hit in the lower gut, dropping him.

ANGLE ON VIOLE: She wakes, with the Bandit GASPING for breath next to him.

Viole SCREAMS and scampers away. Out of the darkness, Jack appears from the shrubbery with the rifle, he reloads and puts the rifle against the Bandit's head.

JACK
(to Viole)
Look away!

The Bandit puts his hands in front of his face.

BANDIT
Please. I was...

ANGLE ON: Jack's finger against the trigger.

VIOLE
No!

Viole suddenly stands between the drifter and Jack, blocking the shot.

(CONTINUED)

JACK
GET OUT OF THE WAY DAMMIT!

VIOLE
You can't kill him!

JACK
Why not!? This scum would've
killed you!

VIOLE
You just can't!

JACK
HE'S VERMIN! MOVE!

VIOLE
He's a human being!

Jack THROWS ViOLE out of the way and aims again. The
Bandit starts to CRY.

BANDIT
(trembling)
Please. I was looking for food.

VIOLE
Don't be a killer! Don't!

After a tense moment looking into the eyes of the drifter,
Jack SHOOTS the rifle into the dirt.

JACK
Get out of here! NOW!

The Drifter LIMPS into the darkness as a frustrated Jack
sits and digs his KABAR KNIFE into the ground.

18 EXT. WATERHOLE - MORNING

18

Washing himself in the waterhole, Jack has SCARS all over
his back and chest. He rubs his hands over his faded
Scorpion Officer tattoo, trying to rub it and memories
away.

Jack looks up to ViOLE who is inspecting the horses eyes.

ANGLE ON HORSE: It's eyes are nearly blind. ViOLE touches
its face gently and ties a scarf over its eyes. The horse
LICKS ViOLE's hand.

Jack sees her touching the horse and doesn't intervene. He
dives fully underwater.

UNDERWATER SLOW MOTION: Jack closes his eyes and floats.

19 EXT. DESERT ROAD - DAY

19

Jack walks with the horse by the reins - its eyes covered with a scarf. Viole walks by their side.

Jack digs into his pocket and pulls out the MONEY-BELT he stole from Viole.

JACK

I took this from you when you were sleeping.

Viole looks at Jack.

VIOLE

Were you going to leave?

JACK

I'm sorry.

Jack hands the money belt back to Viole.

VIOLE

You did the right thing...Letting that man live.

JACK

I don't know.

Viole smiles at Jack as they carry on walking together.

20 EXT. GRAVE SITE - AFTERNOON

20

Jack and Viole walk through an area where CLOTHES and open TRAVEL BAGS are scattered over the ground. There is some SMOKE burning behind a bush.

JACK

This is the wrong way.

VIOLE

Wait.

Viole PICKS up a TEDDY BEAR, it has BLOOD on it. Viole walks toward the smoke.

JACK

(concerned)
Hey, let's go!

Viole comes to a clearing where smoke plumes from burning vehicle with a dozen CORPSES around it.

ANGLE ON: Viole's mother Maria lay face down.

(CONTINUED)

VIOLE

No!

Viole runs to the corpses but is STOPPED by Jack, holding her as she FIGHTS to get free.

JACK

Don't do it girl!

VIOLE

Let me go! LET ME GO DAMMIT!

She gets out of his grip and runs to the corpses, kneeling beside her dead mother. Jack watches on as she CRIES for a moment, holding the dead body of Maria.

VIOLE

(weeping uncontrollably)

Mom!

After some time, Jack goes to Viole and places his hand on her shoulder. Viole RIPS Jack's hand off her and storms off.

21

EXT. DESERT ROAD - DAY

21

Viole is yards in front of Jack, she walks quickly.

JACK

Hey!

Viole continues walking.

JACK

You're going the wrong way!

Viole STOPS before stopping and turning around to Jack.

VIOLE

Did you do this?

JACK

What?

VIOLE

(sticking her finger at
Jack's Scorpion tattoo)

You! You! You're with them aren't
you?

JACK

No. I...

VIOLE

YOU'RE MURDERERS!

Jack lowers his head in shame.

(CONTINUED)

VIOLE (CONT'D)
You're nothing but cold bloodied
killers! AREN'T YOU!?

Viole SLAPS Jack over the face and continues to walk.

VIOLE
I don't need you! I don't need a
killer to take me there.

JACK
I've lost everyone too!

Viole STOPS walking.

JACK
Before I was drafted...

VIOLE
You were one of them.

JACK
I'm from a small town south of
here in Salina...We were laborers
before the war. We planted crops
in the spring time to sell. Then
when the world changed we were
drafted.

VIOLE
Have you killed?

Jack nods his head.

JACK
People were mad. Race, religion,
it didn't matter anymore.
Everyone was a suspect...I've
done things I'm not proud of.

Jack STRUGGLES to fight tears.

JACK
I just want to do the right thing
for once in my life...All I have
left is this horse.

Viole stays still, listening.

JACK
And I know one day my past will
catch up with me.

Jack comes close to Viole, looking into her eyes.

JACK

You don't need me to get you to the border...But if I can finally do some good and get you there safely, then maybe I can be at peace.

Viole walks away from Jack, she stops to look behind her as Jack gets a SHOVEL from the horses saddle and returns to the corpses. Viole watches for a moment as Jack starts to dig. She goes to help him.

22 EXT. GRAVE SITE - AFTERNOON 22

Jack and Viole bury the corpses. Viole places stones around a grave spelling out - **MAMA** -

23 EXT. UNCLE'S HOME - DUSK 23

Jack and Viole walk toward a small ADOBE HOUSE in the distance. Jack stops.

VIOLE

What's wrong?

Jack scans the horizon, he can't see anything. He loads his rifle and carries on forward.

24 INT. UNCLE'S HOME - DUSK 24

Jack holds his rifle as he enters the home. Viole follows.

JACK

Uncle? It's Jack!

He wanders around the small home into the living room.

JACK

Uncle!

He sees it's been RANSACKED inside. The interior walls have been smashed, clothes and shattered glass are strewn around.

Jack sees SHELL CASINGS and BLOOD on the floor. There's no sign of his uncle. He runs outside.

25 EXT. UNCLE'S HOME - DUSK 25

A small utility shed has its doors busted open. Jack enters.

26 INT. UTILITY MEDICAL SHED - DUSK 26

Jack stands frozen, looking at the glass bottles of MEDICINE and HERBAL MEDICINES that have been smashed in the makeshift medical room.

Jack desperately tries to scamper some of the liquid into a bottle, but it's useless. He KICKS the medical cabinet over.

27 EXT. UNCLES HOME - DUSK 27

Viole watches Jack storm out of the utility shed.

VIOLE
What happened?

He walks to his horse, inspecting its eyes - it's gone completely blind. He scans the horizon.

JACK
Maybe bandits. Maybe officers. I don't know.

VIOLE
What are you going to do?

Jack puts the blindfold back over the horses eye. He gets a zippo lighter out and sparks its flame.

JACK
Whoever did this may come back.

28 INT. UNCLES HOME - DUSK 28

Jack moves around the home igniting it's interior with the zippo.

ANGLE ON: Curtains, a painting of a young family, cutlery, an old babies crib start to burn in flames.

29 EXT. UNCLE'S HOME - DUSK 29

Jack, Viole and the horse move off with the entire home in flames behind them.

SLOW MOTION: Viole watches the foundations collapse.

30

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

30

Sitting at camp, they both eat on dried bread. Viole feeds the rest of hers to the horse, patting it.

VIOLE

I always thought engineered animals didn't get sick.

Jack looks onward at her.

VIOLE

Wait. This is a real horse?

Jack nods his head.

VIOLE

I can't believe it. Why'd you say it wasn't?

JACK

If I told everyone it was real, I wouldn't be alive today.

VIOLE

You were trying to get it fixed to sell it? It must be worth a fortune.

JACK

I was going to sell and leave.

VIOLE

Where to?

Jack leans back and looks to the stars, the JET-STREAM of a ROCKET fades into the air.

JACK

Somewhere better than here.

Viole comes back to sit with Jack.

VIOLE

I think it's still nice here...There's beauty still here.

JACK

I'm not sure. Beauty in war?

VIOLE

It's like when you see people help each other when they're hurt, they come together again...Or when you feel the wind blow as the sun rises over a mountain and it's nice for a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

VIOLE (cont'd)
moment...Even if there's badness
around, there's beauty there.

JACK
Maybe your right. But maybe I'm
just too messed up to know it.

VIOLE
What about letting that man live?

JACK
I don't know...I'm sick of death.
It's changed me.

They both watch the dim light of the dusk sky above them.
Jack closes his eyes and hears the WIND blowing.

31 EXT. RAVINE - MORNING 31

Walking together, Jack checks his water canteens. He
shakes them, there's not much left. He passes it to Viole,
she drinks it and offers it back, he refuses.

JACK
You finish it off.

They share a smile.

32 EXT. BORDER CROSSING - DAY 32

LONG LENS: Viole and Jack walk over a dusty ground,
they're both tired. Jack SCANS the horizon and STOPS.

JACK
Something's not right.

Jack starts to kick the dirt around him, SHUFFLING his
feet through the ground.

VIOLE
What are you doing?

Jack's feet HIT a METALLIC wire. He pulls on the wire and
follows it to a METAL PLATE. He rubs his hands over it;
it's an OLD SIGN. It says - **BORDER CROSSING** -

JACK
This is it.

They both look on either ends of them, there is NOTHING
there. No border, no guards, just desert.

VIOLE

I thought it was meant to be something else. It's just the same.

They stand there for some time, unsure of what to do. Viole hands out the money belt for Jack.

VIOLE

Well, you got me to the border.

Viole holds the cash to Jack, he ignores it.

JACK

We need to keep moving.

They carry forward.

33

EXT. ROCK LEDGE - AFTERNOON

33

Approaching a ROCK LEDGE, Jack sees something, they stop. A man stands at the base of the ledge.

Jack primes his RIFLE and approaches cautiously. The man, FHYN (40s) is dressed like a rugged MIGRANT.

FHYN

You heading to the new world?

JACK

Isn't this it?

FHYN

No, no sir. It's on the coast. Everyone's going there.

JACK

We just went through the border.

FHYN

There are no borders.

JACK

What are you talking about?

The Man eyes VIOLE.

FHYN

Who's the girl?

JACK

We're leaving.

They leave Fhyn on his own, he GAZES at Viole as they depart.

34 EXT. FLAT PLAINS - AFTERNOON

34

Sitting underneath some shade, Jack looks around the horizon.

JACK

What'd you think if I went up ahead and scouted it out? I can move quick.

VIOLE

Will you come back?

JACK

I'd be back in a few hours.

Viole nervously scans the land in front.

VIOLE

Okay.

Jack gives Viole his last piece of bread and water canteen. He gets on the horse and loads his rifle.

VIOLE

Will it be okay to ride blind?

JACK

Should be...He's still living.

Viole buckles the Milagro around his wrist.

VIOLE

Here, hold out your wrist.

JACK

What is it?

VIOLE

It's to keep you safe.

Jack holds his wrist out as Viole attaches it. He looks it over and stares deep into Viole's eyes.

JACK

I'll see you soon.

Jack RIDES on the blind horse, heading west. Viole watches him getting smaller in the distance. She sits back down and HEARS some RUSTLING behind her.

35 EXT. WATERING WELL - DUSK 35

Jack trots to a WATERING WELL. He gets off the horse and dunks the bucket into the well.

He sees some SCRAP METAL nearby. He inspects it to see a trail of metal scattered further along, he follows it.

36 EXT. JUNK SCRAPYARD - DUSK 36

Jack trots on his horse, walking amongst a SCRAPYARD of VEHICLES and BUSES piled together.

He comes to a van and looks closely at it. There are BULLET HOLES and BLOOD STAINS on its side.

Jack quickly STRUTS on the horse, the SCRAPYARD seems to go on for eternity. Every car is empty and have signs of violence. Jack STOPS.

JACK

This is everyone who crossed
over...Viole!

Jack turns around and KICKS his horse to move quickly.

37 EXT. WATERING WELL - DUSK 37

Jack moves his horse at BREAKNECK speed back past the well.

38 EXT. ROCKY GROUND - DUSK 38

SLOW MOTION: Jack rides the blindfolded horse at PACE, dust KICKS up around them.

39 EXT. FLAT PLAINS - DUSK 39

Back at the tree, Jack cannot see any sign of Viole. He jumps off the horse and scans nervously until he sees Viole laying face down in a ditch.

He turns her over to see she is DEAD, being shot through the heart. Jack MOANS as he holds her, blood seeps onto his lap.

FHYN (O.S.)

Hey deserter!

He turns to see some SCORPION OFFICERS approach, weapons aimed - FHYN is with them, but dressed as an Officer.

(CONTINUED)

SCORPION CAPTAIN
This is the one?

FHYN
That's him.

Jack LEAPS at the Captain, strangling him, GROWLING like a rabid dog. The other Officers quickly TACKLE Jack to the ground.

JACK
YOU SONS-OF-BITCHES!

FHYN
Get him ready to transport!

The Officers restrain Jack on the ground and inspect his Scorpion tattoo.

JACK
GOD DAMN IT! GET OFF ME!

SCORPION CAPTAIN
Relax! We're your friends.

JACK
You're murderers!

FHYN
Are you serious? She's vermin.

JACK
She's a human fucking being!
Don't you get it? She's a human
being!

The Officers look at each other in confusion.

FHYN
(bending down to Jack)
She's vermin...That's what she
is. You know it's true.

Jack breaks down in tears. They carry him away.

OFFICER #3
What about the horse?

FHYN
Hey deserter! Is that a real
horse?

Jack doesn't answer, he's a broken man.

FHYN
Too bad...Shoot it.

The Officer shoots the horse in the head, killing it. They put Jack into a military vehicle and drive off in convoy - leaving the stiff body of Viole next to the dead horse.

40

INT. MILITARY VEHICLE - DUSK

40

Sitting in the back of the vehicle, Jack looks out the window of the passing desert. Fhyn and the Captain are in the front.

FHYN

You're lucky we found you. We have no outposts from here on.

JACK

There's no border.

FHYN

Hasn't been one for a long time. It's all misinformation we spread to round them up. Even worked for you.

JACK

What's out there then?

Fhyn looks in the rear-view mirror. His hands in the air, saying "I don't know".

Jack goes back to looking out the window to the sunset along the endless plain. He closes his eyes.

FADE TO BLACK.