GHOST OF ME
PILOT
BROKEN WING

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"Don't look over your shoulder
Cos that's just the ghost of me
You're seeing in your dreams..."
FADE IN:

EXT. SWEET JULY COMPLEX - NIGHT

SUPER: "JULY 2007" - "FLATHEAD LAKE, MONTANA"

Depeche Mode's "It's No Good" as background to a wide pan of the complex. It's by the lake, with a MAIN BEACH and a SMALL BEACH, surrounded by a small WOOD. The Wood ends in the PARK, a wide strip of grass before a line of small cabins.

The full moon is rising over the lake. There's a bonfire in the Main Beach. A white 4-door 1988 Toyota HILUX is parked before CABIN#1, and a black 1974 Dodge CHALLENGER is before Cabin#2. Assorted cars before the rest of the cabins.

Six persons wait outside Cabin#3: ALEX CORBAN (30, dark hair, blue eyes,) wearing her usual gear -tank top, loose open flannel, jeans, sneakers; her niece CLAIRE CORBAN (22, merry, light longish hair), wearing jeans, boots and a white blouse -she's always as informal as Alex, but also very feminine; FRED (32, the merry friend) and 3 more FRIENDS. SUSAN (30, Native American) comes out of Cabin#3 and they all head together for the Main Beach.

MAIN BEACH

Hanging sing reading "FULL MOON PARTY". Depeche's song playing loud now. There's a free bar with two GUYS handing out drinks.

About 20 GUESTS already there, many dancing around the fire, FRANK and NANCY (25 both) included.

Lurking amongst them, AIDAN HOLSTER (27, hot, smartass of the year), and his brother MARK (23, very nice, very tall).

Alex and company get themselves drinks, she and Claire turn to scan the Guests. Alex spots Aidan and smirks.

ALEX
And whose might that butt be?

CLAIRE
Oh, that's Aidan, Mark's brother.

ALEX
Mark? That nice kid next door?

CLAIRE
Yeap, that one.

ALEX
Am I hearing a hint of lust in your voice, kiddo?

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRED 

What!? NO!

Red Hot's "Around The World" begins. Alex and Susan yay out loud. Fred takes them by the hand and drags them to dance by the bonfire.

They brush past Aidan, Alex apologizes laughing. He nods smirking and turns to check her behind. Mark leads him to join Claire, who flashes a bright smile at them.

MARK 
Hey, Claire.

CLAIRE 
Hey, guys! Didn't picture you enjoying this kinda party.

AIDAN 
You'd be surprised.

Frank and Nancy come to the bar, Nancy points out at Claire.

NANCY+CLAIRE 
SYMBOL SISTER!

They laugh together. Mark looks puzzled, they show him identical pendants hanging from their necks: the Broken Wing symbol.

ALEX 
CLAIRED! COME HERE, CHILD!

CLAIRE 
(wink at Mark) 
Family calling. Laters, guys!

She goes to join Alex and dancing Friends. Mark and Aidan linger there, watching them.

AIDAN 
That's her big sister?

MARK 
Alex? She's Claire's aunt.

AIDAN 
Aunt? How come we never got a hot aunt like her?

Mark shakes his head in disapproval.
EXT. WOODS ACROSS THE LAKE - CLEARING - NIGHT

There are four old headstones on one side of the clearing. Opposite to them, a solitary headstone reading "ELIZABETH CAMPBELL - 1941-1963 - BELOVED SISTER". ANN (65, a serious psycho hint in her ways) is kneeling by it.

She slides a dagger across the palm of her hand, then paints the Broken Wing on the headstone with her own blood.

ANN
Now comes the time, my dear. For the moon is right and you shall ease our hunger once more.

EXT. SWEET JULY COMPLEX - MAIN BEACH - NIGHT

The party is over. Albert Collin's "Baby What You Want Me To Do" as farewell song, Guests heading back to their Cabins.

Frank and Nancy are slow-dancing by the remains of the bonfire. Alex, Claire, Fred, Mark and Aidan are finishing their drinks by the now closed free bar.

Frank and Nancy wave goodbye at them and head hand in hand for the Wood between Main Beach and Small Beach. Alex and company start for the Park.

Alex pauses to glance at the couple walking away, something like a bad feeling pursing her lips. Aidan pauses by her.

AIDAN
That's the best part of a full moon party: sex on the beach.

Alex turns to scowl at him: too straight for her guts.

ALEX
Shut up.

She resumes walking. Aidan follows.

AIDAN
(under his breath)
Yeah, sure.

SMALL BEACH

Frank and Nancy are lying down together under a tree, foreplaying. There's a soft crack in the silent Wood behind them. Nancy breaks the kiss to glance up.

NANCY
Did you hear that?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

FRANK
I only hear you...

He kisses her again and they keep going until the next soft crack. Now it's Frank who looks up. They hoist themselves up onto their elbows to take a better look at the dark trees behind them.

At their feet, noiselessly appears BETH (girl in old, decayed wedding dress, her face always covered by her ragged veil with death flowers). Like sensing her, Nancy looks up, spots Beth and her face cracks into a horrified mask as she desperately tugs at Frank. He looks as well, but before they can react, Beth leans forward and thrusts her fist into Tom's chest.

INT. CABIN#1 - NIGHT

No inner walls. The front half is the kitchen, two single beds in the back half, bathroom on a side. Claire is sound asleep. Alex is laying back in her bed, reading.

Claire sits up in a jolt with a cry, desperately trying to rip off the pendant from her neck. Alex jumps to her side as she throws it to the floor.

CLAIRE
It's burning!

They look down at the pendant: it's red hot and hissing. Claire pulls down her collar and Alex frowns. Claire has the Broken Wing marked, a light fire brand on her pale skin.

Right then, they hear a distant scream -Nancy's, and sharply turn to look at the front window.

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

(CONTINUED)
"Broken Wing"

CONTINUED:

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SWEET JULY COMPLEX - PARK - DAY

The day is just breaking. Two police cars and an ambulance are parked at the access of the Main Beach. Yellow strips rope off the Wood around the Small Beach.

POLICE MEN moving around. PARAMEDICS bring two zipped body bags to the ambulance. Guests watch from behind the vehicles, Alex and Claire with them. Mark is a few steps away. POLICE MAN#1 is questioning Aidan.

Alex keeps an eye on the roped off Wood. As soon as she sees an unguarded gap, she trades a glance with Claire. They slowly withdraw toward the trees, then spin around and hurry into the Wood.

WOOD

Alex and Claire press on to the Small Beach.

ALEX

Told you I had a bad feeling about this place!

CLAIRE

You mean Tom's tale may be true?

ALEX

What tale?

CLAIRE

The one about the ghost of a dumped bride killing couples? He was telling it two nights ago.

ALEX

Was he.

CLAIRE

You were there...

Alex stops and points out the ground ahead.

CLAIRE

Footprints!

ALEX

Yeah, way too many...

They lean to take a closer look. Mark shows up, just about to stumble on them. Alex straightens up at once.

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Mark! What're you doing here?

Mark hesitates, completely taken aback. Aidan shows up behind Alex.

AIDAN
I'd rather ask what are you doing here. Didn't you see the do-not-cross line back there?

ALEX
And who the hell are you to question me?

While they quarrel, Claire touches the ground, smells her fingers, frowns, heads of the Small Beach. Mark glances at the other two and follows Claire.

AIDAN
You shouldn't be messing around a crime scene!

ALEX
Oh, well, bite me! Wonder what you were doing out here when you found them! Maybe peeping at "the best part of the full moon party"?

Then she hears Claire's suffocated cry and forgets it all to run to her, leaving Aidan chewing some smart retort.

SMALL BEACH

Alex finds Claire covering her face with her hands against Mark's chest. Alex spins slowly around and sees the horrible mess of blood pooling in the pebbles. She turns to Claire.

ALEX
Hush, dear, it's alright. Why don't you go back to the cabin? I'll be right back.

MARK
Come, Claire, let's go.

Aidan makes way for them as they walk back into the Wood, then he shakes his head grunting.

AIDAN
What was she expecting, huh? Frigging Mickey Mouse?

ALEX
Dude! Real--!

(CONTINUED)
She trails off when she spots the tree right before her. There, painted in blood, is the Broken Wing. Aidan notices her troubled stare and steps further.

AIDAN
You know that symbol?

Alex just brushes past him and into the Wood.

Alex slows down coming out of the Wood and takes in a deep breath, looking dead worried.

ALEX
Please let it be just a psychopath.

INT. CABIN#1 - DAY

Claire is sitting at the table, pale and shaken up, blankly staring down at the mug in her hands. Mark is sitting in front of her with a concerned frown. Alex comes in and Mark stands up right away.

ALEX
Thanks, Mark.

MARK
Anytime. Just let me know if you guys need anything.

ALEX
Sure. Thanks.

Mark leaves. Alex waits for him to step down the porch, then cautiously approaches the table.

ALEX
Was it only the blood back there?

CLAIRE
No... The place was oozing with their fear and pain... And... There was something else, Al... I don't know how to describe it... It wasn't a human emotion, but it felt like a deep, aching hunger...

ALEX
Not human...?

Claire shakes her head sighing.

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Okay, enough. Go take a shower and I'll fix breakfast.

Claire stands up forcing a smile.

CLAIRE
No way. I'm not letting you mess with my stomach.

A car engine is started outside. Alex goes to the front window and looks out from behind the curtain.

THROUGH WINDOW - EXT. PARK - ALEX'S POV

The Challenger is running. Mark is sorting things in the open trunk. Alex gets a glimpse of it: gunshots, big hunting knives, machetes, short sticks with sharp points.

BACK TO SCENE

Alex steps back scowling, not noticing Claire's only a step away from her.

ALEX
(to herself)
Hunters...?

CLAIRE
Hunters? You mean like deer hunters? Or hunters like Grandpa? Who! Where!

Alex spins around like bitten by a scorpion, and sighs at Claire's excitement.

ALEX
Shit. You're so gonna love this...

CLAIRE
You better start talking, Alex Corban.

ALEX
No, first things first. Tell me about that story Frank was telling.

Alex sits at the table. Claire speaks while cooking.

CLAIRE
Rumor has it a ghost haunts this beaches. It all started in the '60s, when this guy stands up his fiancé at their very wedding and runs away with another girl and the dumped bride kills herself that (MORE)
CLAIRE (cont'd)
very night. Years later, when he comes back with his wife, BANG! They're found dead on the beach! And from then on, every ten years, young couples die here. They tryna keep it all hush-hush, not to scare tourists away, but it's true.

Alex looks away. The last puzzle she ever wanted is starting to make sense. Claire leaves a mug of coffee in front of her.

CLAIRE
You said "hunters"...

Alex nods sighing. Claire brings the rest of the breakfast to the table, sits opposite to Alex and stares at her until she meets her eyes. Alex speaks in a very reluctant way.

ALEX
You said a vengeful ghost, coming out every ten years.

CLAIRE
That's what Frank said, yes.

ALEX
And sweet Mark and his dickhead brother next door happen to be here, right in time, with the trunk of their old junk full of weird weaponry.

CLAIRE
What do you mean, weaponry?

ALEX
The kinda weapons Grandpa had.

CLAIRE
You mean there is actually a killer ghost and they're here to hunt it down?

Alex just nods. Claire pulls down the collar of her top and arches her eyebrows, exposing the burn.

CLAIRE
And what about this, Al?

ALEX
That I don't know. Yet. But guess we better find out.

CLAIRE
So what're we gonna do?

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Find out.

CLAIRE
Shouldn't we tell Mark about it?

ALEX
We don't know them, Claire. We don't know if we can trust them. We're doing this ourselves.

CLAIRE
Alright, where do we start?

TEEN ALEX (15) is helping BOOTTER (70, tough mountain farmer) to sharpen hunting knives.

TEEN ALEX
And how d'you track down a ghost, Grandpa? I mean, not like there'll be signs around, "ye olde ghost"...

BOOTTER
You gotta pay attention to local rumors, old tales. Why is that the haunted house in town? What happened there in the past? Local scary tales are usually based in actual events, and they can give you the clue you need.

Teen Alex nods, like taking note of it.

END OF FLASHBACK.

Alex takes in a deep breath, making up her mind.

ALEX
In town. We need to find that old woman who sold the pendants to you and Nancy.

CLAIRE
Alright, then! Let's go!

ALEX
Why are you so damn happy it, Claire? If that symbol is related to the ghost, you may be in danger as we speak.

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRE
Oh, but I have Grandpa's favorite
to protect me, so there's no way
anything's gonna happen to me.

Alex scoffs at her words, shaking her head.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY

The Hilux is parked by the square. There's a flea market
with small stands in the lanes around the central gazebo.
KIDS and PARENTS in the playground. PASSERS-BY minding their
own business.

Alex and Claire are at a books stand thanking MAN#1, who's
apologetically shaking his head. They walk away.

ALEX
So psycho-granny won't be around
for a while...

CLAIRE
What now?

ALEX
We should check that place he
mentioned... Wilma's, and the
library, to go through old local
newspapers.

CLAIRE
Tell you what: you go to Wilma's,
I'll go to the library.

Alex pauses by the Hilux, not convinced.

CLAIRE
C'mon! It's just the library, Al!
Nothing's gonna happen to me!

Alex gives up. Claire waves at her smiling and walks away
toward the library, across the square. Alex watches her for
a beat before climbing into the Hilux.

INT. HILUX - MOVING - DAY

Daughtry's "Crashed" playing on the stereo. Alex drives
singing along, then she pulls over and parks.
Alex steps out of the Hilux in front of Wilma's bookstore, right across the street from the Police Station. She spots the Challenger parked before it and flashes a mocking smirk.

ALEX
Hunters. Sure they're posing as lawyers to get the official report.

She slightly shakes her head and enters Wilma's.

The brothers are at the front desk. Aidan is giving a personal card to POLICEWOMAN#1. He lies in a very confident, convincing way, despite his informal looks.

AIDAN
…and I'm here in behalf of the young man found dead early today at the Sweet July bungalows. I'm his father's attorney and I need to speak to somebody who can fill me in about what happened.

POLICEWOMAN#1
The sheriff isn't back yet, I can call Dr. Paulson. Wait here, please.

Mark and Aidan agree and step back to wait. Suddenly Mark notices Aidan swallows hard, his face changing as he spots somebody behind Mark.

Mark spins around to find PAM (28, hell of a smoking hot blonde in a white robe and high heels). Aidan steps up, hand stretched out to greet her.

PAM
Dr. Young, I presume? I'm Dr. Pamela Paulson, how can I help you?

AIDAN
(under his breath)
If I could only tell you...

Mark sinks his elbow in Aidan's ribs. He clears his throat getting back into role.

AIDAN
We're here about the dead bodies found earlier today...
Claire is sitting alone at a table, going through a huge old book of local papers. She writes something down in a piece of paper, closes the book, takes it to the front desk, where the Librarian (50, nice neat lady) smiles at her.

**LIBRARIAN**
Did you find what you were looking for, dear?

**CLARE**
I'm not quite sure, maybe you can help me?

**LIBRARIAN**
Sure, dear, tell me...

**CLARE**
Well, I was reading about the Campbell sisters, back in the '60s...

**LIBRARIAN**
Oh, yes, Ann and Beth, such a sad story... I went to school with Beth...

Alex exits Wilma's with two thick books, still warmly saying goodbye to somebody inside. She's heading for the Hilux when she spots Mark leaning against the Challenger's side, alone.

She waves at him. He crosses the street to join her, she waits by the Hilux smiling.

**ALEX**
Already in trouble?

**MARK**
They wanted to question Aidan again. You know, since he called it in this morning... What about you?

**ALEX**
Looking a little into local lore. Kinda hobby I have.

She allows Mark to see her books.

**MARK**
"Ancient Magic From the Woods", sounds interesting. And where's Claire?

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
I'm on my way to pick'er up.

Alex sees Aidan coming out of the Station, predator's grin on as he reads a personal card -Pam's. Mark glances at him over his shoulder and smirks at Alex.

MARK
Gotta go. See you guys later?

ALEX
You should join us for a beer.

Mark's face lights up with a smile as he nods, already stepping away from the truck.

MARK
You got it, Al!

She smiles back, then her eyes meet Aidan's across the street. Her smile vanishes and she gets into the Hilux.

Beat as Aidan shows off Pam's card and they get into the Challenger.

The Hilux drives past the Challenger.

INT. HILUX - DAY

Still Daughtry's "Crashed" playing. Alex is parked before the library and Claire climbs in. Alex gears in and frowns at the rearview.

CLAIRE
What.

ALEX
Mark and his brother...

Claire turns in her seat to look.

THROUGH REAR WINDSHIELD - STREET - CLAIRE'S POV

The Challenger slows down to park before the library.

INT. HILUX - MOVING - DAY

Alex drives as Claire fastens her seatbelt.

CLAIRE
You think they're tailing us?

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
No. It's hunting 101, Claire: do your research. They've been to the Police Station, now the library... Are they gonna find anything there?

CLAIRE
Depending on how nice they are with the librarian.

ALEX
Meaning you were nice enough to get some? Then let's grab a bite and back to the cabin, we have some homework to do.

CLAIRE
Hell yeah!

ALEX
Hell yeah? How can you be so happy about all this shit?

CLAIRE
I'm happy you finally let me in, Al. Cos I want in. I'm tired of being left behind. If you're a hunter, I wanna be one too.

ALEX
I'm no hunter, Claire! Grandpa was!

CLAIRE
And he taught you.

ALEX
No, he didn't. Look, Claire, you're not thinking straight right now. It's the rush of being in danger, and being a part of something you always considered forbidden. But believe me: this ain't no picnic.

CLAIRE
I'd like to be the judge of that.

ALEX
Jesus! What's wrong with you? A witch nails a killer ghost on your tail and you're so frigging excited about it!

CLAIRE
I'm excited about not being shut out for once!

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
You don't know what you're talking about, Claire! It's never been about shutting you out: it was protecting you, dammit! It was keeping you safe!

CLAIRE
C'mon, Al! Safe from what? Two stupid Team Cullen vampires, trying northern Washington after reading some crappy book?

ALEX
You were in high-school! And they killed three persons before I put them down. People you knew!

CLAIRE
And you saved the whole town!

Alex shakes her head, cursing under her breath at Claire's bullet-proof enthusiasm.

INT. CABIN#1 - DAY

The sun is setting. Claire's alone before a full-length mirror near the beds. She's studying the burn beneath her bone collar, lining it out with her fingertip.

The books from Wilma's are open on the table. Alex walks in.

ALEX
The police requested to shut the place down.

CLAIRE
But we're not leaving, right?

ALEX
They've offered to book us a room at the only motel in town. On the house, for the inconvenience.

CLAIRE
Fred, Susan, the others?

ALEX
They're all leaving right tonight.

CLAIRE
Oh...

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Better this way, Claire, so we
don't need to explain ourselves.

CLAIRE
You look tired.

ALEX
Don't worry about me, kiddo. I'm
alright.

A knock on the door and Fred, Susan and Friends come in with
a six pack.

Alex welcomes them pushing the books aside.

One of them is open on a page reading "CURSE OF THE BROKEN
WING", with an ink picture of the symbol and a long
explanation.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE
GHOST OF ME

"Broken Wing"

26 CONTINUED:

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. OUTSIDE CABIN#1 & #2 - NIGHT

Alex and Claire are hugging Fred and Susan goodbye at the porch when the Challenger drives by up to Cabin#2. The rest of the Friends are already gone.

Fred and Susan hurry across the driveway and climb into Fred's car. The Corbans stay in the porch, waving at them as they drive by, with a honk, toward the exit.

Aidan and Mark step out of the Challenger, Aidan eyeing the leaving car, Mark waving at the Corbans.

Alex shows him the beer. Mark nods grinning. Aidan follows him into Cabin#2, trying to pick what he missed.

CLAIRE
D'you still think we shouldn't trust'im?

ALEX
He's ok, I guess, but his brother... Anyway, we can always share some with'im and tryna find out what else they know.

LATER

Blue Oyster's Club's "Harvest Moon" playing inside. At the porch, Alex, Claire and Mark are sitting with beers and a bowl with only a few peanuts left.

MARK
And you couldn't find the woman who sold you the pendant?

CLAIRE
All we know is that her name's Ann Campbell and she lives deep into the woods across the lake.

ALEX
They say she's been alone and a bit nuts since the dawn of times, and everybody agrees that she's completely harmless. Just the local freak you name to scare your kids, when they don't go to bed in time.

MARK
Every town needs a freak, huh?

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRE
However, the librarian confirmed it was her sister Beth who killed herself, when her fiancée stood her up on their wedding.

MARK
The librarian told you? How did you get'er to talk at all?

ALEX
Bet you let your brother do the talking, huh?

CLAIRE
Hey, Aidan! Come join us!

Mark and Alex turn to Cabin#2, spotting Aidan alone in the porch. He hears Claire and heads for Cabin#1. Alex rolls her eyes, Mark conceals an amused smirk.

MARK
(to Alex)
Then you don't actually know what that symbol means...

Aidan joins them while Alex answers. He accepts a beer and rest against the handrail by his brother.

ALEX
Yeah, we know: it's an old curse.

Claire hurries inside the cabin and back out with Wilma's book open in a marked page. She gives it to Mark while Alex explains, Aidan leans to take a look at it as well.

ALEX
First I found this Butterfly Charm, for good luck and harmony with mother nature. Hippie stuff. But breaking the Butterfly's wings turns it to evil. It was used in black magic spells in this area. If you were a witch and really wanted someone to pay for something, you would draw that symbol in your enemy's house, and then on any headstone, to bring a spirit back from the death, which would haunt anything marked with the Broken Wing, making their life a living hell. And if you were smart enough to mark your very enemy, the spirit would feast on their hearts...

(CONTINUED)
MARK
And you think that's what's going on here now?

ALEX
Yes. There's some poor soul stuck here around, and that old woman is giving out pendants with the Broken Wing, allowing the ghost to feed on whoever wears it.

Aidan lets out a silly chuckle, they all turn to him.

AIDAN
You're kidding, right? I mean, you guys don't really buy that shit about curses and ghosts, do you? I mean, c'mon! That's bullshit!

Awkward beat, the other three waiting for him to take it back. Of course he doesn't and keeps going.

AIDAN
I mean, seriously-- Alex, that's your name, right? Local police think there may be a dangerous killer on the loose and you come up with this voodoo crap?

CLAIRE
Aidan, you saw the symbol painted in blood where they were killed...

ALEX
Don't waste your breath, Claire.

Mark gets sharply up, standing between Alex and Aidan with the empty bowl in his hands.

MARK
More snacks?

CLAIRE
I'm bringing more beer.

They cowardly sneak away from war zone into the cabin.

Alex and Aidan are glaring at each other. He's about to speak when she cuts him up with a snarl.

ALEX
Shut your hole, Aidan, you cannot fool me. I know what you guys are, and why you're here.

Aidan takes a beat to conceal his surprise, but then he leans toward her for his turn to snarl.

(CONTINUED)
AIDAN
Then you should know better than standing in my way, cos all I'm trying to do here is saving your sorry ass.

ALEX
Well, my sorry ass doesn't need saving, the lest by you. We're way better off without you.

AIDAN
Are you willing to bet your niece's life on it? Cos that's the stake we're talking about.

Alex jumps to her feet to hiss very close to his face:

ALEX
Thanks, Batman, but nothing's gonna happen to her. Not now, not ever. Not in my watch.

They glare at each other, hating their guts. But then Aidan's eyes slip down to Alex's lips. She scowls, not believing he just did that. He looks up at her and raises one eyebrow. Suddenly they chuckle together and look away.

But Alex freezes when she glances at the Park.

INTERCUT WITH:

PARK - ALEX'S POV
Straight ahead across the Park, in the shadows of the first line of trees, there are two white figures watching Cabin#1: Ann and Beth.

Alex steps away from Aidan to grab the handrail, glaring at them. Aidan glances that way over his shoulder.

INTERCUT WITH:

PARK - AIDAN'S POV
Nothing. Just... Park.

AIDAN
Alex...?

She doesn't even register him.

Ann shows a twisted smile, taking a step forward.

(CONTINUED)
ANN
We're coming for your little one, hunter's child. And you won't be able to save her.

She and Beth vanish in thin air.

Alex lets out a low snarl. Aidan is very focused on her, cos he knows there's something going on.

AIDAN
Alex... ALEX!

Alex reacts with a chill and forces herself to face him.

Aidan raises his eyebrows, "something to share with the class?". She just shakes her head with one last glance at the now empty Park.

Claire and Mark come back out then, forcing the other two to join their casual conversation.

CLAIRE
It's less than three hours from Seattle, but it's pretty much the end of the world.

MARK
Sounds like you like it that way.

CLAIRE
I love it!

EXT. SQUARE TOWN - CANDLES STAND - DAY

Only a few Passers-by and a few stands open this early. Alex and Claire are talking to WOMAN#1, who is pointing something in a touristic map for them.

Alex looks up, glances past Claire, turns back to Woman#1.

WOMAN#1
I don't Ann would be interested in selling you much. She crafts those pendants only as a hobby.

ALEX
Well, we can always try, right?

WOMAN#1
Of course! Good look!

CLAIRE
Thanks!

(CONTINUED)
Alex nods at Claire to follow her to the street.

ALEX
Don't look back. This time Mark is really tailing us. Come.

The Corbans walk away. Beat.

Mark comes to the stand and pretends to be interested in the natural oils. Then he casually looks up the way the Corbans went. He frowns, looking around.

Somebody touches his shoulder from behind. He spins around and smirks, at finding Alex and Claire with mocking smiles.

ALEX
Too tall to go unnoticed, boy. C'mon, let's have breakfast.

Mark accepts, giving up. The three of them walk away.

INT. DINER - DAY

At a table by the window, Alex is sitting opposite to Mark and Claire. Trays on the table with leftovers of their breakfast. They're really into what they're talking. A wall clock reads 11 am.

ALEX
Three kills, every fourteen years?

MARK
Always during July's full moon.

CLAIRE
Makes sense. Fourteen years is how long Beth's runaway groom took to come back to town.

ALEX
And she killed three people back then, right?

MARK
And always ever since: a couple and a girl.

ALEX
That's why you're so sure Claire could be the last kill of the row.

MARK
She's been marked, right?

Broody beat.

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRE
Anyway, there's something not quite matching the picture here: what's Ann got to do with all of this? I mean, why cursing her sister's soul again and again to make'er kill?

MARK
Well, before failing so lamely at tailing you guys, I talked to an old woman who told me an interesting story: the guy who dumped Beth? He was Ann's boyfriend before that.

ALEX
You mean he dumped Ann for Beth, and then dumped Beth for some other?

MARK
Looks like.

ALEX+CLAIRE
Men...

ALEX
So the one actually seeking revenge is not Beth but Ann.

CLAIRE
That's why she uses Beth's ghost: she's punishing her for stealing her man in the first place...

ALEX
Son of a bitch!

MARK
That's exactly what I thought.

CLAIRE
So what now?

ALEX
First of all, checking in at the motel. Then, picking up some more books at Wilma's, where I hope to find a way to keep that ghost away from you 'til that mark disappears.

MARK
If you don't mind, I could use a ride to pick up some stuff as well.

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
You're on, kiddo. Let's go to the motel, and then Claire can take you wherever you need to go.

CLAIRE
Where are you and Aidan staying?

MARK
Only motel in town...

ALEX
Neighbors again?

MARK
Looks like.

EXT. MOTEL - DAY

Only a few cars in the parking lot, the Challenger amongst them. There's a taxi before ROOM#3, Pam in the backseat.

Aidan is leaning toward her rolled-down window, kissing her goodbye. Then he pats the taxi's top and lingers watching it drive away, pleased predator's grin on.

Until his eyes slide an inch to the side: Alex is standing right there, staring up at him, poker face, backpack on and an open book in her hands.

When he meets her eyes, she resumes walking/reading past him. He spins around, watching her.

ALEX
Nice chick, Aidan.

AIDAN
Glad to see you too, Alex.

Alex walks up to the last door, pauses, checks the number on the door against the number of her key, walks back.

AIDAN
Not next door again, please...

Alex opens the ROOM#4 and walks in. Aidan rolls his eyes with an exasperated snort.

INT. MOTEL ROOM#4 - DAY

Alex's backpack is on the couch by the door, she's leaving her book open on the table. A knock on the door.

(CONTINUED)
Alex opens the fridge, takes a bottle of water, drinks a long gulp. A knock on the door.

Alex leaves the bottle by the book, goes to the door in no hurry. Half a knock on the door --Alex pulls it open, catching Aidan with his fist in the air.

She turns her back on Aidan at the doorway and takes her backpack to her bed. He know he's not invited in, so he stays right at the doorway.

AIDAN
What're you doing still here?

ALEX
None of your damned business.

AIDAN
Don't you have better things to do, Alex? A niece to look after? Books to read? Cakes to bake?

Alex comes back to the door very calmly, pushes it shut in Aidan's face, goes back to the table.

INTERCUT WITH:

Aidan snorts again, annoyed.

AIDAN
Ok, my bad! Sorry!

Alex is sitting at the table, back to the door, reading.

AIDAN (O.S.)
Didn't mean to be rude! Promise I won't bring any more women here.

Eyes moving along the page, Alex scoffs.

Aidan strides away, pissed off, walks into Room#3 and slams the door shut behind him.

Deafening loud Greenday's "American Idiot". Claire is laying takeout food on dishes, Alex is setting the table for four, they're singing and headbanging as they go.

A knock on the door and Mark walks in, Aidan follows. Alex lowers the volume to a healthier level, Claire signals Mark to help her. Aidan notices Alex pauses to smile at them together and walks slowly to her side.

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Your brother is such a great boy.

AIDAN
Yeah, he is. So, are we ok? Or you're still jealous?

ALEX
You're asking the grumpy bitch with a handful of knives...

It's truce. They chuckle together.

CLAIRE
Dinner's ready!

LATER

Dinner's over. Mark and Alex are picking up the dishes. Aidan and Claire are still at the table. They're all laughing at something Claire's telling.

AIDAN
And what did he do then!?

CLAIRE
Nothing! He just carried on like nothing happened! Best Halloween's trick ever, I promise!

Pause, as laughter dies away. Then Aidan stands up trading a look with Mark.

AIDAN
Well, guys, it's been the best dinner en ages, but I gotta bail.

ALEX
Back to your blondie, tiger?

AIDAN
What can I say. I'm a knight in shinny armor, gotta rescue my lady.

Alex takes a chocolate bar from over the fridge and hands him to Aidan, he shoots a questioning look at her.

ALEX
Be a true knight, then. Ladies love chocolate, and knights bringing it.

AIDAN
Thanks! Have fun, guys!

MARK
Yeah, take care...

(CONTINUED)
Aidan leaves. Beat.

CLAIRE
We should've told'im...

ALEX
Nah, he's the kinda man who likes to find things out by himself.

MARK
Tell'im what?

CLAIRE
Beth's not buried in the cemetery.

MARK
WHAT!?

ALEX
Why do you think we wanted so much to know where that witch lives?

Mark's shaking his head: "I knew it".

CLAIRE
All of her family is buried near her cottage, in the woods. We're going tomorrow.

ALEX
Yeah, in broad daylight. Cos only you, hunters, are bold and dumb enough to do those things at night.

MARK
What? Aren't you guys hunters too?

ALEX
Us? God, no! We're just regular civilians.

CLAIRE
But there was a hunter back home, and it's hard to keep secret such a job in a small town.

ALEX
Now I'd like to pay a visit to the one decent bar in town.

CLAIRE
Sounds like a plan!
EXT. OUTSIDE BAR - NIGHT

John Mellencamp's "Rumble Seat" playing inside. Trucks and bikes parked outside. PEOPLE of all ages coming in and out, or lingering by the door. There are tables by the shop large window, and a small crowd inside the bar.

Claire, Mark and Alex are sitting again by the window, now drinking beer, absorbed in a cheerful conversation.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

John Mellencamp's song playing loud. PEOPLE everywhere: by the jukebox picking songs, dancing, at the counter, moving around. Music and voices fill the place.

MARK
BOOTTER CORBAN!? No way!! You're Old Bootter's grandchildren?

ALEX
Actually I'm his grandniece, and Claire his great-grandniece. But we used to call'im just Grandpa.

MARK
My dad knew him! How come...?

CLAIRE
Your dad?

MARK
Benjamin Holster...?

ALEX
Wait... Tall, dark hair, a moody air to him...? Of course! He and Grandpa used to spend hours in Grandpa's workshop! He had these two little boys who... NO WAY!

Mark nods smiling.

ALEX
(to Claire)
They even stayed at home once! Well, at Grandpa's cottage, but he'd bring them home every day!

MARK
(to Claire)
I kinda remember that time, do you?

ALEX
You two guys would spend the whole time together! And when they left, (MORE)

(CONTINUED)
ALEX (cont'd)
you gave'im your precious book of faeries...

MARK
White hard cover, a teddy-bear marker? Full of unicorns and rainbows and stuff...?

ALEX
That one! And you gave Claire...

CLAIRE
A wildflower... I remember now...

ALEX
(to Mark)
You ran out to my mom's flowerbed, then brought it to her... Geez, you guys were so damn cute! How old were you, Mark? Five?

She shakes her head, still amazed, and all of her happy mood goes out the window when she glances out.

THROUGH SHOP WINDOW - EXT. OUTSIDE BAR - ALEX'S POV
Right there, standing amongst the People like last night in the Park, Ann is smiling at her.

BACK TO SCENE
Alex glances across the table.

MARK
Aidan used to laugh at me so bad about it! I kept it for years!

ALEX
I'll be right back, kiddos.

Claire shoots a questioning look up at her when she stands up, which Alex ignores as she heads out.

EXT. OUTSIDE BAR/CORNER - NIGHT
Alex rushes out looking around, but Ann is not in sight. She turns to the bar's corner and freezes with a scowl.

Ann is standing at the corner. When she's sure Alex has spotted her, she walks into the alley and out of sight.
EXT. BAR'S STREET - NIGHT

The Challenger is coming to the bar. Aidan drives biting at Alex's chocolate bar, as to make up for his useless incursion. He looks out and frowns.

EXT. BAR'S ALLEY - AIDAN'S POV

Alex hurries around the corner and into the alley, past three PUNKS she doesn't even notice. The Punks watch her stride past them. They move away from the wall and start to noiselessly close in on her from behind.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Alex, unaware of the approaching Punks, stands face to the tall fence closing the alley. She looks like speaking to the air.

ALEX
You cannot touch'er, you damned witch! I've seen to it!

PUNK#1 grabs her arm from behind and pulls her around.

PUNK#1
Hey, puppy...

ALEX
Let go, stupid punk!

He pushes Alex to PUNK#2, who locks his arms around her as she struggles and they laugh.

PUNK#3
(grabbing her hair)
Easy, puppy.

AIDAN (O.S.)
LET'ER GO!

Punks spin around to find Aidan pointing a 9mm gun at Punk#1's head. Punk#2 sets Alex free right away. Aidan signals her to come to him.

PUNK#1
Easy, pal, no need to--

Punk#2's cry cuts him up, when Alex's blow to his jaw sends him stumbling back to the ground. Then she turns to Punk#3.

AIDAN
Awesome...

(CONTINUED)
32.

"Broken Wing"

CONTINUED:

He quickly keeps his gun as Punk#1 tries a punch at him. He ducks and knocks him out with a single blow. Then he jumps onto Punk#2, back on his feet and trying to hit Alex from behind with a piece of pipe.

Alex finishes off Punk#3 by sinking her knee deep up his crotch and spins around to Aidan heavily breathing, fists up, ready to keep fighting. Aidan grimaces in sympathy at Punk#3's agony, then faces her.

AIDAN
You couldn't play it smooth, right?

ALEX
Don't you dare to patronize me.

AIDAN
Hey, I come in peace.

She turns her back on him and stalks out of the alley. Aidan rolls his eyes, and is about to follow her when an icy gust causes him a chill.

He spins around as Ann's sick giggle echoes in the alley.

Aidan scans the place, eyes wide open, but there's no-one there, save the fallen moaning Punks.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Mark and Claire are still talking at the table. Alex strides in, glances at them to check they're fine, goes on straight to the counter.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Mark and Claire look up in time to see her crossing the dance floor and resume their talk.

BAR COUNTER

Alex is gulping up a tequila shot. She signals the CAPTAIN for a refill. When he does, a hand snatches it away from behind her: Aidan's. He kills it in a single gulp and scowls at Alex. She turns again to the counter.

ALEX
(hating the words)
Thanks for saving my ass.

AIDAN
(softening)
Told you I'm a knight in shinny armor, always ready to save a princess in distress.

ALEX
I ain't no princess, Aidan. I'm frigging queen of fools.

AIDAN
Don't flutter yourself. You cannot be queen before rewarding your savior knight.

Alex shoots a questioning scowl at him. Aidan gives her a half-smile waving at the Captain.

AIDAN
I know a kiss is outta the question, cos you'd throat me if I even suggested it, but you have to humor me. Cos you know? You don't drink alone after teaming up for a fight.

Alex keeps scowling at him, full of suspicion.

DANCE FLOOR

Mark and Claire come looking for Aidan and Alex. They halt at seeing them at the counter, sharing a drink.

INT. MOTEL ROOM#4 - NIGHT

Alex and Claire come in, still saying goodnight to the Holsters next door. They turn the lights on, drop their jackets and the car keys.

CLAIRE
Now you better start talking. What was all that about with Aidan?

(CONTINUED)
Alex picks a paper bag from over the fridge and goes to the table as she shakes her head chuckling.

ALEX
Hey, I'm not asking you about lovely Mark, or whether Ollie should start worrying about 'im.

CLAIRE
You can ask all you want, cos there's nothing to tell.

ALEX
Yeah, sure. Well, same here.

CLAIRE
Sure. What're you doing now?

Alex is taking assorted little things from the paper bag: herbs, colored threads, a small flask with a brown liquid, a small white cloth. She sits at the table and puts to work, while Claire makes coffee.

ALEX
I'm gonna make you a spell bag to keep that ghost away.

CLAIRE
What? I didn't know you knew about that kinda stuff!

ALEX
See? There you go: there's a lot you don't know about me.

Claire shakes her head chuckling. Alex puts a bit of everything in the cloth, then wraps it all in it and ties it with a thin red ribbon. Then she goes to the beds.

All the lights go out.

There's a rough noise, like the table being shoved aside, and Claire's cry fills the dark room.

ALEX
CLAIRE!!

In the scarce light coming in through the window, Claire is crouching by the fridge, arms up covering her head.

And Beth is frantically trying to grab her throat.

Alex sprints to the fake fireplace and grabs an iron poker.

ALEX
HANG ON, KIDDO!

(CONTINUED)
She swings the poker at Beth, who becomes smoke and disappears. Alex helps Claire to her feet. Claire is panting and crying.

**ALEX**
We need salt! Can you take it from the cupboard?

**CLAIRE**
Y-yes... What's going on, Al?

**ALEX**
It's the ghost. Don't worry, I got you now.

Claire searches the cupboard for the salt, Alex standing right behind her, back to back, wielding the iron poker with both hands, ready to swing it again.

Claire gives her a small salt can with shaky hands and Alex hurry to draw a circle with it on the floor.

**ALEX**
Stay inside the circle!

Right then Beth appears again. Alex tries to hit her with the poker, but she disappears. She starts flickering in and out all over the room, arms stretched out trying to reach Claire, making a high pitched hiss painful to hear.

All the furniture is shoved and tossed around.

Alex manages it to shield Claire every time. Beth grabs both her arms, sinking nails like rotten claws in her flesh. Alex lets out a suffocated cry but doesn't step back.

Beth keeps trying. She gets to scratch Claire's face and even grabs Alex by the throat for a moment.

Then the front door slams open, right when Alex is pressing Claire behind her against the fridge, to keep her safe. A shot echoes in the room and Beth disappears.

Aidan is in the doorway, shotgun to his face. Mark hurries in with a big can of salt.

**ALEX**
Here! I need to finish a spell!

Mark takes her place in the circle of salt.

Aidan is spreading salt across the doorway and along the windowpane.

Alex runs to her bed and picks a book, giving it to Mark.
ALEX
Can you read that?

Marks starts reciting in Latin while Alex hurries to the small counter by the fridge. Aidan goes to stand by her, shotgun ready, keeping guard.

Alex empties what's left in the paper bag into a bowl, cuts her forearm to add a little blood in the mix and sets it in fire.

The lights come back on, then off, then flicker, then they stay steady on. The four of them look up and around, as to make sure the spell worked.

Now the lights are one, the Holsters see the whole furniture piled against the walls and the sliced paintings on the wall.

And the crappy state the Corbans are in: the blood dripping from Claire's face, her shirt ripped almost open. Alex looks even worse: face bruised, the still bleeding cut in her forearm, the parallel bleeding cuts on both her arms from Beth's claws.

AIDAN
Geez, princess! I turn my back on you for a minute and you're a mess!

ALEX
Yeah... Thanks for coming to the rescue again, Aidan-knight.

AIDAN
My pleasure: now you owe me again.

Claire flops herself onto the sofa still looking around with blurry eyes, in shock. Mark sits down by her side to soothe her. Claire covers her face with her hands and breaks in sobbing tears. Mark rounds her shoulders with his arm.

AIDAN
(to Alex)
Come, I have a first-aid kit in--
(reconsiders)
--my car. It's in my car.

They walk out together.

Mark comforts Claire until she calms down a little.

MARK
It's alright, Claire, don't worry. You guys ain't alone anymore. We're here for you.

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRE
I know but... Oh, Mark! That ghost almost killed Al to get to me!

MARK
Hush, Claire, it's ok. Nothing's gonna happen to you, I promise.

She rests against his side, worn out. He holds her tight.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Alex is resting against the Challenger's trunk, a first-aid kit open by her. Aidan's about to clean her face with a wet cotton and he has to stand very close to her.

Aidan leans toward Alex, notices her glare, scowls at her.

AIDAN
Don't you give me that look. I need to see what I'm doing, so it's here or my room.
(beat)
Thought so.

He leans forward, as to kiss her, then takes the cotton to her temple.

LATER

Aidan drops a stained cotton in the trash bin as Alex looks at her bandaged arms.

ALEX
Guess I'll be needing a tattoo...

AIDAN
I can give you some cool designs.

They turn to glance at Room#4 and sigh at the same time.

AIDAN
We should go back and prep up for the rest of the night....

ALEX
Hate being the killjoy.

AIDAN
Yeah. Well, boohoo.

INT. MOTEL ROOM#4 - NIGHT

Alex and Aidan enter and trade a look and a scoff: Claire is sweeping and Mark is moving the furniture back in place.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

The four of them gather around the table.

MARK
I'm taking the first watch.

AIDAN
Fine, I'll take the second.
(to Alex)
Where can I crash, princess?

CLAIRE
Take my bed, the one on the left.

AIDAN
(smirking at Alex)
Don't take long, hun.

Claire and Mark chuckle as Alex rolls her eyes.

Mark takes the shotgun, Claire goes to make coffee. Alex follows Aidan while Mark joins Claire.

ALEX (O.S.)
Get outta my bed!

AIDAN (O.S.)
Sorry. Take the other one or share this one with me.

Mark and Claire laugh as the bathroom's door slams shut.

SERIES OF SHOTS - NIGHT/DAY

A) Claire's sleeping in the sofa, curled up against Mark's side. He's reading, gunshot by his side, an arm around Claire. Aidan comes by yawning.

B) It's dawning. Alex comes from the bed. Aidan's watching TV with the volume off.

C) The day is breaking. Claire wakes up, looks around, sees Alex reading at the small couch by the front window.

D) The wall clock reads 10 am. Mark and Aidan are sound asleep. And the Corbans noiselessly leave the room.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

FADE IN:

EXT. ROAD ACROSS THE WOODS - DAY

Alice Cooper's "Killed By Love" as background.

The road is a straight black line of civilization flanked by walls of tall, ancient trees, their canopy closing on up above, shadowing the underwood.

The Hilux cruises by.

INT. HILUX - MOVING - DAY

Alice Cooper on the stereo, Alex is driving with a serious scowl fixed up ahead, while Claire checks a road map.

CLAIRE
We're only half a mile away.

ALEX
You should've stayed at the motel with Mark. I could've taken care of this with Aidan.

CLAIRE
You're not shutting me out of this one, Al.

ALEX
This one?

CLAIRE
Don't play dumb on me.

Alex grunts under her breath. Okay, next gambit.

ALEX
Okay, Grandpa was a damn good hunter as far as I know. But think, Claire! Why d'you think he quit and came back home? Why the hell would he leave it all behind to come hide in our farm?

CLAIRE
Grandpa wasn't hiding!

ALEX
He wasn't? And how would you know, huh? Maybe he told you?

CLAIRE
You...!

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
You always say I was his favorite, right? Well, then take it from me: he put it all behind and came to live with us, cos he had seen shit enough to haunt his dreams for the rest of his damned life!

CLAIRE
Sure! Then why on earth would he teach you all he knew?

ALEX
Not all. And he did it so there would be somebody to keep our family safe when he weren't there!

CLAIRE
Meaning?

ALEX
He knew what's out there, Claire, and he knew it would eventually come to our lives. So he wanted me to be ready for it.

CLAIRE
And why don't you want me to know too? Why would you rather keep me ignorant and helpless, huh?

ALEX
Shit!

Claire looks ahead and flashes a mocking smirk.

CLAIRE
Told you we shouldn't have stopped at the store.

THROUGH WINDSHIELD - EXT. ROAD - ALEX'S POV

The Challenger is parked on the shoulder of the road. Aidan and Mark are taking thins out of the open trunk.

EXT. ROAD ACROSS THE WOODS - DAY

The Hilux slows down and pulls over by the Challenger. Claire rolls down her window and shows out. The Holsters smile hi at her like they were meeting in the bar. They're holding shovel, shotgun, two cans -fuel and salt.

AIDAN
Hey, girls! Out for a morning drive?

(CONTINUED)
CLAIRE
(chuckling)
C'mon, get in.

They put everything in the back of the truck and climb in the backseat. The Hilux turns into a narrow dirt track.

INT. HILUX - MOVING - DAY

Alex drives carefully, sullen scowl on. Claire is turned in her seat to face the Holsters.

AIDAN
(to Claire)
You should've stayed at the motel. We would've taken care of this.

ALEX
You're no match for them, else you would've saved Frank and Nancy.

MARK
But we're four now, Al. That's gotta improve our chances.

ALEX
Guess we'll find out soon, huh?
(braking)
End of the road. There's a fallen tree blocking the way.

EXT. DEEP WOODS - DAY

They're all by the truck sorting out shovels, gunshot, cans. Two slim tracks start past the old fallen tree.

ALEX
So one of the tracks should take to the cottage, and the other one to the family graves.

AIDAN
C'mon, princess, we're taking the one on the left.
(to Mark)
If there's any trouble...

MARK
A shot.

Alex waits for Claire to meet her eyes, the girl nods with a reassuring smile. Alex anyway lingers there, shovel in hand, watching Claire and Mark walk into TRACK#1. Then she follows

(CONTINUED)
Aidan down TRACK#2

EXT. TRACK#2/CLEARING - DAY

Alex leads the way while Aidan follows, shotgun ready, scanning the woods around them. Alex suddenly halts and he hurries to her. They've come to the Clearing in the woods.

Aidan points at the lonely grave under a dead tree still standing. Nothing grows around it: Beth's grave.

AIDAN
Unholy ground. That's the grave.

While Claire and Mark are walking, the cry of a bird startles them. Mark stops, gun in hand, pointing it up at the tress. When he resumes walking, Claire follows.

CLAIRE
The ground's slopping down, we must be closer to the lake.

MARK
So this is the track to the cottage...

CLAIRE
Guess so... Let's hope Al and Aidan find the grave soon.

MARK
Aren't you afraid, Claire? I mean, today you sound so... Cool...

CLAIRE
I'm just terrified. But Grandpa used to say that running from your fears only nails them on your tail, so it's always bet--

She trails off, stopping Mark, and keeps her eyes down, like listening to something. They speak in whispers.

CLAIRE
There's somebody near...

MARK
You can hear them?

CLAIRE
I sense her... She's close...

(CONTINUED)
A cracking twig, a furious gust of wind and Marks violently pushed back against a tree and to the ground.

Before passing out, he gets to see Ann leaning down onto Claire, fallen and unconscious a few steps away.

Alex and Aidan trade shovel for shotgun and he strides across the Clearing toward Beth's grave. Alex follows and kneels by the old headstone.

She slides her hand gently down the surface, then points at the Broken wing painted in blood.

AIDAN
Okay, princess. I dig, you remove that damned thing.

As Aidan starts digging, Alex produces a small bottle of water, a handkerchief and puts to eagerly rub the mark.

A gust of wind blows through the trees and Alex pauses, looking up, concerned. Aidan notices.

AIDAN
What.

ALEX
I don't know... I just felt like... Never mind.

She looks back down at the headstone and resumes working.

Mark comes to his senses to find himself sitting on the ground, back to a tree, tightly tied to it.

Right in front of him, Claire's tied to another tree, still out.

MARK
Claire! Claire, wake up!

Claire doesn't even blink. Mark tries to loosen the ropes as he looks around.

There's a rumor of approaching steps breaking twigs. Mark struggles eagerly now, looking at the track.

Ann shows up and comes to Mark's side smirking.

ANN
Save your strength, hunter (MORE)

(CONTINUED)
ANN (cont'd)
(pauses by Claire)
Isn't she lovely? She's going to be
the prime of this harvest moon. And
you will get the unique chance to
witness it firsthand.

MARK
Let'er go!

ANN
Aren't you going to love it,
watching her die?

Ann produces a dagger and with a swift move, she leans
toward Mark and slides the blade along his chest, cutting
both fabric and skin.

She giggles when a thickening red line shows in his t-shirt.
Then she licks the blood on the blade, while Mark struggles
again and in vain.

ANN
Oh, blood... It can tell you so
many things, hunter. And your sweet
blood tells me you're counting on
your brother to save you. Again.

Ann wets two fingers in Mark's blood, then grabs his hair to
keep him still and draws the Broken Wing on his forehead.
She straightens up and looks at the woods.

ANN
A word for you brother before I
kill him, and his friend?

Aidan's standing in the hole up to his waist, while Alex
stands guard with the shotgun. His shovel scratches the
coffin and he starts hitting the rotten wood of the cover.

AIDAN
Found it! Bring the fuel!

Alex runs to get the can. Aidan keeps hitting the coffin
until the cover collapses, exposing Beth's skeleton, wrapped
in the rags of her wedding dress.

Aidan climbs out of the hole. Right then Ann shows up a few
steps away from him, and she charges against Aidan.

At the other end of the Clearing, Alex points the shotgun at
her. Ann waves her hand, shoving Alex against a tree.

Aidan wields the shovel against her. Alex hits the tree a
falls face to the ground. Aidan swings the shovel, Ann stops

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

it single-handed with a vicious smirk.

MARK

NO!! AIDAN!!

His cry wakes up Claire, who looks up to find Beth looming over her, one of her hands slightly waving toward her chest.

MARK

No! Take me! Take me instead!!

With a quick thrust, Beth sinks her rotten hand into Claire's chest. Claire opens her eyes and mouth, voiceless.

CLEARING

Ann and Aidan keep fighting. Right now, Aidan's flat back to the ground with Ann on top of him, trying to stab him with her blood-stained dagger, laughing like she's really having fun.

Behind her, Alex crawls up to the can, dragging along the shotgun. She forces herself up and stumbles toward the open grave. Aidan gets to kick Ann off him, rolls and staggers back to his feet.

MARK (O.S.)

AIDAN!! DO IT NOW!!

Aidan grabs the shovel again and charges against Ann, as Alex reaches the grave, opens the can and pours the fuel into the hole.

Ann catches again the shovel, breaks it in two and tosses it away, laughing at Aidan's urgency as she grabs his throat.

Right then, Alex drops a zippo lighter on in the hole. The sparks of the first flame catch Ann's attention.

Her insane laughter turns into a furious howl and she pushes Aidan to the edge of the hole, while he's tugging at her hands, already gasping for air.

The fire roars up from the coffin.

Ann pushes Aidan closer to Alex. So when she tries to throw him into the fire, Alex jumps toward them, rounding Aidan's waist with both her arms, and falls to the ground dragging

(CONTINUED)
him with her, and off Ann's clutch.

Ann staggers at the edge of the hole. Alex jumps to her feet wielding the shotgun as a club and hits Ann hard in her chest, pushing her away from the fire, then again in her head, knocking her out.

Behind her, Aidan stands sorely up. She spins on her heels and sprints off the Clearing into the woods. Aidan manages it to follow.

ALEX

CLAIRE!!

Claire's passed out again, Beth's fist in her chest. Then Beth straightens sharply up, removing her empty hand from Claire, while Mark looks up at hearing Alex.

Beth's dress is smoking, then a burning golden line lights up its bottom, then it bursts in flames. Beth is consumed by the fire without a sound.

As Mark gasps, eyes wide open, Alex and Aidan stumble together out of the thickets. Aidan halts as the last flames spark up in the air, but Alex runs to kneel by Claire and pulls from her ropes with a suffocated cry.

AIDAN

Alex!

She looks up. He tosses a hunting knife she catches in the air, then cuts Claire's ropes. Silent tears rolling down her face, clenched teeth, she hurries to lay Claire down and tries to revive her.

Aidan frees Mark and signals him to follow, heading back with him to the Clearing.

Oblivious of anything else, Alex keeps working on Claire, until she wearily coughs, fluttering her eyes open. Then she holds Claire in her arms really tight against her chest, hiding her face in Claire's hair while she fights to control her tears.

Claire holds her back, like a scared child in her mother's arms, crying as well.

Aidan and Mark come back then. Aidan carries unconscious Ann on his shoulder, best cave-man style, his belt fastening tight her hands behind her back. Mark has retrieved the shotgun. Alex looks up at then wiping away her tears.

MARK

What should we do with her?

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Her cottage. It can't be far off.

Aidan nods and walks away up Track#1, Alex signals Mark to stay. He kneels by the Corbans as Claire brushes the hair off her face and tries a weary smile up at him.

MARK
Hey...

ALEX
Listen, Mark, I gotta seat that witch away, so she can never do anything like this again. But it's gonna take time...

CLAIRE
She's about to ask you to take care of this pain in the ass.

ALEX
Claire!

MARK
Don't worry. I can take'er back to the motel and stay with her.

Alex hands him the car keys and points a finger at him, dead serious.

ALEX
I'm trusting you my niece and my truck, kiddo. So you better take good care of my babies, got it?

Mark nods, amused, as he helps Claire up to her feet. Before going with him, Claire throws her arms around Alex's neck.

CLAIRE
Thanks for saving me, Al.

ALEX
Sure, chile. That's what I'm here for, you know?

Claire nods, eyes full of tears again but holding up. Alex caresses her hair with a warm, loving smile, and waves at the to be on their way.

Mark and Claire walk slowly down Track#1 toward the Hilux. Alex takes a deep breath and turns to the other end of the track.

ALEX
Your turn, Ann Campbell.
Aidan has Ann tied up to a chair, hands behind her back, in the middle of the kitchen. Ann is still out, he's standing by a window, shotgun barrel to his shoulder.

Alex walks in. Aidan closes the door behind her and stays back as she approaches Ann.

The witch is slowly coming to her senses. She tries to move, scowls, looks around, then up at Alex, standing before her, hands to her hips.

**ALEX**

Hello, Ann. Sit tight, cos this is gonna take a while.

(to Aidan)

Gag her if she tries to speak.

Aidan nods as Alex heads for the cupboards and starts searching them, takin out pots and jars. She brings everything close to Ann and starts sorting herbs and small objects on the floor, shaping a circle around Ann's feet.

The witch tries to break free, in vain. Then she starts murmuring under her breath. Alex straightens sharply up and slaps her, leaving a red mark on Ann's cheek.

**ALEX**

Shut your hole, bitch.

**AIDAN**

I got'er.

Aidan steps closer producing a handkerchief and stuffs it into Ann's mouth, never minding the furious glare she fixes on him.

Alex finishes the circle and goes to stand right before Ann. She takes a deep breath and presses her hands against Ann's temples. The witch's glare turns into a scared stare.

All of a sudden, all the things within two yards around them are pushed away. Aidan steps back, taken by surprise. Alex closes her eyes, Ann's face is covered in sweat. She weakly tries to struggle, but Alex keeps her in place.

All the lights in the kitchen are suddenly turned on, then off, then on again. They shine brighter and brighter, overloaded with energy until all of them explode.

Aidan covers his face with his arms right when all the windows shatter in a sudden blast.

Ann's head falls to her chest as Alex staggers a few steps back. Aidan hurries to hold her up.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

ALEX
Cut'er loose, Aidan-knight. Now she's completely harmless.

EXT. OUTSIDE ANN'S COTTAGE - DAY

Alex is sitting on a stump, really worn out. Aidan exits the cottage and joins her, stretching out his hand to help her up. She takes it and stands up, but staggers at the first step. Aidan rounds her back with his arm.

AIDAN
Easy, princess. Let me help you.

She leans against his side and they walk away together.

CLEARING

There's still some fire burning inside Beth's grave. Alex and Aidan are standing by it, looking down. She pats her pockets, then snorts, shaking her head.

ALEX
Dammit! My zippo went down there.

Aidan produces matches from a motel and fives them to her with a smartass wink.

AIDAN
Cheaper and expendable. Take them, princess. You can't go wasting a good zippo on every crazy ghost you come across.

She takes them with an ironic smirk. They pick the fuel can and walk away, Aidan's arm always around Alex's back.

INT. MOTEL ROOM#4 - DAY

Mark and Claire are watching TV side by side on the sofa. She's resting against his side, covered with a blanket, and he has his arm around her shoulders. They're drinking sodas, with a huge bag of snacks.

Alex and Aidan come in and the other two sit up, as children caught in mischief. Alex heads straight to the bathroom, Claire follows her. Aidan sits by Mark.

MARK
So?

(CONTINUED)
AIDAN
The witch is done. I don't know what Al did to her, but it sure looked like some kinda exorcism. She says she stripped off all of her skill to work magic anymore.

MARK
Sounds awesome.

AIDAN
I wouldn't mess with Al, dude. Not after watching what she did today.

Mark scoffs patting his shoulder.

BATHROOM
Alex is washing her face and hands, Claire's standing behind her in the doorway. Alex is still exhausted.

ALEX
How are you feeling?

CLAIRE
Still a little weak and dizzy, but I'm fine. You?

ALEX
I really need a shower.

CLAIRE
Sure. I'll let you to it. Fancy anything for dinner?

ALEX
Whatever you wanna order.

MAIN ROOM
Alex comes out of the bathroom wearing clean clothes, rubbing her soaking wet hair with a towel, and finds the other three watching TV.

ALEX
What happened to dinner?

Aidan stands up shaking his head.

AIDAN
Wasted youth here ordered vegan, so I was hoping you'd be so graceful as to come with me for some healthy burger and a beer.

Alex notices Aidan smirk: "let's leave them alone" and turns to Claire scowling.

(CONTINUED)
ALEX
Vegan! Really?

She shakes her head like she's annoyed, drops the towel and grabs her jacket, heading for the door. She pauses at the doorway and turns to Aidan: "well?"

AIDAN
Coming!

SERIES OF SHOTS - FROM THE STREET - NIGHT
Deep Purple's "Highway Star" as background.

A) The Challenger rockets by due town, Aidan and Alex on board.

B) Alex and Aidan in the diner, eating huge burgers.

C) Alex and Aidan in the bar: beers, chat, laughter.

D) The Challenger cruises due motel, Aidan and Alex singing along Deep Purple's song on top of their lungs.

END OF SERIES OF SHOTS.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT
Alex and Aidan step out of the Challenger and head for their rooms. Aidan notices Alex is going straight to Room#4 and grabs her arm, stopping her.

ALEX
What.

AIDAN
C'mon, princess, let'em be.

ALEX
But Claire...! You mean...? Oh...

INT. MOTEL ROOM#3 - NIGHT
Aidan pushes the door open and gives way to Alex as he hands her his phone. Alex comes in talking on the phone.

ALEX
(into phone)
Mark, it's me, how--?

(beat)
You sure? Cos I can--
Aidan snatches the phone away from her.

**AIDAN**

(into phone)

Everything fine, right, bro?

(beat)

Awesome, good night.

He hangs up and faces Alex's scowl: "what?"

**AIDAN**

You heard'im: she's fine, so let'em be, control freak. Now go to bed.

**ALEX**

Beg your pardon?!

**AIDAN**

You're drained, go get some sleep.

Alex slowly turns to the beds, narrowing her eyes. Aidan comes to stand by her side with a curious smirk.

**ALEX**

Which one's yours?

**AIDAN**

(oh so gently)

You pick it, princess...

She faces him raising her eyebrows. They look at each other for a long beat. Aidan's eyes slip down, Alex waits for him to meet her eyes again with an ironic smirk.

**CLAIRE**

Was it them?

**MARK**

Yeap.

**CLAIRE**

Are they coming?

**MARK**

Don't think so.

Claire nods scoffing. Marks smiles at her reaction and they keep watching TV.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

INT. MOTEL ROOM#3 – NIGHT

Alex and Aidan are still standing near the beds. Kissing as they get rid of each other's jackets.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT FOUR

TAG

FADE IN:
INT. HILUX - MOVING - DAY

Stone Temple Pilot's "Interstate Lovesong" playing on the stereo. The Corbans look happy and relaxed as they hit the road, rolled-down windows to let the wind in.

CLAIRE
I still can't believe you didn't say goodbye to Aidan.

ALEX
Oh, no need of getting sentimental.

CLAIRE
Are we going straight back home?

ALEX
Why?

CLAIRE
You still have a week off left...

ALEX
A little road tripping, then? Where can we go?

CLAIRE
How about---

ALEX
How about some company?

She nods ahead smiling wider, Claire looks up and nods laughing.

EXT. ROUTE 93 - DAY

STP's song as background. The Challenger is on the shoulder of the road, the Holsters resting against its trunk, beer in hand, an open cooler at their feet.

The Hilux pulls over behind them, the Corbans step out of it to join the brothers. Mark gives Claire a beer while Aidan pulls Alex to his side and kisses her.

INT. BLAKE'S MANSION - LIBRARY - NIGHT

It's a large room, with huge bookshelves, the richest of classic elegance all over.

IAN BLAKE (55, a VIP top classed city gent in tailored suit, he always looks like retired 007, oozing style) is sitting at an old rich arm-chair, scotch glass in hand. MINION#1 (30, spotless dark suit) is sitting in front of him, typing on his laptop.

(CONTINUED)
MINION#1
They've just confirmed it's here, in America.

IAN
That's a rather large information.

MINION#1
They're tracking it as we speak. Looks like they're moving it all the time.

IAN
Tell them to stay on it 24/7. This is the last one left, we cannot let it get away after so many years.

MINION#1
Of course not, sir. Should I tell them to retrieve it if they have a chance?

IAN
No, I'll send one of my own to do it. We cannot trust it to human hired guns.

MINION#1
Yes, sir.

IAN
And once we retrieve it, we will need a secure location to keep it.

MINION#1
I've already been working on it, and I think I've found the perfect place to keep it safe.

Minion#1 turns his laptop to show it to Ian, who leans forward to look at a map on screen.

ON SCREEN
It's a satellite map of the Baker Lake area, showing a bunch of houses and a few farms on the west shore, between Sandy Creek and Boulder Creek.

BACK TO SCENE
Ian leans back on his seat with a little smile.

IAN
Baker Lake, in northern Washington?

(CONTINUED)
MINION#1
There's a small town there, sir: Bold Peak. I've already sent an asset to settle there, in case you approve the location.

IAN
Bold Peak... Rings a bell... Wasn't there a hunter there? I think it was one Bootter Corban...

MINION#1
He died ten years ago, sir.

IAN
He didn't leave anyone behind?

MINION#1
No, sir, he never had children. He lived with his brother's son and his family.

IAN
Fine, then move on with the plan. I want one of our best men there, ready to start the rites.

MINION#1
It will all be ready when we retrieve the object, sir.

INT. HILUX - MOVING - NIGHT
Alex is driving while Claire snoozes in her seat. Alex softly pokes Claire, she sits up rubbing her eyes.

ALEX
Hey, Claire, we're home.

EXT. ROAD BY THE LAKE - NIGHT
The Hilux cruises by, lake on its right, past a nice wooden sign reading: "WELCOME TO BOLD PEAK - POP.2157"

IAN (O.S.)
Bold Peak... I like how it sounds.

FADE OUT

END OF EPISODE