

A Fantastical Time

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM, NYC - DAY

COLE (early 20s) is sitting in an empty waiting room. He is nervous, tapping his finger on the arm rest. Cole's dad ROBERT (late 50s) walks into the room.

Cole gets up with a sense of urgency.

COLE
Where is she?

ROBERT
They're doing a few more tests.

COLE
Is she ok?

Robert struggles to answer.

COLE (CONT'D)
Dad.

ROBERT
Let's sit.

They both sit down, Cole is only getting more nervous. Robert faces forward.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
She's ok. I just don't know how much longer...

COLE
What?

ROBERT
There's a reality we are both going to have to accept.

COLE
You're giving up?

Robert looks at Cole.

ROBERT
No of course not. Your mom is strong. But I don't know how much longer she can keep doing this. Nothing is working. She's tired, Cole.

COLE
Then fucking save her.

ROBERT
Cole. We've talked about this. You know...

Robert's phone starts ringing, he picks it up.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
(on the phone)
Hello?

Robert gets up, Cole stares up at him.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
It's kind of a bad time.

He seems almost angry with this other person on the phone.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
Just... Fine. I'll be there.

Robert hangs up the phone and looks down at Cole, throwing his keys at him.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
If I'm not back in time, take my car. I'm just going to take a cab.

Robert heads to the elevator, pushing the button.

COLE
Where are you going?

The elevator opens, Robert ignores him.

ROBERT
I'll let you know if I can make it back.

Robert steps into the elevator.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Elevator doors automate open. Robert walks out.

ELIAS (early 30s) is in a tremendously expensive suit. Affluence exudes from every aspect of his demeanor. But there's also this aura of factitious authority. Everything about him seems way to perfect.

The penthouse is as immaculate as it is gigantic. Massive floor-to-ceiling windows circle the living room for a 180 degree view over New York City.

Elias stands in the middle of the living room, between two pristine couches that are opposite each other. A coffee table separates them, having two glasses and an open whiskey bottle on top of it.

Robert edges closer to the living room.

ELIAS

How is she?

No time for questions, Robert wants to hurry this process up.

ROBERT

Why am I here, Elias? I don't want to deal with your delusions anymore.

ELIAS

Alright, fine.

(gestures to the couch)

Just... sit down, please.

Robert proceeds into the living room, amazed by the enormity of the place.

ROBERT

(while sitting down)

You really don't deserve any of this, you know.

Elias leans down. He grabs the whiskey bottle and opens it, pouring it into both glasses. He edges one over to Robert who leans over and takes it, having a sip.

Elias sits, taking a glass.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

What's this about?

ELIAS

You know, I've had this conversation with you many times now and I never know what to say.

(beat)

Thank you. For everything you taught me.

Robert chuckles, quickly piecing things together.

ROBERT

I never thought you would actually take it this far. So, you have everything planned out, then?

ELIAS

About a year from now, Cole is discussing with a bartender on how to find me. That's when I walk in and give him everything he needs.

ROBERT

And when will I be?

ELIAS

It doesn't matter. I'll send to anytime that is ahead of ours.

ROBERT

You're going to destroy his life.

ELIAS

I'm saving him.

ROBERT

And where does everybody think you are during this one year disappearance?

ELIAS

Travelling, dead. It doesn't matter.

ROBERT

The only reason it doesn't matter is because you've pushed everyone out of your life. You need help, Elias.

Elias stares at him, stifling any amount of resistance that is coming up. He's made his decision, and he's not going back. He won't.

ELIAS

I'm sorry.

Suddenly, Robert freezes in time. He is in the midst of putting the glass back down on the coffee table.

Elias strides ahead, past the couch and straight for the elevator with a sense of determination. On his way, he grabs an umbrella that lies on a wall next to the kitchen.

He pushes the elevator button and it opens immediately. He walks in and the doors close behind him.

Robert is still sitting on the couch, completely frozen. But in an instant he disappears, and with that so does the daylight.

EXT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Rain is bucketing down in the streets of New York City.

A black four door Rolls-Royce is parked outside the apartment building, on the curb. There's a DRIVER (40s) in the front. Professional. No emotion.

Elias walks out of the entrance. He pulls his sleeve down and checks his watch. The time is 9:29pm.

He pops out the umbrella, putting it over his head while still being covered by a veranda overhead and continues into the rain.

INT. ELIAS' CAR - CONTINUOUS

Elias opens the back door, closing the umbrella and putting it below him. There's a black panel between the back seats and the front, completely blocking out the driver from seeing in the back.

The car starts. Elias stares at his watch. The rain has stopped, instantly. It has gone from 9:30 to 10:05pm.

Oddly, the car hasn't moved. But they're somewhere completely different in the city.

Elias gets out.

EXT. BAR - PATH - CONTINUOUS

Elias is outside an old bar. The street is still wet from the rain.

There's multiple people in the midst of walking by on the path. Maybe a couple holding hands or a woman looking down at her phone. But they're all frozen in time.

Elias glides right past them, continuing to the bar door. He glances at his watch one more time and then opens the door.

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

The bar is quite run down, contrasted to Elias' prestigious attire... they don't go together.

There are three younger men on the opposite end of the bar, all frozen, in the midst of laughing, talking and drinking.

Cole is next to the group and the one bartending is CAMILA (early 30s). They seem to be in the middle of a conversation, Camila has her mouth open, talking to Cole.

Elias walks over, in a calm and composed manner, he sits on the closest bar stool.

Camila and Cole return to time. The younger guys are still frozen.

CAMILA

...we don't get to just-- just
change that, okay? You can't.
(beat, earnestly)
Once you start. It's almost
impossible to go back. I can't help
you. I'm sorry.

INT. DR. GREEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Cole is sitting on a chair, looking down. He is in casual wear. Trying to look a bit more sophisticated than his bank account probably allows.

A DR. GREEN (40s) sits behind a desk facing Cole. It's quite apparent that this isn't an expensive place. A small room, relatively high up in a building.

Cole is anxious. Shaking his leg.

COLE

I sometimes just feel like I'm not
actually experiencing anything.
Like everybody else is a part of
something that I'm not clued in on.
Everyone seems to get it. They all
understand what they need to do but
I'm just... I don't know... numb.

Cole drifts off in thought, almost like he's talking to himself. He snaps out of it.

COLE (CONT'D)

Sorry, I don't even know if that makes any sense. Does that make sense?

DR. GREEN

Sure it does.

(beat)

It's just, this isn't exactly my field, Cole. I can get you in touch with a therapist if you want. Do you want that?

Cole isn't really listening.

The sounds of a bustling New York City street begin to bleed into the surroundings.

COLE

Yeah... maybe.

A melancholy quality starts to show within Cole's demeanor.

EXT. STREET NEAR JULIA'S - DAY

Horns blast and footsteps thunder as Cole walks through the streets of New York City.

This state of melancholy persists. Everything requires extra effort. He just wants to get out of the street and inside.

The beeping, footsteps and talking of passing pedestrians are almost suffocating. Only getting louder and louder...

And out of nowhere, a bump.

SPLASH.

A YOUNG DUDE has spilled coffee all over Cole.

YOUNG DUDE

Fuck. I'm so sorry, bro.

COLE

It's fine.

It's not fine.

Cole glances down at his coffee stained shirt and brushes past the young dude who is kneeling down, picking up the coffee cup off the floor.

He tries to wipe out the coffee, as if by some miracle he will be able to get it out.

He gives up. There's people everywhere. Talking. Laughing. Car horns. It's constant and almost never-ending.

Cole makes it to a modest looking restaurant with apartments above it. Small lettering in the glass, *Julia's*. It has a closed sign on the door.

He gets to the door and opens it. A breath. He made it.

INT. JULIA'S - CONTINUOUS

It's a relatively small restaurant, not having many tables and stools available for seating.

Cole walks in. MIKE (40s) is sitting on a stool next to the bench.

MIKE
Hey, Cole!

COLE
Hey, Mike.

Cole is very much occupied with something else at the moment. That is definitely not Mike.

Cole walks around and behind the counter.

COLE (CONT'D)
Did you already order something?

MIKE
Yeah, Lucy sorted me out.

COLE
Drink?

MIKE
Oh, just a water. My doctor said I should lay off the sugar.

Mike laughs at himself.

Cole opens the fridge and grabs a water bottle.

COLE
(while handing water)
Here you go.

Mike takes it.

MIKE

So, how's college been going for you, Cole?

Cole is caught off guard. Confused. He has not been thinking about this at all.

COLE

(quickly)

Oh, yeah... it's been alright.

LUCY (20) a coworker. She comes from the back with a bag of food.

MIKE

Alright. That's me off. I really appreciate this guys.

LUCY

You're always welcome here, Mike. Any time.

Mike really appreciates that. Lucy hands him the bag of food, smiling.

MIKE

I really think I would starve without this place.

Lucy chuckles and Mike walks out. She looks at Cole.

LUCY

You've got coffee on you.

Cole glances down at his shirt.

COLE

Yeah... I know.

Awkward beat. Lucy smiles, wanting to say something. She doesn't.

LUCY

Alright. We should probably get set up.

Lucy starts to go into the dining area.

COLE

Do you think we could skip today?

She turns around.

LUCY
Well, it's your restaurant.

COLE
Sorry.

LUCY
You have to come to Dave's party
tonight, then.

COLE
What?

LUCY
Dave is having a party. You should
come.

Cole responds immediately.

COLE
Uhhh... I don't know.

LUCY
It's less of a party and more of a
get together. Shouldn't be too many
people.

COLE
Maybe-

LUCY
Come on, Julia would want you to
get out, wouldn't she?

Cole sees Lucy really wants this for him.

COLE
Alright... alright. When is it?

A smile gleams over her.

LUCY
Tonight.

COLE
Okay.

She repeats him, gleeful.

LUCY
Okay. I'll see you there.

Cole nods and makes his way back through the restaurant
kitchen to a door.

Opening it reveals stairs that lead up, he makes his way up until he reaches his apartment door.

Cole reaches into his pocket for keys and begins to open the door but stops. He instead begins to contemplate about something.

A beat.

He opens the door.

INT. COLE'S FAMILY APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is a quite cramped and relatively clean place.

Cole stands around aimlessly for a beat, and then focuses on a half open bedroom door, he walks over and opens it.

Cole's sick mother, JULIA (late 50s) is laying on the bed, reading a book. She looks at Cole.

JULIA

Hey.

COLE

Hey. Did you take your medication?

JULIA

Yes.

COLE

Do you want something to eat?

JULIA

Shouldn't you be feeding customers right now?

COLE

Maybe.

Julia smiles, knowing there's going to be no changing his mind.

JULIA

Well ok, let's eat.

She starts slowly maneuvering her way out of the bed.

COLE

What are you doing? We can eat here.

She sits upright, putting her feet on the floor.

JULIA

Cole. I can walk to the table.

Cole recognizes there's no changing her mind.

COLE

Alright. I'll make the food.

Cole disappears. The front apartment door can be heard opening.

Julia steadily walks out into the open space, looking at Cole who is coming from the front door with a bag of food in hand.

JULIA

(displeased)

Cole.

COLE

I know. I know. Dad would not approve.

'It's not for convenience'.

Julia makes her way over to the small dining table and sits down.

JULIA

You know he had his reasons.

Cole puts the food on the table.

COLE

(moving past)

Yeah, sure. Well, he isn't around anymore.

Cole takes out the food from the plastic bag, placing two burger boxes on the table.

JULIA

Cole...

It's now getting to him, he cuts her off.

COLE

I know.

Julia doesn't bother prying. She opens the box.

COLE (CONT'D)

When's the next appointment?

JULIA

Next week, Friday, I think.

COLE
Maybe we'll get some good news.

JULIA
Cole...

COLE
What? I can't hope for something
good to happen for once?

They both stare at each other, both knowing the underlying
reality that is present.

COLE (CONT'D)
I can save you.

JULIA
What?

COLE
There's this guy, I heard about
him. He knows how to go the future
and I think I'm getting closer to
finding him.

Julia is shocked, almost baffled by the fact that this just
came out of his mouth.

JULIA
I am going to die, Cole. Saving me
isn't an option, you know this.

COLE
I can't save my own mother?

Cole knows what her response to that would be. He rises from
his chair, staring out a small window, struggling to look at
her.

A long beat.

Julia gets up, walking around the table. She grabs Cole's
hand then holds his head, gently rubbing his hair back.

JULIA
You can let me go.

They embrace each other, hugging.

COLE
I'm sorry.

We see the bedroom door back to being half open. Coming back to Cole, Julia is gone from his arms and is instead back at her bed, reading a book.

The food has disappeared from the table.

Cole embraces the silence, unclear.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - PATH - NIGHT

A small low-end town house.

Cole exits out of a taxi in front of the house. The taxi leaves.

A party rages inside the house. Cole is apprehensive, eyeing behind himself, taking in the taxi being gone.

He walks forwards.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Music is pumping throughout this small town house. A bunch of twenty-something hipster looking individuals occupy the place. A crush of people drinking, smoking, talking, and hooking up.

It's got way too many people for the size.

Cole enters, overwhelmed, but immediately spotting Lucy who comes over to him, worried.

LUCY

I'm sorry. I didn't think there was going to be this much people. You can leave if you want. I'm so sorry.

COLE

It's okay.

LUCY

You sure?

Somethings definitely up. But he's not going to say anything.

COLE

Yeah.

DAVE (early 20s) emerges through the slew of people.

DAVE
(to Lucy)
Hey, babe.

LUCY
Hey.

Dave looks at Cole.

DAVE
Oh shit, Cole. Did not expect you
to be here... how's it going?

Nothing. No response Cole is just staring off into the party,
way to preoccupied by thought. A beat.

LUCY
Cole...

COLE
What? Yeah, I'm doing well.

Dave notices the awkward tension.

DAVE
Alright well, enjoy the party.
There's alcohol in the kitchen and
pizzas are on there way... enjoy!

LUCY
(to Cole)
Have fun. Please.

Cole nods.

Dave takes Lucy's hand, and they disappear into the crowd of
partygoers.

Cole edges his way through the swarm of people. Constant
bumping. It's claustrophobic almost.

He makes it out, getting to the kitchen. Plastic cups of beer
are sitting out on the bench, he grabs one. Turning back to
the living room.

The music and partygoers are only getting louder.

Out of nowhere a CLUMSY PARTYGOER (20s) bumps right into him.

SPLASH. Alcohol is all over Cole.

He's over it.

COLE
What the fuck.

CLUMSY PARTYGOER
Sorry, man.

Cole stares at him.

COLE
(rising)
Is it that hard to just watch where
the fuck you're going? Huh? Or are
you just fucking stupid?

Everybody in the party starts to notice. The clumsy partygoer
kind just of stands there, confused and taking it.

COLE (CONT'D)
I asked you a fucking question.

Cole pushes him. He falls back into the startled crowd.

Lucy and Dave arrive. They both watch in shock.

Cole stops. He looks around recognizing how insane he is
being. He leans on the kitchen bench, turning away from
everybody.

LUCY
Cole-

Cole inhales deeply. He doesn't move.

The music stops immediately.

Everybody around him freezes in time.

He exhales.

Everyone is back.

LUCY (CONT'D)
...are you alright?

Cole turns around. Everybody stares.

COLE
I'm good. I think I'm going to go.

Cole looks down at the partygoer.

COLE (CONT'D)
Sorry.

He leaves, with everybody eyeing him on his way out.

INT. DR. GREEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Cole and Dr. Green sit across from each other.

DR. GREEN
We'll always keep trying, Cole.
She's fought hard.

Cole stares at him, impatiently.

COLE
I know, I know. Just... how long,
like... when would a cure be
available for her?

DR. GREEN
I don't follow.

Cole struggles to find the right words.

COLE
I... I'm just curious when in the
future she could be completely
cured.

Dr. Green is cautious about where this is going but decides to satisfy Cole's questions.

DR. GREEN
Well, with the severity... I'm not
sure.

COLE
A rough estimate.

DR. GREEN
I don't know. Not in my lifetime at
least. Fifty years give or take?

COLE
Thanks.

Cole gets up.

DR. GREEN
Wait, Cole.
(beat)
What was the point of this?

COLE
Not sure yet.

Dr. Green is perplexed by that response. Cole continues heading out.

Cole leaves. Dr. Green sits, concerned.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Camila, the bartender hands Cole a drink. Cole is wet, looking like he just came in.

They're keeping their voices low.

CAMILA
I can't help you.

COLE
But you can find me the person that
can, right?

There's a group of three younger guys at the other end of the bar, heavily intoxicated.

DRUNK GUY 1
Can we get some refills?

Drunk guy 1 shakes his glass, emphasizing nothing being in it.

Camila goes to attend to them, looking to Cole, reluctant to come back to talk with him.

She starts filling up the groups' drinks.

Cole takes a sip of his drink, he impatiently stares around the bar, focusing on the television in the corner.

The TV is displaying the weather, the date being clearly visible: July 20th, 2020. Cole looks away from the TV and back to Camila who returns.

CAMILA
Look, I know you think you have a
good reason. It may even be a great
one-

The group of younger guys start to get louder.

DRUNK GUY 2
Another drink please?

Camila is doing a terrible job at trying to hide her frustration.

She goes to attend to them, grabbing one of their glasses, filling it up at the tap and handing it back to them. She takes a second glass but it slips out of her hands.

It doesn't hit the ground, instead it's frozen in mid-air.

Cole is now on the other side of the bar.

COLE

Please. I just want to talk.

Camila definitely did not like that.

CAMILA

What the fuck are you doing.

COLE

I know. I'm sorry. Just, please-

Camila takes a second, ready to give Cole a speech. It's critical he understands this.

CAMILA

Look, I get it, okay? I really do. I was you. But there are millions of other people that have had to go through what we went through. We don't get to just... just change that, okay? We can't.

Cole doesn't pry any longer. Beat.

CAMILA (CONT'D)

(sincere, speaking from experience)

Once you start. It's almost impossible to go back. I can't help you. I'm sorry.

Somebody starts to laugh. But it's not Camila or Cole.

ELIAS (O.S.)

Now that's some bullshit.

Elias is sitting on the opposite end of the bar, watching.

Camila is surprised but everything is calculating in her head quite quickly.

CAMILA

What are you doing here?

Cole is bewildered, trying to piece things together.

COLE
Who-

CAMILA
(to Cole)
This is Elias. The person you've
been trying so hard to meet.

Cole looks at Elias.

COLE
How are you in my time?

Elias gets up, chuckling and reaching for a handshake. Cole complies.

ELIAS
Cole, right?

COLE
Yeah...

CAMILA
Whatever he's going to do for you
it's-

They both stop shaking hands.

Cole turns around, noticing Camila is frozen. There's also something else.

The group of younger guys aren't there anymore, instead an elderly man is in their place, motionless, in the midst drinking, also frozen.

ELIAS
Look at the date.

Cole watches the television.

The date has changed. It is exactly one day later.

COLE
Holy shit.

ELIAS
The future. I can teach you how to
get there.

Cole doesn't know what to say. He can do it. He can actually do it. Everything seems so surreal.

COLE
Just like that? Why do you want to help me?

ELIAS
I feel as though we could do many things together, Cole. Saving your mother is the first step.

Cole is still processing.

COLE
Wait, how did you even find me?

ELIAS
I heard someone was looking for me.

Elias starts to back off, leaving the bar.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Now, come on. Are you coming or what?

Elias closes the bar door and as soon as he does a glass shatters.

Cole turns around. Camila and the group of guys are back and moving. Time has resumed.

Camila notices that Elias has disappeared, but it doesn't take her long to understand what just happened.

CAMILA
What did he say to you?

Cole backs off, making his way for the door. Camila stares at him.

CAMILA (CONT'D)
Don't bother.

DRUNK GUY 2
Where's my drink...?

Cole doesn't respond. He has to know. Camila ignores the drunk guy, instead staring at Cole as he walks out of the bar.

DRUNK GUY 2 (CONT'D)
Hello?

EXT. BAR - PATH - CONTINUOUS

Cole emerges out from the bar, looking for where Elias went. The Rolls-Royce is parked on the curb.

Elias knocks on his back car window to get Cole's attention.

Cole peers down at the car that's parked outside. Elias gestures for him to get in, reaching over from the far seat to open the car door for Cole.

Cole gets in, closing the car door behind himself.

INT. ELIAS' CAR - CONTINUOUS

Strangely, Elias already has his hand on the handle to get out.

ELIAS
So, how did you learn all that?

COLE
What?

ELIAS
Everything you did in there.

COLE
Oh, my dad I guess.

EXT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

They've travelled to the future.

ELIAS
Convenient, right?

Cole is astounded.

COLE
Yeah...

Cole is nervous but also ready to move on. He stands still. Lost in the possibility.

Elias leads, making quite a distance ahead while Cole ponders. The automated doors of the apartment building open up, he continues through.

Cole catches up.

INT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Cole walks through the automated doors. They're walking to an elevator.

ELIAS

So, you must be close with your dad
then?

They make it to the elevator, Elias pushes the button.

COLE

Maybe we used to be I don't know.
He's gone now.

The elevator doors open, they walk in.

ELIAS

I'm sorry.
(beat)
It worries me that most people like
us barely know how to even do the
most basic things with time. So,
it's quite impressive what you can
do.

COLE

My dad never really wanted me to
use it. He was very strict on that.

Elias smiles.

ELIAS

Most people are.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The elevator doors open up. Elias guides the way walking out
ahead of Cole.

Elias walks into his kitchen. Cole is too caught up in it all
to actually take notice of his surroundings.

And holy shit, he does not belong in a place like this.

COLE

Can anybody else do the things you
can?

ELIAS

There was one.

Elias gets to kitchen and opens his fridge. He pulls out a whiskey bottle and holds it up to Cole, implicating him into a drink.

Cole isn't going to say no.

COLE

Sure.

Elias leans down, opening the cabinet, grabbing the glasses and places them on the bench.

COLE (CONT'D)

So, who was the one?

ELIAS

What?

COLE

The one... that could-

ELIAS

(to himself)

Oh, right... Huh. I probably shouldn't of mentioned that.

We zero in on Elias. Cole is totally out of picture and muffled.

COLE

What?

Elias is again, walking to the kitchen.

COLE (CONT'D)

So, can anybody else do the things you can?

Elias quickly wants to change topics.

ELIAS

No... at least I haven't known anyone that could.

Elias is bringing out the glasses again. He places them on the kitchen bench.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

It's been lost, Cole.

Elias pops the whiskey bottle lid. He starts pouring into a glass.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
(while pouring)
As Camila told you... her distaste
for it all.

He switches glasses. He pours, filling it.

Elias re-screws the whiskey lid back on and makes his way around the kitchen bench, bringing the glasses and the bottle of whiskey.

He heads towards Cole who is still lingering in the middle of the penthouse.

COLE
How does she know you, anyway?

Elias hands Cole the drink. Cole is just a little confused as to why Elias is still holding the whiskey bottle.

ELIAS
Same as you. I helped her... but
she didn't want to go through with
it in the end.

COLE
Why?

Elias repeats him, chuckling.

ELIAS
Why?

ELIAS (CONT'D)
She's been conditioned that way.

Elias throws the whiskey bottle into the air. It freezes in time.

ELIAS
Time control is something you can
improve upon, I can feel when
people like us are using it and can
tap into it. That's what happened
back at the bar.

Elias looks at Cole. Cole doesn't know what to say.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
You can do the same, Cole.

Elias grabs the whiskey bottle. Time is back.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

If you want to get to the future, I can help you but it's going to take time.

Elias takes a sip of whiskey and starts walking back to the kitchen.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

I need you to start by altering somebody's else's life. So you know what you can control. Something small but public.

That's all a lot to take in.

COLE

Yeah... ok... sure. I don't know.

ELIAS

So you do you want your mother to live or not? I'm confused.

Elias makes it back to the kitchen, placing his glass on the bench.

COLE

No, that's not what I'm saying... I just- I don't know you, ok? This all seems-

ELIAS

Look, I get it. It's a big change, probably going against everything most people have told you, but if you listened to them, you wouldn't be here. I think you already know what has to be done.

Cole hasn't touched his glass of whiskey. Elias notices his doubt, smiling.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

How about you come back when you're ready.

EXT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Out walks an anxious but determined Cole. He continues down the street.

This is the next step. It has to be.

There's very few people around. Only a couple of cars that pass by.

Cole spots a convenience store at the edge of the street. He peaks through the glass. A CASHIER (20s) is the only one in the store.

He takes a few steps around to the front door and enters the store.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - CONTINUOUS

The cashier glances up at Cole, not taking much interest.

A television sits in the corner of the store, playing the news. Cole doesn't take much notice of it.

REPORTER ON TV

Senator Clarke thank you so much for sitting down with me. Now, obviously you replaced Jason Schulz after his personal issues. How have you been finding the position so far...

The reporter fades out.

Cole makes his way to the refrigerated section. He opens the fridge and grabs an iced coffee.

There's no rush, still preoccupied in thought. He walks back to the front of the store. The cashier is ready for him. Cole hands the cashier the iced coffee.

Cole reaches for his pocket, getting his wallet and pulling out his card. He swipes it.

DENIED.

He tries again.

DENIED.

The cashier stares at him blankly. Cole grabs his card back.

CASHIER

(monotone)

If you can't pay for it. Put it back.

Cole reluctantly nods as the cashier hands him back the iced coffee. Back to the refrigerated section it is.

He makes his way over and opens the fridge, placing the iced coffee back.

INT. COLE'S FAMILY APARTMENT - NIGHT

Cole gets a water bottle from the kitchen fridge and walks out into the living room.

Lucy is on her way out.

COLE
Again, thank you for looking after her.

LUCY
It's totally fine, Cole.

Cole smiles.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Hey, are you ok?

Before he can answer, a loud thud can be heard from Julia's bedroom.

Cole and Lucy rush in to find Julia collapsed on the floor, she's tearing up. She doesn't want them to look at her.

COLE
Mom?

JULIA
It's ok. I'm fine, I'm fine.

COLE
(to Lucy)
Call an ambulance.

JULIA
No ambulance. Just... you can take me to the hospital.

She focuses on Cole.

JULIA (CONT'D)
It's ok.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Cole and Lucy are standing outside of a hospital room. Cole watches Julia through the glass pane of a door. She is on a hospital bed. Dr. Green comes up to them.

DR. GREEN
Currently, she is doing a lot
better.

COLE
Ok.

DR. GREEN
But-

COLE
It's fine. I know.

Lucy looks at him, concerned, not saying anything. He turns around and enters the room. Lucy stays talking with Dr. Green.

INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Cole walks in and sits besides Julia's bed. He stares at his mother, knowing something has to be done.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Elias is bent over, leaning on his kitchen bench, contemplating. He looks up, focusing on his living room.

Robert is in the same position as before, frozen on the couch.

Elias walks over, sitting down on the couch opposite. He stares at him, indecisive. An anxiety rises, he starts tapping his fingers on his leg.

He gets up and strides for the elevator. He pushes the button. A beat. The elevator doors open. He gets in and the doors slide back shut.

He is preparing himself. Checking the time. Straightening his jacket. Looking at the time again.

The elevator doors open.

INT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

It's now night-time. Elias walks out.

Cole is standing in the middle of the floor, waiting for Elias. He seems apprehensive.

COLE
Where are we going?

ELIAS
You'll see. Let's go.

Elias brushes past Cole and heads straight for the door. He opens it.

Cole hasn't moved, nervous. Elias looks back.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Are you coming?

Cole nods and continues. Elias swings open the door, holding it open for Cole.

EXT. ELIAS' APARTMENT BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Cole proceeds through. The door closes behind him as Elias lets go.

The Rolls-Royce is parked on the curb. There is no driver.

Elias walks ahead of Cole, opening the front door and sitting comfortably in the driver seat. He turns to Cole.

ELIAS
(while closing car door)
Get in the front. I'm driving.

Cole complies, walking around the car and getting in shotgun.

The car starts.

INT. ELIAS' CAR - MOVING - NIGHT

In an instant the car is moving. Cole peers out the window, realizing they aren't in the city anymore.

EXT. SUBURB - CONTINUOUS

They are out of the city and instead in quite an affluent neighborhood.

Large houses surround the car as it drives through the middle. Nobody is around. They slow down then stop on the side of the road. The car turns off.

COLE
(O.S)
Where are we?

INT. ELIAS' CAR - CONTINUOUS

Elias glances down at his watch.

ELIAS
Okay, should be about now.
(beat)
Look out your window.

COLE
What?

ELIAS
Your window. Look out of it.

Cole looks out the window.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Okay. One house down, do you see
that guy? Should be throwing out
some trash?

COLE
Ummm... wait, yeah I see him.

JASON SCHULZ (late 50s) is on the opposite side and further
down the road. He has a plastic bag of rubbish in hand ready
to dispose of. Cole continues to watch him.

ELIAS
That's Jason Schulz.

COLE
Who?

ELIAS
The senator.

COLE
The guy that cheated on his wife?

ELIAS
Yes. Well, technically no.

Jason opens the bin and proceeds to empty the rubbish from
the plastic bag.

Cole looks at Elias.

COLE
What do you mean?

Jason finishes emptying the rubbish, closing the lid of the bin.

ELIAS
It hasn't happened yet.

Cole looks back out at Jason, understanding what this means.

COLE
Ok.

ELIAS
As I'm sure you're aware, after this whole cheating scandal he stepped down.

Jason turns around, walking to the start of his driveway and through large metal gates that are open.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
This idiot decided to leave his burner phone on the living room couch. The phone he uses to text his mistress.

Jason makes it further up his drive way. The metal gates are slowly closing behind him.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
So, what I need you to do is go into his house and make sure his daughter doesn't find that phone. She shows her mother... so you can assume what happens when he walks through that door.

Jason gets closer to the front door.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Cole. Are you ready to do this?

Cole looks at Elias. He gives a determined nod and gets out.

EXT. SUBURB - CONTINUOUS

Cole strides across the road.

He makes it to the edge of the sizable driveway.

The gate is frozen halfway closed. He edges through.

EXT. LARGE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

He's in. Cole continues with a certain level of swiftness. This is it. There's no going back.

Jason is close to the front door. Completely frozen.

Cole walks up to him, checking his pocket for keys. He finds them.

He continues, brushing past Jason and stepping up onto the porch, making his way to the front door. He stops.

Cole peers through the small window next to the door.

Nothing but a glimpse of light that is down the house. The light looks as if it's from a television.

Key in the door. Turns.

INT. LARGE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cole steps in. Modern. Basic. American dream.

He slowly walks through the hallway. Almost nervous of what he's going to see.

The light begins to get brighter.

He's made it. Where everything happens. The wife in the kitchen and daughter on the couch. They're both motionless.

The mother is in the midst of opening the fridge. The daughter looks as if she is in her late teens, watching the television.

Beat.

Cole stares at them both. He's comfortable. In their world.

He continues, the daughter is already looking at the burner phone. It's opposite to her.

Cole spots it, stepping closer, edging through the couch past the daughter. Leaning over, he grabs the phone and turns it on.

A provocative picture of a woman in her underwear pops up in a text chain.

Cole glances at the wife and back down to the phone. He puts it in his pocket.

EXT. LARGE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Cole walks out the door, closing it behind him. He steps off the porch and gets to Jason, putting the keys and burner phone in his pocket.

INT. ELIAS' CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Elias watches Cole as he makes his way to the car. He gets in.

No words.

Elias smiles and starts the car.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

The elevator doors open. Both Elias and Cole walk out.

COLE

So, how long will this take?

They continue into the living room.

ELIAS

I don't know. Months, maybe years.

COLE

Years?

ELIAS

It depends, I doubt it'll take long for you. You just have to keep on practicing. All the time.

Cole stands in the middle of the living room. Elias continues to his ginormous windows, stopping and facing Cole.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

You have to commit.

COLE

And how far will I have to go?

ELIAS

Should be around fifty years to get the full cure but I can get something now that will be able to ease everything for the time being, maybe giving you a year to reach that far. You're the one that needs to save her.

This is it. He needs to do it.

COLE

I'm ready.

Elias hides his eagerness.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - DAY

Cole is sitting in the waiting room, it's moderately filled with other anxiously waiting family members. Dr. Green walks in, looking at Cole.

Cole gets up and walks towards him.

COLE

So?

Dr. Green smiles.

DR. GREEN

Again, she's doing a lot better.
Now it doesn't mean...

Dr. Green recognizes he doesn't need to say it.

DR. GREEN (CONT'D)

So, what about you?

COLE

What about me?

DR. GREEN

How have you been.

Cole is taken aback, he hasn't really thought about this.

COLE

I don't know, I think I'm actually
doing really well.

Dr. Green chuckles.

DR. GREEN

That's great to hear.

EXT. STREET NEAR JULIA'S - DAY

The crowded New York City street is completely silent. Every single pedestrian is frozen.

No horns. No footsteps. Nothing.

Cole is the only one moving. He swiftly weaves through the motionless pedestrians.

Peace.

Cole is in his own world. Quite literally. Just him. Nobody else.

Julia's. It has a closed sign on the door. Cole gets there and opens the door.

INT. JULIA'S - CONTINUOUS

Cole enters.

Nobody is in the dining area of the restaurant.

Cole sits down on a stool, he sees Lucy in the kitchen, in the midst of cooking, frozen.

Everything starts again, the sounds of the city begin. Lucy unfreezes.

COLE

Hey.

Lucy turns around, surprised.

LUCY

Oh my god, you scared me! When did you come in?

COLE

Just now.

LUCY

Really? Well, how's Julia?

COLE

Yeah, she's getting better. Should be out of the hospital soon.

LUCY

That's great.

Lucy still seems concerned about something. Cole notices that.

COLE

What's wrong?

LUCY

I'm worried about you.

COLE

Why?

LUCY

I don't know you're barely here.
Every day you seem to be off
somewhere.

COLE

I'm sorry-

Mike walks in, cutting the conversation short. Lucy looks at him.

LUCY

Your burger is almost done.

MIKE

You're a life saver, thanks.

Lucy retreats back into the kitchen.

COLE

You want a water?

MIKE

A coke will do actually.

COLE

Alright.

Cole gets up, weaving in behind the counter and opens the fridge.

Mike sits down. Cole hands him a coke.

MIKE

Thanks.

(beat)

So, have you figured out what
you're going to be doing after
college? This is your last year,
right?

COLE

I've actually been thinking about
dropping out.

MIKE

Really? Well, college never did me
any good.

Lucy comes back with food in hand, and hands it to Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Alright, I guess I better get to work. Thanks.

LUCY

See you tomorrow.

MIKE

You too.

Mike leaves.

Cole looks at Lucy.

COLE

I heard Dave is having another party tonight?

LUCY

Oh, yeah... I don't know, I just thought you wouldn't want to go.

COLE

Yeah makes sense. I would love to redeem myself, though.

Lucy is quite surprised.

LUCY

Ok. I'll let him know your coming.

COLE

Thanks.

EXT. OUTSIDE DAVE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A taxi pulls up at Dave's place.

Cole gets out. He seems nervous, looking up at the town house, anticipating.

Determination.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Cole enters. The place seems even more crowded than last time. Music pumps throughout the place.

He spots Lucy in the kitchen talking to Dave. She notices him and begins to walk over. Cole turns around and opens the front door, closing it behind him.

EXT. OUTSIDE DAVE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cole stands right next to the front door on top of the steps. The music has stopped.

The door opens, a hoard of people start flowing from the house.

He did it.

Cole sees a drunk Lucy, she's hard to hear over the exodus of the party.

LUCY

What the fuck? Cole... There you are... you just left. Where did you go?

Nothing.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Hello? Earth to Cole.

She waves her hand in front of Cole's eyes, trying to get his attention.

COLE

I'm going to go.

LUCY

What?

A baffled Lucy watches Cole walk down the steps.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Elias is staring out his enormous windows. Somethings up. Anxiety rising.

ELIAS

You made me do this, okay? I had no other option.

Elias turns around, Robert is sitting on the couch.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

No other fucking option.

The elevator opens.

Robert is gone.

Cole walks in, thrilled. Continuing to the living room.

COLE

I did it.

Elias is ready. His demeanor has quickly switched, demanding a level of authority. He walks closer to the living room.

ELIAS

Just like I said?

COLE

The party started. Then it was over. In an instant.

Cole is still grasping with that.

ELIAS

Perfect. Sit down.

Elias sits on the couch closest to him, gesturing for Cole to sit on the opposite one.

Cole complies, sitting.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

So, how did it feel?

COLE

I was never much of a fan of parties. So, yeah. It's useful.

Elias chuckles.

ELIAS

I used to be the same. It changes though, trust me. You're still working at your mothers restaurant, right?

COLE

Yeah.

ELIAS

You know you can change that.

COLE

I know.

Elias gets up, moving towards the windows. Cole stays seated, watching.

ELIAS

You could have... anything you wanted.

COLE
A place like this?

ELIAS
Yeah, a place like this. Why not?

COLE
My mom... college... I don't know.

ELIAS
Have you been going to College?

From Cole's facial expression... that's a definite no.

Beat.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
You know what you want.

Cole stares ahead, past Elias, thinking. He doesn't respond.

Elias walks back to his couch.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
She'll understand. In time. She will. You have the option for real change now.

Cole is lost in thought.

COLE
You know... I have no idea where my dad is. He just left one night.

ELIAS
Have you gone back?

COLE
I can't.

ELIAS
What do you mean?

COLE
I've tried... but I don't know.
It's blocked.

It's like Elias is anticipating every word Cole is saying. Almost as if he's had this exact conversation several times before. He sits back down on the couch.

ELIAS
July of last year, right?

Cole sparks up.

COLE

Yeah.

ELIAS

Nobody can go back that far. I guess now we know why.

COLE

Nobody can? Because of my dad?

Elias gets up again.

ELIAS

Well, I don't know what else it could be.

Cole takes that in. Elias walks to the edge of his windows, looking out then turning around.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Look, I don't know where or if your dad is still around. You can't change any of that now. But the future... the possibilities of what you could have. Everything can change. It's all up to you Cole.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT

The same mono toned cashier is the only one in the convenience store.

The front door opens. Cole enters.

The television in the corner is playing the news.

REPORTER ON TV

And we have senator, Jason Schulz to discuss the recent crime rate in the city.

Cole stares for a beat, a familiar face appears.

JASON SCHULZ

Thanks, Stacy... I've talked about how specific communities in this city are experiencing an uptick in the crime rate. I had a chat with the mayor, and he...

The news fades off...

Cole makes his way to the refrigerated section. He opens the glass the door and grabs a milk.

He makes his way back to the cashier, handing the milk over.

The cashier swipes the milk.

CASHIER
2 dollars.

The cashier brings out the EFTPOS machine. Cole brings out his card but doesn't try to pay, instead staring at it.

CASHIER (CONT'D)
Hello? Are you going to pay?

INT. DR. GREEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Green is sitting behind his desk. Both Julia and Cole are waiting.

DR. GREEN
So, you should be good to go home.
Just keep on the medication I've
laid out for you.

JULIA
Ok, thanks.

DR. GREEN
Alright, I guess I will see you in
a week.

INT. COLE'S FAMILY APARTMENT - DAY

Cole is in the kitchen. A bottle of alcohol is on the bench. He leans down grabbing two glasses, placing them next to the bottle.

Keys start rustling in the front door. Julia walks in. She has a bag of food in hand.

COLE
(waving bottle)
I thought we should celebrate.

She places food on table and glances at Cole.

JULIA
Oh, I don't know.

Something is bothering her.

COLE
Come on. Your back and things are
looking up for once.

JULIA
A water is fine.

Cole doesn't pry.

COLE
Alright.

Cole goes to the sink and turns on the tap. He fills up the
glass.

JULIA
Cole.

COLE
Yeah.

He turns off the tap.

JULIA
I want to talk to you.

COLE
Okay.

He tries to hide his worry.

JULIA
I've been hearing you've been
missing a lot of your classes?

A sense of relief. He thought this was heading in another
direction.

Beat. Julia treads lightly.

JULIA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

Cole walks over, bringing the glass.

COLE
I just feel like its not for me
anymore.

JULIA
Ok. You might as well finish
though, right?

He sits, placing the glass on Julia's side.

COLE

Yeah, sure. You're probably right.
It's just...

He stares up at her, wanting so badly to let it all go.

JULIA

What?

He looks away.

COLE

Never mind.

JULIA

You can tell me.

Cole considers.

COLE

I can do anything. I can fucking
control time. I don't want to go to
college, okay? We... we can have so
much more.

Now Julia begins worry, almost angry.

JULIA

You know where that will lead you.
Your dad he-

Cole interjects, harshly.

COLE

Oh, fuck him.

Julia is shocked. Complete silence.

Cole breaks.

COLE (CONT'D)

He preached and preached about all
this bullshit. Where is he now,
huh? He left us.

Julia doesn't know how to react, emotional.

JULIA

I know, okay. I don't know where he
is. Or why he's gone or if he's
alive.

(beat)

But I have to know that he didn't
abandon us.

Cole completely ignores her, talking to himself. Tears start to well up in his eyes.

COLE

And then you got worse and worse-

Cole looks away from Julia.

COLE (CONT'D)

I didn't know what to do. I was so
fucking alone. But I found a way...
I found a way.

Cole looks back at Julia. She is frozen. He stares at her, wiping away the tears.

We hear keys turn in the front door. Julia is gone from being in front of him, instead she walks through the front door again.

INT. LECTURE ROOM - DAY

DEVIN (40s) is giving a lecture to about twenty students sparsely spread around the room. Cole is sitting in the third row, in the middle, by himself. Not paying attention.

DEVIN

'Man's almost infinite appetite for distractions'... a Huxley quote I think. As humans, we love live in the fantasy. It's a comforting way to give meaning to the world. We escape to it every day, with our phones, television shows, music, drugs. It's all around us. We want to get away from reality so much, that we create a distortion of reality in the fantasy. It feels like it's the only thing we have control over. But I think it's important to recognize that control you think you possess through that vice, isn't real. Fantasy can be both harmless or severely damaging, depending on how lost you get in it. Admittedly, some fantasies are more dangerous to get lost in than others- one being hard drugs.

Beat. Devin directs his attention towards Cole.

DEVIN (CONT'D)

Or even, time control.

Everyone in the room is frozen. Except for Cole and Devin.

COLE
Really, you're doing this.

DEVIN
What's going on, Cole?

COLE
Nothing is going on.

DEVIN
Your barely here and when you are
you're still not. I know that
feeling.

Cole looks around the room.

COLE
I thought you weren't supposed to
use it.

DEVIN
And I really, really don't want to
be. Come on, just talk to me.

COLE
Why the fuck did I even come today.
You don't know anything.

On Cole--

DEVIN
'Man's almost infinite appetite for
distractions'... a Huxley quote--

Cole gets up.

Devin is confused, stopping his speech. The students are on
that same feeling.

Cole leaves. Devin is taken aback, trying to piece things
together.

EXT. TOWN HOUSE - PATH - DAY

Upper class neighborhood.

Cole is standing at the bottom of the steps that lead up to
the front door. Elias' car is behind him on the curb,
waiting.

Cole strides up, knocking on the door. He is composed and ready.

A beat.

Someone is coming to the door. The door opens. A woman, THE WIFE (40s).

THE WIFE
Hello? How can I help-

She freezes in time.

INT. TOWNHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cole steps in.

Fancy place. From the foyer there are a set of stairs that lead up to the second floor.

Cole continues down the hall, he is moving quickly. Looking for something.

He gets to the dining area, two more family members occupy the room. THE FATHER (40s) and BABY SON (1). They're in the middle of eating. The father is in the midst of feeding his son.

Cole surveys the room for what he's looking for. Nothing. He retreats back to the foyer.

He moves forward, continuing to the stairs, making his way up. Something is on the wall in front of him. It slowly reveals itself.

An abstract surrealist painting. Vast and psychedelic, something that that one could get lost in.

Cole edges closer, getting to the painting and unmounting it.

EXT. TOWN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The painting is being put in the trunk of Elias' car by the driver.

Elias stares at it, longingly. The trunk closes, the driver starts to walk to the front of the car.

ELIAS
This is the start, Cole.

Elias pulls out a stack of cash from his suit pocket. Looks to be around 5000 dollars. He gives to Cole who is standing next to him.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Bet on something.

The driver gets in the car. Elias starts walking off to the front seat.

Cole is surprised, not sure what to say.

Elias looks back at Cole.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
Oh, and- don't make it too obvious.
So, like don't bet on specific numbers.

Cole nods.

Elias gets in the car.

The Rolls-Royce drives off.

Cole looks down at the cash. A card is slotted with a restaurant name: ADTONO, with a time, 9:30pm.

INT. CASINO - ROULETTE TABLE - NIGHT

A ball spins around the roulette wheel. It whirls around until it falls on black.

A collective sigh.

Cole is standing next to the roulette table with a crowd of eager onlookers behind him.

Cole gives a smile. He hasn't lost.

The ball reverses back through the wheel into the DEALER's (30s) hand.

DEALER
Color?

COLE
Black.

Cole pushes all chips on black.

The crowd intensely watches as the ball goes around the table. It rolls on black. The crowd cheers.

The dealer chuckles, in awe.

DEALER

I've never seen anything like this.

The surrounding table group cheer for him to go again.

Cole is elated, touching a state of euphoria. He turns around to the sea of people.

COLE

Alright, alright. One more!

Cole darts his attention back to the dealer.

COLE (CONT'D)

Black again.

It spins around, landing on green this time.

Again, a collective sigh.

The ball reverses around the wheel back into the dealers hand, again.

COLE (CONT'D)

On green, please.

The crowd anticipates, all shocked by his pick. He pushes all chips on green.

Here we go again. The ball spins around until it lands on green.

The crowd erupts in disbelief.

INT. CASINO - CASH OUT COUNTER - LATER

A CASINO CASHIER spins around a briefcase, opening it to reveal stacks on stacks of cash.

Cole beams with excitement.

COLE

This is all mine?

CASINO CASHIER

All yours.

EXT. ADTONO - NIGHT

An empty, seemingly typical upscale restaurant.

Cole is standing outside. He has completely changed his clothes.

An expensive suit and coat. He still has the briefcase in hand.

Cole glances up at the restaurant's sign, then back down at the card. This is the place. He opens the door and walks in.

INT. ADTONO - CONTINUOUS

A GREETER (40s) is standing in the front foyer, ready to welcome him.

GREETER

Hello sir. May I take your coat?

Cole isn't accustomed to this kind of treatment.

COLE

Oh, yeah- sure.

Cole takes off his coat and gives it to the greeter.

The greeter finds a tag that's still on the coat.

GREETER

Would you like to the tag off?

COLE

(slightly embarrassed)

Sorry. Yes if you don't mind.

GREETER

Is it just you, sir?

The greeter puts the coat over his arm.

COLE

No, I think... is there an Elias here?

The greeter instantly knows who Cole is talking about.

GREETER

Yes of course. Follow me.

The greeter takes him into the main part of the restaurant, guiding him to a table.

Elias is nowhere to be seen.

COLE
Where is he?

GREETER
He said for you to order first.
He'll be in later.

JOE (30s) the waiter walks out.

GREETER (CONT'D)
This is Joe. He'll be taking your
order.

The greeter pulls out the dining chair for him. Cole sits,
placing the briefcase next to him. The greeter leaves.

JOE
Here's our menu.

Joe hands Cole the menu.

COLE
Thanks.

Cole stares at it for a beat. As Joe turns around-

COLE (CONT'D)
Get me your most expensive item.

JOE
Of course.

Joe leaves.

Somehow, all of a sudden, Joe is placing the dish on the
table.

Cole gets a pat from behind. It's Elias.

ELIAS
Nice suit.

COLE
(shocked)
Fuck...

Joe pulls off the lid on the dish.

ELIAS
Good choice.

Elias goes around the table and sits down.

JOE

Enjoy.

Joe walks away.

ELIAS

Dig in.

Cole picks up a knife and fork, cutting into the steak. He brings to his mouth and chews on it.

Elias watches knowing exactly what it tastes like.

COLE

Wow...

Elias chuckles.

ELIAS

Luxury dining and lots more of it to come in the future. Alright, I want to show you something.

COLE

What?

Elias gets up.

ELIAS

Follow me.

Cole gets up.

Elias steps towards a passageway that bring them to a set of stairs. Cole follows.

They step further down. Grand orchestral music can start to be heard.

COLE

Where are we going?

ELIAS

To where power resides.

They arrive at a door. Elias opens it.

INT. UNDERGROUND CLUB - CONTINUOUS

They enter into a pristine underground night club. It's more than high class. A place where only billionaires hangout.

The tables are seated by people either in suits or overly expensive dresses. Some are seated, intently watching the stage where they've got their own private orchestra playing for them.

Others are at the bar getting drinks and there's a high roller poker game, ongoing.

ELIAS

You're currently looking at some of the richest people in New York.

Elias points to LARRY (early 60s) at the bar.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Like Larry. He's worth like ten billion.

Elias starts walking over. Cole takes a second. Infatuated by the orchestra. He snaps out of it and follows Elias.

Larry finishes getting his glass of alcohol filled, picks it up and turns around, noticing Elias.

LARRY

Hey, Elias! How are you?

Elias takes his glass right of his hand. Larry gives a confused chuckle. Elias looks at Cole, he starts downing the drink. The orchestra begins to pick up the intensity.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Elias?

Larry chuckles in confusion.

Elias unreservedly ignores him. Cole stands, trying to figure out what Elias is trying to do. He finishes the drink right in front of him.

He steps up right to Larry's face.

ELIAS

I own you.

A little carried away, he freezes Larry. Elias stares at him, giving him a soft slap in the face, almost in a sadistic kind of way.

Elias turns around, looking at Cole who is also motionless.

The alcohol reverses back into the glass. Cole is back. Everybody else is not.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

No matter how much money these people have. They don't have what we do, Cole. Think about it, you could be as rich as these people without being as... boring.

COLE

This suit is nice.

Elias steps further into the club. Edging through the tables of rich and powerful people. He waves his hands across the table, possessing a sense of... dominance.

ELIAS

And you'll be able to buy many more.

Cole doesn't respond. Overwhelming. Elias notices, continuing deeper into the club.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

You will get her to understand. Just about what you will be able to provide for her. She will live and have everything.

Elias walks up onto the stage, the whole orchestra is frozen. He directs his attention towards Cole. He has this manic kind of energy. A hint of desperation.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

These are some of the most influential people in the world. You can live in their reality. Have anything you want and more.

Elias pulls out his phone and throws it to Cole.

Cole catches it, looking down. A news headline:

1.6 BILLION DOLLAR JACKPOT LOTTERY - The biggest one in history.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

One week from now. If you win this, that's 500 million dollars in your pocket. Which... with our gifts could easily turn into billions.

Cole doesn't know what to think, conflicted.

EXT. JULIA'S - DAY

The restaurant is moderately filled.

INT. JULIA'S - CONTINUOUS

Lucy is in the kitchen, cooking.

Cole is also there. Back to his regular set of clothes. She hands him a plate, with a beef burger and chips.

LUCY

Here.

Cole takes the plate and walks out into the dining area. He serves a young couple in there 20s, a BOYFRIEND and GIRLFRIEND.

The boyfriend already has his food, Cole hands the girlfriend hers. She looks down at her food, confused but reserved, not wanting to say anything. The boyfriend doesn't hold back.

BOYFRIEND

She didn't order a beef burger.

COLE

What?

BOYFRIEND

She wanted the chicken.

Cole isn't showing any sort of concern or worry.

GIRLFRIEND

It's fine.

BOYFRIEND

No, it's not fine. All this guy had to do is has to do is remember a couple of orders.

He looks around the restaurant. They are all eyeing the table.

BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)

There's barely even anybody in this place.

Cole stares at him blankly, almost through him, like he's not even there.

COLE

Sorry.

Cole grabs the plate back. He proceeds back to the kitchen.
Lucy is cooking.

COLE (CONT'D)
Apparently the girl ordered a
chicken burger not beef.

Lucy turns to Cole.

LUCY
You said it was beef?

He doesn't care.

COLE
I guess I misheard her.

The back door in the kitchen opens. Its Julia.

Cole pretends everything is fine.

JULIA
Is everything ok?

COLE
Uh-huh.

BOYFRIEND (O.S.)
Are you making it?

Cole walks back out of the kitchen.

BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)
Can you hurry up?

COLE
It's being cooked. Calm the fuck
down.

The boyfriend is taken aback.

BOYFRIEND
What?

COLE
I said can you calm the fuck down.

Julia rushes out.

JULIA
Cole!

Julia freezes. Cole stares blankly at the boyfriend, who is
also now frozen.

He is contemplating. This is it.

JULIA (CONT'D)
...what are you doing!?

COLE
Sorry.

Julia walks past Cole, going to talk to the boyfriend.

JULIA
I'm so sorry about that, my son-

Julia realizes. The boyfriend is frozen. She steps forward into the dining area. Taking everything in.

Everybody is motionless. The customers in the restaurant and pedestrians walking past outside. Everyone but Julia and Cole.

COLE
I need to talk to you.

Julia turns around, worried.

JULIA
What is happening, Cole. What are you doing?

COLE
I couldn't let you die. I needed to find another way. So I did.

Julia doesn't know how to react. A lot to take in. She withdraws, sitting on a chair.

COLE (CONT'D)
I gave you a drug from the future, last month. That's why your getting better. But I'm still working on getting a full cure.

A beat while Julia processes.

JULIA
How did you even do it.

COLE
Elias, he's someone who knows a lot and gave me the first drug. He has helped a lot.

Julia starts tapping the table.

JULIA
You can stop. Go back. Like it
never happened.

JULIA (CONT'D)
(pleading)
You have to.

Cole is almost annoyed. Why doesn't she understand.

COLE
You would be dead. You would be
dead if I hadn't. Why won't you let
me help you?

Julia gets up.

JULIA
Because nothing matters now, Cole.
Don't you get it. You save me. You
go on this path.
(beat, emotional)
Nothing will matter.

Cole responds, fast.

COLE
I don't fucking care, okay.

Cole moves past her to the middle of the restaurant.

COLE (CONT'D)
You can live. We can have anything
we want.

JULIA
Don't do this.

COLE
Just come with me.

Cole realizes there is no changing her mind and with a
background of frozen pedestrians behind him. Cole has made
his decision.

COLE (CONT'D)
I need this.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

An extraordinarily massive penthouse apartment. It has two
floors.

There is no furniture in the place, empty. Floor-to-ceiling windows, a balcony, pristine white walls and floors, and an elegant staircase in the middle.

A REALTOR (40s) walks into the large - what seems to be, living room space. Cole is behind him. A very different Cole. Coat. Suit. Expensive watch.

REALTOR
So... 5 bedroom, 3 baths... the kitchen.

The realtor points to the kitchen.

REALTOR (CONT'D)
Still, not completely finished yet.
How do you like it?

COLE
I think I'll take it.

The realtor is a little surprised.

REALTOR
Okay... There's still more to visit?

Cole steps towards the windows.

COLE
No, I think this is the one.

Cole gazes out into the city.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Elias is staring at his surrealist abstract painting that is now on his wall.

He closes his eyes.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

The elevator opens. Elias walks out.

The place is filled with movers and a INTERIOR DESIGNER (40s), two men are placing a couch in the living room. Most of the penthouse is already furnished.

INTERIOR DESIGNER
Not there. More to the left.

The movers move the couch to the left.

INTERIOR DESIGNER (CONT'D)

Perfect.

The movers place the couch down.

Everybody freezes.

Cole starts coming down the stairs, while putting on a watch.

ELIAS

Have you been practicing?

COLE

Of course. I've managed 10 years,
so far.

ELIAS

Good.

Cole gets to the bottom of the steps, he finishes putting on the watch. Beat.

COLE

So, a party? Why is it going to be
different?

ELIAS

It's your party. Nothing is out of
control.

COLE

Well, I don't have many friends.

ELIAS

But you have money.

Elias and Cole enter the elevator.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

A party. The penthouse is filled with well-dressed, 20 something year olds. Mostly socialites and people who have done very little to earn their abundance of wealth.

Cole is in the living room doing shots with a group of people. SEAN, SOPHIA and PEYTON all in there early 20s. Peyton is snuggled up next to Cole. Sophia and Sean are intimately sitting next to each other on the right part of the couch.

COLE

Again!

Cole leans in, grabbing the whiskey bottle that is on the coffee table and starts pouring it into each shot glass.

He finishes, and they all grab the glasses, downing them.

Cole looks up. Lucy and Dave are waiting awkwardly in the living room.

COLE (CONT'D)

Oh, fuck.

Lucy and Dave freeze and so does the whole party.

We move from Lucy and Dave to only seeing the elevator. It starts to open.

Cole is now up and walking to the elevator. Sean, Lucy and Peyton are still on the couch.

The elevator opens. Lucy and Dave walk out.

COLE (CONT'D)

Lucy! Dave!

Lucy and Dave are taken aback. Shocked by the immediacy.

LUCY

Oh my god... hey, Cole.

They walk out of the elevator.

COLE

I haven't seen you... since...
what?-

LUCY

A couple of months at least.

Lucy and Dave are nervous for what's to come, this is a lot different to an environment they've ever been in.

Dave steps forward. In awe.

DAVE

Damn. Cole, this place... wow.

Dave looks around.

COLE

Let's get some drinks in you than I
will give you a tour.

LUCY

Oh no, we shouldn't. I got work tomorrow.

Dave is still observing the place. He turns back.

DAVE

Yeah, same.

Cole is hurt, hiding it.

COLE

Oh, that's fine. How is the restaurant these days?

LUCY

We're actually doing really well. Just got a new employee, actually.

COLE

Really? You know I've been thinking of visiting.

LUCY

Oh... I don't know-

Before she can finish Cole is walking off, ignoring her.

COLE

Come on you should meet my friends.

They all follow him to the living room couch.

COLE (CONT'D)

This is Peyton.

(gestures to Peyton)

And that's Sean and Sophie.

Cole gestures to Sean and Sophie.

LUCY

Hey.

Dave nods.

Peyton, Sean and Sophia all give a mono toned and delayed "Hey".

PEYTON

Come on, sit down, Cole. More shots!

Cole turns to Lucy and Dave.

COLE

Are you sure you don't want to
drink? I can get more glasses?

Lucy and Dave are just getting more and more uncomfortable.

LUCY

Sorry, Cole. Wish we could.

COLE

You're good.
(to Peyton)
One shot.

Cole grabs the bottle of whiskey and pours it into all the
glasses. They all clank glasses and take a shot.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Sounds of a vacuum sweep the floors of Cole's living room. A
whole team of maids are in the penthouse cleaning the mess of
the previous night's party.

Long beat.

Cole walks down his stairs in a spotless suit and coat. He
seems to be in his own world, elated. He directs his
attention to one of the maids, ANA (50s).

COLE

Hey, what's your name?

ANA

Ana.

Cole pulls out his wallet, pulling out multiple one hundred
dollar bills, handing it over to Ana. She is confused.

COLE

Take it.

ANA

Are you sure.

COLE

A tip. Buy you and everybody else
here something nice.

Ana is in shock.

ANA

I don't know what to say. Thank you
so much.

All the other maids are eyeing Ana, interested. Cole smiles and makes his way to the elevator, pushing the button.

EXT. COLE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - DAY

A similar Rolls-Royce to Elias' one waits outside the building.

Cole strides out hastily onto the street. People aren't frozen. He wants to get to the car as fast as possible.

INT. COLE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Cole gets in. The same black panel blocking out the driver from seeing the back is in the car.

COLE

Julia's.

Cole opens the car door.

EXT. JULIA'S - DAY

Cole gets out. He steps onto the street and heads for the door of the restaurant as fast as he can.

A closed sign in on the front door. Cole walks in.

INT. JULIA'S - CONTINUOUS

Mike is sitting on a stool at the counter eating a burger. He spots Cole.

MIKE

Cole. Wow. The luckiest man on earth or what?

Mike chuckles.

COLE

Something like that. It's good to see you Mike.

Cole looks to behind the counter, JEREMY (late 20s). The new employee.

COLE (CONT'D)

Who are you?

JEREMY
 Jeremy. I just started working
 here.

COLE
 Right.

Awkward beat.

COLE (CONT'D)
 Is Julia here?

Mike takes a bite of his burger.

JEREMY
 No.

COLE
 Where is she?

JEREMY
 Ok, well is she is here... but-

COLE
 But what.

JEREMY
 She told me that she doesn't want
 to see you.

COLE
 Can you get Lucy.

JEREMY
 Sure.

Lucy is cooking, cutting tomatoes.

JEREMY (CONT'D)
 Cole wants to speak with you.

She stops and comes out.

COLE
 So, she doesn't want to see me?

LUCY
 I'm sorry.

A beat. Mike takes another bite, taking notice more and more
 of the awkward situation he is in.

COLE
 Fine.

Cole turns around, starting to leave.

LUCY

Cole.

Cole stops, looking back at Lucy.

LUCY (CONT'D)

That place, those people... it's not you.

Indifferent.

COLE

If she tells the receptionist that I'm her son. They'll let her up.

Cole walks out.

INT. UNDERGROUND CLUB - NIGHT

The stage is filled with the orchestra. They are playing, intensely. Cole is at a table by himself surrounded by many other rich people.

Cole is tapping his finger his fast on the table in nervousness.

The orchestra freezes. And so does everybody else.

ELIAS

Come on, let's go.

Elias appears, tapping Cole's shoulder. Cole stops tapping the table.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Cole and Elias walk out of the elevator.

ELIAS

Having two penthouses is better than one.

COLE

I'll look into it.

Cole proceeds into the kitchen. Elias to the open living room space.

COLE (CONT'D)
I should be donating my money
though, right?

ELIAS
You have infinite amounts of it.
Doing both is an option.

COLE
I guess so.

Cole gets in the kitchen.

COLE (CONT'D)
You want a drink? Everybody should
be here soon.

ELIAS
Sure.

Cole reaches down to his cupboard, pulling out an expensive
whiskey.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
You know, Cole. Where you are
now...
(looks around the
penthouse)
I'm proud of where you've come. You
understand.

COLE
I always did. I just needed a bit
of a push.

Cole opens the whiskey bottle and starts pouring it into two
glasses that are on the kitchen bench.

COLE (CONT'D)
So, thanks for that.

Elias gives a brief smile, and with it a sense of guiltiness.
He sits on the couch and looks away from Cole.

Cole grabs both glasses, and heads for the living room.
Getting there, he places Elias' drink on the coffee table.

ELIAS
Thanks.

DING.

The elevator opens.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Already?

Elias stands up, turning around to face the elevator. Its
Julia.

COLE

You came.

Julia slowly steps forward, taking everything in.

COLE (CONT'D)

(gestures to Elias)

This is Elias.

Julia doesn't look at Elias. She doesn't want to.

ELIAS

I've heard a lot about you-

She ignores him.

JULIA

(to Cole)

Could we talk in private?

Elias gives a slight grin and sits back down on the couch.

COLE

Here is fine.

JULIA

Cole, please.

They are still quite a distance away from each other, Cole
behind the couch in the living room and Julia near the
kitchen.

COLE

Whatever you want to say to me. You
can do it here.

JULIA

I need you to stop.

Cole chuckles, knowing what she was going to say. He starts
moving around the couch, closer to Julia.

JULIA (CONT'D)

(begging)

Please. Cole. This man has
brainwashed you.

Cole grips the glass tightly, he is over it.

COLE
 You don't know anything about me.
 (mocking)
 I'm the one who's been brainwashed?

Cole turns to the penthouse.

COLE (CONT'D)
 This is why you're alive. This is
 why you can have a professional
 look after you twenty-four seven.

JULIA
 I didn't ask for that, ok? I want
 ask for any of it.

Julia gets close to Cole. She grabs his hand, tears start to
 well up in her eyes.

She is desperate.

JULIA (CONT'D)
 I don't have long. I want you in my
 life for the rest of it. Don't save
 me. This place, the money, the
 suit. It's fantasy. Stop, please,
 I'm begging you.

Cole stares at her, cold.

COLE
 I'm going to save your life you
 just- I don't get it.
 (beat)
 Fucking ungrateful.

He backs off.

Julia is hurt... the distance between them grows greater.

DING.

The elevator opens again. A hoard of partygoers start coming
 out.

Julia is in complete distraught. She's lost her son.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Maids (including Ana) are cleaning the mess from the previous
 night, bottles, leftover food, weed, vacuuming up cocaine.

Cole in his upscale attire, walks down his steps, he directs his focus to the kitchen fridge.

He gets there and opens it. The fridge is completely empty. Then the pantry. Nothing.

EXT. ENTRANCE - COLE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - LATER

Cole strides out of the entrance, trying to get to his car then...

He bumps into somebody, trying to enter the building.

COLE

Sorry.

He notices. It's Camila. She is dressed differently from when she was working at the bar.

Everyone around him freezes. She notices.

COLE (CONT'D)

Camila? You look...

She smiles.

CAMILA

Moved on from the bar.

There's this odd atmosphere between the two. Camila isn't bothered by everyone being frozen... it's what she expected.

COLE

What are you doing now?

CAMILA

Well, I make art and hope people buy it.

COLE

Oh, I didn't know you were a-

CAMILA

Yeah.

The attitude changes, she looks at Cole, concerned. Beat.

CAMILA (CONT'D)

Look, the reason I'm here is... I've been trying to find you.

COLE

Why?

CAMILA
Apparently Elias and your dad used
to be quite close.

COLE
What?

CAMILA
That's what I was told...
(she looks around)
Can you?

COLE
Right. Sorry.

Everybody unfreezes. Camila turns around.

Cole goes to open the car door. Camila turns back around.

CAMILA
I hope you make it out.

She smiles. Cole doesn't know how to take that. He gets in
the car.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

The painting. Elias is staring at it. It's like he is
imagining himself in it.

Another world. Another life.

Two drunk girls, ELENA and AVA both early 20s waiting for him
on his couches.

ELENA
Elias... Hello? When are we going?

He completely ignores them, still staring.

ELENA (CONT'D)
Elias?

ELIAS
Do you guys want another drink?

Elias turns around, walking to his kitchen.

AVA
We want to go... the party is going
to be over by the time we get
there.

She pulls out her phone to check the time, it's 11:57.

ELENA
(irritated)
We were supposed to be there two
hours ago.

Elias steps into his kitchen, a whiskey bottle is on the bench. He grabs it and walks over.

Ava and Elena stare at him.

ELENA (CONT'D)
Elias.

Elias starts pouring into their glasses that are on the glass coffee table.

ELIAS
Check the time again.

ELENA
What?

He finishes pouring.

ELIAS
Just check it.

Annoyed, Elena pulls out her phone again. It's 9:57. Confused, she turns her phone off and on again.

ELENA
What the-- I swear it was...

Elena looks at Ava, looking for an answer. She doesn't have one.

ELIAS
You must've lost track of time.

Elias walks back to the kitchen and places the bottle back on the bench.

ELENA
I must be losing my mind or something.

She laughs.

Elias comes back to sit on the couch.

He gazes out through his windows. Ava edges closer to him to hold his hand.

Tears start to form in his eyes, he's deep in thought.

A long beat.

AVA

Are you ok?

No response.

He rubs his hands through his hair.

Elias starts getting erratic, shaking his leg. Beat. He leans over, slumped, putting his hands on his head.

ELIAS

FUCK.

He sits up.

More tears, Elias is full-blown crying.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

What the fuck is wrong with me.

Ava and Elena look at each other, concerned and uncomfortable.

Elias readjusts instantly, stopping himself from crying. He stands up quickly, as he does both Elena and Ava freeze in time.

He wipes away the tears and stares out at the night-time cityscape.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT

Cole is staring at himself in the mirror, whilst he is putting back on a shirt. He is deep in thought.

Faint music from a party can be heard below.

Cole finishes putting on the shirt and leaves the bathroom.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Peyton is getting dressed next to his bed.

Cole proceeds to the bedroom door, opening it.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cole walks out of the room and proceeds down the stairs. He has a perfect view over the party. It has declined more and more into a drugged filled mess.

At the bottom of the step lies Elias with Ava and Elena by his side. Elias has a glass of whiskey in hand.

ELIAS

Hey, Cole!
(beat, gestures to both)
This is Ava and Elena.

COLE

Nice to meet you.

ELENA

This is a great party, Cole.

AVA

Yeah... this is place is amazing.

COLE

Thanks. I don't want to hold you up, I think I'm going to go for another drink.

ELIAS

Of course.

Cole passes Elias and the two girls, making it to the bottom, he heads for the kitchen, passing through partygoers.

But before he can make it to the kitchen...

SOPHIA

Cole!

Cole turns around. An intoxicated Sophia.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

I think someone... going to jump...

Sophia spins around and points to the balcony. There's a man on the ledge.

COLE

What?

SOPHIA

At the balcony.

Cole rushes over. A man jumps.

Elias is on top of the stairs, looking down.

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Loud screams and gasps. Cole arrives with Peyton, Lucy and Dave. There's at least ten people on the balcony including Sean and Sophia.

A glimpse of a hand, over the balcony. ADAM (20s) the person who jumped. He reverses back onto the ledge.

Everybody else on the balcony is frozen in time.

COLE

Hey, man.

(beat)

I need you to turn around.

Adam turns around. The beaming lights of New York City backdrop Adam on the edge. The lights almost look like some sort of dreamscape. He can't help himself from laughing, he's way too high to have any grasp on reality.

COLE (CONT'D)

What's your name?

Adam is instantaneously infatuated by Cole. He literally thinks he is looking at a god.

ADAM

Adam.

COLE

I'm going to help you, okay? Take my hand.

ADAM

You want to help... me?

Adam looks back down at the city.

ADAM (CONT'D)

But the lights... I hear them. They are talking to me. They- they can set me free.

COLE

That's not real, Adam, okay? I'm real.... Adam?

Adam turns to Cole, laughing.

ADAM
You're not real.

Adam falls backwards into the sea of lights. This puts Cole on edge, weirdly agitating him. Confused.

Adam freezes. He hasn't gone that far.

Music and people's screams start cutting in and out, rapidly.

COLE
I control whether you live or die,
ok?
(beat)
That's what I can do.

Adam won't stop laughing... high as a person can possibly be. Cole grabs his shirt, getting right in his face.

The music is back.

COLE (CONT'D)
Out there... it won't... It won't
save you. I will, okay? I will.

Elias is at the balcony door, watching intensely.

Everybody is watching in terror. Astonished by what they're witnessing.

ELIAS
Cole. What are you doing... just-

Elias freezes and so does everybody else. Quiet. Cole turns to him. Mystified.

This isn't supposed to be possible.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT

Cole is staring at himself in the mirror, whilst putting back on a shirt. He's lost in thought.

Faint music from a party can be heard below.

Cole finishes putting on the shirt and leaves the bathroom.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Peyton is getting dressed next to his bed.

Cole strolls his way to the door, opening it.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cole makes it to the stairs, Elias is at the bottom with Elena and Ava.

ELIAS

Hey, Cole!
 (beat, gestures to both)
 This is Ava and Elena.

COLE

Nice to meet you.

Cole continues down before they get to say anything else. He gets to the bottom of the steps and turns for the balcony. Nobody is on it.

As he makes his way there. A CONCERNED PARTYGOER (20s) interrupts.

CONCERNED PARTYGOER

Hey, man. You're Cole, right?

COLE

Yeah.

CONCERNED PARTYGOER

My friend. Adam. He said you wouldn't let him up?

COLE

It's not up to me sorry.

Cole brushes past him and makes to the balcony. He opens the sliding door.

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Cole closes the glass sliding door. Nobody is with him. The music muffles.

He saunters over to a lounge chair and slumps into it. He gazes off into the distant cityscape lights and reaches into his pocket, pulling out his phone.

He turns it on, it has a default screensaver. On the screen it has displayed: **12:34 Sat, September.**

Cole turns the phone off.

We move from Cole back to the interior of the penthouse and the party, looking through the sliding door.

And in an instant, it's daytime and everybody from the party is gone and only the leftover trash remains.

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - DAY

We don't see if Cole is in the lounge chair anymore or not, moving to looking through the sliding door into the penthouse.

The elevator opens and three maids walk out with mops and garbage bags in hand, ready to clean.

Only now a cold windy breeze is heard. We come back from looking through the sliding door. Cole is sitting on the same chair but in different attire, a full suit.

Snowflakes fall and small lumps of snow have accumulated on the balcony. Cole holds out his hand, transfixed and slightly puzzled by them.

He gets up and opens the sliding door.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cole enters the penthouse. Ana is one of the maids, she begins mopping the floor and the others are putting bottles and glasses into trash bags.

Cole directs his attention towards Ana.

COLE
What month is it?

ANA
Sir?

COLE
The month?

Cole continues to step through the leftover bottles, and trash. He passes his coffee table which has cocaine and leftover joints spread out on it.

ANA
(confused)
December?

She glances at both the other maids. They eye her back in a similar state of bewilderment.

Cole gets to his kitchen counter where his phone is lying. He picks it and turns it on, the screensaver displays: **11:48 Sat, 19 December**. He stares at it.

ANA (CONT'D)

Sir?

Cole looks at the Ana.

COLE

Yeah.

ANA

We won't be available to clean next week?

COLE

Why?

ANA

It'll be Christmas day.

COLE

Right, right... well, who else can I get?

ANA

I don't know... sorry.

Cole gives a concerned look, worrying but quickly stifles it, smiling.

COLE

I'll figure it out.

Ana doesn't go back to mopping. Instead, staring at Cole, wanting to say something else but doesn't know if she should.

COLE (CONT'D)

Is there something, else?

ANA

No, never mind.

Ana goes back to mop but stops herself, quickly.

ANA (CONT'D)

I know it's not my place... but I think you should visit your mother.

Cole takes that to heart, slightly shocked. Ana is nervous if she was out of line.

He sits back on a stool that is next to the kitchen bench. He faces away from Ana.

COLE
It's fine. I don't know... after...
I- I don't know.

Ana gets closer, putting her hand on Cole's back, comforting him.

ANA
She's your mother, Cole. It'll be,
ok.

COLE
Maybe another time.

We move away from Cole, instead viewing only the interior living room section of the penthouse, and we instantly cut to-

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

A party is raging.

We come back down on Cole who is in the same spot. Different suit. He looks tired. But not a kind of tired from lack of sleep. A sense dreariness looms over him.

A highly intoxicated Sean shakes his arm.

SEAN
Hey Cole?

Cole snaps out of it.

SEAN (CONT'D)
We got you a present.

Sean gives him a bottle of wine.

SEAN (CONT'D)
I was going to wrap it... but...
umm... yeah. Thanks for throwing
these parties every week. Merry
Christmas!

COLE
Thanks, Sean.

Sean drunkenly smiles and walks back into the mess of a party.

The degeneracy has leveled up in this party. It's like nobody even knows where they are, and they all have very little care for the penthouse.

Cole stares at the bottle of whiskey and opens it. He drinks straight from it and starts downing it. He doesn't stop.

He is almost in this fever dream like state.

EMMA (20s) taps his shoulder. A random person at the party.

EMMA
Let's go, Cole.

Emma takes Cole's hand, he stares right through her but complies, taking her hand while holding the bottle in the other.

She starts leading him through the penthouse, passing the partygoers sniffing coke on the coffee table in the living room.

She takes him to the stairs, leading him up to the master bedroom.

Emma opens the master bedroom door.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma tries to undress him. Cole completely ignores her, instead giving her the whiskey bottle and face planting into his enormous bed.

EMMA
(confused)
Cole?

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - DAY

Cole is on the balcony, sitting on the lounge chair. He isn't wearing a suit. Instead, casual baggy clothes. Hoodie and sweatpants.

He looks down, he is holding a pill that's in a small glass container. The cure.

Cole gets up and opens the sliding door, putting the cure in his pocket.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Sean and Emma are sitting on his couch that is next to the coffee table, Sean holds out a lighter for Emma to smoke.

Both Emma and Sean look at Cole with uncertainty. Cole doesn't really seem to even acknowledge their existence.

SEAN

Thanks for letting us stay-

Sean and Emma freeze in time.

Cole sits in the middle of them.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

In an instant the party from last night is back. Sean and Emma have disappeared from the couch.

Cole gets up and walks around the couch and to the elevator.

He bumps into a drunk Sean.

SEAN

Weren't you just...

Cole brushes past him.

SEAN (CONT'D)

Cole... where are you going?

Cole gets in the elevator. He pushes first floor. The elevator door closes.

EXT. COLE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

A snowy New York City. Christmas night.

Cole is shivering on the curb, waiting. He spots a taxi and calls it down. It stops.

INT. TAXI CAB - NIGHT

Cole hands the CAB DRIVER (late 40s) money.

COLE

Thanks.

The cab driver doesn't respond.

Cole doesn't get out yet though, he's nervous.

CAB DRIVER
Are you going to get out?

COLE
Yeah, sorry, sorry.

Cole opens the cab door. He is on the opposite side of the road to Julia's.

INT. JULIA'S - NIGHT

Julia, Lucy and Dave are all seated at pushed together restaurant tables. All their plates are finished of food, only leftovers remain. Jeremy is standing up, grabbing Julia's plate.

JULIA
Seriously, you don't have to.

LUCY
I got it.

JEREMY
No, no, please. It's the least I could do.

Julia smiles. Jeremy takes the plate.

LUCY
Thank you, Julia. For all you do. Especially for housing Christmas for strays like us.

Lucy chuckles.

Jeremy takes Lucy's and Dave's plate and heads for the kitchen.

Dave looks at Julia.

DAVE
Yeah, truly. Thank you.

It's hard for Julia to take the compliment, but she genuinely appreciates it, smiling.

JULIA
I needed this. I really think I should be thanking you guys.

Jeremy freezes on his way to the kitchen and so does everyone else.

Cole is on the opposite side of the glass, standing. He is looking in. Glancing down, he pulls out the cure but seems conflicted. He looks back up at Julia.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

The elevator opens. Cole walks out.

The penthouse is still filled with partygoers, clustered together in the midst of smoking, drinking, and sniffing.

Everyone is frozen. Cole continues.

Sean is in the kitchen in the midst of doing a line of cocaine off the bench with a group of people.

Cole eyes Sean and then the balcony.

That's where he needs to be.

Anxiety rising, he starts to weave through the crowd.

The sliding door is closed. He gets there, opening it.

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

He steps from the penthouse to the outside and moves closer to the edge. Making it, Cole peers over.

The bright light night-time cityscape is almost intoxicating. Cole gazes down at the city.

Music starts again, Cole steps away from the ledge and turns around.

The party is back.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Back inside. Cole's pace picks up. He needs to find something else. Escape.

Cole springs towards the kitchen, he eyes a bottle of whiskey that is sitting on the bench.

He strides in behind the bench. Sean and the group are in their own world, continuing to snort coke.

Cole grips the whiskey bottle. He starts downing it.

Fuck.

He stops. Placing it back down on the bench and as he does-

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Bright. Its day. Sean and Emma are on the couch in the living room, smoking.

No party. The music has stopped.

DING.

Cole looks towards the elevator. It opens. An out pour of reminiscent partygoers flow out.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

He darts his eyes back to the living room. It's dark again.

The music starts back up and people start overflowing into the open space.

Cole starts walking back into the living room. The partygoers start to overcrowd the penthouse.

It's like the penthouse has just become a place for people to party and that's it. Cole is irrelevant for it to function.

The music is starting to become overbearing.

A RANDOM DUDE (20s) pulls out a bag of coke, sitting down on the couch.

He looks up at Cole.

RANDOM DUDE
Hey man, you want some?

Cole looks at him blankly.

The Random Dude opens the bag of cocaine and lays out on the coffee table. He sniffs it and as he does-

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

It's daytime again. Everybody is gone. The music stops.

Ana's maid crew are in the midst of vacuuming, picking up trash and washing the floors. None of them are facing Cole.

DING. Cole looks to the elevator.

People start overflowing from it. Some familiar faces some not.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Its night.

Cole heads for the couch and sits down. He needs to move. The music starts again.

Vacuuming starts again. Cole gets up.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Its day. The maids are cleaning around the penthouse.

DING.

People flow out the elevator.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Night again. All the sounds are starting to blend together. The music isn't stopping. The elevator ding and vacuuming seem never-ending.

The couch isn't the spot. Cole gets up, moving rapidly to the stairs.

He sits on the bottom step and his whole body starts to shake, slumping in a ball.

There's no way out.

SEAN

Cole? Oh, shit...

Sean looks behind himself, at the party.

SEAN (CONT'D)

Hey guys look, It's Cole. Holy shit.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Elias is leaning against his kitchen bench, head down. The apartment is completely empty.

He seems to be stressed, looking up and darting his eyes between the couch and the painting.

Pushing off the bench, he makes his way to the living room and stares out the windows, into the city.

Elias turns around, Robert is in the same couch spot, still frozen. He stares at him in a sort of desperation, looking for some kind of answer.

ELIAS

I think he has more control than me, now... I don't understand why he hasn't saved her, yet. I need him to. What the fuck is he doing.

Elias walks past him and heads for the elevator.

EXT. ADTONO - DAY

The snow has cleared up. A spring New York City.

INT. ADTONO - CONTINUOUS

The restaurant is completely empty except for Elias, who is sitting at a table by himself. He is in the midst of eating.

The entrance. Elias anticipates. He is waiting for someone.

Beat.

Cole arrives, making his way through the entrance, in a suit. A sense of relief for Elias.

The greeter guides Cole to Elias' table. Elias eyes the waiter, gesturing for him to come over.

COLE

I'm good thanks.

Joe nods and retreats. Cole sits down, he starts tapping his finger on the table.

ELIAS

Not eating?

Cole is barely even acknowledging Elias' existence.

COLE

No, I think actually... I might
come back later.

Cole gets up. Elias is taken aback, grabbing Cole's arm as he
walks past.

ELIAS

Wait. Where have you been?

COLE

I don't know.

Elias lets go, giving a worried look. Cole continues to the
stairs. Faint sounds of the orchestra can be heard.

Cole makes his way down the stairs, getting to the bottom and
opening the door.

INT. UNDERGROUND CLUB - CONTINUOUS

The seats are empty, the bartender is mopping the floor,
getting ready for the night.

The orchestra is rehearsing, the music slowly intensifies.
Cole walks through the middle of the tables and stops in the
center of the night club. Cole becomes engrossed in the
music.

EXT. COLE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - ENTRANCE - DAY

Cole is standing on the opposite side of the street to the
entrance of his apartment building.

Every single thing around him is frozen, the cars on the
road, pedestrians walking past.

Cole starts to stroll through the middle of the street
stepping off the curb and onto the road.

He weaves right through the cars, making it to the other
side.

This is routine. It's been done hundreds of times before.

Stepping onto the opposite curb, Cole makes his way through
the frozen pedestrians and into his apartment, opening the
glass door.

INT. COLE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Cole enters the first floor, the receptionist is frozen. He makes to the elevator and presses the button.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - LATER

Cole walks out of the elevator.

Nobody is at the penthouse. It's spotless.

He steps into the open space.

INT. UNDERGROUND CLUB - NIGHT

The club is filled with people, all watching the orchestra play.

Elias is by himself sitting at a table. He seems nervous. Anxiously, tapping his finger and shaking his leg.

INT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

DING.

The elevator opens, Elias walks out.

Cole is sitting on the couch in the living room. The television is playing a news segment. With remote in hand, Cole replays it over and over again.

REPORTER ON TV

New York senator Jason Schulz has been found out to have been cheating on his wife. He has decided it would be best to step down from the position, letting Amelia Clarke replace him.

Again.

REPORTER ON TV (CONT'D)

New York senator Jason Schulz has been found out to have been cheating on his wife-

Again.

REPORTER ON TV (CONT'D)

New York senator Jason Schulz has-

Elias walks up to the couch, standing behind it.

ELIAS

Well it was bound to happen at some point I guess...

Cole turns off the television.

Elias needs Cole's attention.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Are you over that restaurant? We can find a new place?

Cole gets up, walking to the kitchen.

Elias watches him, confused, nervously awaiting an answer.

Cole gets to the kitchen. He reaches down to a cupboard, opening it and grabbing two glasses. He places them on the kitchen bench.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Cole?

COLE

I don't mind.

An open bottle of whiskey lies on the kitchen bench, nearly empty. Cole grabs it. Elias edges closer to the kitchen.

ELIAS

I'll find a new place.

Cole opens the bottle and pours.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Are you having a party?

COLE

Maybe. I don't remember.

Cole finishes pouring into both glasses. He takes them and walks around the kitchen, handing Elias a glass.

ELIAS

Thanks.

Elias instantly gulps down the whiskey. He's never been like this before. Cole has the control and Elias wants nothing more than for time to stop.

Cole walks to the middle of the living room, preoccupied in thought. He stares out at the city.

COLE
How do you do it?

ELIAS
What?

Cole turns around, staring at Elias.

COLE
Keep it up.

ELIAS
Keep what up?

Beat. Cole looks down, tapping his glass.

COLE
This. All of it. Being able to do
anything. Have everything?

Cole looks back up at Elias.

ELIAS
Having everything means I don't
need to worry.

Beat. Cole gives a brief smile. Elias' nervousness increases,
looking down at his empty glass and avoiding eye contact.

ELIAS (CONT'D)
I think I'm going to fill up
another glass.

Elias gives a nervous chuckle, proceeding to the kitchen,
staying on the outside of it, he places the glass on the
bench. He has his back turned to Cole.

COLE
Where is my dad, Elias?

Fuck. Elias knows what's coming next.

No response.

COLE (CONT'D)
It's over.

Elias looks up. Cole is in front of him.

COLE (CONT'D)
You know it is.

He immediately notices Cole's different position. Elias looks down, an onset of stark realization comes over him. Something that he has been avoiding.

Elias slumps, rubbing his hands in his hair.

ELIAS

I... I don't know what your talking about.

Elias quickly reaches for the whiskey bottle and starts pouring. His hand is shaking. He finishes pouring.

Elias stares down at his glass. Picking it up and downing it.

Beat.

He changes his attitude, mellowing.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

He won't let you save her. Your dad taught me a lot. But he was just like everybody else.

Elias stares up at Cole.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

You know he would've let her die. I saved her. Without me she would be dead.

Elias gets up, moving away from the kitchen bench into the living room.

COLE

That isn't why you did it though is it?

Cole walks around the kitchen bench.

COLE (CONT'D)

What was the point?

ELIAS

Do you want to let her die? Go back to your life, working in that restaurant?

Cole stops.

COLE

I haven't known what I wanted my whole fucking life. So, I don't know.

ELIAS

You have everything you could ever want.

COLE

I don't, Elias and neither do you. But I think you've always known that.

Elias is starting to break.

ELIAS

We have each other. We- we can do so much more... I need you... ok? I need you.

Elias stares at Cole.

No response, Cole watches Elias slowly deteriorate as he struggles to accept what's happening.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

(pleading)

We're in this together, right?

Surrounded by the enormous penthouse. Elias starts tapping his empty glass. He doesn't know what to say anymore.

Everything is closing in. Tap. Tap. Tap.

He lets go of the glass. It freezes in mid-air.

Cole walks over, slowly. He grabs the glass.

Elias falls down on his knees, he looks at the floor.

Beat.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry... sorry, sorry...

Tears start to well up in Elias' eyes, he's erratic.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

I just- I didn't know what else to do... I can't go back. I can't go back.

(begging)

Please don't make me.

Cole can feel Elias' despair.

A long pause.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

You can live a normal life and she
can still live. Your dad won't
know. I can make sure of that.

Elias looks up at Cole, coming to terms with it all.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

(earnestly)
Save her.

It's obvious Cole still hasn't thought through everything.

COLE

Where is he?

Silence. A beat.

We don't here any more of the conversation instead move out
from the living room to the balcony, watching them talk from
the balcony.

Cole moves away from Elias. He got the information he needed
and walks away to the elevator. Getting there, he pushes the
button, the doors slide open, and he gets in.

The elevator doors close.

Elias. In the middle of the penthouse. On the floor. He gets
up and moves towards the balcony.

He is in an odd state of peace, stepping closer to the
balcony.

EXT. COLE'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Stepping outside, an odd sense of peace looms over him.
Something about it all. Maybe he knew it was coming. Maybe he
wanted it.

Gazing out at the night-time cityscape, he walks slowly to
the edge of the balcony and climbs over, standing on the
ledge... he can't let it go.

A long cathartic beat.

Elias lets himself fall.

INT. ELIAS' PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Cole is sitting across from Robert. He's staring at his father who is frozen in the same position Elias last left him in.

This is it.

COLE

Hey, dad.

Robert returns, smiling. Everything is processing quite quickly for him. He isn't phased.

ROBERT

Nice suit.

Cole chuckles, struggling to look at his dead. It's shame. It's fear. It's hope.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

It's ok. You know what you need to do now don't you?

Cole looks down, he starts shaking his leg, nervous.

COLE

I just-

A confidence builds as Cole looks at his dad.

COLE (CONT'D)

I need time.

Robert freezes in time.

INT. JULIA'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

It's the same Christmas night. Dave, Lucy, Jeremy and Dave are all in the restaurant.

Julia, Lucy and Dave are all seated at pushed together restaurant tables. All their plates are finished of food, only leftovers remain. Jeremy is standing up, grabbing Julia's plate.

JULIA

Seriously, you don't have to.

LUCY

I got it.

JEREMY

No, no. Please. It's the least I could do.

Julia smiles. Jeremy takes the plate.

LUCY

Thank you, Julia. For all you do. Especially for housing Christmas for strays like us.

Lucy chuckles.

Jeremy takes Lucy's and Dave's plate and heads for the kitchen.

DAVE

Yeah, truly. Thank you.

Dave looks at Julia.

It's hard for Julia to take the compliment, but she genuinely appreciates it, smiling.

JULIA

I needed this. I really think I should be thanking you guys.

On Jeremy-

He freezes on his way to the kitchen. So does everybody else.

Complete silence.

Cole opens the front door, stepping through. He makes his way to the table and sits down opposite Julia.

He looks at both Lucy and Dave, smiling. He doesn't look at Julia.

He can't. Not yet.

Cole looks down.

A long beat.

COLE

I'm sorry.

He gives an emotional chuckle and puts his hands on his head, leaning his elbows on the table.

Beat. He slowly starts to well up with tears.

COLE (CONT'D)

I just don't know if there's anything out there for me- and maybe that's okay... It's just so fucking scary.

The tears continue. But calm... an overwhelming feeling of acceptance.

Cole looks at his mother.

A catharsis.

COLE (CONT'D)

I have to try.

EXT. STREET NEAR JULIA'S - MOMENTS LATER

Cole walks out of Julia's. Everybody is still frozen behind him.

The street is mostly empty besides for a couple of frozen pedestrians in the midst of walking by.

He eyes them, smiling and walking past.

Cole steps out onto the empty road. He walks into the middle and sits down.

This is the start.

Finally.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Cole is sitting on a couch chair comforted by pillows. His THERAPIST (40s) sits across from him.

They are relatively high up in a building.

THERAPIST

Do you want a water?

COLE

Sure.

The therapist reaches down and grabs a water bottle, moving from the chair the therapist gives Cole the bottle.

COLE (CONT'D)

Thanks.

The therapist sits back down.

THERAPIST

Alright, so last session we talked about...

EXT. STREET NEAR JULIA'S - DAY

Footsteps and car horns surround Cole. But they aren't overbearing.

New York City isn't as intimidating as it once was.

Cole walks on the path. He isn't in a rush but still is moving at a relatively fast pace.

Weaving through the pedestrians, he makes it to Julia's. It has a closed sign on the front door. He opens the door.

INT. JULIA'S - CONTINUOUS

Cole walks in.

Robert is behind the counter. Mike is sitting on a stool on the opposite side.

MIKE

I think, yeah... a water this time.
I should probably try getting healthier again.

Mike laughs at himself.

Robert goes to open the fridge, but realizes there is no water. He looks at Cole.

ROBERT

Perfect timing. Could you go into the apartment and grab a water for Mike?

MIKE

Oh no, Robert, it's fine.

COLE

It's all good, Mike.

It actually is. He truly doesn't mind.

ROBERT

Thanks. I'm just going to get set up.

Cole proceeds to behind the counter. Robert moves out and towards him. He gives him a light pat on the shoulder, smiling and then moves past, getting to the front door.

Robert flips the closed sign to open.

Cole gets to behind the counter. Lucy comes out of the kitchen with a bag of food, handing it to Mike.

MIKE

Thanks. Hey, Cole how much money
did you end up giving away?

Cole chuckles.

COLE

I'll be back with your water.

Cole and Lucy give a greeting nod to each other, both smiling.

He makes his way back through the kitchen, getting to the door that leads to the apartment, opening it.

He walks up the steps, getting to the apartment door.

Cole reaches into his pocket for keys and begins to unlock the door. It opens.

INT. COLE'S FAMILY APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is clean. It's been looked after, consistently.

Cole makes his way to the kitchen. He gets to the fridge and begins to open it but stops. He starts tapping the top of the fridge, thinking.

Cole turns around and stares into Julia's bedroom. The door is half open and the room is empty. Nobody is in there.

A beat.

Cole stops tapping and continues to open the fridge, grabbing the water. He closes the fridge and proceeds to the front door of the apartment, opening it. He walks out and closes the door behind himself.

FADE OUT.

THE END