

DEREK

written by

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FADE IN:

**EXT. MAPLE WOODS PARK - NIGHT**

Maple Woods Park is a small trailer park in Central Florida filled with cheap mobile homes in a rustic setting. Many of the homes have small wooden patio decks.

The park feels empty, just a few cars parked in the driveways of the trailers. This is a September night, a pretty dead time of the year at Maple Woods.

A small dog yips in the background.

**INT. MEREDITH'S BEDROOM**

A small room with a queen sized bed taking up a majority of the space.

MEREDITH, mid-30s, sullen, lays on the bed, naked. Next to her, RICKY, 40's, sleeps. Ricky snores loudly.

Meredith frowns and rolls away from Ricky. Meredith stares at the framed picture on her nightstand.

The picture shows a younger Meredith (around early 20's) and a six-year-old boy (YOUNG DEREK) lounging on a beach chair, smiling. Both are wearing bathing suits. Both the eyes of innocence.

Meredith sighs and lays the picture down so she can't see their faces.

Meredith reaches underneath the bed and pulls out a wrinkled Kimono robe. The edges of the robe are frayed.

Meredith stands and wraps the robe around her.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith's living room is connected to the kitchen, separated by a countertop.

An open bottle of pre-made margarita mix sits on the end table next to the couch. There are a few scattered solo cups surrounding the bottle.

Meredith enters the living room and sits on the couch. Meredith grabs one of the cups and pours some of the margarita into it. Meredith downs the drink and leans her head back, staring up toward the ceiling.

A bit of dust falls from the ceiling, landing on Meredith's nose.

Meredith gives a smile and wrinkles her nose to try to remove the dust. Unsuccessful, she just wipes the dust off.

RICKY (O.S.)

Fuck!

Meredith shoots up to attention.

Ricky rushes out of the back, trying to get his pants on.

RICKY

It's almost midnight! Why didn't you wake me? Cat's going to be pissed and I don't need to hear her shit right now.

MEREDITH

Sorry, guess I just lost track of time.

Ricky shakes his head.

Ricky walks over and grabs the keys. Ricky reaches into Meredith's purse and takes out her wallet.

MEREDITH

What are you doing?

RICKY

Gas money. And I figured you'd want to buy Jenny something nice. Tomorrow's her birthday.

MEREDITH

I've never met her.

Ricky pulls the money out of the wallet.

MEREDITH

Holy shit! Here, I thought I was going crazy, thought I had more money in my wallet and you've been stealing from me.

RICKY

I haven't been stealing shit. It's payment for me being here. Least you could do.

MEREDITH

You son of a bitch!

Meredith charges at him. Ricky parries and grabs her neck and smashes her into the mirror on the wall.

The glass shatters and Meredith falls to the floor.  
Meredith's head is bleeding.

RICKY  
That's your own damn fault.

Ricky pockets the money and takes a bit more out of the wallet.

Ricky squats down in front of Meredith. Ricky pushes some of Meredith's bloody hair out of her face.

RICKY  
Ah, shit. I'm sorry, babe. Good thing you're a nurse, huh.

Ricky snorts and exits the trailer.

Meredith lay on the ground, bleeding.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Ricky rushes to his car.

AMY, late 20s, sits across the street in front of her trailer. Amy is vaping. Amy frowns at Ricky.

Ricky looks over at Amy, smirks, and hops into his car. The tires squeal as Ricky pulls away.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy takes one more drag from her vape pen, then looks at Meredith's trailer. A look of concern draws onto her face.

Amy stands up and walks toward the trailer.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith still lies on the floor. Meredith twitches a bit, trying to move.

A knock at the door. Meredith groans and tries to stand.

Amy opens the door.

AMY  
Meredith.  
(seeing Meredith)  
Oh, shit.

Amy rushes over toward Meredith. Amy drops to the ground and rolls Meredith onto her lap.

AMY  
 What the fuck did he do to you?  
 Where's your kit?

Meredith moans.

MEREDITH  
 I-- I-- Where's Derek?

AMY  
 Derek?

MEREDITH  
 My-- son. Where?

AMY  
 Derek's not here. Derek's gone.

Meredith starts to cry.

**INT./EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

Ricky drives along Route 301. Ricky is listening to some hard classic rock.

Ricky looks down at his phone on the car seat.

RICKY  
 Ah, shit.

Ricky pulls his car over and picks up the phone. Ricky lets the car idle. Ricky opens up his contacts and hits the name M.T.

The phone starts to ring.

Ricky looks out the front window.

**EXT. ROUTE 301 - RICKY'S POV**

Standing at the edge of the road is a dark figure, all black, a silhouette against the moonlight sitting on a motorcycle. (The figure is DEREK, 18, lean.)

**INT./EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

Ricky stares back at the figure.

RICKY  
 The fuck?

A click on the phone and Meredith's voicemail greeting can be heard followed by a beep.

Ricky turns his attention away.

RICKY

Hey, Mer Bear. I'm sorry. It was an accident. You shouldn't have rushed at me. I was just reacting, you know. I can't make it tomorrow, but I'll be there the next day. I'll make it up to you. I'm going to be home all day tomorrow, so I won't answer. You'll be fine, babe. It'll all be fine.

Ricky hangs up and looks out the front window.

**EXT. ROUTE 301 - RICKY'S POV**

The figure is gone.

**INT./EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

Ricky squints his eyes then figures it was just a trick of the light.

The car engine starts sputtering.

RICKY

No, no. Not now, you bitch.

Ricky slams on the dashboard and the car just stops.

RICKY

Shit!

**EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

The hood pops up and Ricky exits the car.

The night is quiet. A sudden branch being broken. The sound catches Ricky's attention. Only sees darkness.

Ricky stares down into the engine. Ricky leans down, close to the engine. Ricky grabs a loose wire and starts to wriggle it. This is something he's clearly had to do before.

There's a small spark.

RICKY

That should do it.

Suddenly, the figure (Derek) appears and slams the hood hard down onto Ricky's head. The figure repeatedly slams it down over and over.

The figure walks over to the car and slips behind the wheel. The darkness makes it difficult to see his face.

Ricky starts to try to move from under the hood, but he's having trouble getting out from underneath.

**INT./EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

The figure turns the key in the ignition. The car starts.

**EXT. RICKY'S CAR**

Ricky screams as the engine comes to life. His body spasms as the engine does its work. The engine falls dead just as Ricky does.

CUT TO:

**EXT. MAPLE WOODS PARK - MIDDAY - THE NEXT DAY**

The trailer park glistens in the warm Florida sun. The park is close to deserted still. Loud hard metal music can be heard.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

CODY and JAKE, both 15, dressed in tattered T-shirt and jeans, sit around an MP3 player shaped like the devil, the source of the music. Jake puffs on a cigarette but has a bit of trouble with it, as every puff leads to a fit of coughing.

Jake passes the cigarette to Cody. Cody puts up his hand to signal he doesn't want it.

JAKE

Don't be a pussy.

Cody frowns and takes the cigarette. Cody inhales and immediately starts coughing.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy sits on a bench in front of the trailer. Amy has a large law textbook open on the table in front of her. Amy vapes and furrows her brow, trying to understand the book she's reading.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

GRADY, late 50's, burly, bends over an empty deep fryer, the kind which consists of a large vat and then a heating rod that goes into the vat to heat up the oil. Grady is furiously scrubbing remaining chunks of lard inside the fryer. Occasionally, Grady has to stop to catch his breath.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith walks out the door, carrying the broken mirror. Meredith's face has a few bruises. A bandage covers her forehead.

Meredith walks over to the garbage can on the curb and stuffs the mirror into the can. Meredith moves it around to try to fit it into the can without tipping over.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy looks up and sees Meredith struggling. Amy stands and walks over.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith struggles a bit, starting to get visibly frustrated. Amy walks over and helps steady the can and get the mirror into it.

MEREDITH

I hated this fucking mirror anyway.

Amy nods.

AMY

You okay?

MEREDITH

Yeah, yeah, I'm fine. Just a bad night, that's all. Thank you for helping me.

AMY

Do you think we should maybe go to the hospital?

MEREDITH

That's the last thing I want the others to see. Look at what a clumsy nurse we hired.

Meredith tries to force a smile.

AMY

Is there anyplace else you could go?

Meredith lets out a frustrated breath.



MEREDITH

Look, Amy, what you did for me, I do appreciate. But we're neighbors and that's all. If I need to borrow something or get advice on what to do with the crab grass, then I'll come over. Small talk, maybe. But you don't know me, okay? You don't know how I deal with things and why I deal with those things. Let's just leave it at that.

Amy holds her hands up in surrender. Meredith realizes what she said was a bit harsh. Meredith changes the subject.

MEREDITH

That's a big book you're reading there.

AMY

It's a law book.

MEREDITH

You're going to law school.

AMY

Maybe, I don't know. I just don't like being a nurse.

MEREDITH

Don't like being called a hero?

AMY

I'm not a hero. No hero would shove thermometers up old people's asses.

MEREDITH

Sometimes it feels nice to hear even if it isn't true.

AMY

Don't you want something better?

MEREDITH

I gave up on something better back in high school.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Grady looks over toward Meredith's trailer.

GRADY

Hey, hey! Your fucking fella' last night peeled out of here. Woke up half the damn neighborhood.

AMY

Grady, have you looked around this place. You make up half the neighborhood.

GRADY

This don't concern you. Or that stupid drunk husband of yours.

(to Meredith)

You keep us up at night with all that damn noise. I should tell the sheriff, but I know he won't do shit. Keep it up and I'll have to take care of it myself.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Jake starts to laugh. Cody chuckles with him.

GRADY

Shouldn't you be in school?

JAKE

Shouldn't you be in a hospital?

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Amy frowns, shakes her head.

AMY

He's just a grouchy old man with a wife and children that don't like him.

MEREDITH

He might be dangerous. He makes me nervous with threats like that. He took a swing with his baseball bat at Derek.

Meredith's mind drifts off for a bit. Amy not sure how to proceed.

AMY

Well, stay safe.

Meredith nods and turns to head back inside. Amy leaves. As Meredith moves along the driveway, she stops and turns toward Cody's trailer.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Cody and Jake look up at Meredith. Cody gives a wave and Jake does a salute.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith gives a faint smile and returns the wave. Meredith goes into her trailer.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Jake turns to look at Cody.

JAKE

Doesn't it creep you out the way she stares at us?

CODY

She's just sad is all.

JAKE

Maybe you can go over there and cheer her up. Show her what you got hiding under there.

Jake playfully slaps at Cody's crotch.

CODY

Fuck you, Jake.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Similar in style to Meredith's trailer only a lot cleaner. The furniture is slightly more upscale, though only slightly. There is a couch in the middle, a flat screen TV on the wall, golf clubs against the corner with a shelf of glass knick knacks above it.

Amy enters, law book in hand. Amy walks over to the bookcase and slips the book back into its spot. The bookcase is filled with various worn looking textbooks. Amy runs her finger across the spines, trying to find the right book.

Her finger stops on a book entitled FORENSICS: A STUDY. Amy pulls the book out of the case.

Suddenly, a body jumps out and grabs her. It's DALLAS, early 30's, her husband. Amy drops the book and punches Dallas in the arm.

AMY

You asshole.

DALLAS  
Come on, did I scare you?

AMY  
No-- well, a little.

DALLAS  
(sheepishly)  
Sorry, sweetheart.

Dallas bends down and picks up the book.

DALLAS  
Forensics?

AMY  
Yeah, so I can figure out whichever  
person it is that ends up murdering  
you.

DALLAS  
Or how to hide you were the  
murderer all along.

AMY  
If I killed you, I'd have to find  
someone new to rub my feet.

Dallas rubs his hands.

DALLAS  
These hands are gifted.

Dallas walks over to the golf clubs leaning against the wall.  
Dallas removes a golf club.

DALLAS  
You could be a professional golfer.

AMY  
Don't touch those. You have no  
idea how to handle them.

Dallas puts the golf club back.

DALLAS  
I saw you talking to Meredith,  
how's she doing?

AMY  
Well, she's claiming it was a  
mirror accident.

DALLAS

I don't understand why she didn't go to the hospital.

AMY

I wouldn't expect you to.

DALLAS

And why didn't you take her?

AMY

I don't know. We aren't close. She made that clear. But she changed after her son left. There was some life to her, you know.

DALLAS

Yeah, you probably should've taken her. Sounds like she needs someone to take care of her.

AMY

I'm too busy taking care of you.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith kneels down near the wall where the mirror once sat. Meredith picks up the broken glass. A small bit of ceiling plaster falls down next to her feet.

Meredith sticks her finger in the plaster and investigates it.

DEREK (O.S.)

When are you going to get that ceiling fixed?

Meredith looks toward the kitchen

**INT. MEREDITH'S KITCHEN - ONE YEAR AGO**

Derek stands over the kitchen counter with a knife. Derek has a young face with pale skin.

Derek takes the knife and cuts a sandwich in half.

DEREK

I mean, everything is falling apart. The house, the car. I believe the only thing keeping my bedroom together is the termites holding hands.

Derek moves out of the kitchen, holding the sandwich.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM - ONE YEAR AGO**

Meredith is seated at a small dining room table that isn't seen in the present. Meredith is wearing her nurse scrubs, a little wrinkled as she just came back from the hospital.

MEREDITH

Derek, you do know that there's nothing in this trailer made of wood, right?

Derek places the sandwich in front of Meredith. Derek stands over her.

DEREK

You know what I mean?

Meredith takes a bite of the sandwich.

MEREDITH

Are you going to sit down, or what?

Derek takes a seat next to his mother.

MEREDITH

Nothing for you?

DEREK

Already ate. I was just thinking. You don't deserve this shit.

MEREDITH

What are you getting at, Derek?

DEREK

Let me take you away from this.

MEREDITH

How? You're barely seventeen.

DEREK

Chris and I have got a way to make some money--

MEREDITH

Oh, no! Not Chris! Don't listen to him. He'll just take you under with him. No good can come with him.

DEREK

Mom, you got to trust me.

MEREDITH

I trust you. I don't trust you  
when you're with Chris.

DEREK

That's not fair.

CHRIS (O.S.)

I think it's fair.

CHRIS, 20, walks out from the back rooms.

CHRIS

Your mom barely knows me. She's  
looking out for her boy. But, Ms.  
T., so am I.

DEREK

It can help get us out of here.

MEREDITH

The only one who needs to get out  
of here is him.

Meredith points to Chris.

CHRIS

You haven't heard the proposition.

MEREDITH

Why, I'm sure it's illegal.

CHRIS

It's better than that. See, these  
companies overseas call up some  
rubes, talk a good game and get  
them to send them money. They use  
gift cards, but sometimes the money  
is too much for a gift card, so  
they have them send the money to  
them, but of course, can't send it  
overseas, that would be suspicious.  
So we get it sent here and we take  
a portion of the money and get the  
rest to them.

MEREDITH

Scams?

CHRIS

That's a bit harsh.

MEREDITH

Derek, that's not like you.

DEREK

What do you know what I'm like? I barely see you.

MEREDITH

Because I'm working to take care of you.

A piece of the ceiling falls to the floor.

DEREK

And you're doing a great fucking job!

Meredith slaps Derek across the face. Derek is stunned by the slap.

CHRIS

Let him take care of you for once.

MEREDITH

Chris, get out of my fucking house.

DEREK

Yeah, Chris, maybe you should leave. And maybe I should come with you.

MEREDITH

Don't do this.

DEREK

I don't want to live like this anymore.

CHRIS

We could use this address, Derek.

DEREK

We'll find a different one. A better one.

MEREDITH

Derek, you don't have to do this.

Derek rubs his face where he was slapped.

DEREK

Neither do you.

Derek storms out. Chris nods at Meredith.

CHRIS

Ms. T.



Chris exits.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM - PRESENT**

A sudden knock at the door. It breaks Meredith out of her spell.

The knock again.

Meredith stands up and opens the door.

AGATHIA, 60's, wearing a bright flowered muumuu stands holding a tiny dog, Biscuit, in her hands.

AGATHIA  
Hello, dear.

MEREDITH  
Agathia.

AGATHIA  
Looks like you had a bit of an accident.

Meredith touches her bandage.

AGATHIA  
(a beat)  
Well, I hope you aren't going to leave me out here. It's so hot.

MEREDITH  
Uh, I have to get ready for work.

AGATHIA  
Today's your day off.

Agathia steps into the trailer and lets the dog down. The dog goes running into the back bedroom.

MEREDITH  
Biscuit better not take a shit in there.

AGATHIA  
She took a shit outside.

Meredith flashes a look at Agathia.

AGATHIA  
Ah, I'll pick it up later.

Agathia rests into the couch. Agathia looks up at Meredith.  
A beat.

MEREDITH

Iced tea?

AGATHIA

Of course.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Cody and Jake listen to the music and continue to have trouble smoking the cigarette.

SHERIFF RON TAGGERT, 40, a bit worn out, pulls his cop car up next to the boys. Cody quickly hides the cigarette behind his back. Jack waves back.

TAGGERT

Hey, boys, could you turn that down?

Cody turns down the music. Jack smirks.

TAGGERT

Cody. Jake. That's a nasty habit there, boys.

JAKE

Yeah, so's living.

Jake grabs the cigarette from behind Cody's back and takes a drag. Starts coughing.

CODY

Jake!

TAGGERT

Well, that may be true. I know your mother wouldn't be happy about that or whatever that music is.

JAKE

Well, next time you see her, you should ask her. You'll see her before I do.

TAGGERT

Cody, what about you? Maybe keep the music down. And think about your health.

CODY

Sure thing, Ron, uh, I mean Sheriff Taggert. We'll keep it down. Right, Jake?

Jake pauses. Cody raises his eyebrows.

JAKE  
Sure thing, officer. Thin blue  
line and all.

Cody shakes his head. Taggert waves and drives off.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Agathia sits on the couch sipping her iced tea. Meredith stands in the kitchen leaning against the counter.

AGATHIA  
And when Larry died, ah, that was  
both a blessing and a curse. I  
mean, I got more free time, but I  
was also so alone. You can't knit  
a sweater for a ghost, you know  
what I'm saying.

MEREDITH  
I'm not much of a knitter.

AGATHIA  
You know what I mean. Some days,  
being alone is nice. Other days...

Agathia shrugs.

A knock at the door. Biscuit starts yapping.

MEREDITH  
Could you keep her quiet?

Meredith opens the door and Taggert enters. Taggert holds a shoebox

TAGGERT  
Hello, sorry for bothering you.  
(sees Agathia)  
Hello there.

AGATHIA  
Well, if it isn't the sheriff. Did  
you find those hooligans that stole  
my flamingo?

Taggert scratches his head.

TAGGERT  
Uh, remind me.

AGATHIA

Oh, for Christ's sake. I reported my pink flamingo stolen two weeks ago. Some no good kids, probably high on something, nabbed it. Now, my Larry bought it for me when we were dating. It's got real sentimental value.

TAGGERT

I'll have to check with Doreen on that.

Agathia huffs and moves herself from her chair.

AGATHIA

Well, don't do me any favors. I know you must be busy doing whatever it is you have to do around here. A cow got away or some nonsense. Come, Biscuit.

The dog leaps into Agathia's arms.

AGATHIA

Meredith, maybe you should come over and have a little visit with me. Wouldn't that be nice for a change.

Agathia exits.

Taggert places the shoebox down on the counter. Meredith lets out a big sigh and collapses on the couch.

TAGGERT

You okay?

MEREDITH

Just scared that I'm going to live as long as her.

TAGGERT

Don't say that, Meredith. She's pretty lonely. It's nice for you to have her over.

MEREDITH

I don't have much of a choice. Her and that damn dog.

TAGGERT

I'm finally cleaning out that garage, lots of stuff in there I haven't gone through in a while. I found this box in there. Pictures.

Taggert hands the box over to Meredith. Meredith opens it and finds pictures of herself at 18 standing with JANET, also 18. They are dressed the same and doing lots of posing for the camera. Meredith gives a bit of a smile as she remembers.

MEREDITH

BP.

Taggert appears to not understand what the letters mean. Meredith notices.

MEREDITH

Before pregnant.

TAGGERT

Oh, there's some P in there. I mean, there's a pregnant you in there somewhere.

Meredith gives a smile as she pulls out a picture of Meredith and Janet at graduation. There is a noticeable baby bump from beneath Meredith's graduation gown.

Meredith rubs the picture with her finger.

MEREDITH

There's one.

TAGGERT

She was always there for you.

MEREDITH

Yeah, except for the night--

TAGGERT

If she could've been, she would've been.

MEREDITH

So I have to make do with you, I guess.

Taggert touches the bandage.

TAGGERT

You okay?

MEREDITH

Just a little accident is all.

Meredith places the picture in the box. She hands the box over to Taggert.

TAGGERT

No, keep it. Those aren't mine.

A bit of static from Taggert's walkie-talkie.

DEPUTY (O.S, on radio)

Sheriff?

Taggert pulls out the walkie-talkie.

TAGGERT

Go for Taggert.

DEPUTY (O.S.)

We've got an incident here on 301.  
Pretty bad.

TAGGERT

Okay, on my way.

DEPUTY (O.S.)

Oh, and Sheriff, he's here too.

Taggert rolls his eyes and puts the walkie talkie back into its holster. Meredith narrows her eyes, curious.

TAGGERT

I've been babysitting this asshole  
from Tampa now for two weeks.  
Investigating a murder case.  
Believes the trail leads here.  
Been a pain in my side since he's  
shown up.

MEREDITH

Murder case?

TAGGERT

Yeah, uh, something stupid.  
Nothing for us to worry about. I  
better be going.

MEREDITH

Thank you, Ron.

Taggert nods and exits.

Meredith opens the shoebox and pulls out a few more pictures. They consist of Meredith and Derek at age 6 on a boardwalk along the beach. Another has Janet, Meredith and Derek wearing old west outfits, sepia toned, something you'd get at souvenir sites. Another photo shows Janet and Derek playing in the water. Another shows Derek calmly resting on Meredith's chest as they sit on a towel on the beach.

CUT TO:

**EXT. BEACH - TWELVE YEARS AGO**

It's the same as the picture. Janet holds a camera, having just snapped the photo.

Derek (age 6) starts to close his eyes, tired from a long day.

YOUNG DEREK  
Mommy? Will you live forever?

Meredith makes a face at Janet, not sure the response to make. Meredith rubs Derek's back.

MEREDITH  
I'll live as long as you need me.

YOUNG DEREK  
Okay.

Meredith kisses Derek on his forehead.

CUT TO:

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM - PRESENT**

Meredith smiles, tears starting to appear in her eyes. Meredith rubs the photo.

MEREDITH  
I miss you, Derek.

Suddenly a shadow moves across the window. Meredith doesn't notice.

A loud knock comes from the door.

Meredith stands.

MEREDITH  
What now?

Meredith walks over to the door.

MEREDITH  
Agathia, please go--

Meredith opens the door.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER - CONTINUOUS**

On the other side of the door is the figure, all black, wearing a motorcycle helmet.

Meredith gasps, shocked at the visitor.

The figure takes off his helmet, revealing that it's Derek.

DEREK  
Mom?

MEREDITH  
Derek?

Meredith reaches out and embraces Derek. She holds Derek close.

MEREDITH  
(whispering)  
Where have you been?

Meredith pulls Derek inside.

**EXT. ROUTE 301 - DUSK**

The sun is starting to go down as Taggert pulls up to the scene.

Ricky's car is pushed into the woods, but is sticking out far enough to be seen.

DEPUTY, 20s, stands near the trunk. SHERATON, early 50's, dressed nicely complete with tie, stands next to the Deputy.

Taggert steps out of the car.

TAGGERT  
What's going on?

SHERATON  
We've got ourselves a murder here.

DEPUTY  
Well, maybe, we don't know.

TAGGERT  
Okay, Sheraton, if we've got a murder, then you shouldn't be here.



SHERATON

What are you talking about? This is my job, Sheriff. I mean if I found a cow standing in the middle of the road, I'd call you first thing.

Taggart grumbles as he walks past Sheraton to the front of the car.

Ricky's dead body is sticking out from under the hood. Caked on blood around the car's grill.

DEPUTY

I was driving down to Maple Woods. He wanted to see the place. And we saw the car sticking out.

SHERATON

I saw the car sticking out.

DEPUTY

Right. So we pulled over and-- I wanted to open the hood, but--

SHEERATON

That would be a bad idea.

TAGGERT

This could just be an accident. Even if it isn't, this is our crime scene.

SHERATON

It may be your crime scene, but it would go against my good judgement to let you fuck it up.

TAGGERT

We are officers of the law.

SHERATON

In name only. You don't trust me, Sheriff. I know that. Why else would I just be finding out about this Maple Woods trailer park in your jurisdiction? You said you'd be open with me. You would give me everything at my disposal, but you didn't. Probably thought one more day and I'd be on my way.

TAGGERT

It's September, it's a snow bird haven. Not a lot of people there until after Thanksgiving.

SHERATON

And yet, would you look at this. A murder, right near this desolate, out of the way place.

TAGGERT

Deputy, take Detective Sheraton to Maple Woods. Drop him off and then come back here. And we'll take care of this our way.

DEPUTY

Shouldn't I stay and--

TAGGERT

I'd rather you here. But I'd rather him not here.

Deputy nods and heads to his car.

TAGGERT

And don't harass them.

SHERATON

I'm just asking questions. Try it some time.

Sheraton turns and heads to the deputy's car.

#### **INT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith sits on the couch. Derek sits next to her. Meredith continuously looks up and down at Derek.

MEREDITH

How?

DEREK

Does it matter how? I'm here

Meredith reaches out and touches Derek on the shoulder.

DEREK

Yes, I'm real.

Meredith gets up excitedly.

MEREDITH

I should make you a sandwich. Are you hungry?

DEREK

Yeah, I could eat. Thanks.

A knock at the door.

Meredith looks over at the door, wondering if she should answer it.

DEREK

Go ahead, Mom.

Meredith opens the door.

Cody stands on the other side, holding a bottle of tequila.

MEREDITH

Cody, hi. What can I do for you, sweetheart? This isn't really a good time.

CODY

I just saw how sad you looked today. And with the bandages and everything. I nicked this from my mom's collection.

Cody holds up the bottle of tequila.

Meredith smiles and steps outside.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith steps outside and takes the bottle.

MEREDITH

You stole this from your mom?

CODY

Don't worry. She won't notice. She's got a lot of them.

MEREDITH

Most of us do. Thank you, dear.

Meredith notices the cap is loose.

MEREDITH

You haven't been drinking this, have you?

CODY

No, ma'am. Well, maybe I sipped a little.

MEREDITH

You shouldn't do that. Your brain is still growing. This will stunt it. You're too smart a kid.

CODY

I don't know about that.

MEREDITH

You are. You're smart and kind and you'll go to college, you'll have a great job, meet a nice girl and live out your life as far away from here as possible. Promise me you'll stop taking sips. Promise me you'll study hard. Promise me you won't be stuck here and die here.

CODY

I promise, Meredith.

MEREDITH

Promise me you'll stay away from Jake.

CODY

He's my best friend.

MEREDITH

Best friends can sometimes be the worst. Just don't let him weigh you down.

CODY

Okay.

Meredith smiles and rubs Cody's back. Meredith walks back to the door.

CODY

You seem happier today.

MEREDITH

I guess today I am. Hopefully, things are starting to change.

Meredith heads back inside.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith walks over to the end table and places the tequila on it. Derek stands over the counter, cutting a sandwich.

DEREK

That's Cody, huh. Only been a year and he seems so much older.

MEREDITH

He reminds me of you.

DEREK

No way. I'm one of a kind.

Meredith smirks.

MEREDITH

I thought I was supposed to be making that sandwich.

DEREK

This one's for you.

The knife comes down on Derek's finger. Derek yelps and puts his cut finger in his mouth.

MEREDITH

Oh, Derek. Are you okay?

Meredith runs over to Derek and checks his finger. Derek tries to hide his finger, but Meredith can see that instead of blood, there is a black sticky substance coming out from his finger.

DEREK

It's fine, Mom. I'm okay.

Derek moves his finger away and covers it up with a dish towel. Derek turns toward Meredith.

DEREK

Listen, Mom. I have to tell you something.

MEREDITH

What's that?

DEREK

I've done a lot since I left. I've hurt people.

Meredith is taken aback by the statement.

MEREDITH

I guess we all hurt people.

DEREK

No, Mom. I HURT people. Sometimes out of necessity. Sometimes to get my way. Sometimes just for fun. I've gotten quite good at it.

MEREDITH

I don't undersand what you're saying.

DEREK

When I woke up, I kept doing it. It was a desire I had. Then, a little voice, sounded just like you, called out to me. You've done so much for me, and I just left. But now, let me help you.

Derek reaches into his pocket and pulls out a wallet and drops it on the end table. Meredith reaches down and picks up the wallet. Meredith opens the wallet and sees Ricky's driver's license.

MEREDITH

Where did you get this?

DEREK

Let's be honest, Mom. You didn't really like him. I bet he made you feel like a whore. But you probably didn't mind, you just liked that someone paid attention. That someone needed you.

Derek walks over to Meredith and grabs her hand gently.

DEREK

You're a good woman. He didn't deserve you. But he's a problem that's gone.

Derek lifts up Meredith's hand and kisses it.

DEREK

Let me hurt people for you, Mom.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER - NIGHT**

Grady stands outside his trailer, furiously cleaning his propane grill.

Grady uses a tool that has a handle connected to a wire of steel wool used for scrubbing grime and food off the grill. On the front of the tool is a blade used to aid with removing particles.

Sheraton approaches.

SHERATON

Nice grill you got there.

Grady continues to clean.

GRADY

Yeah, got to get it cleaned up before I shut the whole thing down. Kids won't be back here until Thanksgiving, and I like to open her back up to grill the turkey.

SHERATON

You grill an entire turkey?

GRADY

No, I deep fry it in that.

Grady points to the deep fryer.

GRADY

Then, you put it on the grill, throw on some juices, start the flame, close the lid and go inside to watch some shit teams. Keeps it moist in the juices.

SHERATON

Quite the gourmet.

Grady stops scraping and wipes his brow.

GRADY

Nah, Thanksgiving's boring. Gives me something to do to blow it off if you will. And who are you?

SHERATON

(showing ID)

Detective Sheraton. Just walking around, checking things out. Asking a few questions.

GRADY

Grady.

Grady walks over to Sheraton extending his dirty hand. Sheraton begrudgingly smiles as shakes Grady's hands. Grady turns back toward the grill and Sheraton frowns while pulling out some tissue to wipe his hands.

GRADY

What sort of questions are you asking? Someone commit a crime?

SHERATON

Maybe. Any suspicious behavior happening here?

GRADY

Well, place is pretty empty until the snowbirds come back. Only a few of us here all year. But still, the rest of them here are covered in suspicious behavior. Let's see--

Grady looks around the park, points at Agathia's trailer.

GRADY

Let's see, that one, her husband died a little while ago. She's a bit batty. Maybe she killed him. I don't know, but it wouldn't surprise me. Got this tiny fucking dog that shits everywhere.

(pointing at Jack's trailer)

The kid there is a real shitbag. Calls me Droopy Balls. Never see his fucking parents. I'd like to take care of him, know what I mean.

(pointing at Cody's trailer)

Kid in that trailer is all right, just hangs out with that shitbag kid. Both of them probably gonna end up in jail.

(points at Meredith's trailer)

That one. Man, she's something else. She's a nurse at the local hospital. Son was a piece of shit. Gone now. Probably dead. But she still stirs up trouble. Got the douche pickle who comes over to bang her and just makes too much fucking noise

(MORE)



GRADY (CONT'D)  
 (pointing at Amy's  
 trailer)

That one, she's okay. Nurse, too,  
 I think. Don't talk to her much.  
 Her boyfriend's a piece of work.  
 He'd get drunk, strip down to his  
 birthday suit and run up and down  
 the roads here, junk bouncing in  
 the wind.

(pointing to another  
 trailer)

Now, that guy, when he's home--

SHERATON

Um, that's okay. I got the gist.

GRADY

Well, ask me anything.

SHERATON

I don't think I'll have time for  
 the answer. Thank you, Grady. The  
 maybe husband killer with the tiny  
 shitting dog. Her name is?

GRADY

Agathia. I think. Maybe Agatha.

SHERATON

Thank you. And good luck with, uh,  
 all of this.

Grady smiles and goes back to cleaning the grill. Sheraton  
 rubs his temples and moves toward Agathia's trailer.

**INT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy lays on the couch, reading a book entitled: TEACH  
 BALLROOM DANCING.

Dallas looks through the fridge.

DALLAS

I think I should go to the store.

AMY

No.

DALLAS

We're out of some things.

AMY

You've gone two weeks.

DALLAS  
It's not like I'm in AA or  
anything.

AMY  
You're in triple A. Amys Against  
Alcoholics. Drink some juice.

Dallas slams the refrigerator door.

Amy sighs.

AMY  
You know, when I was a kid, I  
thought by the time I reached 30, I  
would've found my purpose.

DALLAS  
Well, you're not there yet.  
Besides, what about me?

AMY  
Oh, God, I hope you're not my  
calling.

Dallas grabs an apple and flops down on the couch.

DALLAS  
There are worse things.

AMY  
(rolling eyes)  
Not many.

Dallas looks out the window.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER - DALLAS' POV**

Derek stares out the kitchen window, looking directly at  
Grady's trailer.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Dallas smirks.

DALLAS  
Looks like Meredith has another guy  
over.

AMY  
Jesus, Meredith, what's wrong with  
you?

DALLAS  
It's not Ricky. Looks familiar,  
but it ain't him.

Amy looks out the window.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER - AMY'S POV**

Derek slips away from the window, before Amy can get a good look.

**INT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy frowns.

DALLAS  
Hey, if you're bored, we can watch  
TV instead of our neighbors.

AMY  
No, I don't want to watch TV.

DALLAS  
Well, then let's go and--

AMY  
Just eat your apple.

**INT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Meredith sits on the couch and spins Ricky's driver's license in her hands. Meredith stares intently at it. Derek comes up behind her.

MEREDITH  
He had a wife and a daughter.

DEREK  
So? Probably better off now.

MEREDITH  
He wanted me to buy his daughter a  
present.

DEREK  
Mom, I can go.

Meredith stops spinning the license and looks directly at it.

MEREDITH  
I never met his daughter. Don't  
know where he lived.  
(MORE)

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

He took money from my wallet every time he came over. He would fall asleep after sex, and leave me awake, on the verge of tears.

Meredith's fingers start to squeeze the license, making it bend.

MEREDITH

He threw me into a fucking mirror and left me here. Maybe to die. And the only sorry I got was a voicemail telling me he'd come back over and make it fucking up to me.

The license snaps and falls out of Meredith's hand. Meredith is breathing heavy.

DEREK

Are you glad he's dead?

MEREDITH

Very much so.

DEREK

So, who's next?

**INT. AGATHIA'S LIVING ROOM**

The trailer is filled with tons of knitted coverings, doilies, tablecloths, etc. The sofa is old but nicely maintained. To the left of the sofa is a table with a picture of an OLD MAN, LARRY, and an urn next to it. There are some rotted flowers next to it.

Sheraton sits on the couch as Agathia brings him an iced tea. Agathia points to the urn.

AGATHIA

That's Larry. Son of a bitch had to die on me. Keep him right there so he can see the state he left me in.

SHERATON

I'm sorry to hear about that.

Agathia sits on a recliner covered in a knitted blanket

AGATHIA

Well, thank you, dear. Don't get to have company over at this time of night.

(MORE)

AGATHIA (CONT'D)

Not a fan really of people coming to my house at this hour. So, you said you have questions.

SHERATON

(looking around the trailer)

A ton. But let me focus on the particulars I want to ask you. Have you heard of the name Chris Davenport?

AGATHIA

Oh, I'm terrible with names. What does he look like?

Sheraton takes out a picture and hands it to Agathia. Agathia puts the picture close to her face so that she can see.

SHERATON

Ever seen him?

Agathia shrugs.

AGATHIA

Maybe. Hard to say. The kids around here always got their friends coming over. Loud with the cars. Stole my flamingo. Punks. You trying to catch him? What did he do?

SHERATON

He did nothing.  
(a beat)  
He just, um, died.

Agathia raises her eyebrows. Agathia reaches over and hands back the picture.

AGATHIA

Well, sorry I can't be much of a help. I love helping the police. That Sheriff, he's--

SHERATON

I appreciate your time. Well, I must be going--

AGATHIA

You haven't finished your tea. I can tell you all about the five months that Larry broke some of his marital vows with a stewardess.

SHERATON

Wow, um, maybe a story for next time.

AGATHIA

Okay, just make sure you come a bit earlier. We can talk outside before the mosquitos show up.

Sheraton smiles and exits. Agathia picks up her phone and starts dialing.

AGATHIA

(to Larry)

It's because of you, you piece of shit.

#### **INT. POLICE STATION**

Small, a couple of desks and a hallway that leads to the jail.

DOREEN, 50s, sits behind a desk. Phone rings and Doreen answers.

DOREEN

Sheriff's office.

(a beat)

Hello, Agathia, Ron's not here.

(a beat)

I don't know. He's working on a case.

(a beat)

I don't think it's about your flamingo.

#### **INT. TOWN MORGUE**

Clean and cold. Also, no bodies except for the one at the center of the room. It's Ricky, the skin ripped off his face.

Taggart and THE CORONER stare down at it. The coroner is moving the skin under the chin.

TAGGERT

Could he have had the car running  
and he slipped and went face first  
into the engine.

Coroner shrugs.

The walkie talkie spits out static.

DOREEN (O.S., ON RADIO)

Sheriff, Agathia called. She says  
there's a man going around Maple  
Woods harassing people.

TAGGERT

Damn it, Sheraton.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

ON HEATING ROD

The heating rod is on the porch. DEREK'S HAND takes the cord  
next to the rod and plugs it into outlet on the side of the  
trailer.

The hand knocks over the deep fryer.

**INT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Grady and his WIFE, also 50's, sit on matching easy chairs  
watching television.

Grady hears the noise outside and rises quickly from his  
chair.

GRADY

Fucking kids.

WIFE

Just relax, Grady.

Grady reaches down next to his chair and grabs his baseball  
bat. Grady storms outside.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Grady opens the door and looks outside. It's empty, dark,  
quiet.

Grady moves onto the porch.

GRADY

I know you're out here.

Grady moves behind the grill and checks the opposite side. Nothing. Grady walks around porch. Nothing.

Grady sees the knocked over fryer. Grady examines.

GRADY  
Goddammit! Racoons!

Grady picks up the fryer and turns to head back inside.

Derek suddenly shoves the heating rod into Grady's stomach. The rod pops out Grady's back. No blood as the wound is instantly cauterized.

Grady tries to scream but is in shock. A bit of blood gurgles from his mouth.

Derek reaches over and holds Grady up. Grady still grips tight onto the bat.

Derek pulls Grady into the trailer.

**INT. GRADY'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Derek throws the dying Grady into the trailer. Derek grabs the bat out of his hand. Heating rod still sticks out from his stomach.

Grady's wife stares wide-eyed from the chair. Derek stands up, bat in hand. Derek runs toward Grady's wife.

Grady's wife screams as the bat comes down on her head.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Cody and Jake sit on a bench behind the trailer. Jake has a 40 ounce of beer. Jake takes a big swig. Jake offers it to Cody. Cody shakes his head.

JAKE  
Pussy. What's the matter with you?

CODY  
Just don't feel like it, okay?

JAKE  
Seriously? Is it that time of the month?

CODY  
No. You know what, it's getting late. I think I'm going to bed.



JAKE

What are you talking about? It's not even ten yet. Your mom ain't home. What's up your twat?

CODY

Nothing. Just want to get some sleep. I'm tired.

JAKE

And what am I going to do?

CODY

(shrugging)

You'll figure something out.

Suddenly, Sheraton appears around the corner.

SHERATON

Evening, Gentlemen.

Jake jumps, dropping the beer bottle to the ground. It shatters.

JAKE

What the fuck, dude? You owe me a beer.

CODY

That was my mom's.

SHERATON

I mean no harm. I just wanted to ask a couple of questions. My name is Detective Sheraton.

Sheraton pulls out his ID to show the boys.

JAKE

Shit!

Jake jumps off the bench and runs to his bicycle. Jake jumps on and starts pedaling away.

CODY

Jake drank it. I didn't drink any of it. I swear.

SHERATON

I'm not in the market for busting underaged drinking. No, I'm in the finding a killer business. Want to sign up?

CODY

I don't know what you're talking about.

SHERATON

You're not in trouble, my boy. Just want to ask some questions. I won't throw you in jail, unless I don't like the answers.

Sheraton smiles. Cody shudders nervously.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy walks outside, vape pen in hand.

Suddenly, Jake goes zooming by on his bicycle. Jake sounds like he's repeating the word "Cop" over and over again. Jake turns and heads into the woods.

Amy makes a confused face.

Amy looks over toward Meredith's trailer.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER - AMY'S POV**

Meredith stands at the window, staring out toward Grady's trailer. Meredith turns and looks at Amy. Meredith slowly raises her hand, seeming distant. Then, Meredith slips away from the window.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy returns the wave.

Amy stands for a second, contemplating. Then, Amy lets out a sigh and walks toward Meredith's trailer.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Amy knocks on the door. Meredith opens the door.

AMY

Hi there.

MEREDITH

You've taken quite the interest in me today.

AMY

Sorry, I just wanted to check in. I know I shouldn't bother you, but--

MEREDITH

Thank you, Amy. Your heart's in the right place. I don't need a guardian angel, but thank you for trying.

AMY

Of course. Did you see Jake tearing through the neighborhood like a bat out of Hell then, flew into the woods.

MEREDITH

I saw that. I can't stand that boy. Going to take that poor Cody down with him.

(eyes narrow)

He's useless.

AMY

I guess so. Well, if you need me, for anything, crab grass advice, doesn't matter. You know where I'm at.

MEREDITH

Never too far away.

Amy nods.

AMY

You're looking better.

MEREDITH

Thank you.

Meredith and Amy smile at each other.

AMY

Okay, well, bye.

Meredith waves and shuts the door.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith steps back from the door. Derek stands behind her.

DEREK

This one for Cody?

Meredith closes her eyes and nods.

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Cody sits on a small bench in front of his house. Sheraton sits on a deck chair, directly opposite from him.

Sheraton hands a picture of Chris to Cody.

SHERATON

And that's the Chris Davenport  
you've seen hanging around here.

CODY

(nodding)

Yeah, but I, like, didn't know him  
or anything. Always hung around  
with Derek.

Sheraton takes back the picture.

SHERATON

Tell me about Derek.

CODY

Nothing to tell. His mom's nice.  
She's been alone since Derek  
disappeared.

SHERATON

Disappeared?

CODY

I don't know what happened. I  
heard he died. But I don't know  
the story. Jake thinks he started  
doing porn. Says this guy on a  
video look just like him. I mean,  
I don't know. He kind of does.

SHERATON

Well, nice work if you can get it,  
huh?

CODY

I guess so?

SHERATON

And that's it? Never hung around  
with Chris or Derek?

Cody starts to ask nervous.

CODY

Not really.

SHERATON

No?

CODY

Uh, I guess I can't get anybody in trouble anymore.

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS - A YEAR AGO - DAY**

A CORPSE, blood having pooled and dried from the various stab wounds. The corpse is a YOUNG MAN, around 20. His eyes are wide open.

Derek and Chris stand over the corpse. Chris is holding a stick, using it to poke at the corpse. Derek laughs.

DEREK

What the fuck happened here, man?

CHRIS

Dude got stabbed.

Chris takes the stick and pokes it directly in the eye. The eye comes loose and sticks to the stick. Chris pulls it up and puts the eye in Derek's face. Derek jumps back.

DEREK

Come on!

CHRIS

Like he's going to need it again.

The sound of kids moving in the woods. Derek turns.

DEREK

Who's out there? Come on out.

Cody and Jake slip out of the woods, a bit scared. Jake tries to puff himself up to look cool.

JAKE

What?

Chris smirks while Derek shakes his head.

DEREK

Come here. You want to see something cool?

CODY

(a bit more scared)  
See what?

Chris mimes presenting the corpse. Cody and Jake's eyes widen.

JAKE  
Who is that?

DEREK  
Just some guy.

Jake swallows hard, looks to see Derek and Chris, beaming. Jake changes his stature.

JAKE  
Holy shit! That's amazing.

Cody walks toward the body, clearly scared.

CODY  
Guys, uh, did you--

Chris leans over and whispers into Cody's ear.

CHRIS  
And what if we did?

CUT TO:

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER - PRESENT**

Sheraton narrows his eyes and stares right at Cody. Cody swallows.

CODY  
I know we should've gone to the police. I mean, we should've but, we were scared.

SHERATON  
Sounds like this Derek kid is bad news.

CODY  
I think it was more Chris than Derek.

Sheraton snorts.

A HAND drops onto Sheraton's back. Sheraton doesn't jump, just calmly turns back to see Taggert.

TAGGERT  
I think we're done, Sheraton.

SHERATON

Not even close, Taggert. We've got ourselves a new suspect. Derek, what's his last name?

CODY

Teasdale, I think.

SHERATON

The mother is still here?

TAGGERT

We're not bothering her today.

SHERATON

And why not?

TAGGERT

That woman's already been through a lot.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith sits on the couch, staring at the beach picture of Derek lying on her chest.

A small piece of ceiling falls to the floor.

DEREK (O.S.)

When are you going to get that ceiling fixed?

MEREDITH

Now.

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS**

Jake sits against a tree. A lawn flamingo leans against the side of the tree. Jake rolls a joint, but he's not very good at it. The weed keeps slipping out of the joint. Jake rolls it up and the result is a mess, crooked with pieces of marijuana sticking out of the joint.

Jake's bike leans up against the tree. His cell phone lies on the ground.

JAKE

Damn it. Stupid Cody. Got me all fucked up. Man, big pussy. Talking to cops and shit. Fuck him.

Jake leans against the tree and attempts to light the marijuana monstrosity. As he puts it into his mouth, it falls apart and lands on the ground.

JAKE  
Fuck you, Cody.

Jake looks at the lawn flamingo. Jake slaps the flamingo and it goes flying.

JAKE  
And fuck you, flamingo.

A branch breaks just off screen. Jake jumps, startled. Jake grabs his bike and looks back into the woods.

Only darkness.

Jake hops onto his bike and starts pedaling, a brisk pace.

Jake looks over his shoulder and then suddenly, a large tree branch is tossed from the darkness and hits Jake in the chest. Jake falls to the ground, breath knocked out. A bit of blood trickles out of his mouth.

Jake rises up on his elbows, trying to catch his breath and figure out where the branch came from.

Derek slowly moves out of the shadows.

Derek reaches above his head and grabs a piece of a branch, snapping it off the tree. The broken end is sharp.

DEREK  
Hey, Jake, nice night for a bike ride?

JAKE  
(wheezing)  
What the fuck, man.

Derek pokes Jake with the pointed end of the branch. Jake lets out a quick yelp. As Derek speaks to Jake, he emphasizes each word with a poke of the stick.

DEREK  
That Cody is a nice kid. Got a lot going for him. Only thing going against him is living next to you.

Jake is now crying, there are a few tiny holes in his skin, with blood trickling out of the wounds.



JAKE

I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Just leave me alone.

Derek draws the pointed end of the stick right in front of Jake's face.

DEREK

Will you leave Cody alone?

JAKE

Yes.

DEREK

I don't believe you.

Derek shoves the pointed stick into Jake's eye. Jake screams an unholy scream in pain.

Derek pulls out the stick and blood spurts from the eye socket. Jake is screaming.

Derek puts his finger to his lips and goes, "Shh."

Jake still screams.

Derek, a bit annoyed, shoves the pointed end of the stick into Jake's throat. Jake gurgles and dies.

DEREK

Really should've stayed quiet, Jake. You scream like a bitch.

Derek pulls Jake's body into some bushes and lays down some branches to hide the body.

Jake's phone begins buzzing. The phone number on the front reads Cody - Home

Derek's hand reaches down and picks up the phone.

DEREK

Oh, Cody, you could've done much better. But I guess your options are limited.

Derek drops the phone and smashes it with his foot.

Derek picks up the poorly built joint. Derek inspects it and tosses it to the ground.

DEREK

See, Cody? Fucking loser.

CUT TO:

**EXT. CODY'S TRAILER**

Cody, on his cell phone, hears the phone go dead. In the background, Taggart and Sheraton can be seen arguing.

CODY  
Damn it, Jake. I could use you  
right now, man.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith has a small step ladder. Meredith places it under where the ceiling piece had fell.

Meredith climbs up the ladder. The ceiling tile is cracked, pieces ready to fall.

Meredith sticks her finger into the ceiling piece, a bit more comes off. Meredith frowns.

MEREDITH  
I have no idea what the fuck I'm  
doing.

CUT TO:

**EXT. MEDALLION APARTMENTS - SIX MONTHS AGO - NIGHT**

Medallion Apartments is a single large building, brick, cube shaped. It appears like a project building seen in an urban area.

In the parking lot, Meredith's car sits. Inside, Meredith anxiously waits.

**EXT./INT. MEREDITH'S CAR**

Meredith is rubbing her hands together. Her cell phone sits on the passenger seat.

MEREDITH  
I have no idea what the fuck I'm  
doing.

Meredith picks up the cell phone and looks at the text message on it.

The text reads: DEREK TEASDALE: MEDALLION APARTMENTS, APT 501.

**INT. CHRIS AND DEREK'S APARTMENT**

Despite the outside appearance of the building, the apartment is immaculate. The furniture is modern, possibly expensive. The entertainment system is complete with all the consoles and stereo equipment.

Off to the side is a bedroom doorway. Across from the doorway is a small hallway leading to the bathroom and second bedroom.

There is a bar that separates the kitchen from the living room. An assortment of alcohol sits on the bar as well as various mixologist equipment. On the counter near the microwave is a knife rack loaded with all sorts of sharp instruments.

A YOUNG WOMAN, around 18, sits on the sofa. Chris sits on the coffee table in front of her. Derek sits on the couch next to the woman.

Chris grabs an odd shaped pill out of a bottle. The woman sticks out her tongue and Chris places the pill on her tongue.

CHRIS

You'll start with a little tingle.  
Feel that?

The woman nods, the pill still on her outstretched tongue.

CHRIS

Now, pull your tongue into your  
mouth. The tingle will take over  
the throat. Feel it?

The woman brings her tongue into her mouth. Her eyes dart open, surprised at the "tingle."

CHRIS

Now, swallow slowly. The tingle  
will take over the body. Every  
nerve will feel it.

Chris hands the bottle over to Derek. Derek places a pill on his tongue and slowly swallows it. His eyes close as he feels a rush of ecstasy.

YOUNG WOMAN

Oh my god, this feels--

Chris raises his hand and starts to wriggle his fingers. The woman stares at them, mesmerized.

YOUNG WOMAN  
--amazing. Where did you get this?

CHRIS  
From God himself.

Chris leans over and kisses the woman. She closes her eyes, consumed by the "tingle." Derek leans back, closes his eyes and gently sways back and forth.

YOUNG WOMAN  
Oh, wow, it feels so beautiful.

Chris touches her face and the woman shudders.

CHRIS  
Yes, feel that. Nice, right? Are you ready for pure uncut pleasure.

Chris smiles and stands. Chris takes the woman's hand and pulls her to her feet. Chris looks over to Derek.

CHRIS  
Next one's yours.

Derek gives a slow thumbs up.

Chris leads the woman to the bedroom.

#### **EXT. MEDALLION HALLWAY**

The hallway is dirty, white stone walls. Some fluorescent lighting tries to illuminate the place. The doors to each apartment are wooden, plain.

Meredith walks down the hallway, muttering to herself, practicing whatever speech she has planned for this moment.

Meredith comes to the door. Meredith lifts her hand to knock but then brings her hand down. Meredith counts to three, takes a big breath and knocks on the door.

#### **INT. CHRIS AND DEREK'S APARTMENT**

Derek jumps, startled.

Derek looks at the door, narrows his eyes and gets to his feet. Derek is a little unbalanced as walks toward the door.

Derek looks into the peep hole.

DEREK  
Shit! What's she doing here?

Derek opens the door and slips out.

**EXT. MEDALLION HALLWAY**

Derek hurriedly heads out the door and quickly closes it behind him.

Meredith is taken aback. Meredith has found him. Meredith looks him up and down, taking her son's presence in. Meredith embraces Derek.

MEREDITH  
I found you!

Derek pulls away.

DEREK  
Mom, what are you doing here?

MEREDITH  
I haven't seen you in like six months and this is how you say, "Hi."

Derek is nervous, speaking quickly.

DEREK  
You can't be here. You got to go.

MEREDITH  
No way! Not today, kiddo.

DEREK  
Jesus! How did you find me?

MEREDITH  
A month after you left, the trailer got too big and too quiet. I hired a detective. Said it was easy, you hadn't hid yourself very well.

Derek looks back at the door.

DEREK  
Great, you found me. Now, go.

Meredith looks past Derek, at the door.

MEREDITH  
Chris in there?

DEREK  
What?

MEREDITH  
Can I say hello?

DEREK  
Mom!

Meredith pushes past Derek and opens the door.

**INT. CHRIS AND DEREK'S APARTMENT**

Meredith pushes into the apartment.

MEREDITH  
Wow! Did you buy all this with  
your scam money?

DEREK  
What does it matter? Look, I think  
you need me more than I need you.

Meredith jumps, the words cutting to the core.

MEREDITH  
No. You'll always need me.

Meredith reaches down and picks up the bottle.

MEREDITH  
Drugs?

DEREK  
Look, it's more complicated.

MEREDITH  
No, it isn't. I was eighteen once  
before.

DEREK  
You had me at eighteen. You never  
got to be eighteen.

Meredith hangs her head down.

MEREDITH  
That may be true. But I wouldn't  
give it up. If I had been  
eighteen, I wouldn't have had you.

DEREK  
Maybe you would have been better  
off.

The young woman, offscreen, moans in ecstasy.

MEREDITH  
Chris has company?

The moans of ecstasy turn to something more painful. Then, they become screams.

Meredith moves away from the door, scared.

MEREDITH  
What's going on in there?

DEREK  
If you go in there, you can never  
leave. Please don't go in there.

Meredith heads to the bedroom door. Derek closes his eyes, waiting for the reaction.

**INT. CHRIS'S BEDROOM**

Meredith enters.

The room is dark, a large plastic tarp on the bed. The woman is bleeding from wounds in her chest. Chris straddles her, thrusting a knife into her.

The woman lets out a final cough, and then dies.

Chris looks up at Meredith.

CHRIS  
Hey, Ms. T. You ready to party?

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM - PRESENT**

Meredith shakes off the memory. Meredith picks at the hole in the ceiling and out of frustration pulls part of the tiling down. The tile crashes to the floor.

Meredith jumps from the step ladder.

CHRIS (O.S.)  
Hey, Ms. T. You ready to party?

Meredith looks toward the back bedroom where she heard the voice. There is a small crash coming from Derek's room.

Meredith is startled by the sound. Meredith moves slowly toward the door.

**INT. DEREK'S BEDROOM**

The bedroom looks like a teen bedroom, though clean. Definitely untouched for a year.

Near a hockey trophy, a hockey jersey and a hockey stick encased in a picture frame lies on the floor. The glass from the broken frame lies on the floor. Clearly, the source of the crash Meredith heard.

Meredith approaches, bends down and picks up the frame.

A THUD from the closet. Meredith drops the frame in surprise. Meredith picks up the hockey stick and walks toward the closet.

Meredith reaches for the closet door, hockey stick at the ready. Meredith quickly opens the door and sees an empty closet.

Behind Meredith, a SHADOW runs across the wall.

Meredith turns but nothing is there.

Meredith sees something on the closet floor. It's a black sludge similar to what she saw from Derek's cut finger. Meredith touches the sludge and rubs it together with her fingers.

A knock at her door.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER**

Sheraton knocks on the door. Taggert stands away from Sheraton.

The door opens and Meredith stands in the doorway.

SHERATON

Hello, ma'am. I'm Detective Sheraton with the Tampa Police Department. I was hoping to ask a few questions.

Meredith looks over at Taggert. Taggert nods.

MEREDITH

Okay, Detective. What can I do for you?

SHERATON

May we come in?

Sheraton moves toward the doorway but Meredith blocks his way.



MEREDITH

Um, I'm not really ready to entertain company. My ceiling is falling apart.

SHERATON

Oh, I don't mind.

MEREDITH

I do. Besides, don't you need a warrant or something?

Meredith looks at Taggert. Taggert smiles and nods.

SHERATON

I'm just asking questions.

MEREDITH

Great.

Meredith steps away from the door and shuts it behind her.

MEREDITH

Ask away.

SHERATON

I was hoping you could shed some light on the whereabouts of your son.

TAGGERT

I'm sorry, Meredith.

MEREDITH

(to Taggert)

That's fine.

(to Sheraton)

I don't know where he is. I haven't seen him in over a year.

SHERATON

And why is that?

MEREDITH

Look, think what you want. I may not be the best mom, I may not even be a good mom. I'm not terrible. I worked hard to keep us going. He is a good kid, and then, that Chris took my little boy away from me and corroded him.

Sheraton scowls.

SHERATON

Single mom living in a trailer park. I'm guessing with a story like that, maybe he was already corroded.

Meredith stares.

MEREDITH

Is that all?

SHERATON

Well, no--

MEREDITH

Well, it should be all. Why don't you come back tomorrow? Because I'm going back in there and do some breathing. Or I can stay out here and rip your fucking eyes out of your head.

TAGGERT

Maybe we can try this tomorrow.

SHERATON

Very well.

Sheraton gets close to Meredith, his eyes flashing with menace. Sheraton moves close to Meredith's ear.

SHERATON

(whispering)

I know your boy killed my boy. I can't bide by that.

Sheraton moves back and smiles.

SHERATON

I'll see you tomorrow.

Sheraton turns and walks away.

TAGGERT

You okay?

Meredith, a bit stunned, fakes a smile and starts to nod.

**EXT. MEREDITH'S TRAILER - DEREK'S POV**

Derek is standing away from the trailer, near the woods.

Sheraton walks away from the trailer as Taggert speaks with Meredith. Meredith walks back into the trailer.

**EXT. OUTSIDE OF WOODS**

Derek stands, eyes narrow. Biscuit, that lovable scamp, runs over to Derek and starts yapping.

Derek bends down and picks up Biscuit.

DEREK

Hello, Biscuit. Are you still a little nuisance? I bet you are.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Amy has fallen asleep on the couch. An open book entitled PERSONAL TRAINING - IS IT THE RIGHT CAREER FOR YOU lays across her chest. Dallas takes the book off of her and picks her up. Dallas heads to the bedroom.

AMY

(sleepily)  
Plug my phone in.

DALLAS

Sure thing, babe.

AMY

Don't forget. You always forget.

**INT. AMY'S BEDROOM**

Dallas gently lays Amy down on the bed.

AMY

Don't forget.

Amy falls back asleep.

**INT. AMY'S KITCHEN**

Dallas takes Amy's phone and sticks the charger into the phone. Dallas struggles with the charger and tries to jam it into the port. The end of the charger breaks off into the phone.

DALLAS

Shit.

Dallas looks back at the bedroom. Dallas frowns and turns to start trying to dig the broken charger piece out of the phone, but no luck.

Dallas sets the phone down and walks to the fridge. Dallas pulls out a bottle of orange juice and pours a glass.

DALLAS  
Damn it. Dallas, you are so dumb  
sometimes.

Dallas takes a drink of the orange juice.

DALLAS  
Well, this ain't gonna cut it.

Dallas walks over and pockets the phone and picks up the charger. Dallas grabs his keys and heads out the door.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith sits on the one of the steps of the step ladder below the falling plaster. Another piece falls to the floor.

From the bedroom, a faint sound of LAUGHTER can be heard.

Meredith jumps up, startled.

The door opens and Derek enters, holding Biscuit.

DEREK  
And no more Jake.

Meredith nods.

DEREK  
I thought you'd be happier.

Another piece of the ceiling falls.

DEREK  
What's happening here?

MEREDITH  
Trying to fix it.

DEREK  
You should hire someone for that.  
You shouldn't do that by yourself.  
You know what, let's take a torch  
to this place and get the Hell out  
of Dodge.

MEREDITH  
Is that Biscuit?

DEREK  
Yeah. I assume she still shits all  
over the park.

(MORE)

DEREK (CONT'D)

And Agathia walks around, yapping about her dirty husband probably making you feel guilty about not talking to her. Probably makes you feel bad about yourself. Just say the word, Mom.

Meredith shakes her head.

MEREDITH

She's just an annoying old woman. World is full of them. Doesn't mean she deserves to die.

DEREK

She killed her husband. Sounds like justice to me.

MEREDITH

Do you enjoy doing this?

DEREK

It's something else, Mom. I can't describe it. Since you've got so into Do-It-Yourself lately, maybe you should come with me. We can take care of Agathia together.

MEREDITH

No. Derek, this has to stop.

DEREK

Do you want me to leave?

MEREDITH

No.

DEREK

I'm sorry, Mom. Then it doesn't stop.

Meredith hangs her hand down.

DEREK

Did that cop with Taggart scare you?

Derek walks over to Meredith and embraces her.

DEREK

As long as I'm here, I won't let you be scared ever again.

CUT TO:

**INT. CHRIS AND DEREK'S APARTMENT - SIX MONTHS AGO**

Meredith frightened, moves backwards slowly toward the kitchen. Derek looks over at his Mom.

Chris dances out of the bedroom, splotches of blood on his body. Chris moves the knife in tune with his dancing as he approaches.

CHRIS

Ms. T. So glad you could make it.

Meredith presses against the counter.

MEREDITH

What's happening?

CHRIS

What's happening is you couldn't leave well enough alone. You couldn't let go. And now, we can't let you go.

DEREK

I'm sorry, Mom. There's nothing I can do. You shouldn't have come.

MEREDITH

Chris is a monster. You need to come home with me.

CHRIS

I'm the monster? Oh, you should see the shit your boy gets up to when he's alone with the girls. You raised a sick fuck, Ms. T.

Meredith hands fumble around the counter and finds the knife rack. Meredith pulls a small steak knife out. Chris laughs.

Chris charges and grabs Meredith's arm, spins it around so the steak knife drops out of her hand and then turns her around so he's behind her, her back pressed up against his front. Chris holds his knife to her throat.

CHRIS

What do you say we see how sick of a fuck he is?

Chris pulls the knife away and points it toward Derek.

CHRIS

Take it.

Derek steps up and takes the knife out of Chris's hand. Chris takes his arm, now knife free, and wraps it around Meredith. Meredith struggles as Chris keeps a tight grip around Meredith.

CHRIS

Let's see what sort of man we've created here.

Chris nods toward Derek. Derek holds the knife, not making eye contact.

MEREDITH

No.

Derek squints his eyes, thinking.

DEREK

Mom, I really wished you had just let me go. I really--

CHRIS

Stop your gum flapping and just stab the bitch already. Let's get this party over with. We've got a busy day tomorrow.

(into Meredith's ear)

These things are a bitch to clean up after.

Derek moves forward then stops.

CHRIS

Do it!

DEREK

Just give me a minute.

MEREDITH

Don't do it, Derek.

CHRIS

Be a man. After this, it'll be just you and me. Best friends for life.

DEREK

Chris, I'm sorry, man. I can't do it.

Derek drops the knife on the counter.

CHRIS  
I'm very disappointed.

Chris throws Meredith to the floor and delivers a hard kick to the stomach.

DEREK  
No!

Derek grabs the knife and charges Chris.

Chris parries and Derek trips over Meredith. Chris grabs an ice pick off the counter. Derek stands up as Chris turns toward Derek. Derek stabs Chris in the abdomen. Chris screams.

DEREK  
Ah, shit, Chris, I'm sorry.

Chris stabs the ice pick into Derek's chest. Derek loses balance but regains it just in time as Chris rushes toward him.

Derek stabs Chris again, and then again.

Chris falls to the ground, blood pouring from his body. Chris looks up at Meredith. Meredith is shivering, crying.

CHRIS  
Nice kid you got there, bitch.

Chris laughs and dies.

DEREK  
Aw, fuck. You shouldn't have come here, Mom. You shouldn't have--

Derek slides down to the floor. Meredith rushes over to him and holds him.

CUT TO:

**EXT. WOODS**

Cody walks through the woods where Jake was sitting earlier, their secret spot. Cody has his phone out, the flashlight on. The flashlight scans the dark woods.

CODY  
Jake?

The light crosses various foliage, a broken phone and a smashed flamingo.



Cody bends down and picks up the smashed phone.

CODY

Jake?

Cody stands and moves the phone around the woods. The light lands on Jake's bike.

Cody walks to the bike and starts shining the light around the trees. The light comes across a foot hanging out of some bushes.

CODY

Jake?

Cody slowly edges toward the foot. The light beams across the bushes and lands on Jake's face staring out from the bushes, missing one eye and blood starting to congeal on his neck.

Cody drops the phone and turns and bolts out of the woods.

**EXT./INT. TAGGERT'S CAR**

Taggert drives the car along Route 301. Sheraton sits in the passenger seat.

TAGGERT

What did you say to her?

Sheraton raises an eyebrow.

SHERATON

Just that I'll see her tomorrow.

TAGGERT

No, that's not what you whispered.  
It spooked her.

SHERATON

Well, she did threaten to rip my  
fucking eyes out.

TAGGERT

You insulted her son.

SHERATON

(yelling)  
She insulted my son first.

Taggert pulls the car over. Sheraton closes his eyes, realizing what he said.

TAGGERT

What do you mean?

SHERATON

Let's be honest, you're not a good cop, are you? Chris Davenport was killed on March 15. And to this day, the police couldn't find the killer. And you had the killer here, right under your nose the whole fucking time!

TAGGERT

What did you mean, "My son?"

SHERATON

Missing girls, one of them found butchered on a bed wrapped in plastic. And nobody wanted to find out what sicko did this. Because if Chris Davenport could be pinned as the killer, then case closed and we've got a bunch of heroes. They call it closure. I call it bullshit. And yet, you never called Tampa to check in on me. You just took me for my credentials. You are such a stupid, stupid cop, Taggert.

TAGGERT

What are you saying? You're not a cop.

SHERATON

I'm a cop. I'm just on a paid vacation. I'm the best damn detective they've got on the payroll. But they wouldn't listen to me. Wouldn't let me investigate when they found out the victim was my son. Of course, Chris and his mother didn't want anything to do with me, changed their names. You can be a brilliant detective but also a shit father. Sons always love their mothers more. He was a little shit anyway. But he's not some sick degenerate. That couldn't come from me. And I was facing the mother of his killer. And you protected her.

TAGGERT

Derek didn't do anything.

SHERATON

Teasdale. It was a lead I didn't pay attention to. So stupid.

TAGGERT

Derek couldn't have done it.

SHERATON

I'll put money down that that dead guy on the side of the road is somehow connected to Meredith Teasdale and got to face the raging end of a redneck teen punk looking to defend his mother. Right, is that it?

TAGGERT

That would be impossible.

SHERATON

Why?

TAGGERT

Because Derek Teasdale is dead.

SHERATON

And how do you know that?

CUT TO:

**EXT./INT. MEREDITH'S CAR - SIX MONTHS AGO**

Meredith drives quickly down the highway, her eyes streaming tears. Derek is in the passenger seat, ice pick still sticking out of his chest, coughing up blood.

MEREDITH

It's okay, baby. It's okay.

DEREK

(through gurgling blood)  
I... couldn't... kill... you...  
I... thought... I could...

Meredith tries to force a smile.

MEREDITH

You can't kill me, sweetheart. I'm your mother.

Derek gives a painful laugh. Then, coughs out more blood.

DEREK

I... couldn't... do... it...

A last gasp and Derek dies.

MEREDITH

Baby, baby, come on, we're almost at a hospital. Almost there.

Meredith pulls the car over to the side. Meredith reaches out and grabs Derek.

MEREDITH

(sobbing)

No, no, Derek. You have to live. You have to live. I promised you, baby. I promised you that I'd live as long as you needed me. But you have to make the same promise. You have to live as long as I need you. And I need you, Derek. I need you so much.

CUT TO:

**EXT. POLICE STATION - HOURS LATER**

Taggart stands outside the station, looking at his watch. A few lights in the parking lot are on, but for the most part, it's dark and deserted.

Meredith's car pulls into the parking lot.

Taggart runs up to car as Meredith gets out, crying. Meredith runs into Taggart's arms, burying her face into his shoulder.

TAGGERT

I got your message. Where is he?

Meredith points to the car.

Taggart goes over to the passenger's side and opens the door. Derek's body slips out of the car.

MEREDITH

Be careful.

Taggart picks Derek's body and puts him back into the car.

TAGGERT

Who did this?

MEREDITH

It was Chris.

TAGGERT

That crazy kid? All right, I'll call the Tampa police and they'll pick him up.

MEREDITH

Chris is dead, Ron. And, and, and this girl. Chris was doing horrible things to her.

TAGGERT

Christ. Okay, we'll bring the body into the morgue and I'll--

MEREDITH

No.

TAGGERT

No?

MEREDITH

They'll tear my son down, Ron. They'll accuse him of those acts. We can't let them do that. He was never there, Ron. Whoever that boy was at that place wasn't Derek. I won't let them think that he was there. Please, Ron, don't make him go through that.

TAGGERT

I can't do that. You know I can't. I'm an officer of the law.

MEREDITH

You're also my best friend's husband. And you told her on her death bed you would watch over me. Derek's a part of me. He's included in that.

Taggert sighs.

TAGGERT

Okay, Derek went missing. I'll drive.

**EXT. ROUTE 301 - FEW MOMENTS LATER**

Meredith's car pulls off the side of the road and into some woods.

**EXT. WOODS - FEW MOMENTS LATER**

Taggert digs a hole into the ground. Meredith sits next to Derek's body, holding his hand.

**EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER**

Taggert wraps Derek's body in a blanket and places the body into the freshly dug hole. Meredith picks up a handful of dirt and drops it into the grave.

**EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER**

Meredith sits on the hood of the car and Taggert taps down the dirt that just filled the hole.

Taggert heads back to the car and gently rubs Meredith's back.

MEREDITH

When Derek was five, he asked me about his father. All the kids in his school was talking about their daddies. He didn't know why he didn't have one. I didn't want to lie. I had no idea where that asshole went to. I told him I was enough. Turns out I lied to him anyway.

TAGGERT

You were more than enough.

MEREDITH

He was more than enough for me. Now, I have nothing left.

Meredith stand and drops to her knees, sobbing.

**INT./EXT. TAGGERT'S CAR - PRESENT**

Sheraton pulls Taggert by the collar, right into his face.

SHERATON

How do you know? How do you know?

Taggert tries to pull away but Sheraton holds tighter.

SHERATON

What secret are you hiding, hick?  
How do you know he's dead?

TAGGERT

I don't.

SHERATON  
You're fucking lying.

Sheraton pushes Taggert away. Taggert reaches into his jacket and pulls a gun from his holster. Taggert tries to draw his but struggles.

SHERATON  
You ain't worth the bullet.

Taggert gets the gun free. Sheraton pushes forward, striking Taggert's arm. Both guns fall to the floor. Sheraton grabs Taggert, reaches into Taggert's holster and pulls out his taser.

Sheraton slams the taser into Taggert's chest and fires. Taggert jolts back as the electricity enters his body.

Sheraton grabs his gun from the floor and strikes Taggert into the side of his head. Taggert is out cold.

Sheraton picks up Taggert's gun and slips it into the back of his pants and slides his gun into his holster. Sheraton reaches into Taggert's belt and pulls out a pair of handcuffs. Sheraton handcuffs Taggert to the steering wheel.

SHERATON  
Stay.

Sheraton pulls the keys out from the ignition and pockets them.

SHERATON  
What do you say we go and see if  
she can rip out my fucking eyes,  
huh?

Sheraton gets out of the car and walks down 301 back toward Maple Woods.

#### **INT. AGATHIA'S BEDROOM**

Agathia sleeps comfortably in her bed. The face mask over her eyes.

Off-screen, Biscuit can be heard yipping and scratching furiously on the door.

Agathia grumbles and rolls over.

The scratching and yipping gets more intense.

Agathia groans and rolls out of bed.

**INT. AGATHIA'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Agathia groggy, stumbles toward the door.

AGATHIA

I'm going to trade you in for a  
cat.

Agathia opens the door to let Biscuit in. Instead, a knife pierces through the air and lands into Agathia's skull.

Agathia stumbles backward. Derek jumps into the trailer and pulls the knife out of Agathia's skull.

DEREK

Sorry, Agathia, this is more  
business than personal. But it's a  
little personal.

Derek delivers another stab. Derek looks over to the Larry shrine.

DEREK

If you were still alive, you'd know  
I just did you a favor.

Derek exits and closes the door.

Then, the door opens and Derek tosses the yapping Biscuit into the trailer.

**EXT. AGATHIA'S TRAILER**

Cody rushes out of the woods and toward the park. Derek is walking away from the trailer. Derek wipes the bloodied knife on his shirt.

Cody sees Derek and lets out a scream.

**INT. AMY'S BEDROOM**

The scream rings through Amy's bedroom. Amy jumps up, a bit out of it.

Amy looks around the room and sees that Dallas's side of the bed is empty.

AMY

What the hell?

Amy looks out the window.



**EXT. MAPLE WOODS PARK - AMY'S POV**

Cody is running around the corner of an empty trailer. Derek with knife chases Cody around the trailer.

**INT. AMY'S BEDROOM**

Amy is confused about what she's just seen.

**EXT. EMPTY TRAILER**

Derek turns around the corner of the trailer and finds nobody there. Derek looks around the park, sees nothing.

**EXT. UNDER EMPTY TRAILER**

Cody is under the trailer, pressed against the ground.

Derek's feet walk around the trailer, cutting the street lights shining beneath the trailer.

Cody puts his hands around his mouth to try to keep his breath from being heard.

**EXT. EMPTY TRAILER**

Derek scratches the knife along the side of the trailer.

DEREK

Don't make this difficult, Cody. I mean, this is happening a bit earlier than planned, but we can get it over with quickly.

A noise in the distance grabs Derek's attention. Derek walks toward it.

**EXT. UNDER EMPTY TRAILER**

Cody lies still, listening. After a few beats, Cody takes one big inhale and rolls out from beneath the trailer.

**EXT. EMPTY TRAILER**

Cody stands, looks around, trying to find Derek. Cody looks over toward his trailer, thinking he could make it if he runs.

Cody sidles next to the empty trailer, then moves quickly to start a run.

Derek pops out from the side of the trailer and sticks the knife into Cody's stomach. Cody looks down at the knife surprised.

DEREK

Sorry, Cody. I always liked you.

Cody falls to the ground, knife still in his belly, breathing heavy.

Derek reaches down to take the knife out, placing his hand on the handle.

DEREK

It'll be over soon, buddy.

Suddenly, a golf club makes contact with Derek's head. Derek loses footing and turns around to see Amy raising the golf club. Amy connects with Derek's jaw. Black sludge flies out of his mouth. Amy connects again, and more black ooze falls from his face.

Derek is stunned, tries to gain footing and Amy connects again to the jaw. Derek falls to the ground, motionless.

Amy reaches down and slowly picks Cody up.

AMY

Come on, let's get you to a hospital.

Cody groans as Amy puts his arm around her shoulder. Amy moves him toward her trailer.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy rounds the corner of her trailer, still having Cody lean on her for support.

AMY

Damn it, Dallas. Where's the car?

Amy brings Cody inside.

**EXT. ROUTE 301**

Amy's car with Dallas behind the wheel drives down the highway. The car is about to pass Taggart's car that is on the side of the road. Suddenly, loud honking and flashing lights come from Taggart's car.

**EXT./INT. AMY'S CAR**

Dallas looks out at the lights and noise. Dallas pulls over to the side of the road.

**EXT. ROUTE 301**

Dallas gets out of the car and walks over to the car. Taggart is still handcuffed to the steering wheel.

DALLAS  
Sheriff?

Taggart presses a button and the trunk opens up.

TAGGERT  
There's a gun in the trunk. Grab it.

DALLAS  
Uh, what happened?

TAGGERT  
We'll talk about that later. Get that fucking gun!

Dallas heads back to the trunk and finds the gun. Dallas brings it over to Taggart. Taggart takes it from Dallas's hands.

TAGGERT  
Step aside.

Dallas moves as Taggart lifts his handcuffed hand up high enough so that the chain on the cuffs is tight. Taggart fires his gun, the bullet tearing through the cuffs. Taggart is freed.

DALLAS  
Holy shit!

Taggart gets out of his car.

TAGGERT  
Close your mouth, get in the car, and get me back to Maple Woods.

Taggart gets into Amy's car. Dallas jumps into the driver's seat.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Amy sets Cody carefully on the sofa. Amy goes over to the counter where her phone and charger should be. Both are gone.

AMY  
What the fuck, Dallas?

Cody moans. Amy runs to his side.

AMY

Okay, I know you're in pain, but I'm not going to be able to stop that. However, I can stop the bleeding. I have to sew you up.

Amy runs to her room and comes back with a first aid kit. Amy grabs a towel from the kitchen and heads to the sofa.

Amy drops to one knee and puts the towel around the knife.

AMY

Cody, I'm going to need you to put all the pressure you can on the towel.

Amy pulls out a sewing needle, a thread and some alcohol out of the kit.

Cody's eyes go wide looking at the needle.

Amy threads the needle. Amy dips the needle in the alcohol.

AMY

Okay, Cody, are you ready?

Cody shakes his head 'no.'

AMY

Just got to get through this part, and then you can pass out. Okay?

Cody nods.

AMY

Press hard!

Cody groans as he presses against the towel. Amy grabs the knife handle and pulls it out. Blood starts pushing out of the wound.

AMY

That's it.

Amy starts to sew the wound close. Every move causes Cody to scream in pain. His eyes are watering.

AMY

You can pass out now.

Cody obliges.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith sits on the couch, the broken frame of the hockey jersey and hockey stick in her lap. Meredith has removed the glass from the frame and is trying to push the broken edges together.

The door opens and Derek enters. His jaw is out of place and black ooze is running from his mouth. Meredith doesn't look up.

MEREDITH

Remember this? You wore this when you hit the winning goal for the Youth League Hockey Team. You were so proud. I had it framed but now it's broken. But I'll--

DEREK

(voice garbled)

Mom?

Meredith looks up and sees the mess that is her son. Derek stumbles. Meredith jumps up and catches him.

MEREDITH

What happened?

Derek's jaw starts to move back into place, healing itself. His voice becomes easier to understand as it sets into place.

DEREK

Amy hit me. I was just trying to help Mom. I'm sorry. Jesus, why does it hurt so much?

Meredith touches the black sludge falling from his mouth.

MEREDITH

What is this?

DEREK

I don't know. Blood, maybe?

Meredith brings Derek up to his feet.

MEREDITH

Okay, this stops now. I don't know what's happening to you, but no more. No more killing.

DEREK

I'm sorry, Mom, I wish I could stop, but--

The door breaks open and Sheraton rushes in, gun raised.

SHERATON

Dead, my ass!

Sheraton fires five shots into Derek's chest. Derek is blown backwards crashing to the floor. Derek lies motionless.

SHERATON

That felt good.

Meredith grabs the step ladder and smashes it against Sheraton. Sheraton drops his gun.

MEREDITH

No!

Meredith smashes the ladder against his head. It falls out of her hands. Sheraton is momentarily stunned. Sheraton pulls out Taggart's gun from behind his back.

Meredith grabs the hockey stick and brings it down on Sheraton's hand. The gun falls out of his hand. Sheraton reaches into his pocket, grabbing the taser.

Meredith brings the hockey stick down on Sheraton's head. Blood leaps from the wound.

Sheraton rolls over and tries to crawl. Meredith comes down hard on Sheraton's skull. The sound of cracking skull rings through the living room. Meredith brings the stick down again and again, rage exploding from her.

The bloody mess that was once Sheraton stops moving.

Meredith cries out and drops the hockey stick.

The sound of clapping comes from the bedrooms.

CHRIS (O.S.)

Well done, Ms. T.

Chris walks out from the hallway into the living room, clapping.

CHRIS

I was not expecting this. I think that was my father. Can't really tell anymore.

Meredith drops to the ground, shocked at seeing Chris.

MEREDITH

But you're dead.

CHRIS  
So was Derek, but that didn't  
bother you.

Chris walks over to Derek's body and kicks his shoes.

CHRIS  
Get up, man.

Derek pulls himself up, rubbing where he got shot. Black ooze stains his shirt where he was shot.

DEREK  
It hurts so much.

CHRIS  
You'll live, sort of.

DEREK  
Why?

CHRIS  
I have no idea what's happening  
either.

Derek gets to his feet.

CHRIS  
Now, there's still some trailer  
trash out there, correct?

DEREK  
A couple.

CHRIS  
Then, finish the job, Derek. And  
we can get out of here.

Derek grabs a knife from the kitchen. Derek walks to the door and looks at Meredith. Meredith, breathing heavy, confused.

DEREK  
Sorry, Mom. It's for the best, I  
think.

Derek exits.

Chris jumps onto Meredith and straddles her. Meredith struggles but is unable to move under Chris's weight.

CHRIS  
Great boy you got there, Ms. T.

Chris reaches into his pocket and pulls out the drug bottle.

CHRIS

You've never had shit like this. I bet you had some pot, maybe a smattering of coke or mushrooms, but this. Let's just say, Wow.

Chris pulls out a pill from the bottle.

CHRIS

Stick out your tongue.

Meredith glares at Chris.

CHRIS

Well, we'll have to do this the less efficient way.

Chris grabs Meredith's face and shoves the pill into her mouth. Chris puts his hand over her nose and mouth.

CHRIS

Swallow! Come on, now!

Meredith swallows the pill.

CHRIS

Good, now feel the tingle going all the way down. You see, that tingle is the world for you now. Every sensation will explode. You'll feel things a thousand times more than you can imagine. Pleasure like you wouldn't believe. And pain--

Chris brings up Meredith's hand to his face. Chris grabs her pinkie and pulls it back until there's a horrendous crack. Meredith lets out a scream of pure anguish.

CHRIS

Pain that'll drive you mad.

#### **INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Cody is out on the couch, though raspy with his breath. Amy sits on an armchair, holding a golf club.

AMY

You better not be getting beer, Dallas.

A light knock on the door.



**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek lightly knocks on the door.

DEREK

Hey, Amy, sorry, I hope I'm not bothering you. I don't know if you remember me. I'm Derek, Meredith's son. I mean, we never really talked or anything. I'm not really going to start now. I was just wondering, is Cody there? I just want to say I'm sorry.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Cody's eyes slowly open. Amy puts her finger to her lips to keep quiet.

Amy walks over and crouches by Cody.

AMY

(whispering)

I can't move you. We can't risk you opening up the wound.

Amy looks over to the armchair and sees that there are wheels underneath.

AMY

Okay, let's do this slowly.

Amy picks up Cody and slowly moves him onto the armchair.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek knocks on the door again.

DEREK

Amy, is Dallas there? Are you alone? I really need you to answer me.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Amy pulls the armchair into the bedroom.

AMY

Don't unlock this door. I just hope it holds.

Amy closes the bedroom door and locks it.

Amy turns and faces the front door, golf club raised.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek lets out a big sigh.

DEREK  
Okay, we'll have to do this the  
hard way.

**INT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy nears the front door.

A trash can smashes through the living room window. The glass shatters but the pane stays in tact. The space between the pane is too small for a person to slip through.

Amy screams in surprise and jumps behind the couch.

Derek looks through the broken glass as he tries to push out the pane so that he can slip in.

DEREK  
Damn, these are strong.

Derek picks up the trash can and starts smashing it against the glass.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek crazily smashes the garbage can into the window but to no avail, the panes are steel, quite strong.

Derek angrily tosses the garbage can to the ground.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Chris, still straddling Meredith, slashes a small pen knife across her arm. The cut is small, but hurts quite a bit. Meredith yells out.

CHRIS  
When they ask me where did I get  
that drug, I always make a joke. I  
got it from God. It's true, guy  
named Jesus. Where he got it from,  
don't know, don't care.

Chris slashes another part of her arm.

CHRIS  
Hurts like a mothrfucker, right?  
Doesn't last too long, the high.  
Goes away quickly, so we don't have  
a lot of time.

Chris slashes again.

CHRIS

I mean, what if this was the stuff that brought me back. That was my first thought when I opened my eyes up in the funeral parlor. They were about to empty out my blood and replace it with, I don't know. The coroner had already cut me up good. Not sure why. It was clear the multiple stab wounds are what did me in.

Chris slashes again.

CHRIS

Nah, doesn't last long. But I knew. I knew Derek was alive. I could feel him. That bond.

Chris slashes again, Meredith has stopped screaming, almost as though she's getting used to the pain.

CHRIS

Oh, that won't do. You aren't insane enough.

Chris jumps up. Meredith makes an attempt to move.

**INT. MEREDITH'S KITCHEN**

Chris opens the fridge and starts poking around.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith crawls over toward the gun near Sheraton's body.

**INT. MEREDITH'S KITCHEN**

Chris pulls a lemon out of the fridge.

CHRIS

Perfect.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith is close to the gun, but just as she makes a reach for it, Chris's foot pins her arm in place. Chris takes the pen knife and cuts the lemon in half. Chris turns the lemon over and squeezes the lemon juice onto Meredith's wounds. Meredith shrieks.

CHRIS  
That's better.

**INT. AMY'S BEDROOM**

Cody sits on the armchair, his face is white. Still breathing, but the pain has put him into a state of shock.

Suddenly the trailer jerks, causing Cody to fall out of the armchair.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek walks back some steps and then rushes back full force into the side of the trailer. The trailer violently rocks.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Amy crashes into a shelf with glass figures. The figures smash open, cutting Amy.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek rushes again and smashes into the trailer, causing it to shake.

DEREK  
That can't be good for that wound there, Cody.

Derek laughs and smashes against the trailer again.

**INT. AMY'S BEDROOM**

Cody lifts up his hand and sees it has blood on it. The wound is starting to open up.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith is propped up against the wall, dazed. Chris has his back to her, pressing his body against hers, keeping her pinned to the wall.

CHRIS  
Cody and I are reunited. But then he hears your voice in his head. Hears you. Calling for him. So, I wonder, just a theory, but I wonder, what if it's a mother's love. What if it's that bond. I knew that you'd be the wedge that drom us apart.

Chris spins around and throws Meredith to the floor. Chris drops his knee into Meredith's back. Meredith screams.

CHRIS

We have to get rid of you, but we can't get rid of you. It was Derek's idea to kill off this park. A lot of people you don't like here. Of course, if you take the blame, well, then you get the chair. Stupid fucking Florida law. No, can't do that.

Chris grabs Meredith and brings her to her feet.

CHRIS

But what if they lock you away in some padded room. Forever. Then you wouldn't be there to separate us. I mean, look at yourself. You like cutting yourself, you speak about a dead son that's not here. Oh, it's perfect.

Chris tosses Meredith to the floor.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek continues smashing into the trailer.

DEREK

I can do this all night, Amy. Come on out.

Headlights shine into Derek's eyes, causing him to shield his face with his arm.

Amy's car pulls up to the driveway. Dallas and Taggart gets out of the car.

DALLAS

Who the fuck are you? Get away from my home. Amy!

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Amy stands up, cuts across her face from the glass. Amy hold the golf club out.

AMY

Dallas?

Amy moves toward the door.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Taggert raises his gun up.

TAGGERT  
It's not possible.

DEREK  
Evening, sheriff.

DALLAS  
What's not possible?

Taggert fires his gun and the bullet hits Derek in the chest.  
Derek falls over.

DALLAS  
Nice shot.

The door opens and Amy stands at the doorway.

AMY  
Dallas, where have you been?

Amy looks over to Taggert.

AMY  
Sheriff, I've got Cody in here.  
He's been stabbed. We need to get  
him to a hospital.

Taggert puts his gun in his holster. Dallas rushes to the  
front door.

Dallas moves past Derek's body, which suddenly pops up.  
Derek stabs his knife into Dallas's calf. Dallas falls to  
the ground.

Derek gets to his feet and slashes deep across Dallas's  
chest. Blood flies against the trailer.

Taggert raises his gun. Derek tosses the knife at Taggert.  
The knife sinks into Taggert's gut. Taggert drops the gun.

Amy jumps out at Derek with the golf club raised.

Derek grabs her wrists to stop her from hitting him.

DEREK  
Not this time.

Derek throws her against the car.

Derek walks over to Taggert on the ground.

DEREK

Now, I have to start killing the people she liked. This was not part of the plan. I guess, we improvise.

Derek pulls the knife out Taggert's stomach. Derek slams the knife repeatedly into Taggert's chest.

Derek turns back to where he left Amy. However, Amy is no longer there.

**INT. MEREDITH'S LIVING ROOM**

Meredith lies on the floor. Chris, back to her, picks up the hockey stick.

CHRIS

Of course, you probably would've gone crazy with a few cuts and the living dead people. This, this was for me.

Meredith moves over toward Sheraton's body.

CHRIS

Face off!

Chris turns and brings the hockey stick down hard. It just misses Meredith.

The ceiling cracks.

Chris takes another swing, hits the floor.

Another cracking sound. The ceiling comes down on Chris, the plaster and dust hitting his eyes. Chris turns away, blinded by the dust.

MEREDITH

Hey, Chris, want to feel something.

Meredith sits up, taser in hand. Meredith shoves it into Chris's crotch. Chris crashes to the ground, Meredith doesn't remove the taser as Chris convulses from the electricity coursing through him.

The battery runs out on the taser and finally stopping the flow of electricity into Chris. Chris lies motionless, eyes staring upward, catatonic.

Meredith tries to get to her feet, stumbles a bit, but regains her footing. Meredith throws the taser at Chris, hitting him in the face.

MEREDITH  
(sarcastically)  
Oops, sorry.

Meredith exits the trailer.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Derek walks over to the other side of the trailer and jumps out around the corner.

Empty, no one there.

A NOISE comes from Grady's trailer. Derek turns toward it, smiles, and walks over to Grady's.

Derek does not see Meredith approaching Amy's trailer.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Derek walks over to the trailer. The noise sounds like it came from the grill.

Derek brings the knife up to the ready.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Meredith walks over to Taggert's motionless, bloodied body. Meredith kneels and touches Taggert's body.

MEREDITH  
Oh, Ron, you tried. Thank you for  
protecting me.

Meredith reaches down and picks up the gun.

Cody appears in the doorway, his shirt bloodied from the reopened wound.

CODY  
Meredith?

Cody drops to the floor. Meredith rushing over to Cody.

MEREDITH  
Cody, oh my God.

Meredith sits in the doorway and moves Cody to be more comfortable. Meredith caresses Cody's face.

MEREDITH  
This shouldn't have happened to  
you.

(MORE)



MEREDITH (CONT'D)

You're not going to die, baby. I won't let that happen. Let's get you to the car.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Derek moves over to the grill.

DEREK

You are all that's left. I appreciate the fight, but the end is inevitable. You could've died at your home. Why come all this way to Grady's to meet your end?

Derek rushes the grill and tosses out of the way. No Amy.

AMY (O.S.)

Because I needed a weapon.

Amy slams open Grady's front door, grill cleaning brush in hand. Amy shoves the bladed end into Derek's throat. Derek stumbles backward, falling over the grill, black sludge shooting from his throat.

Amy looks at the sludge and grimaces.

Amy runs back to her trailer.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Meredith is setting Cody into the car.

Amy rushes over to Meredith.

MEREDITH

We need to get him to the hospital.

AMY

We'll have to close his wound first.

Amy stands and heads over to the trailer. Dallas groans and moves. Amy drops down to Dallas and rolls him over.

DALLAS

Hey, babe.

AMY

Dallas, it's okay. Let me clean you up and get you to the hospital.

DALLAS

I'm sorry.

AMY

It's okay.

DALLAS

I didn't mean to break your charger. I wanted to head to CVS to get a new one. Also, I needed apple juice. I don't like orange juice.

AMY

That's the least of our concerns right now.

Meredith walks over to Amy and Dallas.

MEREDITH

Where's Derek?

Amy points to Grady's trailer.

MEREDITH

If I'm not back, get these guys to the hospital. I assume you know what to do. Clean him up, and then get out of here.

AMY

Where are you going?

MEREDITH

I have to go talk to my son.

Meredith walks toward Grady's trailer.

Amy stands up and walks to the door. Chris pops up and slams the hockey stick into Amy's back. Amy goes down.

CHRIS

Looks like I'll be responsible for clean up.

Chris brings the hockey stick down. However, his aim is off since he is still trying to see through his dust filled eyes.

Amy rolls over and kicks Chris. Chris falls back. Amy rushes into the trailer.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Derek rips the grill brush out of his throat. Derek's voice gurgles as he sits up.

Meredith rounds the corner of the trailer.

DEREK

Hey, Mom, I think I fucked up.

Meredith lifts Derek up to his feet.

DEREK

Maybe I shouldn't be listening to Chris, huh.

Derek notices Meredith's wounds.

DEREK

He did a number on you.

MEREDITH

I'm okay. Are you okay?

DEREK

Been better.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Chris enters the trailer, hockey stick in hand.

CHRIS

This is the part I miss. Stalking the prey.

Chris investigates the living room, finding no sign of Amy.

CHRIS

Where are you, bitch?

Chris slams the hockey stick into the TV, destroying the screen. Chris laughs.

CHRIS

I hope you have insurance.

Amy pops out from the kitchen, knife in hand, and embeds it in between Chris's shoulder blades. Chris screams.

Chris turns and slaps Amy across the face. Amy hits the ground hard.

Chris pulls the knife out from his back. Black goo oozing from the wound.

Chris turns to Amy.

AMY  
What the fuck are you?

CHRIS  
The reckoning.

Chris drops to his knees and straddles over Amy. Amy tries to fight Chris off of her.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Derek embraces Meredith.

DEREK  
Maybe we really should get away from here.

MEREDITH  
Chris thinks that if I die, you'll die too.

DEREK  
Yes, it sounds right.

MEREDITH  
I said I'd live as long as you need me.

DEREK  
And I need you.

Derek pulls away from his mother.

DEREK  
No, mom, don't even think about it.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Chris tries to bring the knife down, but Amy has grabbed his wrists, preventing him from stabbing. Chris puts his weight down, the knife edging closer to Amy's throat.

**EXT. GRADY'S TRAILER**

Derek brings Meredith close again and whispers in Meredith's ear.

DEREK  
I'll try to stop. I will.

MEREDITH

Derek, I should've done this  
before. I'm sorry.

Derek pulls his face back from Meredith.

DEREK

What?

MEREDITH

I should've let you go.

Meredith pulls the gun from her pants and presses it up under Derek's chin. Meredith pulls the trigger and the bullet rips through Derek's chin and out of the top of his head. Instead of black sludge, blood shoots out, bright and red.

Derek falls to the ground.

**INT. AMY'S LIVING ROOM**

Chris screams and drops the knife. The black sludge in his wound changes to blood. Chris rolls over. Amy picks up the knife and slams it into Chris's throat. Blood, thick and red, gushes out from under the knife.

Chris gurgles and then, he's dead.

Amy stands up and grabs her first aid kit.

**EXT. AMY'S TRAILER**

Amy hobbles out of the door and comes over to Dallas. Amy kneels down by Dallas.

Amy pulls out the alcohol and dabs it onto a towel.

DALLAS

I think I know what you should be.

AMY

What's that?

DALLAS

A badass.

Amy laughs as she presses the towel onto Dallas's wounds. Dallas groans and then laughs with her.

Meredith walks over to the car and opens the door. Cody looks up at her.

MEREDITH

Amy, hand me the kit. I'll sew  
Cody back up.

Amy hands the kit over to Meredith.

AMY

You okay?

MEREDITH

I don't know.

AMY

What happened?

MEREDITH

He was never going to stop. Not  
until you and Cody were dead. I  
just knew.

Amy nods.

Meredith looks back toward Grady's trailer.

YOUNG DEREK (V.O.)

Mommy? Will you live forever?

MEREDITH

I'll live as long as you need me.

Meredith looks back at Amy and sees inside the trailer.

MEREDITH

You've got a lot of clean up to do.

Meredith looks over at her trailer.

MEREDITH

And I've got to get my ceiling  
fixed.

CUT TO:

**EXT./INT. AMY'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER**

Meredith drives the car down Route 301. Cody sits weakly in  
the passenger seat, steadied breathing. Amy is in the  
backseat holding a bandaged, bloodied Dallas.

Cody moans a bit after the car bounces on a pothole.

MEREDITH

It's okay, Cody. We're almost there.

(to Amy)

How's he holding up?

AMY

I think he'll make it.

DALLAS

Think? I'm fucked, aren't I?

AMY

Shh.

Dallas chuckles to himself then moans a little bit.

MEREDITH

Looks like you're a hero after all, huh? How does that feel?

AMY

I'll think about that tomorrow.

Meredith nods.

AMY

You're a hero, too, Meredith.

Meredith shakes her head.

MEREDITH

No, I'm not a hero. When the police get to the scene, they'll find a massacre. And I killed a cop. And I killed my son. They won't go easy on me. Nor should they. I'm not a hero, I'm just a bad m--

Meredith stops herself. Meredith looks over at Cody. Meredith looks in the rearview mirror at Amy and Dallas. Meredith smirks.

MEREDITH

I'm just a mom.

**EXT. ROUTE 301**

The car drives along Route 301, heading to the hospital.

FADE OUT: