

The Tigers Eye

Based on the book DIAMONDS AND EMERALDS
MANSION OF MURDERS

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"It is one of the blessings of this world that few people see visions and dream dreams."

- Zora Neale Hurston

EXT. Las Angeles, California - NIGHT

A large city with a lot of potential. Hollywood, jobs, Modeling opportunities.

It's a city with a good side and bad side, struggling to persevere and become something great and beautiful.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NIGHT

It's stylish. Crowded. Soft music. A river of expensive booze.

DREAMA MONTGOMERY, 20s, attractive, southern sensibility, sits at the bar.

A BARTENDER crosses by, sets a drink down in front of her.

BARTENDER

Fourth one tonight. Somebody seems determined.

Dreama turns, looks. In the midst of the crowd is TOMMY, 20s, handsome, lean, chiseled body, a little mysterious, with a killer smile.

He eyes her, makes his way over, slides in a bar stool next to her.

DREAMA

I'm not gonna have sex with you.

TOMMY

Is that always the first thing you say to a guy who buys you drinks?

DREAMA

Not always. Just to guys like you.

TOMMY

Oh, really? You just met me. You can't possibly have figured me out already.

DREAMA

Wanna bet?

TOMMY

I'll take my chances. Tell me, what kind of guy am I?

Dreama dresses him down with her eyes.

DREAMA

Dangerous.

TOMMY

Really?

DREAMA

You're the type of guy who could make a girl fall in love and break her heart at the same time. You fight for what you believe in, sometimes to a fault and it gets you into trouble. So, you hide behind righteous indignation.

TOMMY

What makes you say that?

DREAMA

It's all in the eyes. My daddy used to say you can tell a lot about a person just by looking into their eyes.

TOMMY

You got all that by staring into these baby browns?

DREAMA

My daddy taught me well.

TOMMY

Yes, he did.

(then)

Now, my turn.

Tommy stares at her for a moment.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You used to be an open book, but you've been hurt before, so you put on this act like you don't want what every other woman wants in the world -- love.

We push in on Dreama as he gives his verdict.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You're a fighter too, but you doubt others, so you hold on to your trust when you should be letting it go.

DREAMA

To who?

TOMMY

The person you love.

DREAMA

How do you know I'm in love?

TOMMY

It's all in the eyes, remember?

Dreama can't believe he figured her out.

DREAMA

There's a lot I don't know about him. Sometimes, I feel like he's hiding something.

TOMMY

Maybe he's just scared to fall in love cause he doesn't want to disappoint you.

DREAMA

Sounds like an excuse.

TOMMY

Next time you're with him, you should look into his eyes. I'm sure there's a whole lot you're not seeing.

Dreama and Tommy lock eyes for a moment.

DREAMA

I just might do that.

The bartender sets a shot in front of Tommy. He downs the drink fast and hard.

TOMMY

He's a lucky man.

Tommy gets up from the bar.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I'm Tommy, by the way.

DREAMA

Dreama.

They shake hands.

TOMMY

You sure you don't want to have sex with me?

DREAMA

What kind of girl do you think I am?

TOMMY

The kind of girl who knows that I fight for what I believe in.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Tommy is on top of Dreama in the bed. Her legs, wrapped around his waist. He moves sensuously, grinding his hips into her. Dreama's hands grip his back. Their eyes lock in passion. They make love.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Eyes pry open.

Dreama is sprawled out on the bed. The sheets cover her naked body. She gazes around the room. Her eyes settle on Tommy, who's standing in front of a mirror buttoning his shirt.

DREAMA

Last night was amazing.

TOMMY

I know I said I wanted to spice things up, but you're starting to get really good at this. I really thought you weren't going to have sex with me.

DREAMA

What's the fun in pretending, if you can't play hard to get every once in a while?

Tommy saunters over to the bed, climbs on top of Dreama.

TOMMY

In that case, I can't wait for the return of Amelia the Exchange student. I love it when she "gives show".

DREAMA

I don't know about that one. My French is a little rusty.

TOMMY

When in doubt, just say oui. It's definitely a turn on.

Dreama's all smiles.

DREAMA

I love you.

TOMMY

I know.

They kiss passionately. Dreama grabs his waist to pull him in close. Her hand grazes the GUN tucked into the back of his pants. She pulls away.

DREAMA

(curious)

All that stuff you said last night about fallin' in love with me... Did you really mean it?

Tommy scoots next to her on the bed.

TOMMY

Of course. Dreama, you're the best thing that's ever happened to me. I know it's only been a couple months, but I feel like I've known you all my life. Like we're connected in some weird sort of way.

DREAMA

Then why do I feel like there's something you're not telling me?

TOMMY

What do you want to know?

DREAMA

Everything. Like, what you actually do for a living.

Tommy stares at her for a moment. He wants to say, but the words just won't come out. Just as he's about to come clean, his cell phone RINGS.

TOMMY

Hold that thought.

Tommy answers, disappears into the bathroom, shuts the door. Dreama's visibly frustrated.

Moments later... murmurs of an intense conversation. Tommy is livid.

TOMMY (O.S.) (CONT')

Sophie called and wants to meet us at Hillbilly café.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I have to take you for a pizza

DREAMA

(concerned)

Wait? What? Why?

Tommy grabs his wallet and keys, hands Dreama her clothes.

TOMMY

Get dressed.

EXT. STRIPPERS LOUNGE Lady Dancing with Pole - AFTERNOON

The lot is dotted with vehicles. Tommy walks Dreama to his car. He's in a hurry.

TOMMY

Can we please not do this right now?

DREAMA

What did you do? Is somebody after you? Why do you need a gun?

TOMMY

Protection.

DREAMA

From who?

They reach Tommy's car.

TOMMY

Look, I really don't think you understand the severity of the shit I've gotten myself into.

(MORE)

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You have every right to know what's going on, but at this moment, the most important thing is that I get you home safely.

DREAMA

Every time we're together something always gets in the way.

TOMMY

Remember what I said last night about holding on to your trust?

DREAMA

I thought we were just pretending.

TOMMY

We were, but now I really mean it.

As they are about to get out of the car, a BLUE CORVETTE drives up.

SOPHIE

Hello, holds out to shake hands with Dreama.

TOMMY

(to Dreama)
Let's order a pizza

DREAMA

I like pepperoni and sausage

TOMMY

Me too.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Can I help you with something?

Sophie

I have some big news for you guys!

TOMMY

what?

Sophie
I got a job making soaps

TOMMY
I'm not too fond of dirty people

Sophie
Very well then. Let me see if I can
say it in a much more calming,
soothing manner so that you don't
dirty. SOAP OPERAS ON TV

DREAMA
Oh you Lucky! How did you land
that?

SOPHIE
I was in the right place at the
Right time.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
How much will you get paid?

SOPHIE
A lot of money a million bucks!

TOMMY
On the phone you said you want-
ed to use us in a story. Is that
what you meant?

DREAMA
You know how I feel about my
Career. I would love to help
you.

TOMMY
Yeah, we will love to be in a
soap opera is it x rated?

Sophie
It's what ever we make it.

DREAMA
When do we get started?

Sophie
Soon, like Monday afternoon
at my house.

TOMMY

I'm the kind of man that
understands what it feels like
to be in love. so let's make a
love story.

SOPHIE

OK, I'll see you at my cabin on Monday.

CUT TO:

INT. SOPHIES HOME

MID MORNING

SOPHIE

Guess what, I just bought 3 tickets
to the Kentucky Derby! We can fly down
and bet on a horse.

TOMMY

Great, I can't believe it, soap operas
The Kentucky Derby! We're going places.

DREAMA

I can't wait to make a soap opera, but
how?

SOPHIE

I got a contract to be a screenplay
Writer from a small studio in Hollywood.

TOMMY

How many actors do you need? I have
three brothers and two beautiful sisters.

DREAMA

I could round up some cousins, and we
Can keep it all in the family!

SOPHIE

Well, let's get started, read some of these
Screenplays and see which one you like the
Most?

TOMMY

Did you write them?

DREAMA

How about this one it just
Requires two people, a love
Story.

SOPHIE

OK, That's a good one I adapted
From a novel, Diamonds & Emeralds.

TOMMY

Ok, let's read it and practice
The script.

SOPHIE

Swell, we have to practice till
We get in front of the cameras!

DREAMA

This will be fun won't it? And
Will we get paid?

SOPHIE

Sure, it will go to a big movie
And we'll be movie stars in
Hollywood.

The two begin to study the screenplay and are exhausted with
The lines.

TOMMY

You'll have to make me cue cards.

DREAMA

Sounds sexy, we'll have some x
Rated scenes.

SOPHIE

Well you want the role don't you?

DREAMA

Yes! I love my role.

SOPHIE

I'll get help making the cue cards.

TOMMY

This is going to call for another
Pizza! (he calls and orders a pizza)
I guess I can remember all these lines.

DREAMA

Looks on, as excitement is shown on her face, realizing that this is not the countenance of your typical, everyday boyfriend. He's be perfect for the script.

TOMMY

(on top of the world)

I always wanted to be a star!

CUT TO:

EXT. DREAMA'S HOUSE - MORNING

Tommy pulls into the driveway of a big, Victorian style MANSION surrounded by woods. A FOR SALE sign is posted in the front yard.

Dreama and Tommy sit in the car. A moment of uneasy silence, then...

TOMMY

I'm sorry.

Dreama just stares out the window.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Come on, Dreama. Talk to me.

DREAMA

Who were those guys, Tommy?

TOMMY

Associates of a man I did a job for. We're being stalked by him.

DREAMA

Doing what? Drugs, illegal stuff?

TOMMY

Something I'm not proud of.

DREAMA

Like what?

TOMMY

Something you wouldn't understand.

DREAMA

You could've been killed.

TOMMY

I wasn't going to let them hurt you.

DREAMA

I feel like I don't know who you are anymore.

TOMMY

I'm not a bad guy, Dreama.

DREAMA

That's the same thing he said... until he hit me.

TOMMY

I'm nothing like him. You know I would never do anything to hurt you.

DREAMA

Tommy, I don't want to make the same mistake twice.

TOMMY

You know how I feel about you.

DREAMA

I want all of your love, not crumbs of it. So, why don't you tell me the truth. Just what kind of trouble are you in?

Tommy looks away, not quite sure of what to say.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

What is it that I'm not seeing?

Dreama and Tommy lock eyes. She stares for a moment, waiting for an answer.

Nothing.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

I should go.

Dreama gets out of the car, storms off.

TOMMY

Dreama, wait!

She turns.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
 Tonight, we'll have dinner. No
 interruptions. No phone calls. Just
 you and me. I'll tell you
 everything. I promise.

Tommy backs out of the driveway and zooms off.

SOPHIE (O.S.)
 (on the phone)
 Oh, my God! That's so sexy.

INT. MANSION - DAY

Moving from the foyer through the living room and into a hallway leading to a private study, we catch glimpses of the antiquated manor. High ceilings. A dilapidated wooden spiral stair case. Old furniture. Hardwood floors. Dirty windows.

DREAMA (O.S.)
 If you could of seen the look in
 his eyes... It really scared me,
 Soph.

INT. STUDY - DAY

Dreama has the phone wedged between her ear and shoulder as she tapes up boxes. It's the most modern room in the house. A library with endless bookshelves. The walls are bathed with scriptures, religious artifacts and photos of a teenage Dreama and a graying, bearded middle-aged man, her father, PASTOR MONTGOMERY.

SOPHIE (O.S.)
 (on the phone)
 A hot guy protects your honor by
 taking down a couple of thugs and
 you're having second thoughts?

INT. SOPHIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Dreama's best friend, SOPHIE, 20s, pregnant, chatty, lounges on the sofa painting her toenails. She's got her cell phone on speaker.

SOPHIE
 You do this every time. You meet a
 guy and you immediately find
 something wrong with him.

INTERCUT BETWEEN SOPHIE'S HOUSE AND MANSION.

DREAMA

Excuse me, if I'm worried about
being somebody's punching bag
again.

SOPHIE

Dreama, I don't mean to downplay
what happened with Murdock, but it
was one time. He apologized. People
can change, you know.

Dreama moves boxes.

DREAMA

I don't know if I believe that.

SOPHIE

Remember when we were kids?
Remember how much shit we used to
give your dad? Drinking. Parties. I
can't tell you how many times I got
high in that mansion.

DREAMA

The three of us were so close.

SOPHIE

No matter how many times we screwed
up, Pastor Mont. never stopped us
from being friends. He always saw
the good in everybody, even
Murdock.

DREAMA

Daddy just felt sorry for Murdock,
because of the way he grew up.

SOPHIE

You ever think that might have
something to do with the reason why
your marriage didn't last? He
didn't have the greatest example,
you know.

DREAMA

You're telling me you think it's
okay to put your hands on a woman?
Somebody you supposedly love?

SOPHIE

All I'm saying is that not everyone turns out to be the person you thought they were. Sometimes there's more to the story.

DREAMA

What should I do about Tommy?

SOPHIE

You love this guy, right?
Stay with me on this movie.

DREAMA

More than anything. Ok.

SOPHIE

Everybody has a past, Dreama. If you really want to know who this guy is, just look deeper.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Dreama exits the house in a form-fitting dress with her hair and make-up done. She makes her way to the car, when...

MURDOCK

Finally selling this place, huh?

Dreama's eyes widen. She turns. Standing near the driveway is MURDOCK, 20s, ruggedly handsome with a hint of humility behind intense eyes. Maybe we'll be movie stars.

DREAMA

What are you doing here?

MURDOCK

I heard about your dad. I'm really sorry, Dreama. He was a good man.

Dreama backs up towards the car, fumbles with her keys.

DREAMA

What do you want from me?

MURDOCK

Can we talk?

DREAMA

I don't have anything to say to you.

MURDOCK
I still love you.

DREAMA
Well, I don't love you anymore,
we're going to make a movie.

MURDOCK
You don't mean that. You won't

Murdock moves closer.

DREAMA
If I do, what are you gonna do
about it? Hit me?

You can tell Murdock is hurt by this. His face is covered in
guilt.

MURDOCK
I'm still a good person, Dreama. I
just made a mistake.

DREAMA
You're a pathetic excuse for a man.

MURDOCK
I've been going to church, reading
the bible. My eyes have been opened
to a whole new way of thinking.

DREAMA
It doesn't matter anymore, because
for the first time in my life, I
know what it feels like to truly
have someone love me.

MURDOCK
He's not who he says he is.

DREAMA
You know Tommy?

MURDOCK
He's bad news, Dreama. There's
things I found out about him that
you should know.

DREAMA
What kind of things?

MURDOCK
He killed someone.

DREAMA

You're a liar.

MURDOCK

Let me prove it to you.

Dreama unlocks her car door. She's about to get in.

DREAMA

Stay away from me. Me and Tommy are
Making a movie!

MURDOCK

I just want to protect you.

DREAMA

You may have fooled my daddy, but
you don't fool me. You're not the
only one whose eyes are opened,
because I finally see you for who
you really are now.

Dreama gets inside the car, slams the door and drives away.

INT. DUTCH MAID BAKERY & CAFE - NIGHT

A small, cozy cafe filled with a handful of patrons.

CLOSE ON a NECKLACE in a black jewelry box. It's a solitaire
emerald green stone, frozen in a frame of accent diamonds
shaped like an eye.

DREAMA

It looks expensive.

TOMMY

It was my mother's.

DREAMA

How come I've never heard you talk
about it before?

TOMMY

She made me promise to give it to
the girl I fell in love with. I
never had a reason until now.

Dreama and Tommy sit at a table. She stares down at the eerie
piece of vintage elegance.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

She used to tell us it had some kind of magical powers when we were kids. I think she was just trying to scare us.

DREAMA

I can't accept this.

TOMMY

Dreama, aren't you tired of pretending? Tired of this whole thing we do where we act like we're not meant to be together? This necklace has been in my family for over a hundred years. It's a symbol of our new life together. A life with no secrets, just the truth.

Dreama shuts the jewelry box. She slides it back over to him.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I'm ready to tell the truth. All of it.

Tommy's cell phone buzzes like crazy. Dreama notices.

DREAMA

No interruptions, remember?

Tommy clears the call.

TOMMY

Where do you want me to start?

DREAMA

The beginning?

TOMMY

Do you think people can change?

DREAMA

I used to. Seems like the more time passes by, the more I start to think that people never really change. They just become more of who they really are.

TOMMY

What if I were to tell you that six months ago, I was an accomplice in a murder? Would you think differently of me?

Dreama freezes up, realizing Murdock was right.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Dreama?

DREAMA

Your a murderer? But just in the
Movie we're making. Right?

TOMMY

No, I didn't have a choice.

DREAMA

Everybody has a choice, Tommy.

TOMMY

It's not what you think.

DREAMA

You murdered somebody. What about
that sounds right?

TOMMY

Nothing.

DREAMA

Then why did you do it?

TOMMY

Sometimes you just have to look the
other way in order to protect the
people you love.

DREAMA

You have to go to the police.

TOMMY

No! No police. They'll just make
things worse.

Tommy's phone starts buzzing again. He glares down at it. All
of a sudden, his face goes slack.

EXT. DUTCH MAID BAKERY & CAFE - NIGHT

Tommy storms out the cafe, heads to his car. Dreama follows
after him.

DREAMA

I have a friend. Her brother's a
cop. Maybe he can help you.

TOMMY

The Las Angeles City Police
Department is as crooked as the day
is long.
They'll pin this all on me.

DREAMA

What are we gonna do?

TOMMY

We aren't going to do anything.
You're going to go home, and
practice our lines for the movie.

DREAMA

Tommy, wait!

She catches up to him.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

In the last year, I've lost
everyone who's meant anything to
me. I don't wanna lose another
person I love.

TOMMY

You know the reason why I asked you
if people could change? It's
because I know what it feels like
to live in darkness. You were that
light, Dreama. I changed, because
of you.

DREAMA

I don't understand?

TOMMY

There's so much I need to tell you.
I just don't know how.

He gives her the jewelry box back.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

One day, I'm going to replace this
with a ring. Could you just hold on
to it for me?

DREAMA

Please don't do something stupid
that's gonna get you killed.

TOMMY

I'm going to do what's necessary.

He kisses her passionately and walks away.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Dreama sits at the wheel in tears, staring down at the jewelry box.

Tommy speeds by in his car. CLOSE ON Dreama's face. She's wrought with emotion. She starts the car and pulls off.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Tommy speeds by cars. Dreama follows behind in the distance.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - NIGHT

Dreama drives. CLOSE on her pensive eyes. She stares straight ahead, like she's in some kind of trance.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

A couple of unfinished buildings. Large dumpsters full of wood and metal and construction equipment clutter the area. It's dark and creepy. The city lights of downtown Las Angeles shine in the distance.

Tommy parks his car in a dirt lot. He exits, makes his way over to TWO ARMED GUARDS posted at one of the buildings.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - NIGHT

Dreama cuts her head lights and pulls up to a wooded area, a couple feet away from the site. She parks.

Dreama watches as the two armed guards pat Tommy down, removing his gun. They escort him inside of the building.

Dreama's eyes tell us she wants to move closer.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Dreama sneaks past two empty work trucks and hides behind a big aluminum DUMPSTER.

She surveys the site, noticing two more ARMED GUARDS posted with guns at the adjacent building.

She cuts around machinery, silently maneuvering her way closer. Suddenly GUNSHOTS ring out from the building Tommy went inside of.

Scared, Dreama sprints towards a MECHANICAL EXCAVATOR. The boom is lowered to the ground, so she hides in the bucket.

Moments later, Tommy exits the building holding one of the armed guards hostage. He's got the guard's gun and he's exchanging fire with the other guard.

Dreama catches a glimpse of the commotion, bullets fly bouncing off the top of the tractor's bucket.

The two guards from the adjacent building close in on Tommy, but he takes them all down like a marksman.

Dreama makes a run for a row of nearby DUMPSTERS. She leaps up and climbs inside of one of them.

From her limited vantage point, Dreama sees a VAN pull up. She quickly closes the dumpster door latch, trying to keep her cover. We watch as THREE MEN exit. Danooob and Bix, are joined by BUSTER CURIO, 50s, no-nonsense, business suit, ruthless.

INT. DUMPSTER - NIGHT

Dreama listens, scared out of her mind. Moments later, gun shots emanate from the distance. The sound of a vehicle speeding away.

Dreama decides to check things out. She slowly lifts up the dumpster latch surveying the site.

She spots Tommy lying amongst the cluttered chaos.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Dreama tumbles out of the Dumpster and stumbles over to Tommy.

TOMMY

Go... before they... kill

Tommy struggles for words. Blood is everywhere. He looks up at Dreama. He warns her to leave.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

...phone. Take it.

Dreama searches Tommy's pockets and finds his cellphone. She tucks it away in her bra, She grabs his hand, stares into his eyes.

DREAMA

Tommy, stay right here. I'm gonna go get help, okay.

TOMMY

The boy... He knew...

Dreama seems perplexed, trying to decode what he said. Suddenly, Tommy's eyes glaze over. He's gone. Dreama fights back tears, looks around. Did someone see her? She doesn't want to leave him. No choice. Dreama runs away into the night.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Dreama gapes into the mirror. Her eyes, bloodshot red. She's dirty, disheveled, broken, like a wilted flower.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dreama plops down on the bed. She stares, in a daze, trying to collect herself. Finally, she flips on the TV, clicking through channels. She stops on a NEWS REPORTER on location at the construction site.

ON TV:

The News Reporter stands in front of rows of yellow police tape.

NEWSREPORTER

Reports say that the victims may have had connections to club owner Buster Curio, known for his former days as a international drug smuggler. Tracy City Police are asking anyone with information about the deaths of these men to come forward.

Dreama watches. Guilt rides her face. Should she say something? She clicks the TV off and all the lights.

She just lays there for a moment, replaying the night's events in her head.

She looks over at the night stand, glaring at the black jewelry box - The last memory of Tommy.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

We can see the silhouette of Dreama from her bedroom window. She's sobs uncontrollably. Moments later, we move around to find Murdock posted in his car just outside her house. He watches, concerned.

INT. LAS ANGELES CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Sophie escorts Dreama through a room full of DETECTIVES as they mill around at their cubicles.

INT. TCPD - OFFICE - DAY

DETECTIVE JAKE DANVERS, 30s, handsome, kind-faced sits at his desk and sifts through paperwork.

A KNOCK at the door.

JAKE

Come in.

Sophie enters with Dreama. She hugs Jake.

JAKE (CONT'D)

How's my nephew doing?

SOPHIE

(rubbing her stomach)

He's still cooking.

(then)

You remember my friend, Dreama.

Dreama and Jake shake hands.

JAKE

Of course. Your house was the bane of my first years on the force. Who can forget the countless nights I kept this one out of jail?

SOPHIE

And I so, totally appreciate you for that.

JAKE

How can I help you?

Dreama and Sophie sit.

SOPHIE

Dreama has a little problem, and I told her she would be okay talking to you.

DREAMA

I don't think this is a good idea.

SOPHIE

It's okay. Go ahead, tell him.

DREAMA

Has anyone come forward about the murders from last night?

JAKE

Not yet. We're still waiting on a lead. Why?

Dreama eyes Sophie. Sophie nods her approval.

DREAMA

I might have some information about suspects.

JAKE

Really? How so?

DREAMA

Because I was there when it happened.

She's got Jake's full attention now. He grabs a pad and pen.

JAKE

(to Sophie)

Sis, you mind giving us a moment?

SOPHIE

Sure thing.

Sophie steps outside.

JAKE

Were you able to get a good look at the suspects?

DREAMA

Everything happened so fast. There were two guys there. I've seen them before.

JAKE

Where?

DREAMA

Two days ago, some guys at a hotel were trying to cause problems. My boyfriend beat them up really bad. He said they were associates of a man he did a job for. I don't know for sure, but I think they might have been seeking some kind of revenge.

JAKE

You mind telling me what you were doing at a construction site at night all by yourself?

DREAMA

The guy I've been seeing... Well, I followed him there.

JAKE

Why?

DREAMA

We were at dinner and his phone kept going off. Every time we were together, it was always something, you know. He always had to leave.

Dreama is overrun with emotion. She's almost in tears.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

I always gave him such a hard time and all he wanted to do is love me. Now, he's dead and I could have done something.

JAKE

This guy you were seeing, he got a name?

DREAMA

Tommy. Tommy Parido.

JAKE

Dreama, how well did you know Tommy Parido?

DREAMA

Not as well as I would have liked to.

JAKE

I'll make some phone calls, see what I can find out.

(MORE)

JAKE (CONT'D)

In the meantime, I suggest that you keep this conversation between you and I.

DREAMA

You're not gonna even take down a statement. What if those two guys were the ones who did it?

JAKE

Dreama, the detectives in this department had been investigating Tommy Parido for months. He was connected to a recently unsolved murder. It was only a matter of time until he got what the people in this town thought he deserved.

DREAMA

Everybody deserves justice, Detective Danvers, especially Tommy.

JAKE

Have you ever looked into someone's eyes and wished you could see right into their soul, but in that moment all you saw was evil?

DREAMA

Once. My ex-husband.

JAKE

How did that work out for you?

DREAMA

Not so good.

JAKE

You know what justice is? Justice is realizing that sometimes it's okay to forsake the rights of one man's existence in order to preserve the quality of another's.

DREAMA

Tommy was a good guy. We loved each other.

JAKE

Open your eyes, Dreama. Everything isn't always as it seems.

DREAMA

I just want to find out who killed
my boyfriend.

JAKE

We'll do what we can.

EXT. DREAMA'S FRONT PORCH - DAY

Dreama heads up the steps. She still looks shaken from the conversation with Jake. There's a note addressed to her taped to the front door.

She peels it off, opens it.

CLOSE ON NOTE: *I know I hurt you. I know you don't trust me. Please don't be afraid of me. I want to help. - Murdock*

Dreama takes a look around. No sign of Murdock. She stuffs the paper in her pocket.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Dreama sits in a tub of hot water. She's shaking, trying to keep it together. She stares at the water for a moment, watching the ripples.

Her eyes move towards Tommy's cell phone and the black jewelry box sitting on the bathtub ledge next to her. She grabs the box, opens it, stares. It seems like the emerald eye is staring back at her. She puts the necklace on. Her eyes swell with tears.

INT. DREAMA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dreama lays in bed, staring at the ceiling. MOVING DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO HER EYES, it's clear she's lost in thought.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

The dead of night. It's pouring down raining.

Thunder growls in the distance.

INT. DREAMA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is bathed in shadows. It's as still and quiet as deep space, except for the pattering of rain.

Peering down from above as Dreama sleeps, we MOVE CLOSER, stopping on the emerald eye dangling from her neck.

It stares back at us with an eerie stillness.

Moments later, Dreama seems distressed. She tosses, turns.

Suddenly, her eyes shoot open. We PUSH INTO HER PUPILS AS THEY DILATE. In them we see FLASHES OF...

A weathered sign, Las Angeles, almost home.

Footfalls echo as we follow the feet of TWO MEN as they drag a storage chest through the woods.

The storage chest is dropped into the middle of a lake.

A body covered in tattoos. ADDICT inked in big lettering across the neck.

A pounding heartbeat rumbles in.

Dreama springs up in bed, screaming into the night. Sweat cascades down her face. She gazes around the room, trying to make sense of things.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dreama shuffles down the stairs, still in shock.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Dreama eats a bowl of cereal at the table. She scrolls through contacts in Tommy's cell phone. A bunch of names with no meaning. She checks his messages. Only one. It catches her attention. "DOES SHE KNOW?", sent from a contact named Cokey.

She glares at it, trying to dissect its meaning. Without warning, the lights go out.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Dreama shines a flashlight on the BREAKER BOX. Flips switches. No luck.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dreama walks into the living room. The front door violently swings open and close. It's still pouring outside.

She walks towards the front door, flashlight in hand. Trudging across the floor, you can hear the creak of the wood flooring underneath her feet.

She shuts the door. Fastens all the locks. Then the floor starts creaking again like someone else is walking. She scans the room with the flashlight. Nothing there but darkness.

More creaks. They are getting closer. Dreama looks scared now.

DREAMA

Murdock, is that you? I told you I don't wanna talk to you. You can stop playing games now.

More creaks. Closer.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

If this is your way of warming up to me by scaring me, it's pretty fucked up.

(then)

Hello?

A streak of black passes by Dreama.

She looks. Did she just see something?

A LEATHER-GLOVED HAND grabs her from behind. The flashlight drops to the floor.

A MAN IN BLACK tackles Dreama to the ground. The flashlight rolls away. The light from it catches glimpses of the altercation.

Dreama and the Man in Black roll around on the floor knocking over furniture. He easily overpowers her.

The Man in Black whips out a SHARP KNIFE. He raises it up high then -- Dreama knees him in the groin, sending the knife flying across the room.

Dreama is able to scramble to her feet. She goes for the knife. The Man in Black jumps on her back, knocking her to the ground.

She claws for the knife. He flips her over.

In the midst of the struggle, Dreama's eyes dilate again. Her body contorts, jerking uncontrollably. She's not even struggling. Her eyes roll to the back of her head.

The Man in Black notices. It startles him for a moment.

Suddenly, she snaps back to reality. She fights to position herself just under a coffee table. He puts his hands around her neck, squeezes. She struggles to reach for the lamp that's on the coffee table.

No luck.

She grabs the chord, yanks it with all her might. The lamp flies off the table onto the floor. She is somehow able to get a hold of the lamp and shatters it over The Man in Black's head. He winces in pain, releases his hands from her neck.

Dreama kicks him off of her and stumbles to her feet. She bolts outside into the rain, screaming for help.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Sophie stands with Dreama, hands her a cup of coffee. Her hair and clothes are soaking wet. Jake exits.

JAKE

(to Dreama)

My officers just swept the house. No sign of a knife or any other type of weapon. We've got guys out right now searching the surrounding areas. As soon as we hear something, we'll be sure to let you know.

DREAMA

What am I supposed to do in the meantime?

SOPHIE

(to Dreama)

Sweetie, why don't you come stay with me for a couple of days? Just until they catch this guy.

DREAMA

What if they don't?

SOPHIE

My brother's really good at his job. He'll find the shit-hole who did this, right Jake?

Sophie glares at Jake waiting for an answer. He's not making any promises.

JAKE

Staying with my sister for a few days seems like a good idea. I'll have one of my guys assigned to patrol the area around the clock. How's that sound?

DREAMA

This is just the beginning.

SOPHIE

What do you mean?

DREAMA

They're coming after me next?

SOPHIE

Dreama, why would someone be after you?

DREAMA

(realizing)

Because of what I saw.

JAKE

Let's not jump to conclusions.

DREAMA

(to herself)

What if Murdock was right?

SOPHIE

Wait, you talked to Murdock? Why didn't you tell me? What did he say?

DREAMA

Tommy wasn't perfect, but I know he was a good guy. I know he loved me.

JAKE

Look, my sister's told me all about what you've been through in the last year. The divorce, your father passing away, and now this. I can't imagine being in your situation, but you can trust that we're going to do what we can to find out who attacked you.

DREAMA

What about Tommy? Can you promise me you'll find the people who murdered him?

Jake gives her a reassuring look.

JAKE
I'll try.

SOPHIE
(to Dreama)
Come on, let's get you some dry
clothes.

Sophie and Jake escort Dreama inside.

Moments later, a CAR cruises by the mansion. Murdock's in the driver's seat. He stops, eyes the house, slowly drives away.

INT. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

It's a big, spacious room. Dreama's suitcase is on the bed. She sits in front of a vanity mirror. Sophie curls her hair. Dreama stares into the mirror, fighting back tears.

SOPHIE
Everything's gonna be okay, Dreama.
You know that, right?

DREAMA
Right.

She doesn't.

DREAMA (CONT'D)
You ever have a weird dream?
Something you can't explain?

SOPHIE
Once.
(then)
I was about ten years old. Me and
Jake had just finished watching The
Exorcist for the first time. I was
scared out of my mind, so I asked
if I could sleep in the bed with
him. When I finally dozed off, I
kept seeing images of this thing
floating over my bed. It was shaped
like a demon, but I couldn't make
out the face. I just remember the
eyes.

DREAMA
What did you do?

SOPHIE

I started screaming, hoping I'd wake up. It felt so real.

DREAMA

Vivid? Like an out of body experience?

SOPHIE

I'll never forget the look in its eyes. It was pure evil. I woke up crying. Jake grabbed me. I saw the same look in his eyes.

DREAMA

What did he say?

SOPHIE

He just held me in his arms and kept saying, "It's me Sophie. It's me."

DREAMA

Did you ever tell him about the dream?

SOPHIE

Never. I didn't want to freak him out. Til' this day, I still wonder what it meant.

DREAMA

Last night, something happened. I had a dream. A vision. I could have sworn I was there.

SOPHIE

Where?

Dreama stares deeper into the mirror.

DREAMA

If I told you, you might think I was crazy.

SOPHIE

You're not crazy, Dreama. You're just hurting is all.

DREAMA

Maybe you're right. Maybe I just need to go somewhere to get my mind off things.

SOPHIE

Where do you want to go?

DREAMA

The place where daddy always said I should go when I need to find answers.

INT. ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH - DAY

Stainless glass. CHRIST ON A CROSS. A congregation full of people. Among them are Sophie and Dreama, seated in the back.

FATHER BERNARD, late 50s, stands at the pulpit.

FATHER BERNARD

The very heart of our faith revolves around change, but it is not turning over a new leaf, it's living out a new life.

Dreama and Sophie look out of place, uncomfortable.

FATHER BERNARD (CONT'D)

That new life asks that we never tire of doing what's right. We may not be able to speak for others, but we can speak for ourselves. Every Christian is judged on their individual service. We will appear before the judgement seat of Christ. No one will be there to run interference; none will offer defense. It will just be us and the record of all our deeds.

Dreama listens, focusing on his every word.

Moments later, the organ BLARES. The Congregation stands to their feet and heads down the aisle towards the exit.

EXT. ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH - PARKING LOT - DAY

Congregation members file out of the chapel. Dreama and Sophie head to their car.

SOPHIE

What was that all about?

DREAMA

I guess just being in a familiar place.

SOPHIE

You hated church when we were kids.
Your dad made you go like six times
a week.

DREAMA

I told you. I'm just looking for
answers.

SOPHIE

Answers to what?

DREAMA

You wouldn't understand.

Dreama and Sophie reach their car. They're about to get in,
when something catches Dreama's eye.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

Oh, my God!

Dreama peers into the crowd of churchgoers. Murdock chats
with Father Bernard.

SOPHIE

Wonder what he's doing here?

DREAMA

Guess this is the change he was
talking about.

SOPHIE

You should go talk to him?

DREAMA

For what?

SOPHIE

Because he's the only person other
than Pastor Mont. who always knew
what to say to make everything okay
with you.

DREAMA

We should go.

SOPHIE

What's the matter, Dreama? You
don't think people can change?

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Yeah, everybody but him.

Dreama and Sophie hop in the car. Dreama stares back at him, curious.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - DAY

Dreama drives. Sophie is in the passenger's seat.

SOPHIE

I've been seriously thinking about changing the colors in the baby's room. I'm gonna ask Bill what he thinks once he gets back in town.

Dreama just stares straight ahead.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Dreama?

Her mind is somewhere else.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Hello?

She snaps out of it.

DREAMA

What were you sayin'?

SOPHIE

The baby's room. I wanna change the colors.

DREAMA

Yeah, that's a good idea.

In the rearview mirror, we watch as Dreama stares off again. She's in auto-pilot, not paying attention to the road.

The emerald eye dangles from her neck. It's staring at us again.

Moments later. DREAMA'S EYES. It's happening again.

Flashes of SOMEONE'S POINT OF VIEW --

Inside a CONFESSION BOOTH. A PRIEST prays behind the grid. His face is hidden.

A trashed hotel room with thousands of dollars spread out over the bed.

A counter. Lines of cocaine. From the neck down, we watch as the tattooed man rushes into the room yelling incoherently.

BACK TO DREAMA

She's still in a trance. Sophie notices, tries to break her out of it.

SOPHIE

Dreama?

Nothing.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Dreama, you okay?

She's gone. Sophie's scared now. She tries to shake her out of it. Cars zoom by.

A SEMI TRUCK barrels down the road in the opposite lane.

Dreama shifts over into oncoming traffic. The semi is heading right towards her.

Sophie grabs the wheel, swerves, just missing the truck.

Dreama's car careens into a ditch on the side of the road. She snaps back to reality, confused. How did I get here? Sophie eyes Dreama. Close call.

EXT. SOPHIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Dreama pulls into the driveway. A SQUAD CAR is posted by the curb. An OFFICER lounges inside munching on a donut.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - DAY

Dreama stares out the window. Sophie seems concerned.

SOPHIE

I'm starting to get really worried about you.

DREAMA

Something's happening to me. Something I can't explain.

SOPHIE

No shit! We were this close to being flattened by a semi.

DREAMA

The visions. They're getting stronger, Soph.

SOPHIE

You blacked out. It was really scary.

DREAMA

I have to find out who killed Tommy.

SOPHIE

You heard my brother. He said he'd take care of it.

DREAMA

Someone else was there. Maybe they know who shot him.

SOPHIE

I thought you said everybody left?

DREAMA

Not at the construction site. At the lake. I saw it.

SOPHIE

How?

Dreama turns to Sophie.

DREAMA

The visions.

SOPHIE

Dreama, this is all starting to sound a little crazy.

DREAMA

I knew you wouldn't understand.

SOPHIE

Maybe you should see someone.

DREAMA

You know what? Maybe I should. I'm gonna go. I'll be right back.

SOPHIE

I'll come with.

DREAMA

No. I need to do this alone.

SOPHIE

What if you black out again?

DREAMA

I found a number in Tommy's phone. Someone named Cokey. He texted Tommy a weird message a couple days before he died.

SOPHIE

Does my brother know about this?

DREAMA

I didn't tell him and neither can you.

SOPHIE

Why not?

DREAMA

Tommy said I shouldn't trust the police.

SOPHIE

That's what all criminals say. Besides, he's my brother, Dreama.

DREAMA

Cokey's number traced back to a tattoo shop downtown. Maybe he can tell me who killed Tommy.

SOPHIE

I'm calling Jake.

DREAMA

No police.

SOPHIE

Dreama, I'm not going to let something bad happen to you.

DREAMA

Promise me you won't say anything to your brother. Not until I get back.

Sophie ponders for a moment. She can't believe she's agreeing to this.

SOPHIE

I swear, if you're not back here by the time the sun goes down, I'm calling my brother and telling him everything.

Sophie gets out of the car, watches as Dreama pulls away.

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - DAY

An endless span of SPECIALTY BOUTIQUES, LIQUOR STORES and DINERS caught in the middle of the hustle and bustle of cabs and pedestrians on foot.

Dreama's car cruises by. She scans buildings. After a few unsuccessful attempts, her eyes tell us she's found what she's looking for.

INT. TATTOO PARLOR - DUSK

Trendy furniture. Pics of ink and metal. Rock music.

TATTOO ARTISTS are posted at their stations inking masterpieces on open flesh.

Dreama walks in. A RECEPTIONIST behind the counter flips through a magazine. She notices Dreama.

RECEPTIONIST

Need some help?

Dreama scans the room. She heads to the counter.

DREAMA

I'm looking for someone who might know a Cokey?

RECEPTIONIST

Cokey? He just stepped out for a minute. Why don't you take a seat.

Dreama takes a seat in an empty chair.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

(to Dreama)

That's a wierd necklace. Where'd you get it from?

DREAMA

Boyfriend gave it too me. Its The eye of the tiger. It gives me Visions.

Dreama surveys the shop, looking for clues.

RECEPTIONIST

My old man never gives me anything.

DREAMA

Be thankful.

RECEPTIONIST

Why?

DREAMA
 (nonchalant)
 Because you don't want him ending
 up dead. I keep having visions.

The receptionist eyes Dreama. What the fuck did she say?

Moments later,

A man saunters through the door. This is COKEY, 40s, bald
 head, covered in tattoos, hard miles on his face.

RECEPTIONIST
 (to Cokey)
 Cokey, your two o'clock cancelled,
 but there's someone else to take
 her spot.

COKEY
 (to Dreama)
 What can I do for you?

Dreama stares. Her eyes travel across his chest, stopping on
 his neck. ADDICT inked in cursive. Dreama is frozen. It's
 him, the man from her visions.

COKEY (CONT'D)
 You gonna get something done or
 what, lady?

DREAMA
 Yeah, sure.

Dreama takes a seat at his station. Cokey snaps on gloves and
 grabs a sketch pad. Dreama looks nervous.

COKEY
 You got something in mind?

DREAMA
 I don't know where to start.

COKEY
 Why don't you try describing it, so
 I can paint a picture in my head.

DREAMA
 A storage chest. Dirty. Wet.

COKEY
 We talking like a pirates chest or
 something you put clothes in?

DREAMA

Just a storage chest, old vintage
Pirates chest, yeah...

Cokey seems puzzled.

COKEY

You want any kind of lettering
around it?

She's trying to keep it together.

DREAMA

Yeah.

(then)

Does she know?

Cokey drops the sketch pad. He grabs Dreama's arm and yanks her up out of the chair. Everyone in the shop watches as he swoops her away into a back room.

INT. STOCK ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

A small room with a sea of boxes. Cokey backs Dreama into a corner.

COKEY

You playing some kind of game with
me, lady?

DREAMA

No games. Just the truth.

COKEY

Who are you?

DREAMA

Tommy Parido was my boyfriend.

COKEY

Tommy Parido is dead.

DREAMA

You know the name of the man who
killed him?

COKEY

If I did, why would I tell you?

DREAMA

Because I got information that
might be useful to the police.

COKEY

If you think the police in this town give a shit about what goes on behind closed doors, you're sadly mistaken.

DREAMA

I know what I saw. I even have Visions.

COKEY

Do yourself a favor, lady. Get out of my shop and forget Tommy Parido ever existed.

DREAMA

You were there that night.

COKEY

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

DREAMA

The lake. The storage chest. You both buried it.

Cokey backs away. She knows something.

COKEY

What did he tell you?

DREAMA

Enough. Drugs, jewelry diamonds, emeralds.

COKEY

How do I know you're not going to rat me out?

DREAMA

I guess you're just gonna have to trust me.

COKEY

Sounds like something Tommy would say.

DREAMA

I just want to know who killed him and why they wanted him dead.

Cokey peeks out the door, makes sure no one is coming.

COKEY

My cousin tipped me off about a job paying thirty thousand in cash.

(MORE)

COKEY (CONT'D)

All we had to do was bury a storage chest at the bottom of a lake across town.

DREAMA

San Berdo Lakes?

COKEY

Right.

(then)

When my guy backed out, I tried to bring Tommy in. I owed him one for helping me get clean again a couple years back.

DREAMA

You're a drug addict?

COKEY

Used to be.

(pointing to ADDICT on his neck)

I put it there to remind me where I've come from.

DREAMA

Was Tommy into drugs too?

COKEY

He didn't tell you?

DREAMA

I guess he was trying to, but I just would not listen.

COKEY

Tommy was worse off than me.

This is a shock to Dreama.

COKEY (CONT'D)

He said he didn't want to do the job at first. Said he had a bad feeling about it. I convinced him it would be easy. It only took us two hours to bury it. We did the job for a guy named Curio.

DREAMA

Buster Curio?

COKEY

There's only one. He runs the Inferno Night Club across town.

(MORE)

COKEY (CONT'D)

Brings his own private girls in to keep him company. Pays them top dollar to perform favors. Lap dances and other kinky type of shit. It's just a front though. Word is that he's using the club to cover up drug money.

DREAMA

Is that what was in the chest, drugs?

COKEY

I don't know. Tommy told me he overheard Curio talking about what was in it. I asked him, but he wouldn't tell me. Said he was afraid if anybody else found out, Curio would kill him.

DREAMA

You texted Tommy a couple days before he died. Why?

COKEY

Tommy said he was trying to stay clean, because he had fallen in love with some girl. I guess he was talking about you. He was worried Curio might kill you, because of what he knew. I sent Tommy the text to warn him to stay away from you. He wanted to protect you.

Dreama crosses by Cokey.

COKEY (CONT'D)

Where do you think you're going?

DREAMA

I just want to ask him some questions.

COKEY

I'm warning you. Don't fuck with Curio. He makes people disappear for spelling his name wrong.

DREAMA

Tommy died, because he was trying to protect me. The least thing I can do is get to the bottom of this.

COKEY

You'll only end up making things worse.

DREAMA

I guess I'll just have to take my chances. clutching the tigers eye,

Dreama bolts out of the room.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - SIDEWALK - DUSK

Dreama stands in front of a BOUTIQUE STORE staring at a low-cut dress. It's fancy. Fit for a night out.

INT. DREAMA'S CAR - NIGHT

Dreama careens down a busy street, passing cars.

She's got the dress from the boutique shop on. Her hair and make up are immaculate, and of course -- the emerald tiger eye's around her neck. We've never seen her look this good.

Dreama's got Sophie on speaker phone.

SOPHIE

Where the hell are you?

DREAMA

I'm going out. I keep having Visions about Tommy.

SOPHIE

Thanks for inviting me.

DREAMA

You didn't tell your brother anything, did you?

SOPHIE

He called wanting to see how you were doing.

DREAMA

What did you say?

SOPHIE

I told him you were out running errands.

DREAMA

Thanks for covering for me.

SOPHIE

Well, what did you find out about Tommy?

DREAMA

You were right. Sometimes all you need to do is look deeper.

SOPHIE

So, nothing?

Dreama's face is covered in discontent.

DREAMA

No.

SOPHIE

Murdock came by. He really wants to talk to you, Dreama.

DREAMA

There's actually more to Tommy than I knew. Maybe I was wrong in doubting Murdock.

SOPHIE

He actually seemed sincere.

DREAMA

Some people are good at hiding who they really are.

SOPHIE

I wonder how he knew you were staying here?

DREAMA

Something tells me he's been following me.

EXT. PAVED HIGHWAY - NIGHT

We are above Dreama's car as it cruises along tree-lined inlets. A couple cars behind, someone follows her.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

An upscale night club. Neon sign. Music BLARES from inside. The sidewalk is packed with a line of anxious party-goers.

Dreama weaves her way through the line to a SECURITY GUARD with a clipboard posted at the front door. She looks hot. Smokin' hot! She approaches him.

DREAMA

(in a French accent)
I am here to see Curio.

SECURITY GUARD

Name?

DREAMA

Amelia.

SECURITY GUARD

(checking his clipboard)
Your name ain't on the list. Curio
don't see no one who's name ain't
on the list.

DREAMA

He ask to come and give show. I
like to give show.

Dreama smiles, turning her charm on. The security guard looks her over. He's having dirty thoughts.

Danoob steps out of the club. Admires the crowd.

DANOOB

We got some hot ones tonight.

SECURITY GUARD

This lady says she's her to see
Curio.

Danoob checks her out.

DANOOB

Hello there, sweetheart. You're a
fine piece of real estate.

Dreama's eyes tell us she remembers Danoob. She tries not to break character.

DREAMA

I come to give show.

DANOOB

What are you waiting for? I'll lead
the way.

INT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Flashing lights. A packed dance floor. Thumping TECHNO MUSIC.

Danoob escorts Dreama through the maze. Bix walks the floor, patrolling the crowd. Dreama sees him, tries to look inconspicuous.

INT. STARWELL - NIGHT

Danoob and Dreama make their way up the steps to the second floor.

DANOOB

So, how long you been dancing?

DREAMA

Couple months.

DANOOB

I feel like I've seen you somewhere before.

Dreama glances over at him. If he only knew.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Murdock appears from across the street. He eyes the Security Guard at the front door. No way he's getting in.

Murdock's eyes travel to an nearby alley. He walks through the line, making his way to the back of the club.

INT. UPSTAIRS OFFICE - NIGHT

A wide-open space. Abstract paintings. Expensive sculptures. Chic furniture.

Two prison-hard GOONS are sprawled out on the couch with half-naked girls underneath their arms.

Curio sits behind a desk. He's got piles of money spread out all over it.

Danoob strolls in with Dreama. He startles Curio, who pulls a gun out from underneath the desk.

CURIO

How many times do I have to tell you to knock first?

Dreama surveys the room. What has she gotten herself into?

DANOOB

Sorry boss. You know how my memory
is.

Curio sets the gun on the desk.

CURIO

(counting his money)
What do you want?

DANOOB

I got fresh meat for ya.
(titillated)
She's French!

Curio gives her a once over, smiles. He likes what he sees.

CURIO

French, huh?

DREAMA

Oui.

CURIO

What's your name, beautiful?

DREAMA

Amelia.

CURIO

You sure are a looker. What part of
France are you from?

DREAMA

All over.

CURIO

I did some business in Marseille a
couple years back. The museums
there were quite inspiring.
(re. his sculptures)
As you can see, I've learned to
appreciate the contemporary realism
of your great country.

DREAMA

Oui.

CURIO

So, what brings a girl like you to
Las Angeles ?

Dreama at a loss for words.

CURIO (CONT'D)
There a problem?

DREAMA
(realizing)
I come for education. I'm an actress.

CURIO
You know, there's nothing more important than education. That's what's wrong with the world today. Our lack of understanding about things that are different from what we know to be the norm. I for one intend to change the way we see the world. I'm looking for a lovely lady like yourself, who's willing to stand by my side and facilitate that change. Some people think I'm crazy. What do you think, Amelia?

DREAMA
Sometimes change is good.
Sometimes is change bad.
Depends.

He ponders for a moment, smiles.

CURIO
You know what. I like you.

Dreama scans the room. She eyes his statues.

CURIO (CONT'D)
Something wrong.

DREAMA
Just admiring your lovely art work.

Curio face tells us he feels like something's not right.

CURIO
Your accent. It's different. I've been all over France. Never heard anything like it.

DREAMA
(nervous)
English very hard for me.

Curio's definitely suspicious.

CURIO

Right.
 (then)
 Tu dois te mettre nue!

Dreama is clueless.

CURIO (CONT'D)

What's the matter Amelia? You don't understand your own language?

DREAMA

I not hear you.

Curio grabs his gun, slides it closer to him.

CURIO

I said take your fucking clothes off.

Dreama glances around the room. All eyes are on her.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - BACK ENTRANCE - NIGHT

A dark alleyway connected to the back of the club.

A GOON is posted at the back door smoking a cigarette.

Murdock rounds the corner, spots him. He sneaks low to a nearby WASTE BIN, hides behind it. Murdock looks up. The fire escape leads to the second floor.

Bix steps out of the back door.

BIX

(to the Goon)
 Thought you were supposed to be covering VIP.

GOON

Boss said I didn't have to. It's packed like sardines in there. I get claustrophobic.

BIX

Don't worry about it. I'll find somebody else to do it.

Bix is about to go back in.

GOON

Hold that door. I gotta take a leak.

They head inside.

Murdock waits to make his move, then bolts up the fire escape to the second floor.

Moments later, Bix steps outside again. He looks around. Everything seems cool.

The door to the second floor stairwell closes as Murdock enters. Bix looks up, notices.

INT. UPSTAIRS OFFICE - NIGHT

All eyes are still on Dreama. She looks scared out of her mind. Curio's getting impatient.

CURIO

We don't have all day.

DREAMA

Just nervous. My first time.

CURIO

In that case, why don't I set the mood to make you not so nervous.

Curio grabs his gun, motions to one of the Goons. He cranks up the stereo. Hard-core techno music rumbles in.

Curio waits.

Dreama takes it all in. Time to "give show".

She breaks into a seductive dance. Letting her hair down. Curio is enjoying this.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

Murdock steps inside the hallway. Surprisingly, the coast is clear. You can hear the bass of the music as it emanates from Curio's office.

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Bix marches up the stairs to the second floor.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

Just as Murdock is closing in on Curio's office, Danoob steps out into the hallway on his cell phone. Murdock quickly disappears into a maintenance closet.

INT. MAINTENENCE CLOSET - NIGHT

Murdock waits in the dark closet. Footfalls echo from the hallway.

BIX (O.S.)

We got problems. A trespasser. Saw him go up the fire escape.

DANOOB (O.S.)

We should go find him before boss finds out.

INT. UPSTAIRS OFFICE - NIGHT

Dreama starts to unfasten her dress. She doesn't look good. She's pale, sweaty, in a daze, like she's about to pass out.

Curio stares. He notices her emerald tiger eye necklace. Just as Dreama is about to bare all...

HER EYES

We PUSH into them. They dilate. You know what happens.

Dreama falls to the ground. She stares up at us, jerking uncontrollably. Blood streams from her nose.

Everyone in the room freezes.

CURIO

(to his Goons)

What are you waiting for? Pick her up.

The Goons rush over to her.

INT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Danoob and Bix walk the dance floor, scanning the crowd.

INT. UPSTAIRS OFFICE - NIGHT

Curio's goons carry Dreama over to the couch. She's still out of it.

CURIO

You fucking idiots! Don't put her there. She's going to ruin my designer couches.

INT. MAINTENENCE CLOSET - NIGHT

Murdock's still hiding in the closet. We can hear the commotion going on from Curio's office.

Moments later, Murdock listens as Curio and his Goons hit the hallway.

CURIO (O.S.)

I don't want her dying on me. Put her out back.

Murdock peeks out the door. He watches as Curio and his Goons drag a limp Dreama down the hallway. Her eyes are completely white, rolled to the back of her head. They disappear into the stairwell.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - BACK ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Curio's Goons burst through the door with Dreama. She's still out of it. They toss her into the streets like a rag doll.

Murdock appears above from the second floor door. He looks down, spots Dreama lying in the street.

MURDOCK

Dreama!

Curio and his goons look up, noticing Murdock.

CURIO

Who the fuck are you?

Curio's goons just stand there in shock.

CURIO (CONT'D)

What are you waiting for? Shoot?

The Goons whip out their GUNS and start blasting towards Murdock.

Murdock escapes through the door, dodging bullets. Curio and his Goons run up the fire escape chasing after him.

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Murdock scampers down the stairs. Curio and his goons appear. They chase after him, firing shots, just missing.

CURIO

He's here for the girl.

INT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Murdock runs into the crowd. Curio and his goons follow. Bix and Danoob meet up with Curio and his goons. They spot Murdock.

CURIO

They sent him and the girl to try
and screw with me. Go get 'em!

They all chase after Murdock as he zips through the maze of the crowd on the dance floor.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Murdock exits the club. Curio and his men aren't far behind.

He dashes into oncoming traffic.

Curio and his men rush out of the club. They spot Murdock across the street getting into his car.

DANOOB

There he is, boss.

Murdock drives like a bat out of hell, barreling into oncoming traffic. He speeds towards the back street entrance.

Curio and his men chase after him, shooting out his windows.

EXT. INFERNO NIGHT CLUB - BACK ENTRANCE

Murdock drives up to Dreama's body. He opens the driver's seat door, lifts Dreama into the car.

Curio and his men round the corner. Danoob and the goons shoot at Murdock's car as he speeds away.

CURIO

Hold your fire!

DANOOB

...but, boss, they're getting away.

CURIO

Not for long.

Curio stares into the distance with cold eyes.

EXT. DARK EMPTY ROAD - NIGHT

A dark empty road on the outskirts of town. In the darkness, two small headlights appear down the road.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR - NIGHT

Murdock drives. Dreama's in the passenger seat. Her eyes open slightly, just slits of white.

Murdock looks over at her, worried.

EXT. INTERSTATE 40 - NIGHT

Murdock's car roars down a long stretch of highway overlooking the city, disappearing into the night.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Murdock pulls into the parking lot of a seedy motel.

INT. MOTEL OFFICE - NIGHT

A MOTEL CLERK is in the middle of texting on her phone when the BELL above the screen door JINGLES, as Murdock enters with Dreama.

She watches Murdock struggle to carry Dreama in. She's slumped over, still out of it.

MURDOCK

Can I get a room, please?

MOTEL CLERK

I take it you want the Honeymoon Suite?

MURDOCK

Just a regular room will do.

The Motel Clerk grabs a key from the hook behind her.

MOTEL CLERK
That'll be forty bucks.

Murdock pulls some cash out of his pocket and hands it to her. The Motel Clerk glances at Dreama. Murdock notices.

MURDOCK
It's not what you think.

MOTEL CLERK
That's what they all say.

MURDOCK
She's just had a long night.

The Motel Clerk slides the key across the counter.

MOTEL CLERK
Right.

Murdock grabs it and carries Dreama away.

INT. SOPHIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sophie's on the couch. Jake is in uniform. He paces the floor, pissed.

JAKE
I thought you said she was just running errands.

SOPHIE
She was, but then she said she was going out. What gives?

JAKE
Your friend just made a big mistake.

SOPHIE
Is Dreama in some kind of trouble?

JAKE
I can't say. It's police business. Classified.

SOPHIE
It doesn't make sense.

JAKE

There's something you're not
telling me.

SOPHIE

I told you I don't know where she
is.

JAKE

Don't lie to me.

SOPHIE

This has to do with Tommy's murder,
doesn't it?

He won't bend.

JAKE

Find your friend. Get her back
here. I need to talk to her.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

A drab motel room with two beds.

Dreama is sprawled out on the bed. She's out like a light.

A CELL PHONE on the night stand BUZZES.

CLOSE ON Dreama's cell phone. Sophie's name and number flash
across the screen.

Moments later, Dreama's eyes shoot open. She belts out an
ungodly scream. She's coming to, whaling, confused,
hysterical.

Murdock charges in from the bathroom. He rushes over to her,
tries to calm her down.

MURDOCK

Dreama!

She's still in shock, trying to make sense of things. Sweat
drips from her forehead. Murdock brushes away the strands of
wet hair plastered against her face.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

It's okay. You're safe.

She stares at him, finally coming to fully, making out his
face.

Dreama backs away.

DREAMA

Where am I?

MURDOCK

About 70 miles outside of Las Angeles.

DREAMA

What did you do to me?

MURDOCK

It's not how it seems.

DREAMA

You kidnapped me.

MURDOCK

No. I saved you.

DREAMA

What am I doing here?

MURDOCK

You blacked out. I had to get you away from Curio.

DREAMA

Liar. I had a vision, their going to Kill me.

MURDOCK

Dreama, I can explain.

Murdock sits on the bed. Dreama sits up in the bed. She turns her back towards him. The tigers eye dangles from her neck.

She still seems somewhat in a daze.

DREAMA

Talk.

MURDOCK

I came to the club, because I was worried about you.

DREAMA

How did you know where I was?

MURDOCK

I've been following you for the last couple of weeks.

DREAMA

What?

MURDOCK

Please, let me explain.

DREAMA

You're crazier than I thought.

MURDOCK

Dreama, I just wanted to prove to you so badly that I had changed.

DREAMA

So, you follow me?

MURDOCK

I needed to make sure you'd be safe, once I found out about Tommy.

DREAMA

He was not a bad guy.

MURDOCK

I know that now. I saw the way you looked at him. I know you loved him, Dreama.

DREAMA

How?

MURDOCK

Because it's the same way you used to look at me.

This hits her hard.

DREAMA

How did you know Tommy?

MURDOCK

A couple weeks back, he visited the church I've been attending. I saw him go into the confessional to speak with a priest.

DREAMA

Father Bernard?

MURDOCK

How did you?

DREAMA

Sophie and I went there this morning. We saw you.

MURDOCK

Tommy was a drug addict.

DREAMA

He was trying to change.

MURDOCK

I saw you two having dinner last week. When I recognized who he was, I panicked. I went to Father Bernard and begged him to tell me what Tommy said in the confessional. He swore me to secrecy. He told me Tommy had confessed to knowing about a murder.

DREAMA

It all makes sense now.

MURDOCK

I started following him. I wanted to know more.

DREAMA

You followed him to Curio's club, didn't you?

MURDOCK

Curio is a very dangerous man.

DREAMA

He's more than dangerous. He's a murderer.

MURDOCK

What makes you say that?

DREAMA

It was right in front of my eyes. I saw it. I saw everything.

MURDOCK

Wait, what? What did you see?

DREAMA

You wouldn't understand.

Dreama springs up out of the bed.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

Where's my phone?

MURDOCK

On the night stand. Why?

DREAMA

I need to call Sophie. I need to warn her.

MURDOCK

What does Sophie have to do with this?

DREAMA

It's not her I'm worried about.
It's Jake.

INT. UPSTAIRS OFFICE - NIGHT

Curio is posted in a chair behind his desk. Danoob, Bix and his other Goons are there. He's in the middle of a conversation with someone we don't see.

CURIO

I am a man of deep consideration. I've spent the last few years of my life trying to develop the skills to give second chances. You know why I don't believe in second chances? They always lead to a path for those who are ungrateful to weasel their way into somehow fucking me over. I've had consideration for your responsibilities to protect and serve the citizens of this great city. You promised me that you'd make it all go away. It was only a matter of time before Tommy Parido opened his mouth and infected the minds of the people I deal with on a daily basis, so, I had to make him disappear. I would hate for the same thing to happen to you.

(beat)

Therefore, the terms of our little agreement have changed Detective Danvers.

Moments later, we move around to find Jake standing in front of Curio's desk. Jake doesn't look happy.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Murdock and Dreama talk.

MURDOCK

I want to help you.

DREAMA

Why should I trust you?

MURDOCK

I know what it feels like to hold on to something you want so badly to share with someone you care about. Sometimes you hold back, because you're scared they won't believe you. I did a lot wrong in our marriage. Every Christian is judged on their individual service. I know I've got a lot of making up to do.

INT. WAFFLE SHACK - NIGHT

A 24 hour diner in the middle of nowhere. Half a dozen PATRONS sit at the bar. Dreama and Tommy are posted in a corner booth.

DREAMA

It started right after Tommy died. It seemed like a dream at first, but after a while everything felt real, like it was happening right before my very eyes.

A WAITRESS, late 30s, earthy, hair in locks, crosses by.

WAITRESS

Well, aren't you two a nice couple.

DREAMA

We're not together.

WAITRESS

What can I get for you tonight?

MURDOCK

I'll just have a cup of coffee and two biscuits, please.

WAITRESS

...and for the young lady who you're not with?

MURDOCK

(before she can answer)

Two waffles. Extra crispy. No butter. Syrup on the side, and a glass of orange juice. No pulp.

DREAMA

You remembered.

MURDOCK

We were married for four years, Dreama. Some things you just don't forget.

The waitress whips out a pen and pad and jots down their order. She notices Dreama's necklace.

WAITRESS

Where did you get that from?

DREAMA

A friend gave it to me.

The waitress's face turns stone cold.

WAITRESS

Some friend.

She walks off.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

I'll have your order back to you in a few minutes.

Dreama and Murdock seem puzzled.

MURDOCK

What did you see when you blacked out at The Inferno?

DREAMA

I saw Jake and Curio together.

MURDOCK

Are you sure?

DREAMA

You don't believe me.

MURDOCK

No, I do. It's just...

DREAMA

I know what I saw.

Dreama's seems frustrated. Tired. She's about to break down. Murdock can tell. He grabs her hand, tries to calm her down.

MURDOCK

It's okay. I believe you.

DREAMA

The look in his eyes...

MURDOCK

I just don't understand why Jake didn't say anything.

DREAMA

He's hiding something.

MURDOCK

That must have been the reason why Tommy didn't want you going to the police.

DREAMA

Cokey said Tommy found out what was in the storage chest. Maybe that's a part of what Jake is hiding too.

MURDOCK

You said Cokey's cousin set the whole thing up. Maybe we should talk to him. Find out why it was so important. Whatever it was, it's the reason why Tommy is dead.

The waitress returns with their food. She sets the food down on the table with a curt, disapproving manner. Dreama and Murdock notice.

DREAMA

Is there something wrong?

WAITRESS

If I were you, I'd get rid of that necklace?

MURDOCK

Why?

WAITRESS

Nothing but bad luck will come of it.

She sets the drinks down on the table.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)
 (matter of fact)
 It's cursed. It's a
 tiger's eye, demonic
 powers will happen.

The waitress marches away. Murdock and Dreama exchange looks.

INT. MOTEL BATHROOM - NIGHT

Dreama peers into a mirror, staring at the tiger's eye.

MURDOCK (O.S.)
 According to legend, the stone of
 Thelonia brought great misfortune
 to all who wore it.

DREAMA
 (to herself)
 It can't be. I
 need it! Visions

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Murdock sits on the bed and scrolls through his phone.

MURDOCK
 (reading)
 Cursed was the stone forcing its
 keeper to look into the past,
 taking on the soul of the most
 recent descendent.

Dreama walks in.

DREAMA
 What should I do?

MURDOCK
 You heard her. Get rid of it.

DREAMA
 What if this could lead to more
 clues?

MURDOCK
 Dreama, cursed, ungodly things are
 nothing to play with.

DREAMA
 I owe it to Tommy to find out the
 truth.

MURDOCK

You blacked out for hours. What if you don't wake up next time?

DREAMA

Then I'll just have to be judged like everybody else. This is my good dead.

He's got no comeback. She has a point.

MURDOCK

We should get some rest.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

All is silent. Murdock is asleep in one bed. Dreama lays in the other, wide awake, staring at the ceiling. She looks over at the clock. It's 3:16am.

Dreama clasps the emerald eye. Her face tells us she may be having second thoughts. The emerald tiger eye necklace is magic. It's allowed me to have visions of Tommy's death.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR - DAY

Dreama's in the passenger seat on the phone. Murdock pumps gas.

DREAMA

(on the phone)

I need a favor.

COKEY

If I knew what was in the chest, I'd probably be dead right now, just like Tommy.

EXT. COKEY'S HOUSE - DAY

A small house in a middle class neighborhood on the south side of Las Angeles.

Cokey waters his lawn. He's on the phone.

COKEY

(on the phone)

I told you not to fuck with Curio. Word around town is he's looking for you.

INTERCUT BETWEEN GAS STATION AND COKEY'S HOUSE.

DREAMA

Your cousin who set up the deal to
bury the storage chest for Curio...
I want to talk to him.

COKEY

You're really pushing it, lady.

DREAMA

He may be the only person left to
help us find out who killed Tommy.

COKEY

What makes you think he's gonna
tell you?

DREAMA

Because I've got something that
might be of some interest to him.

COKEY

What's that?

Dreama looks down at her necklace.

DREAMA

A gift that keeps on giving.

Murdock finishes pumping gas and hops in the car. Dreama
scribbles down some information on a note pad.

MURDOCK

Well?

DREAMA

You always liked going on road
trips when we were married.

MURDOCK

Okay?

DREAMA

How's Kentucky sound?

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Murdock and Dreama cruise down a long stretch of highway,
passing a road sign that reads: KENTUCKY - 112 MILES.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR - DAY

Murdock drives. Dreama looks out the window, taking in the scenery. All is silent, then...

DREAMA

Why'd you do it?

MURDOCK

Dreama...

DREAMA

You promised me when we got married that you'd always take care of me.

MURDOCK

I made a lot of mistakes.

DREAMA

I really thought you loved me.

MURDOCK

We were young. I didn't know how to be a husband. I barely knew how to be a man.

DREAMA

If you could go back, would you change anything?

MURDOCK

Marrying you was the best thing I ever did. I know you're not in love with me anymore and that's okay. I just want to keep my promise. I want to take care of you. Make sure that you're okay.

DREAMA

When I told daddy I was leaving you, it broke his heart. He said I was making a mistake.

MURDOCK

He came to see me a couple times.

This is a surprise to Dreama.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

He prayed with me. Made me feel like there was still some good left inside.

DREAMA

He believed in you.

MURDOCK

He believed in everybody.

DREAMA

I miss him.

MURDOCK

I miss us.

DREAMA

Maybe people do change.

MURDOCK

Dreama, I watched my father beat my mother for years and I promised myself I'd never be like him. Then, when it was my turn, I screwed it all up. I made the biggest mistake in the world by hitting you. I'm so sorry for everything I put you through. You deserved better.

DREAMA

Thanks for saying that. It means a lot.

MURDOCK

Could you ever find it in your heart to forgive me?

DREAMA

Tommy used to say that I hold on to my trust, when I should let it go. I don't know if I'm ready to let it go yet, Murdock.

MURDOCK

I understand.

Dreama's cell phone RINGS. She glances at it.

DREAMA

It's Sophie. What should I do?

MURDOCK

Don't answer it.

DREAMA

She's my best friend.

MURDOCK

I know, but...

Dreama answers.

DREAMA

Hello?

SOPHIE

(on the phone)

Oh, my God. Dreama, where the heck are you? I've been worried sick.

DREAMA

I'm okay.

SOPHIE

I called you like a thousand times.

DREAMA

I know. I was just a little preoccupied.

SOPHIE

When are you coming home?

DREAMA

I don't know.

SOPHIE

You're not in some kind of trouble, are you? The screenplay ?

DREAMA

I'm with Murdock. We'll film later.

SOPHIE

Murdock?

Dreama and Murdock exchange looks.

DREAMA

He's actually been a perfect gentlemen.

SOPHIE

Dreama, I'm your best friend. I can tell by the sound of your voice that something is wrong.

DREAMA

You remember that dream you told me about when you were a little kid?

SOPHIE
Yeah, why?

DREAMA
He's listening right now, isn't he?

Silence.

DREAMA (CONT'D)
There's a lot I can't explain right now. I have to go.

INT. TCPD - OFFICE - DAY

Sophie sits in a chair in front of Jake's desk. She's got her cell phone on speaker.

SOPHIE
Kentucky? What for?

DREAMA
(on the phone)
To find the answers I was looking for.

A moment of silence, then...

DREAMA (CONT'D)
(on the phone)
Don't trust Jake, Sophie. He's evil.

Click.

SOPHIE
Dreama? Hello?

We move around to find Jake seated at his desk. He gets up and walks out of the office.

INT. Lexington, Kentucky POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Sophie follows after Jake as he zips past cubicles.

SOPHIE
I want to know what's going on, and don't tell me this shit about how it's classified.

He stops in front of a handful of DETECTIVES crowded around a cubicle

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

What did you do?

JAKE

Go home! You're pregnant.

SOPHIE

Whatever it is, you better take care of it. I swear if something bad happens to Dreama... Oh, my God. What's going to happen to Dreama, Jake?

He turns.

JAKE

Justice.

EXT. KENTUCKY DERBY - DAY

THOROUGHBREDS lit by the afternoon sun race the track as the crowd CHEERS.

Dreama and Murdock come through the turnstiles with their tickets, along with a handful of exited fans.

They ride up an ESCALATOR, taking in the crowd.

Murdock and Dreama approach an USHER. He points them in the direction of the SKYBOX.

EXT. SKYBOX - DAY

Dreama and Murdock stop in front of a SECURITY GUARD. They exchange words. The security guard heads into the skybox.

Moments later, he reappears and escorts Murdock and Dreama in. Dreama has a vision of a murder, a gunman, then running.

INT. SKYBOX - DAY

A LUXURY BOX overlooking the race. A buffet. Alcohol. BUSINESS MEN in expensive suits. BEAUTIFUL WOMEN.

Dreama and Murdock enter with the Security Guard. He points them in the direction of a man sitting by himself. This is CHARLIE KNUTTLE, 40s, a thinker, astute. He's devouring a plate of shrimp.

DREAMA

Mr. Knuttle?

He turns.

CHARLIE
You must be Dreama?

DREAMA
Yes, sir. This is my...

MURDOCK
Friend.

Murdock extends his hand. Charlie shakes it.

CHARLIE
Have a seat.

They sit right next to him.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Cokey tells me you have something
for me?

DREAMA
Yes, but first I have questions.

Charlie sets his plate of food to the side, puts his feet up.

CHARLIE
You ever been on a horse?

DREAMA
Can't say that I have.

CHARLIE
I've been riding since I was a kid.
Feels like you're flying. This
thing of beauty, guiding your way
with powerful speed. The soft wind
hits your face as you inhale the
earth's creation. You become one.
You see and feel the same things.
It's the most powerful feeling in
the world.

Dreama and Murdock exchange glances.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
It's the reason why I got into the
breeding business. Some people say
dogs are man's best friend. I say
it's horses. Dogs are loyal, sure,
but they're too much like humans.
(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

They let their emotions get the best of them sometimes. They don't understand their power.

Charlie watches as the thoroughbreds race the track.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

The only thing about power is that when it's mixed with fear, bad things happen. It's like falling off of a horse. The horse senses you're afraid. It reacts. You try and take control. It overpowers you. Sooner or later, it has to make a decision. It's you or him. The bond is broken.

DREAMA

I understand.

CHARLIE

Most people don't.

DREAMA

I need your help, Mr. Knuttle.

CHARLIE

I've been known to be a helpful person at times. Enlighten me.

DREAMA

A couple days ago, the man I fell in love with was murdered in cold blood. Before he died, he gave me this emerald necklace and ever since I've been wearing it, I've been having visions of his past.

CHARLIE

She can't be serious. Tigers eye!

MURDOCK

She's telling the truth.

DREAMA

I believe the contents of that storage chest could have a big reason to do with why he died.

CHARLIE

You want me to tell you what's in it.

DREAMA

I just want to find out who killed
my boyfriend.

Dreama unfastens the emerald eye necklace. She hands it to
Charlie.

CHARLIE

What am I supposed to do with this?

DREAMA

It's cursed... but in a good way.

He gives it a once over.

CHARLIE

...and this is valuable to me,
because?

DREAMA

What if I were to tell you, you had
the ability to look into someone's
past and see their truth? You wanna
talk about power? You've got all
the power you need right in the
palm of your hands.

Charlie looks down at the emerald eye. It stares back at him.

CHARLIE

Are you fucking with me?

MURDOCK

She's serious.

CHARLIE

I can't believe I'm wasting my time
with this bullshit! here I don't
want it! It's cursed! Ha ha ha

Dreama takes the necklace and puts it around his neck. She
cups his face in her hands, looks right into his eyes.

DREAMA

Whatever you do, don't close your
eyes.

Dreama and Charlie's eyes are locked in silence.

Moments later, we PUSH into CHARLIE'S EYES, watching as they
jerk to the visions in his head.

For the first time, Dreama is able to see what others saw
when she had her visions. Emotion overtakes her. Tears stream
down her face.

Murdock and skybox ticket holders watch in awe. Finally, Charlie snaps out of it.

DREAMA (CONT'D)
What did you see?

CHARLIE
Everything.

He turns to Murdock.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
You hurt her, didn't you?

MURDOCK
(ashamed)
Once, yes.

CHARLIE
I felt it.

Charlie takes the necklace off. He hands it to Dreama.

Charlie gets up from his seat.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Come with me. I saw a vision with
the tigers eye!

EXT. KNUITTLE ESTATE - DAY

A lavish FARMHOUSE sits on acres of land. Trees. Freshly cut grass. A small pond.

INT. HORSE STABLES - DAY

It's state of the art. Horses are posted in their stalls munching on hay.

Charlie enters with Dreama and Murdock.

CHARLIE
About two years ago, I ran into a
guy at the Derby races. He was a
real asshole. A big shot. His name
was Curio.

MURDOCK
We know of him.

CHARLIE
He was throwing his money around
that day.
(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Went all out on the third leg of the American Triple Crown. He lost, but it didn't damper his spirits. He kept going on about foreign architecture. Capturing love in a work of art. A bunch of shit I didn't understand.

DREAMA

Sounds just like Curio.

CHARLIE

He said he was looking to get rid of this place. Wanted to invest the money in a night club up in Lexington, Kentucky. So, I offered to take it off of his hands.

They stop in front of an empty stall.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

A couple of months after I got settled in, I spotted something weird while cleaning the stalls.

Charlie opens the stall. They walk in. There's a small compartment in the corner, just big enough for a body.

Charlie takes out a key and unlocks it. Dreama bends down, looks. It's just an empty space full of hay.

DREAMA

I don't see anything.

CHARLIE

Look closer.

She does and notices small child-like drawing etched into the wood. It looks like a map.

MURDOCK

Who drew that?

Dreama looks up at Murdock.

DREAMA

Right before Tommy died, he was trying to tell me something. He mentioned something about a boy.

CHARLIE

I called Curio and demanded to know what it meant.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

He acted like he didn't know what I was talking about, so I let it go. One night, I get in really late and I can see the lights from the road. I come in to turn them off and found two men trying to break into unlock this.

MURDOCK

What did you do?

CHARLIE

I threatened to blow their fucking heads off, if they didn't tell me what they were here for. They ran off before I could find out.

Dreama takes the tiger eye out, puts it around her neck. She looks up at Murdock. Should she be doing this?

Dreama stares at the drawing for a moment. Her eyes roll to the back of her head. She falls to the ground, twitching, contorting, reliving.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

What the fuck is happening to her?

MURDOCK

The visions are taking over.

CHARLIE

What is she trying to do?

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Get answers.

We push in on Dreama. Her eyes jerk to the visions.

WE SEE FLASHES OF:

CUMBERLAND STATE PARK

Tommy lifts the storage chest into a boat. We can tell his mind is racing.

DANOOB (V.O.)

What did you do with the body, boss?

CURIO (V.O.)

I've got two guys who took care of it.

He pries the chest open with bolt cutters. The bones of a young child rest inside.

Tommy is wrought with emotion. He peers down at them.

TOMMY (V.O.)
He's was just a little kid.

CURIO (V.O.)
He saw too much. I've got a
business to protect.

Tommy looks at his hands. There's no blood on them, but there might as well be. He dumps the chest back into the lake.

Tommy stands in front of Curio with a duffle bag full of his cut of the 30 grand. He locks eyes with Curio.

TOMMY (V.O.)
I don't want any part of this.

CURIO (V.O.)
How do I know that I can trust you,
Parido?

He drops the bag in front of Curio, walks off, disgusted.

Tommy sniffs a line of coke in a hotel room. Falls back onto the bed.

INT. HORSE STABLES - NIGHT

Murdock and Charlie watch as Dreema comes to.

MURDOCK
Dreema, are you okay?

She's visibly shaken.

DREAMA
He knew.

Dreema grabs her phone and snaps pictures of the map.

EXT. HORSE STABLES - DAY

Dreema storms out of the stables. Murdock follows after her.

MURDOCK
Dreema, what did you see?

He catches up to her.

DREAMA

There were bones in that storage chest. A little boy's bones.

MURDOCK

Wait. What do you mean bones?

DREAMA

He saw Curio kill a man, so the sick bastard, looked him in the stalls. He drew a map so someone could find him.

MURDOCK

That poor little boy.

DREAMA

We've got a witness. We have pictures. A motive. We finally have what we need to link Curio to Tommy's murder. All we need is the chest.

MURDOCK

I know, but even if we retrieve the chest, it's not going to bring Tommy back.

DREAMA

I thought you were on my side.

MURDOCK

I am on your side, but I just think we're in over our heads.

DREAMA

What about that little boy?

MURDOCK

Don't you think all of this is a little much?

DREAMA

You don't believe me?

MURDOCK

I don't know what to believe anymore.

DREAMA

I know what I saw.

MURDOCK

Really? Are you sure about that?
Because if we do this, there's a
strong possibility that one of us
could end up dead. Just like Tommy.

Charlie exits the stables.

CHARLIE

He's right, you know. Curio seems
like a dangerous man.

Dreama glares at Murdock.

DREAMA

I was a fool for thinking that I
could ever trust you again. What's
the use in believing in people,
when all they do is let you down.
You haven't changed at all. You're
still the same selfish person I
married years ago.

Dreama walks away.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

You don't have to help me. I'll do
it by myself.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR - DAY

Dreama gets inside, slams the door, revs the engine. Murdock
runs up. He kneels down in the window.

MURDOCK

I'll do it. I'll help you.

DREAMA

Why?

MURDOCK

We've come this far. What's the
worst that could happen? What'll
you say we do our good deed
together?

DREAMA

For Tommy?

MURDOCK

For everybody.

Murdock hops in the car.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR - DAY

Dreama drives. Murdock's in the passenger seat.

MURDOCK
What's the plan?

DREAMA
I haven't thought about that yet.

MURDOCK
You do realize we are setting
ourselves up for failure?

DREAMA
You got any ideas?

MURDOCK
First things first. We need to get
back to Las Angeles.

EXT. MURDOCK'S CAR

Dreama zooms by a sign that reads: TENNESSEE - 260 miles.
They board a plane at the Blue Grass Airport to California.

EXT. HIGHWAY 10 Las Angeles Airport - (carlot) NIGHT

Murdock cruises down the highway. Dreama is asleep in the
passenger seat. The bright lights of the big City become
visible up ahead.

INT. MURDOCK'S CAR

Murdock looks in his rearview mirror. A POLICE CAR follows
closely a couple vehicles behind.

MURDOCK
We got trouble.

Dreama wakes up.

DREAMA
What's wrong?

MURDOCK
We're being followed.

DREAMA
(looking)
I don't see anybody.

MURDOCK

I'm an expert at following people.
I'm telling you this doesn't look
good.

Sirens BLARE in the distance. A COP CAR pulls in behind them.

Murdock pulls over. An OFFICER approaches the vehicle.

OFFICER

License and registration.

Murdock hands it over.

MURDOCK

Was I speeding, sir?

OFFICER

Just a moment.

The officer walks back to his squad car. Dreama and Murdock wait, nervous.

Murdock peeks in his rearview mirror. He can see the officer talking on a cell phone. He's taking a long time.

DREAMA

Is he gonna write you a ticket, or
what?

MURDOCK

He didn't pull us over for a
ticket.

The officer exits his vehicle. He approaches Murdock.

OFFICER

I'm going to have to take you both
in.

DREAMA

We didn't break any laws.

OFFICER

You broke the most important law of
all, ma'am. Sticking your nose
where it doesn't belong.

DREAMA

What?

OFFICER

Get out of the car and put your
hands on the hood.

INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT

The officer drives. Dreama and Murdock sit in the back, confused.

DREAMA

Sir, when do you plan on telling us why we were arrested?

The Officer ignores her.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

Sir, we have rights, you know.

MURDOCK

You do realize what's happening, right?

DREAMA

Fill me in.

MURDOCK

They're on to us.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

The police car pulls into the driveway. He uncuffs Dreama and Murdock and escorts them inside.

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM

Dreama and Murdock walk in ahead of the officer. The place has been ransacked. Broken furniture. Broken glass. Totally demolished. Dreama's in shock.

CURIO (O.S.)

Hello, Amelia.

We move around to find Curio standing with Danooob and Bix.

CURIO (CONT'D)

What am I saying? That's not your real name, now is it?

DREAMA

What are you doing here?

CURIO

I thought since you took it upon yourself to pay a visit to my place, I'd return the favor.

DANOOB
I knew I recognized you from
somewhere that day.

Danoob walks up to Dreama and slaps her. She falls to the
ground.

MURDOCK
Don't you touch her!

Danoob draws his gun and approaches Murdock.

DANOOB
What are you going to do about it,
tough guy?

Bix stands in front of Murdock, waiting for him to make a
move.

DANOOB (CONT'D)
That's what I thought.

CURIO
Guys, don't you think it's quite
rude to intimidate our guests in
their own home.

DREAMA
What do you want?

CURIO
Have a seat.

The police officer makes them sit. Bix and Danoob stand
guard.

Curio sits in a chair across from them. He scans the room.

CURIO (CONT'D)
You really should fix this place
up, if you plan on selling it. I
could give you some tips on...
Well, then I'd have to charge you.

DREAMA
We know what you did. We know why
you had Tommy killed.

CURIO
Oh, do you?

DREAMA
You took away the one person that
loved me.

CURIO

Love. That's an interesting word.

Curio eyes Dreama.

CURIO (CONT'D)

You know what I love. I love good wine. Expensive art. I love the sensuous touch of a beautiful woman. Most of all, I love loyalty. I mean, what kind of world would it be without loyalty? I say a pretty fucked up one. Tell me. What lengths would a man go to in order to hold on to the one he loves? You know, I thought about killing Parido at the very beginning just to ensure that he didn't talk, but then I found out some information that made me second guess those actions.

Dreama is in tears.

CURIO (CONT'D)

He like the rest of us, was a flawed man. He was trying to change his life, because he'd fell in love. Sure, he promised he'd keep quiet, but someone convinced me that his loyalty to you only forced him to come to grips with the fact that the only way he could have you was if he was truthful about his past. It was only a matter of time before he talked to the wrong person. I have a business to run, so I decided to make him go away.

DREAMA

You murdered him in cold blood.

CURIO

What kind of man do you think I am, Amelia? I'm not a murderer. I'm too sophisticated for that.

Jake appears from the darkness.

JAKE

Hello, Dreama.

(to the officer)

I'll take it from here.

The officer leaves.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry you had to be involved in all of this. I was hoping the incident from a couple nights ago would be enough to keep you quiet. Who would have thought things would go this far?

DREAMA

It was you. You're the one who attacked me.

JAKE

I wasn't trying to hurt you.

DREAMA

Why? Why would you do all of this?

JAKE

Do you know what secrets do to you? They eat away at your soul, leaving nothing but a thirst to prove that you're normal. It was eating away at his soul, Dreama. He had to tell somebody.

DREAMA

He went to the police. He came to you and you turned your back on him.

CURIO

Actually, he shot him! Do you know why, Amelia? Because Detective Danvers is fucking loyal!

JAKE

No matter how many times you try to change who you really are, the only thing anybody ever sees is what you've done wrong.

This hits Murdock. He knows the feeling all too well.

DREAMA

Tommy didn't deserve to die.

JAKE

We had to make it go away somehow.

CURIO

You know, I'm really enjoying our little tit for tat, but I've got better things I could be doing.

DREAMA

Tommy died, because he was just trying to be honest with himself.

CURIO

Since we're being honest, Dreama, I just want to let you know that I intend on making sure that you, Tommy and your little friend here are joined together very soon. One big happy family.

(then)

Detective Danvers, kill them both!

Danoob hands the gun to Jake, he points it at Dreama. Murdock grabs her and rolls to the floor.

Jake fires. Misses.

Murdock jumps to his feet and goes blow for with Jake.

Dreama tries to run, but is stopped by Danoob.

DANOOB

Where do you think you're going, sweetheart?

Dreama watches, worried as Murdock and Jake tussle on the ground for the gun.

Curio doesn't seem phased by the commotion.

CURIO

Well, I guess my work here is done.

Curio gets up from his chair and approaches Bix.

CURIO (CONT'D)

(to Bix)

After their little wrestling match has come to an end, see to it that Detective Danvers pays me the rest of my money, then kill him as well.

Curio saunters out of the house.

In the midst of the commotion, Murdock grabs the gun, aims for Jake, misses, but Bix is caught in the crossfire.

Bix falls to the floor, dead. A bullet hole to the head.

DANOOB
 (heartbroken)
 Bixy!

Dreama breaks free from Danoob and bolts up the stairs.
 Danoob whips out his gun and runs after her.

INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

Dreama rushes in, tries to move a sofa to block the door. You can hear Danoob stomping up the stairs.

He's barely able to open the door. The sofa blocks his way.

Danoob whips out his gun and blasts the door to shreds. He jumps over the couch and enters the room.

Dreama is crouched down in the corner by the bookshelves.

DANOOB
 Your little boyfriend shot Bixy.
 Now I'm going to make you pay.

Danoob moves closer.

Dreama grabs a big, thick BOOK from the shelf. Danoob lunges towards her. She swings, decking him in the face with the book, knocking him unconscious to the ground.

Dreama pushes the bookshelf on top of Danoob.

Moments later, we here a loud BANG!

Dreama's face is covered in fear. She grabs the gun from the ground and heads out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dreama scampers down the stairs, only to find Jake standing over Murdock's body. The gun is in his hands. Jake is bloody and disheveled.

He turns to Dreama. She moves closer. Tears stream down her face as she glances at Murdock lying in a pool of blood.

JAKE
 Things really didn't have to end up
 this way, Dreama.

DREAMA

This whole time you made it seem like Tommy was the bad guy, but you were the one with the real secrets.

JAKE

I'm not a bad guy, Dreama. Sometimes good people just do bad things.

Dreama points the gun at him.

DREAMA

Liar!

JAKE

You got that gun in your hand. Don't you plan on killing me? You know, the moment you do that it makes you no different than me.

DREAMA

I'm nothing like you.

JAKE

You know what, you may have a point there.

Jake moves closer to her.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I don't think you have it in you to kill.

He stands right in front of her gun, presses his chest against the barrel.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Your dad was a preacher. Don't you know about that verse that says thou shalt not kill?

DREAMA

I'll do it, I swear.

JAKE

Go ahead. Shoot me. What will Sophie think of you?

Dreama starts having second thoughts. She slowly drops the gun.

JAKE (CONT'D)

You and I both know you don't have any choice but to do what's right.

DREAMA

I don't want to do what's right. I want to do what's necessary.

JAKE

Really? ...and what would that be?

DREAMA

Justice.

Dreama pulls the trigger, shoots Jake in the leg. His knees buckle. Jake falls to the floor.

She reaches into her pocket and grabs the emerald necklace.

Dreama rushes over and wraps the necklace around his neck. She squeezes it tight, choking him.

We PUSH into Jake's eyes as Dreama chokes the shit out of him. The tigers eye necklace saved my life!

SOPHIE (O.S.)

Dreama?

The tighter she squeezes, the more the tears flow. Vindication at it's best.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Dreama?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ICU - NIGHT

Dreama's eyes pry open. She's in a hospital bed, attached to wires and IV's. Heavily bandaged.

Everything is blurry. Two figures surround her. She blinks. Everything comes into focus.

Murdock and Sophie are by her bedside looking over her.

SOPHIE

Hey you...

Dreama tries to sit up. She doesn't have the strength. A thrust of pain. She checks her side. A bandaged bullet wound.

MURDOCK

The doctor said you were lucky. It was six inches away from a main artery.

She's still a little woozy. Dreama forces out words.

DREAMA

He's dead, isn't he?

SOPHIE

Who?

DREAMA

Jake. I shot him. He's dead.

SOPHIE

Dead?

DREAMA

I watched him die.

SOPHIE

(to Murdock)

She must be seeing things again.

Murdock grabs Dreama's hand.

MURDOCK

What do you remember?

DREAMA

The house. Curio. Jake. They were all there. I didn't have a choice. So, I shot him. I'm so sorry, Soph.

Dreama bursts into tears. Murdock and Sophie exchange looks.

MURDOCK

Dreama, the authorities came and got Jake and Curio four days ago. Sophie turned them in.

She glances over at Sophie.

SOPHIE

It's true.

DREAMA

What about the house? All the bodies?

MURDOCK

You really don't remember do you?

SOPHIE

We called the media. Told them everything.

MURDOCK

Jake confessed to the whole thing.

DREAMA

It doesn't make sense. I watched him shoot you. You died right in front of me.

SOPHIE

It was all a dream.

Dreama eyes Murdock.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Murdock risked his life to save you.

Dreama squeezes his hand.

DREAMA

I'm sorry for not believing in you.

MURDOCK

It's okay. Everything is going to be different now.

DREAMA

Not yet. There's one thing left I have to do.

INT. ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH - DAY

Dreama stands with Father Bernard in a pool of water. The chapel is packed with congregation members. Murdock and Sophie proudly sit up front.

Father Bernard leans her back into the water, baptizing her. Moments later, her raises her up. Her hair and clothes are soaking wet.

As the organ chimes in and the church stands, Dreama takes it all in. A look of peace and relief comes over her face.

EXT. ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH - DAY

A crowd of congregation members pour out of the church. Amongst them, we find Dreama, Murdock and Sophie.

DREAMA

Well, what happens now?

MURDOCK

Start over, I guess.

DREAMA

You think daddy would be proud of me?

MURDOCK

Of course. You did the right thing.

DREAMA

No, I did what was necessary.

MURDOCK

We should celebrate.

DREAMA

I wouldn't know what to do.

SOPHIE

Hello? This lady needs to eat.

MURDOCK

Sound good to you. The three of us.

DREAMA

Just like old times.

MURDOCK

Can I ask you a question?

DREAMA

Go ahead.

MURDOCK

When you look at me now, what do you see?

She stops. Looks over at him, focused on his big blue eyes.

DREAMA

I see change.

A big smile comes over Murdock's face. He grabs her hand, squeezes it tight.

DREAMA (CONT'D)

It's been a crazy last couple of days.

SOPHIE

Reminds me of when we were kids.

DREAMA

(clutching the tigers emerald necklace)
What's that stupid line you used to
say when we were together?

MURDOCK

Do you want to live wild and
dangerously?

Dreama smiles. The three old friends disappear into the
crowd.

FADE OUT:

THE END