Gloaming

by Don Moore

Don Moore 444 Forest Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15202 (412)862-6279 www.diezel3146@hotmail.com

## INT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

A multitude of colorful fish and other interesting creatures of the ocean swim about.

Submerged in the blue depths, a FEMALE DIVER in her late twenties shines her flashlight on the ocean floor.

Strange CRAWLING FISH coat the entire bottom migrating toward land. These fish are abnormal. They have four legs, forward looking eyes, smooth flesh, and tails.

A MALE DIVER in his early forties joins the woman. Both divers are intrigued by the thousands of strange creatures scurrying along swiftly. They look at each other bewildered by their discovery.

## EXT. BOAT DECK - DAY

Standing on the boat, the male diver pulls a steel chain attached to a metal cage from the ocean.

## WITHIN THE OCEAN

Crepuscular rays shine from above in an array of streams. The strange fish begin to gyrate. Their flesh expands.

### FROM THE BOAT DECK

The cage is pulled from the water. As soon as the fish hit the ocean air, they shrivel and burst into flames.

The divers look at each other in disbelief.

## INT. BOAT CABIN - DAY

The attractive female diver is wearing a wet suit while flipping through a book by the light of a dim desk lamp. Her body is fit, skin near flawless. She has a stack of books on the desk next to her, closes the one she is looking at and opens another to the bookmark, scanning a page with her index finger. She has a single book by itself to the other side of the stack. The discarded literature sits on a side table in a mess.

There is a covered cage on a table in the corner, and all the curtains are shut so no light remains in the cabin.

She walks over to the cage with the book open still reading, and removes the cover revealing three of the captured fish. She stands comparing a few different photos in the book to the creatures.

# FEMALE DIVER Is this you, little guys?

These quadrupeds look more like amphibians than fish. They appear quite comfortable in the ocean air, breathing through small nostrils with their gills closed tight. They do not attempt to escape; instead, they are playful and content within the cage. Small webbed arms lead to tiny webbed hands with opposable thumbs as they grab at the cage grates. Their hind legs are more like a rabbit's than a canine's. Their faces have character; eyes glow emerald green with side shutting lids, red fringe flutters about their cute, smiling salamander—like faces. Their torsos are a blend of different colors with smooth skin and no scales. Their pointed tails wag.

A BLUE FISH with green spots dangles upside down from the cage stretching out a newly formed neck. It relinquishes a tiny tongue and trumpets an adorable cooing sound.

The fit, salt and pepper haired male diver enters the room. When the door opens and lets in a stream of light, two of the creatures scurry nervously to a dark corner of the cage. The male diver comes closer inspecting the fish and cringes.

MALE DIVER

Those things give me the willies.

FEMALE DIVER

Awe. They're so cute.

MALE DIVER

I don't know. Something just isn't right. Come on. Only devil creatures explode in the sun light. We should let them go. I just don't feel right about this.

FEMALE DIVER

What are you talking about? This is a huge discovery.

The female sticks her finger out to the fish that is hanging upside down from the cage and tickles its stomach. It seems far from minatory as it coos and enjoys her touch. She smiles delighted.

FEMALE DIVER

You want to just toss them back in the ocean? I've already checked the reference books. These guys have similarities of a variety of ocean life, but as far as I can tell, there is no record of their existence. Except here...

She points to the book she's holding with a dinosaur on the cover.

FEMALE DIVER

...this is the closest I've found, but they've been extinct since the birth of mankind. Jim, I think we've discovered an actual prehistoric creature.

JIM

Ha! When we get back, we can open our own Jurassic Sea World. Maybe we should radio it in.

FEMALE DIVER

Nah. We're on vacation.

She puts her arms around his mid-section from behind as he stands reading the book.

FEMALE DIVER

Let's just enjoy our time, we're supposed to be relaxing, not working.

JIM

Hey, you're the one who wanted to take back a specimen.

He shudders.

JIM

How about we toss a couple back? We only need one. They're freaking me out.

The fish are playing some kind of game with each other, wrestling around like kittens playing.

FEMALE DIVER

That is so adorable. It won't hurt to take a few back. They'll be safe; plus, we don't know anything about them. There may be a male and female here. That could be important to realize mating rituals. I'm bringing them in with us.

JIM

Okay, if you insist, but I'd rather toss them back overboard.

She circles around him with her arms around his shoulders until they are face to face and pecks him on the lips.

FEMALE DIVER

I'll throw you overboard.

JIM

I'd like to see you try.

They passionately kiss.

OUTSIDE ON THE BOAT DECK

The sun dangles to the west leaving less than an hour of daylight.

OVER THE HORIZON

The sun slowly dips.

The couple sit on the deck drinking wine while watching the sunset. He's wearing swim trunks; she has on a two piece bikini and little over-skirt. They cuddle on a fluffy towel lovingly fondling each other. She is giddy.

JIM

What are you so happy about?

FEMALE DIVER

Us. Our potential chance of making it into science books. I mean...this discovery could make our careers.

JIM

I thought we are relaxing. Let's not talk about work anymore.

FEMALE DIVER

You know how committed I am to my career.

JIM

A marine biologist in your waking hours and dreams. Passion. I guess that's part of why I love you so much. You even talk about it in your sleep.

She punches his arm.

FEMALE DIVER

I do not!

JIM

You do. Now enough, this is our time, we're on vacation.

The male kisses her a final time, swallows the remains of his wine, removes his shorts, and dives into the water.

## INSIDE THE CABIN

It is very dark. The cages rattle. The grates bow. The creatures within expand as the sun creeps from the sky. They groan and growl as the cage bows and breaks apart.

### OUTSIDE ON THE BOAT DECK

The MOON is HUGE AND FULL above. Combined with the stars, it provides quite a bit of light. The sun has gone away for the evening. The woman turns on the deck lights illuminating the circumference of the boat. She removes her bikini top and over-skirt. She walks about the deck readying herself to dive. She runs four steps and jumps instead.

Just before her final step, the cabin door BURSTS to pieces.

In mid-air, a long, thin, sticky tongue wraps around the woman's waist. Acrid slime drips from it, searing her flesh. She is held in the air at the edge of the boat, face to face with the MONSTROUS CREATURE, inches from its oozing, hideous maw. She screams horrified by its appearance. Her eyes hold fear. Her lips quiver. The creature growls. She squirms in pain.

The tip of the tongue tickles her stomach just as she did to the fish with her finger earlier. The slime from the tongue leaves a chemical burn, it doesn't tickle.

Suddenly, she is split in half and falls to the water, her viscera streaming behind her.

The man resurfaces to witness the fall. He looks up at the boat in horror.

Two of the creatures soar with wings from the boat as he makes a futile attempt to swim away. He is pulled under after a couple strokes. Blood dissipates in the water.

From within the bloody water, the moon hangs big, bright, and red above, wavering and rippling in appearance.

### TITLES BEGIN

On a journey to the dark depths of the ocean there is a multitude of ocean life: some beautiful, some eerily hideous.

Deeper and deeper. Along the ocean floor, the strange fish scurry toward shore. Traveling rapidly against their migration, it seems there is no origin to these unusual beings.

Once down deep enough, where fish most humans don't encounter swim about, billions of billiard ball sized pods hatch.

Discarded pod shells clutter the floor.

CLOSE ON a hatching as hundreds of tiny tadpole-like creatures escape from a single pod. They rapidly mature to the crawling fish state and amble forward.

EXT. EAST COAST SHORE - NIGHT

The undulations in the ocean water are unnerving.

The moon hangs large and full surrounded by the maximum amount of visible stars. It's as if all the cloud have been sucked from the sky, not a single cloud exists.

The fish crawl from the ocean reaching the beach. The moonlight glows upon their MONSTROUS SILHOUETTES as they morph from a few inches to eight feet standing on the two muscular legs.

END TITLES

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM - DAY

CAITLIN, 24, and DAVID, 26, lay on their bed, face to face, with their entire bodies covered by a blanket. Through her eyes, colorful designs blend together with his facial expressions. His lips vibrate when he speaks. His face is quite attractive even with light trails following all movement. There is a soft blue tone to his skin. Caitlin's words roll slowly from her tongue with a strange vibrato accompanied by her own squeals and groans of pleasure. Thumping, lively music plays in her ears. Each song she hears sets a tone to each event.

CAITLIN

Oh, David, you make me so horny.

David chuckles, she growls passionately and kisses him. As their mouths and tongues meet, they blend spiraling together.

His hands caress her all over as if he had eight, maybe even ten new appendages. He massages her breasts.

She quivers and moves onto her stomach with her right cheek against the pillow staring at the baby's crib. She groans in pleasure then purrs. Her flesh illuminates to his touch when his fingers move into her view massaging her right shoulder like a pro. He does not rub her skin; instead, his fingers push into her flesh penetrating her.

### CAITLIN

Mmm. David, your hands are magical.

She roars in ecstacy. The music in her ears heightens the experience.

As they passionately kiss, their tongues take the form of a female and male. Both remain the color and texture of a tongue as they caress each other in passion...twisting together boneless. Their human features emerge from the tongue flesh. The pleasure is overwhelming.

They no longer lay in bed; instead, they are in a pinkish red, soft tube making love to each other. Their bodies fade from the flesh of their tongues until she is pink and he is soft blue once more. Their bodies and hair float weightless in fleshy love making vessel as if it is filled with fluid.

With their bodies only inches apart, their hearts pound under their rib cages causing their chests to pulsate. His fingers drag through her body like running them through sand.

With every caress, their molecules break down a little more until they are completely penetrating each other. Their particles cling together when they pull away.

While his head is between her legs, she sensually runs her fingers through his hair. His hair comes to life caressing her hands in return as if each follicle has a mind of its own. Soon her fingers penetrate his head like squeezing bread dough. She screams in passion.

#### CAITLIN

Oh...David! Ah, ah, ah.

He returns to her mouth with a kiss. Their bodies intertwine. Bones no longer exist. They are like two sexy, slithering snakes in human form, able to bend with each other in any position.

Their necks, torsos, and legs braid together like chains linking. Their entire bodies become one, twisting and turning into each other.

A psychedelic array of colors fill the fleshy tube as they travel rapidly through it while passionately penetrating each other, grunting and groaning.

Simultaneously, they let out orgasmic howls and are shot from the vessel through the air, landing softly on the bed. Their molecules retract until Caitlin lay still on her back. Colorful, thick globs rain from above and coat her face, neck, and breasts. Caitlin scoops a little with her fingers and licks it.

CAITLIN

Tastes like candy.

David chuckles and stands.

CAITLIN

Where you going, love?

DAVID

Just getting a towel.

CAITLIN

Wait...shh...Where's Julia? I haven't heard her in a while, usually she screaming her lungs out by now.

DAVID

I'll check on her. Stay here.

David walks over to the baby's crib. His flesh flows swirling shades of blue as he moves across the room. His ass is bare; he's totally nude. He leans into the crib and baby sounds (coos and gah-gahs) fill the room. The room is a large master bedroom that appears alive. The walls undulate and bow as if the room is breathing. The rainbow carpet stands like blades of grass wavering in the wind. The furniture seems alive and pulsating as well. David grabs a towel and returns to the bed.

DAVID

Jules is fine.

He climbs back under the covers, fanning out the blanket in an intense array of movement. He sits on the edge and wipes her face, neck, and breasts with the towel.

CAITLIN

She's so beautiful. She has your eyes.

DAVID

And your smile.

She smiles into his. The room expands and retracts with each of Caitlin's exhausted, yet satisfied, long, deep breaths. She moves to her back and stares at the ceiling which is shifting patterns; at times, rolling like waves on the ocean. David slowly runs his fingers over her smooth skin while resting beside her. She giggles to the combination of the ceiling in motion and his touch. She rolls to her side.

In the crib, the happy pink baby stands up and blows colorful bubbles into the air.

Thousands of different sized bubbles fill the room. Caitlin catches her obscured reflection in a large bubble floating right in front of her face.

CAITLIN

Oooh! Wow! I feel really tingling now. Do you see the bubbles Julia made?

The bubble with her reflection bursts.

DAVID

Yeah. I see them.

She flips back over, now facing David.

CAITLIN

What time's it?

DAVID

Morning.

CAITLIN

I feel so strange. Good strange.

DAVID

You're okay.

CAITLIN

I gotta get up.

DAVID

No baby. Lay with me for a while. Let's talk.

CAITLIN

You wanna talk, and after what we just did. That's new. You usually just pass out.

DAVID

I guess sometimes I do, don't I?

CAITLIN

Usually. Hmm. I feel so tingly all over.

She reaches to her ears.

CAITLIN

Why are earbuds in my ears?

She takes one out. The MUSIC only plays to her LEFT. David grabs it from her and puts it back in her ear.

DAVID

Keep 'em in. I want you to listen to these new songs I downloaded.

CAITLIN

Okay. Why's your face look like that? And your voice sounds different.

DAVID

I'm just a little groggy. I love you.

CAITLIN

I love you more. I had fun last night. I don't remember coming home.

DAVID

You fell asleep, so I carried you inside.

CAITLIN

I'm so happy we hung out with Jeff. I'm glad you guys are finally able to put the past in the past. I really missed him. I love Jeff.

DAVID

Oh, do you now?

CAITLIN

I always have. Well...not in that way...not the way I love you. He's a sweetheart.

David slowly strokes her pale pink arm. As he runs his fingers against her skin, sparks fly from his touch.

CAITLIN

Ooh. That was cool...feels nice. How did that happen?

DAVID

Things are a little different for you right now, just enjoy the feeling.

CATTLIN

What? I'm confused.

DAVID

Exactly. Just trust me.

She returns a comforting stroke against his bare chest. Sparks fly as her pink toned fingers blend with his baby blue flesh. They are so in love, there is no flesh barrier. Their touching is penetrating.

CAITLIN

I hate Jeff's girlfriend. She's not good for him...such a little self-centered slut.

DAVID

Yeah, she wa..is. It's not going to last.

CAITLIN

Yeah. He's only with her cause she smokes the pot with him. Why's he need to get stoned so much?

DAVID

Hey, he likes it.

CAITLIN

I couldn't live like that. I can't.

DAVID

Ashlan's pretty hot though.

CAITLIN

Ooh! You like her.

DAVID

No. No. She's got a smokin' bod' I must admit.

He sniggers. She pushes him in the chest, it gives like Playdough. He covers her head with the sheet.

CAITLIN

What are you doing? I can't even see you...oh my Ford.

She pulls the blanket from her face and looks around the vivid room.

CAITLIN

Everything is so colorful.

David waves his hand in front of her. Colorful trails follow his fingers.

DAVID

You like what you're seeing?

CAITLIN

I like seeing you. I can't wait til our honeymoon.

She looks at her engagement ring. The diamond is abnormally large on her slender finger. She kisses the diamond, it illuminates in response.

CAITLIN

Did you get to ask Jeff to be your best man?

David seems confused.

DAVID

What? Best man? Oh, no I didn't get the chance. Maybe I'll ask him today.

CAITLIN

You better.

She grabs his nipple and twists. It spirals like soft serve ice cream on a cone and unravels.

DAVID

Ouch!

CAITLIN

I'm sorry. Did that hurt?

DAVID

Little.

CAITLIN

I was kinda worried about providing for Julia.

I'd never consider her an accident, but it could have happened when we were more ready. Now that you got that promotion things are fine.

DAVID

Yeah. You don't have to worry about waiting tables anymore. You can dedicate your time to Julia and your gardening now.

CAITLIN

Not gardening...botany. I'm putting a cotton candy forest in the back yard for her. It's going to be so pretty.

DAVID

Cotton candy forest?

CAITLIN

Yeah. Ooh. Mmm. I told you about it. Remember? I'm growing all kinds of flowery, colorful trees.

She closes her eyes and imagines it.

CAITLIN'S COTTON CANDY FOREST

The trees grow from a vacant grassy field.

CAITLIN (V.O.)

White, blue, yellow, and mostly pink flowered trees dancing in the wind. From a distance, it'll look like fluffy cotton candy.

DAVID (V.O.)

And flowers. Lots and lots of beautiful flowers sprouting up from the earth.

Flowers sprout overspreading the ground.

CAITLIN (V.O.)

Yeah. And butterflies. Tons and tons of colory butterflies fluttering about. Yeah that's what I want.

A mass of butterflies flutter about the vivid forest.

DAVID (V.O.)

And yellow and black bumblebees. Lots of bees buzzing by.

Bees join the forest life. Caitlin opens her eyes. The flowers, butterflies, and bees flutter about David's head. The bees quickly disappear.

CAITLIN

No. No bees. I'm allergic. Remember?

DAVID

Okay. No bees then, but...yeah...I got it. I know of such a place that exists.

CAITLIN

Ooh. I wanna go.

DAVID

We can take Julia there this afternoon. I'll invite Jeff and Ashlan to come with us.

The butterflies circling David's head take flight. Caitlin follows their flutter as they disappear into the undulating blue ceiling tiles.

CAITLIN

Don't invite that bitch, just Jeff.

DAVID

All right. I don't think she's around today anyhow.

CAITLIN

Mmm. I'm so excited. Awe. The butterflies are gone.

DAVID

They'll meet us there.

CAITLIN

Okay. Hmm...I feel so relaxed.

She snuggles against David's chest.

FADE TO:

EXT. OCEANFRONT BEACH HOUSE - BALCONY - DAY

JEFF, 25, shaggy and tall, stares down

### ON THE BEACH

Two women sunbathe. Though his girlfriend lay right next to her, Jeff stares at Caitlin with a hint of regret in his expression. He sighs.

He glances at ASHLAN. Sure, she's beautiful with a gorgeous body, but that doesn't make up for her shallow, self-centered demeanor, nor does it excuse her from being a bitch. Caitlin, on the other hand, radiates a soft, natural beauty. Her personality is kind and welcoming; evident just watching her lay there in the sun reading her book. Her strawberry blonde hair sparkles in the rays as she rolls her neck. She is gorgeous.

A MAN walks his DOG along the beach with no leash. The dog gets away from his owner and happily runs to the women. Ashlan throws a fit when the dog slobbers over top of her. She stands and shouts at the owner. Caitlin gets to her knees and plays with the dog, rubbing it firmly behind its ears. While Ashlan throws a fit, Caitlin interrupts speaking friendly with the man. Ashlan grabs her beach towel, moves away from the conversation, lays down on her hips and elbow, and violently flips through her "Cosmopolitan" magazine. She keeps glancing over, obviously annoyed by the dog's presence as Caitlin continues stroking its fur.

The man says goodbye to Caitlin and walks down the beach. The dog hesitantly runs behind him, stopping to sniff a patch of beach sand.

Caitlin goes back to reading her romance novel. The muscular, shirtless man embracing a beautiful woman on the front cover indicates the genre she enjoys reading.

Ashlan tosses her magazine in the sand, gets to her knees, undoes her bikini top, and lay flat on her stomach to tan her back.

ON THE BALCONY

David sneaks up behind Jeff, startling him.

DAVID

Hey bro.

Jeff snaps out of his daze.

**JEFF** 

Hey.

David is wearing a sweatsuit. The gray top is soaked with sweat under his neck, armpits, and the center of his back.

He grabs the railing and stretches his arms, back, and shoulders.

DAVID

Great run. Rejuvenating...you should've come.

He heaves a leg up on the banister and stretches his hamstrings.

JEFF

You know I'm not into the whole exercise thing.

DAVID

How do you keep in shape without exercise? If I didn't run, I'd be mistaken for Buddha.

JEFF

Ha. Always referring to yourself as some kind of God. I just eat properly. My job is manual labor...don't sit around an office on my ass all day like you.

DAVID

Come on now. I don't consider working behind a grill manual labor.

**JEFF** 

Yes it is. Plus, I sweat my ass off.

David continues to stretch.

DAVID

Burger slinger isn't a very fulfilling job. Whatever happened to that restaurant you were going to purchase with Sal?

**JEFF** 

Fell through. We didn't get the loan. And I'm not a burger slinger, I'm a chef.

DAVID

Chef, smef, you're nothing but a glorified grill cook.

**JEFF** 

Fuck you, man. I just can't bear to put on a shirt and tie and jump into the grinder like you did.

DAVID

Yep, I got the brains. You got the...uh. Maybe you should have stuck with the life guarding gig.

Jeff sighs and frowns and stares down on the girls. David looks on as well.

ON THE BEACH

Caitlin reads as Ashlan sunbathes. Seagulls fly in circles above the girls.

JEFF (O.S.)

Look Dave, quit judging me. You know, even though you are a prick to me, I still love you.

DAVID (O.S.)

Love you, too, man.

JEFF (O.S.)

That's why I invited you and Caity. I need to get some stuff off my chest. It's pretty fucked up what...

A glob of white plummets from a bird and lands on Ashlan's back. She jerks upward, covers her breasts with her forearm, stands, and storms angrily toward the house.

ON THE BALCONY

DAVID

Damn! I just saw your girlfriend's titties. Sweet.

JEFF

Yeah, sweet. Gonna steal her too, start yourself a harem.

DAVID

Come on now. It's not like that. She seems like a nice girl.

JEFF

Who are you kidding?

Ashlan walks onto the balcony. Her voice is shrill when she complains.

ASHLAN

A bird just fucking shit on me! It's bad enough I got some fucking rabid dog slobberin' all over me. Now I got to deal with this shit! This weekend sucks!

She turns and stomps back into the house. A door slams with force. David smiles at Jeff.

DAVID

Yep. Nice girl. Got a mouth on her...pretty one though.

**JEFF** 

Pretty when it's shut. Can't all be as lucky as you. That's why I wanted you here. I don't want this to be awkward, and I think we can put things to rest and enjoy the weekend once we talk this out, but I resent you, Dave.

Jeff folds his hands over the railing and stares down and Caitlin who waves to the guys.

DAVID

I know you do. You have every right to. What can I say? You had your chance. Just because you saved Caity's life, doesn't mean she's going to be yours forever. You let your guard down, Bro.

Jeff gets angry and rants. David constantly tries to interrupt, but Jeff is tearing him a new asshole.

**JEFF** 

See, this is why I had to get away. This is the shit that pisses me off! And now you're going to rub it in my face! She broke up with me and I was mature about it, even though I was heartbroken. I did everything she asked. I gave her the space she wanted and took that time to thoroughly assess my lifestyle so I could make her happy.

Every day without her has felt like an eternity. Empty. I have nothing without her.

DAVID

Not true, you have...

Jeff puts his hand up.

**JEFF** 

Stop, you don't get to tell me what I have! I wanted to live the rest of my life with her. I quit smoking pot and almost took that shitty office job. I was ready to settle down, David! Jesus Christ, I was willing to change for her, so I could provide for our family that never happened because of you. As usual, you fucked me, David! Screwed me out of the one person I love more than anyone I've ever known.

DAVID

Well, I...

**JEFF** 

You didn't even give me a chance to show her I wanted to change, just swooped right in there and sniped her from me! Heartless. A vulture waiting for his prey. You've always done that to me.

DAVID

No I...

**JEFF** 

Anything I've ever loved, you had to have! Why is that?! And once you take it, you don't care anymore. Remember Kelly from high school? You got her drunk and banged her after my prom.

DAVID

Hey, I di...

**JEFF** 

Proms are supposed to be a rite of passage, but not when you walk into your bedroom and find your big brother boinking your girlfriend on your own bed. And now Caity. You don't even care about her. You've never cared about her! You even talked all kinds of shit on her to Mom and Dad.

DAVID

But, but...

**JEFF** 

Yeah, I know about that, Mom told me. Why? Why do you do these things to me? I don't know why I even invited you here. We're not going to solve anything. Maybe you should just pack up the family you stole from me and leave.

DAVID

Hey!

**JEFF** 

And above everything, you had the nerve to give her that ring!

DAVID

I'm sorry, Bro.

Jeff takes a deep breath.

DAVID

You done?

Jeff looks away and bites his lip.

DAVID

Look, Caity's a fine girl, I can see why you'd be angry. And the ring, I saw my opportunity and took it. You threw it away. Plus, you fucked up my shit, consider it payback. I don't mean to gloat. I know you have your regrets, but don't you question my love for her. She's a special girl. The things I said to Mom and Dad spawned from how she treated you when you were together.

JEFF

It wasn't always like that.

DAVID

I know. But after three years with you, she wasn't good to you anymore, always belittling you and trying to shape you like silly putty. Her voice was always condescending when she spoke to you. She bitched all the time about you to Mom and Dad and even me. We all saw it coming. You never noticed these things because you were blinded by...

**JEFF** 

I wasn't blinded by shit. If you knew these things, then why did you snatch her up so quickly? You thought she was weak and you'd just get your dick wet, but you didn't know what to do when you found out she was pregnant. Huh?

DAVID

Yes I did. I stepped up and showed her I was a man ready to work hard for my mist...

David steps back and sighs.

DAVID

...life we created. You're the one who ran away.

Jeff stares down solemnly at his feet.

JEFF

Yeah, I fucked up, I know. I can't hold you completely accountable for robbing me of love.

DAVID

I didn't rob you of shit. She made her choice. You should have settled down and asked her to marry you when she was dropping hints left and right a couple years ago. You're the one that fucked up. The girl did everything to wake you up except physically drag you to a chapel. That hurt her.

That's why she was treating you like that. When you two were together, she was sad. She wanted a life and a family, but you didn't want to grow up. You wanted to be Peter Pan and live like a child forever. Women want a man. She saw a man in me. It was too late for you once I stepped up, Jeff. You can't force someone to love you...

David rests his hand on Jeff's shoulder.

DAVID

...and you can't let a woman stand between brothers. Hey, look...

Jeff looks into his eyes.

DAVID

I love you, man. That's why I wanted to ask you...

David's cell phone rings, interrupting the moment. The ringtone is his own recording of Julia's happy baby noises.

JEFF

Nice ring tone, dude.

David looks at the phone and doesn't answer it.

DAVID

Yeah. I record Julia's baby sounds. Makes me smile every time it rings. I got tons of her cute, little noises recorded on here.

JEFF

That's cool...I guess.

The phone stops ringing. A door is furiously slammed inside the house. A baby wails from within.

DAVID

There she goes. I better go check on her.

David turns. Ashlan is standing in front of the door wrapped in a towel drying her hair with a cloth.

ASHLAN

Can somebody shut this fucking baby up!

David looks at her like "what the fuck?" She walks away. David turns to Jeff, shakes his head, and smiles.

DAVID

What a bitch.

Jeff stares sadly at the beach ignoring the situation. Julia cries louder. David enters the house. The baby stops crying. David returns with Julia sucking a binky. David shouts down to Caitlin.

DAVID

Hey hon! Julia needs fed.

Caitlin bookmarks her page, looks up and nods, and gathers the beach equipment. David turns to Jeff.

DAVID

I should probably get the grill fired up.

He holds the baby facing him with his arms stretched out before him.

DAVID

You made Daddy hungry.

**JEFF** 

You should get in the shower. You smell a bitch. I'll fire up the grill.

DAVID

Cool. Here...take her.

Jeff takes his niece and cradles her in his arms.

ASHLAN (O.S.)

(shouting)

I can't find my purse. Did somebody move my fucking purse?!?

DAVID

Damn...how do you put up with that?

Jeff slowly shakes his head and shrugs.

EXT. BEACH HOUSE - PATIO - DAY

Jeff is setting up the grill. Ashlan is having a glass of wine and conversation with Caitlin while Caitlin breast feeds Julia.

Actually, it's not a conversation at all, just Ashlan going on and on about herself and her modeling career, not letting Caitlin get a word in edgewise. Caitlin listens attentively. Ashlan lights up a cigarette. A stream of smoke drifts toward Julia causing her to rub her eyes with her chubby little arm. Caitlin fans the smoke away with her hand.

CAITLIN

Ashlan...

ASHLAN

...so I was all like fuck you bitch, I'm prettier than you are any way. You might as well get in line at the Unemployment office 'cause I'm gettin' this job and their aint no if's, but's, or and's about it...know what I mean?

CAITLIN

Ashlan!

ASHLAN

What?

CAITLIN

Would you please take that cigarette elsewhere? Julia's trying to eat.

Ashlan makes a bitter face and speaks with attitude.

ASHLAN

Fine. I guess I'll just take it down to the beach. You guys just hang out at my beach house without me. Fuck!

She grabs her glass of wine and mumbles about the fucking baby as she saunters away. Caitlin shakes her head slowly while watching Ashlan stomp to the beach. She stops passed the edge of the grass and stands in the sand staring at the ocean.

Jeff puts the food on the grill, shuts it, and sits down next to Caitlin. She smiles at him shaking her head.

CAITLIN

Ford, that girl...she's insane.

Jeff looks down and slowly shakes his head.

**JEFF** 

Ha! You don't even know.

Jeff looks up smiling.

CAITLIN

Really...I think I do. Girly's told me everything about her from her conception through this day...and you know how I absorb everything people say.

JEFF

Yeah. I know you too well. You are a great listener. Ford?

CAITLIN

Yeah, I'm trying not to swear anymore, now that I'm a mommy. So I say Ford, you know, like in the story.

**JEFF** 

Oh yeah. That's very motherly.

ON THE BEACH, Ashlan looks back at them pissed. She kicks something in the sand stubbing her toe.

Jeff stares at the feeding baby. Caitlin catches him staring. He blushes.

**JEFF** 

Wow. She's really hungry. That stuff must be delicious.

CAITLIN

You've never tasted breast milk before?

Jeff shakes his head no and makes a disgusted face.

CAITLIN

Come on, it's not that bad.

JEFF

Just seems kind of all thick and gross. Reminds me of, well, you know.

CAITLIN

Well it's certainly not as gross as that. Like what those poor Japanese girls were doing on that porno I caught you watching. It's so demeaning. How can you look at that sick stuff?

I'll never get that image out of my head. It's burned there forever.

JEFF

Maybe being in a bukaki film isn't so demeaning. I mean, I heard it's great for the skin, all that protein. You should try it sometime.

She shakes her head and chuckles.

CAITLIN

I think I'll stay away from circle jerks.

She gestures to her breast.

CAITLIN

Sure you don't want to taste? It's not a bad as you think.

He grins.

JEFF

Okay, just a drop.

Caitlin looks around to make sure they're alone.

ON THE BEACH, Ashlan is sitting in the sand with the cigarette dangling from her lips, rubbing her foot with her back to them.

Caitlin pulls Julia away from her breast, picks a plastic cup off the table, and squirts a shot into the cup. She places it in front of Jeff and returns Julia to her nipple.

CAITLIN

Go ahead. Try it.

Jeff stares at the liquid. He hesitates, then downs the shot. He smacks his tongue around his mouth.

JEFF

It's kinda warm and sweet.

CAITLIN

Ha. That's exactly what David said.

HEAR the sliding glass doors open behind them. David walks onto the patio fresh from the shower. He throws his arms around her shoulders, kisses her cheek, and rubs Julia's head.

DAVID

What I say?

Caitlin smiles guilty at Jeff gesturing to the cup with her eyes. He picks it up and tosses it in the trash.

CAITLIN

Oh...nothing sweetheart.

David walks over and opens the grill.

DAVID

Dude, you're burning these filets.

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM - DAY

Caitlin stares up at the kaleidoscope of colored images blending on the ceiling. Everything in the room is pulsating. She is very relaxed. Soft music plays comfortably in her ears.

CAITLIN

I feel so weird. Whatcha doin' baby?

DAVID

I'm just building the stroller Jeff gave us.

CAITLIN

Ooh, I love it. Jeff always knows what to get me...us.

DAVID

I know.

INT. CAITLIN AND DAVID'S HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

IN REALITY, IT ISN'T DAY AFTERALL. Jeff sits on the floor by the glow of a lamp while building something from different baby accessories. It's only in Caitlin's mind that she is with David. She is in the midst of a heavy hallucination.

Jeff reaches into the toolbox and pulls out a screwdriver. The room no longer pulsates. It's just a normal bedroom.

Baby noises come from the crib. Jeff's torn shirt and face is splattered with blood, and he is distraught and a mess. He finishes building the makeshift device and stands it up and walks to the window.

### THROUGH THE WINDOW

PEOPLE and CARS pack the street in front of the house. Everyone is running around frantically.

Traffic is at a standstill.

A MAN grabs a GUY out of his car, drives up onto the sidewalk, and speeds away, running a COUPLE OF PEOPLE over while doing so. It is pure chaos.

## INSIDE

Jeff turns and heads for the door. He speaks calmly, yet looks panicked.

**JEFF** 

I'll be right back, baby. Just wait there. When I get back, we'll go.

CAITLIN (O.S.)

Yay!

### LIVING ROOM

Jeff turns on the television. The station's signal is out. He flips through the channels until he finds one with a signal.

## ON TELEVISION

The NEWSCASTER is disheveled and shocked. He speaks to the camera in a solemn tone.

## NEWSCASTER

New York City is gone...destroyed. Every city up and down the Atlantic Coast is annihilated. Do not try to contact loved ones. Do not take the highways, they remain at a standstill. The government is advising everyone take any clear routes heading west.

Jeff turns up the volume and sits on the coffee table.

## NEWSCASTER

These relentless monsters continue to migrate west tearing apart everything and any one in their path. Seemingly indestructible, the government is working hard to take control of the situation. Most of all...remain calm.

If you encounter one of these hideous beasts, stay as far away as possible. They spit an acid like substance that devours human flesh. People do not stand a chance against them. They are extremely strong and carnivorous, ripping victims to shreds.

Jeff puts his hands to his face and looks on in horror. His eyes tremble in fear.

NEWSCASTER (O.S.) Here is an artists depiction of one of these hideous creatures.

Jeff's pupil reflects the image on the screen.

NEWSCASTER My God. Is this for real?

The newscaster pauses and looks into the camera intensely.

## NEWSCASTER

We were just informed that the creatures are emerging from the Pacific Ocean tearing apart cities along the West Coast as well. Once in their monstrous form, they are able to survive in our atmosphere outside the water. The military has set up stations up and down both ends of the continent to get citizens to refuge. Here is a list of stations.

Jeff gets closer to the television. He watches for a while and finally recognizes a location. The power goes out. He writes the destination on a piece of scratch paper.

# BASEMENT

Jeff enters the dark basement with a flashlight guiding the way. He shines the light around. A large terrarium is built against the entire length of the wall. An electric generator sits in the corner. He finds an empty box.

The light shines on the terrarium. Jeff walks over and stands before it. He sits the flashlight on a flat surface and begins disassembling the neodymium basking lighting. He places the bulbs and fixtures in the box. He walks over to the generator, puts the flashlight in his teeth, and lifts it with a grunt.

### MASTER BEDROOM

Jeff enters carrying a bunch of lights in a box with the flashlight clenched in his teeth and glances at Caitlin. He always looks at her with love and regret. When she speaks, her voice is weary and her words are drawn out like she is high or drunk; at times, it's almost impossible to understand.

CAITLIN

Mmm. Baby, are we going now?

**JEFF** 

I'm just tightening some bolts and we're on our way.

CAITLIN

Goodie. I don't want to lay here any more.

Jeff sits the box down and begins rigging the lighting to the contraption he built. The vehicle sits on four wheels and is made out of mostly baby furniture. The top is flat with a circular hole in the center with security straps attached around it. Under the flat surface is the portable generator.

CUT TO:

The device is completely built with all the lighting attached around the circumference. He wheels it around testing it for sturdiness.

He picks up a baby carrier that straps to a parent's back and leans into the crib. He picks up David's phone from the crib and looks at the console. The baby noises stop.

There are only two bars of battery left on the phone.

He drops it into his pocket and reaches into the crib. He is bent over rustling around in the crib for a while then straps the carrier to his back and walks over to the bed.

Caitlin lay there with blood-soaked gauze wrapped around her eyes. She appears dazed with the comforter pulled up to her neck.

**JEFF** 

You ready, baby?

CAITLIN

Mmm hmm.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

DIFFERENT WIDE SHOT ANGLE OF EXACT SAME SCENE FROM PAGE 4.

The male and female divers who met their demises in the opening scene sit on the boat deck drinking wine as the sun sets.

INT. ATLANTIC OCEAN

Plunging into the water, diving to the bottom, and following the migration of the strange crawling fish until it is clear that the first wave is close to reaching the beach. Slowly crawling out of the water to the beach and find...

EXT. BEACH HOUSE - BEACH

Jeff and Ashlan are arguing. The sun is just about set.

He holds a joint in his hand, hits it, and hands it to her.

ASHLAN

I can't stand these fucking people, Jeff. I want them to leave.

JEFF

Well, this is my only family, so deal.

ASHLAN

And that trashy whore. Who the fuck is she to tell me where I can smoke? Fuck! And I see the way you look at her.

JEFF

Don't...well...Caitlin and I have a lot of history. I love her. She's not a trashy whore! She has more class than you do.

ASHLAN

Fuck you, asshole!

She flicks the joint at his face.

It strikes his cheek and falls to the sand.

As he looks down at it, she slaps him with all her might in the ear.

JEFF

Ouch!

He looks at her like he intends to kill her. She stumbles backward toward the Atlantic.

THE SUN TOTALLY SETS. THE MOON AND STARS TAKE OVER THE NIGHT.

Jeff slowly walks toward her as she backpedals.

ASHLAN

I fucking hate you, Jeff! I knew I am out of your league.

She cackles wickedly. Jeff stops, his eyes go wide, and he stands still.

Ashlan lifts up her shirt and flashes him.

ASHLAN

You see these. Get a good look, Jeffy. You can kiss them goodbye. We're through!

Jeff trembles. Behind Ashlan, large, HIDEOUS CREATURES morph before his eyes. They are disgusting, scaly fishlike monsters. Once out of the water, before attacking, their bodies rapidly grow immense and grotesque. Their faces hold vicious, teeth packed maws, giant protruding eyes with slimy lids that shutter sideways instead of up and down, and two nostril holes in the center that make it clear they are breathing the air humans breathe. Their gills remain on their jaws, only closed, but when they open, the gills hide massive rows of inner teeth. Jeff is wide-eyed and speechless.

ASHLAN

What? Am I scaring...

Suddenly, Ashlan is soaked in acrid ooze. Her head and upper torso smoke and dissolve before his eyes. She screams in pain and shakes around her body. With every shake, flesh drips from her bones until her entire upper body is dissolved down to her waist. Her lower half falls to the sand.

The creatures rush toward Jeff. Being recently transformed, they are pretty slow at first. He turns and runs quickly up the beach toward the house.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff runs into the house.

David is peering out the sliding glass doors in shock.

DAVID

What the fuck's going on?

JEFF

I don't know. Some things are crawling out of the ocean. They killed Ashlan.

DAVID

I saw.

**JEFF** 

Where's Caitlin? We gotta go.

DAVID

She's in the shower.

JEFF

You go get Julia. I'll get Caity.

DAVID

Okay.

They run off in different directions as the monsters burst into the house.

### BEACH HOUSE BATHROOM

Caitlin stands in front of the mirror in a white bathrobe humming as she dries her hair with a hair dryer. A creature bursts through the wall from outside. She falls and smashes her head off the sink and lands on her back. As the creature steps over her, a thin stream of slime drips from its hideous maw and lands across her eyes. Her flesh smokes. The monster bursts through the bathroom door into

## THE HALLWAY

Jeff ducks behind a wall while the creature scans the hallway for its next victim. It goes in the opposite direction. Jeff slowly creeps into the

# BATHROOM

He finds Caitlin's body sprawled out on the floor. Her eyes are burned away and bloody. She is not gushing blood from the wound, but the fluid is eating her flesh.

JEFF

Oh, no.

He gets down on his knees and feels her jugular vein with his index and middle fingers. She's unconscious, but alive. The acid is still burning. He pulls her to the tub, turns on the shower, and rinses away the slime, scrubbing it with a towel.

Below her forehead is a hideous divot, not very deep, but her eyes are gone. The wound is a glossy, fleshy pink. The burning stopped and she's not bleeding at all. The water caused the blood to coagulate. She's clearly breathing. Jeff grabs a first aid kit from under the sink and heaves her over his shoulder. He pokes his head into the

## HALLWAY

Vacant. He moves quickly.

SPARE ROOM

David stands in front of an illuminated tanning bed strapping Julia into her car seat.

There are FIVE CREATURES shielding themselves from the light while huddled against the wall. The light sears their smoking flesh bringing them pain.

Jeff rushes into the room carrying Caitlin and the first aid kit. Both brothers are frantic.

DAVID

Thank God. Here...just stand here for a minute. The tanning bed hurts them. We have to get the girls out of here.

He looks at Caitlin.

DAVID

Oh my God, is she okay?

JEFF

She's alive.

Jeff looks down at Julia in the car carrier. Her head leans limp to her shoulder. When David moves the seat, her head bobbles lifeless.

Jeff looks like his heart just broke and remains speechless.

The room has two escape routes: one where Jeff entered and the other next to the cowering monsters.

DAVID

I'm going to create a diversion.
I'm a lot faster and stronger than
you are, so I'll go first. If they
catch me, I might be able to
overpower them, but they won't get
me.

You get Caity and Jules to the car and get the fuck out of here. Go that way...

He points to the door Jeff entered.

DAVID

...after I run that way. There may be more outside, or possibly in the house, so be careful. These guys here should follow me. As soon as I'm through the door, you take off. I'll meet you at the car. Okay?

Jeff nods as he hyperventilates. David slaps his face.

DAVID

Cowboy up, Bro.

He grabs Jeff's shoulders and looks him in the eyes.

DAVID

If anything happens to me, I want you to do everything you can to get them to safety. Promise me.

Jeff calms down and looks sadly at Julia.

**JEFF** 

But...

He doesn't say what he is thinking. David taps him on the cheek again.

DAVID

Promise me, hey, promise.

**JEFF** 

Okay, okay. I will, I promise.

DAVID

Good. And Jeff, you were wrong. I love Caitlin. I'm willing to risk my life for her safety. I'm not such a...

The power goes out. The tanning bed shuts down.

DAVID

...FUCK!

The monsters lunge at the group. David runs for the door barely escaping a creature's grasp. The monsters all chase him.

Jeff grabs David's cell phone and car keys from the tanning bed and runs through the exit carrying Caitlin, the first aid kit, and the baby carrier as directed into the

#### HALLWAY

While passing the corridor David ran down, Jeff witnesses the creatures ripping him to shreds in a bloody attack. Each monster has its tongue wrapped around his entire body. DAVID'S FLESH UNRAVELS LIKE RIBBON. Jeff inhales deep and runs out the front door with the car keys ready.

### OUTSIDE

DOZENS of CREATURES wreak havoc on the street, tearing PEOPLE to pieces and flipping over cars.

They are still pretty slow compared to what's to come. Jeff has a clear path to the car and hustles, avoiding the creatures at all costs.

He opens the backseat and quickly tosses the baby carrier to the seat.

As he opens the driver's side door, one of creatures relinquishes a long, thin tongue and lassos it around Caitlin's legs.

Jeff pulls her from its grasp. Her legs are ripped clean off her body. He throws her to the passenger seat, gets in, and starts the car.

### THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD

A hideous beast jumps on the hood of the car, caving it in. It peers through the window at him. He steps on the gas and the monster falls into the window, smashing it, and rolls over the car to the concrete

# STREET

The car speeds off avoiding the creatures like an obstacle course.

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM - DAY

David sits on the edge of the bed. The room is colorful and pulsating.

CAITLIN Where's Julia?

DAVID

Right here, strapped to my back.

He turns his shoulders to show her the baby. Julia giggles and blows more colorful bubbles from her mouth. Caitlin reaches for her.

CAITLIN

Can I carry her?

DAVID

No, I want to. You said you feel kinda funny.

CAITLIN

Okay. I do feel quite peculiar. I've never felt so warm before.

David stands up.

DAVID

What do you want to wear?

CAITLIN

My pretty pink sundress. It's in the closet. You know I've been waiting for the perfect occasion to wear it.

DAVID

Well, I can't think of a better day than this one.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark. Jeff's flashlight is the only source of light. He fishes through the closet, locates the pink sundress, and tosses it over the vanity chair.

He returns to the bed and pulls back the comforter. Caitlin lays there nude except for her panties. He shines the light on her face. Her eyes are wrapped in blood soaked gauze.

He shines the light below her waist. Her legs are bloody stumps wrapped in gauze about six inches above where her knees once were.

Jeff lifts her up onto the device and straps her on top securely. She reaches her hands out for the dress. He hands it to her. She fans it out and drapes it over her body in front of the mirror. Her lactating nipples soak through the slightly sheer material.

CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM - DAY

She studies herself in front of the mirror. Sun rays stream in from the windows on her, making her appear radiant. Her face glows beautiful. She adjusts the dress appropriately, pulling at it around her breasts. Every move she makes is followed by trails. She seductively dances, grabs her breasts, and turns to David.

CAITLIN

I look so weird. Do you think I need a bra?

DAVID

No, it's not necessary. You look stunning.

MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

The dress drapes over the machine below her. Jeff folds the dress up over the light fixtures. Caitlin stands in front of the mirror wavering her hands and arms around drunkenly trying to dance. She looks a bloody mess.

Jeff tries to pin up the dress to prevent the powerful lights from burning the fabric.

He shines his light on the vanity searching for something.

He locates a PAIR OF SCISSORS.

With the scissors, he cuts slits in the dress for the ten bulbs to poke through.

He ties a rope to the vehicle and slides it through a slit in the dress to pull her along.

**JEFF** 

Okay, that should about do it.

CAITLIN

Do you think I should put on some makeup?

She studies her face in the mirror in her visual memory.

**JEFF** 

You don't need makeup. You look beautiful.

She grabs Jeff's face and kisses him passionately. He doesn't resist. He grabs the rope and guides her through the door.

## EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

The SILVER SEDAN with a smashed in hood and spider-webbed broken glass windshield pulls over on the side of the road. The area is monster free.

## INSIDE THE CAR

Jeff stares at the acid still corroding Caitlin's thighs. Her the bottom white robe is soaked with blood. He then glances at the diamond engagement ring on Caitlin's left ring finger and sighs. He reaches down and pops the trunk open.

Cars whiz by almost knocking Jeff over when he climbs out of the driver's side. He has the first aid kit in his hand as he hustles around to the trunk. He grabs a half full gallon of windshield wiper fluid and moves to the passenger door.

He opens the door then the case.

Caitlin's wounds are bloody, but not gushing blood. The acid in the slime must staunch the blood flow, though it is still eating at her flesh and bone. He pulls Caitlin's lower half toward him and pours the windshield wiper fluid over the wounds until all the slime is rinsed away and her stumps stop smoking. He pulls salve, bandages, and gauze from the kit.

He rubs salve into what used to be her eyes and wraps them with gauze.

He does the same to her thigh stumps. He places the items back into the box and shuts the lid and closes the passenger door. The wiper fluid is empty, so he tosses it away.

He opens the rear passenger door and removes Julia from the car carrier.

Her head rolls around limp as he pulls her out. He quivers, tears striate his face. He pants and hugs the lifeless baby to him and falls to his knees. He holds the baby by the back of her head and wails painfully, shaking his head slowly while staring into her face.

**JEFF** 

Why?

He squeezes the corpse firmly to his chest with his face pressed against the top of her head, kissing her soft flesh repeatedly. He looks up to the sky, sniffs real hard, and slowly stands. He cradles the limp baby in his arms and walks around aimlessly trying to defeat the intense trepidation.

He gets control of his emotions and walks to the car and opens the back door and straps Julia into the baby seat and shuts the door and saunters slowly around to the driver's side as a pick-up truck whips passed him going well over a hundred miles an hour.

He gets in the car and drives off.

CUT TO:

The silver sedan moves fast through residential streets avoiding the PEOPLE who run around panicked through the neighborhood.

### INSIDE CAR

Jeff drives frantic. The tires squeal around each bend. He is panicked, speaking under his breath, crying tears of fear. Caitlin flops around unconscious secured to the passenger seat by her safety-belt. Her eyes are wrapped in bloody gauze. Behind her is a portion of the baby carrier.

## OUTSIDE

The car pulls up in front of a row housing community. Jeff steps out of the car. The street is vacant, monster and people free, but he hears people inside the houses crying and arguing. He looks through the windshield at the baby. Tears stream his cheeks. He hurries to the front door of one of the houses, takes a deep breath to gain his composure, knocks hard, and shouts.

JEFF Slicx! Slicx!

SLICX opens the door. He is a wiry, lanky black guy wearing gold fronts. His shirt adorns a Trinidad flag: Red with a black stripe with white borders stretching from his right shoulder to his left hip. The back of the shirt is identical leading down to a pair of blue and white basketball shorts. His feet are covered in long white socks pulled to his knees with slippers. His head is a glistening dome of brown. A large gold chain with "SLICX" in bold, diamond studded lettering dangles from his neck. He speaks with a severe, drawn out, island accent. To greet Jeff, he puts his right hand in the air and slams it down into Jeff's right palm grasping his hand firm for a moment and pulling him in.

SLICX

What up, mwa bwoy! Whew shit, you fucked the fuck up. Come in. Come in.

### INSIDE SLICX'S HOUSE

Behind Slicx, smoke lingers in the air. The whites of his eyes are severely bloodshot with a yellow tint. Jeff follows him inside.

The house should be condemned. The ceilings are moldy, paint peels from the walls, the carpet is dirty and torn.

They sit down on the couch with all its ragged splendor: rips, gashes, cushion poking through the fabric, drink stains, burn holes, general wear and tear.

The coffee table in front of them is polluted with empty baggies, a heaping pile of loose pot, a digital scale, bongs, glass bowls, bags of pills, and discarded seeds and stems. The table is solid oak shaped like the number "7" with a large, rusty, tin ashtray built into the curve. In the enormous ashtray, severely needing dumped, burns a large blunt.

Slicx picks the blunt out of the ashtray and hits it four times quickly. A thick cloud escapes from his mouth. He sucks it back into his lungs. With smoke pouring from his nose, he speaks.

SLICX

Be some fucked up shit goin' on out there tonight.

Jeff bows his head, shaking it around. Slicx passes him the blunt.

SLICX

You a-ight, mwa bwoy.

**JEFF** 

This may be the end, end of civilization.

SLICX

Yeah, might be.

Slicx picks a shotgun off the floor beside the couch. He rests it in his lap.

SLICX

Any them muthafuckas come 'round here, Ima fuck 'em up.

He points the gun in front of him, cackles, and pretends to shoot.

SLICX

A-bo-bo, a-cack-a-cack-cack.

He smiles as he sets the gun on his lap. Jeff does not smile.

JEFF

I need a favor.

SLICX

What favah ya need?

**JEFF** 

You got any more of that shit from Trinidad?

SLICX

Fuck yeah, mwa bwoy. I gots the chronic shit.

JEFF

No...no. That shit we did that one night, you know, awe, I can't remember what you called it..that brew...that brewed shit.

SLICX

Ohhhh. Gloaming. That shit'll fuck you up.

**JEFF** 

Yeah, Gloaming. I need it.

SLICX

Ha! Ya gonna get all fucked up ta handle dis shit. I'm wit ya, mon.

**JEFF** 

No, no, it's not for me.

SLICX

A-ight. Let me see if I got the right ingredients. Ya fuck up juss even a bit a gram and it can kill ya, but I know the correct portions.

Slicx sets the gun next to the couch, stands, pulls a laptop case from under the table, sits back down, and unzips it. Inside the case are baby food jars full of different herbs. He goes through each jar placing some on the table and leaving some in the case.

**JEFF** 

Seems like a complicated recipe.

SLICX

Tis, mwa bwoy. My uncle is Shaman back in Trinidad, taught me how to do it right. He brew dis shit for niggas on their death bed. Give dem a spiritual journey. It definitely not recreational. Dey tell ya, ya should take it at night...after sun down.

**JEFF** 

Why?

Slicx shrugs his shoulders, opens one of the jars, and holds it under Jeff's nose.

SLICX

Smell dis shit.

Jeff cringes at the mephitic odor. Slicx sits it on the table.

**JEFF** 

Potent. I never imagined I would ever ask for this stuff again. There's no way I would ever take it again. It was like being in an alternate reality, everything was so real, everything felt so intense. I remember all we were doing was sitting here on this couch listening to music, but in my mind...

SLICX

...you was like you died and goed to heaven. I know, mon. Shit intense.

**JEFF** 

Now I know what it did to me. Will it do the same for her?

SLICX

Of course...who it for?

**JEFF** 

Caity.

SLICX

Ah, Caitlin. How she doin'?

Jeff shakes his head slow and sad.

**JEFF** 

Not good.

SLICX

She be in her own world after she drink dis shit. What happen?

**JEFF** 

She's all fucked up. We were at the beach house when, I'm not even sure what, it just happened so fast like in a flash. I tried to get Caitlin and the baby out safe, but, but...I can't believe she's still alive after what they did to her.

SLICX

News said they burn us. She get burned?

JEFF

Worse than that, you'll see.

Slicx can't seem to find one of the ingredients.

SLICX

I need da fras, da sassafras

He stands and pulls open a drawer on the table. He pulls out a jar and flops back down on the couch.

SLICX

This be it, root dat make you feel so good dat it kill ya...if you put in the wrong amount.

He sits the jar with the rest on the table and stares at the collection.

SLICX

Yeah, yeah, I can brew this shit for her.

Jeff speaks fast, deliberating if he should take these measures or not. He's very indecisive and tries to consider all factors. Slicx is so stoned, he just lets him ramble.

**JEFF** 

Good. It's a crazy decision, I know, giving her this, but the injuries are so bad, if she wakes up it will be horrifying for her. I don't want her to experience what's going on here. She wouldn't stand a chance of living with her injuries, I don't think. Once she understands the situation, she'll surely go into shock, I'm positive about that. I thought hard about this. Really, really hard. Could put her out of her misery. A bag over her head and she wouldn't feel a thing. No, no, no, I wouldn't be able to do that. I love her so much. I think this is the best option. If we make it through the night, she'll have avoided experiencing the horror. I love her, Slicx. I always have. I don't want her to feel this pain.

SLICX

I know, mwa bwoy.

**JEFF** 

Though, I should hate her for what she did to me, but I don't. I love her even more. Unconditionally. I could never betray her, but we're about to give her a heavy drug without her knowledge. It seems wrong, seems like a terrible idea. You don't think my plan is bad, do you?

SLICX

This not a bad idea, Jeff-mon. Help me carry these shits to the kitchen. We'll get it brewin' good for ya.

Slicx gathers as many jars as he can carry.

SLICX

Grab the rest, mwa bwoy.

They exit the room.

### OUTSIDE

Slicx and Jeff peer inside the car. Slicx hands Jeff the pitcher and beerbong funnel he is carrying. He looks into the backseat through his cupped hands.

SLICX

Datz some sad shit.

JEFF

I know.

SLICX

Why you don't bury her?

**JEFF** 

I can't bear to.

Slicx opens the passenger door. Caitlin sits unconscious with her head tilted to her shoulder.

SLICX

Awe, fuck. They fucked ya girl up, took her eyes...and legs. I can't believe she still live.

**JEFF** 

She's a strong girl. She has no clue what's happening. All this was done to her while she's been unconscious. She doesn't know Julia, uh, well, Julia doesn't cry any more.

SLICX

Dat alone would kill her.

**JEFF** 

Yeah. You think she'll be able to see, or think she does at least, after we give her this stuff? I mean, if, when she wakes up.

Jeff hands Slicx the funnel.

SLICX

Uh...think so. I dunno, I guess she should have visual memory, if she even wake up. One dude I gave this to passed the fuck out, came back 'bout four hours later talkin' 'bout aliens and shit. If she stay sleep, she be happy.

If she wake, she might see with no eyes. Ask her later. You'll know what she can see. Won't see what you see, dat fa-sure. After a while, you can't even talk to her. She not hear you. She be somewhere else, wit choo in person, but not in mind.

JEFF

You sure she won't realize any of this is going on?

SLICX

Nah. She think what in her head. What the concoction make her think is happening. Ya wanna do this?

Slicx lifts the funnel to Jeff. He shakes his head.

JEFF

No, you better.

Slicx leans over Caitlin, moves her head back, and inserts the plastic tube deep into her throat. Jeff hands him the jug, and Slicx pours the contents into the funnel.

SLICX

You able to help her trip. Talk to da girl while you can. Be happy. Act like you goin' on a mystical adventure. She like that, she like that a lot. She probably even think she can walk...fly even.

He stops pouring once half the fluid is gone.

**JEFF** 

Okay, I just want her to feel no pain, to avoid experiencing the horror, to be in peace, in case...in case we don't make it.

Slicx sets the jug on the car roof and slowly extracts the tube from her throat.

SLICX

Quit feeling guilty, mwa bwoy. She feel no pain, have no clue. Hey, aint she be your brother's girlfriend now?

**JEFF** 

Yeah, well, no, the, uh, whatever they are got him.

SLICX

Awe shit. It be a fucked up night.

Slicx shuts the door. He digs into his pocket and pulls out a small MP3 player and hands it to Jeff.

SLICX

Ooh. Here. Put dis shit in her ears. Dat way she not hear what be goin' on as much. Need to stay close. She be able to hear you talkin' when you're near her, but not the distant noises so much. These are very expensive headphones, mon. Plus, it good music, make her happy. You need good music when you're Gloaming. My uncle used to beat a drum and shake some rattles for people when he give it to dem.

JEFF

I don't think, well...okay. You know your shit.

He puts the player in his pocket and looks up at Slicx.

SLICX

So where you going to go?

**JEFF** 

I'm going to take Caity to her house for a little bit. I've learned these things explode in certain light, if it's bright enough. That's how I got this far. David has a bunch of terrariums in his basement. If those bulbs work, not sure if they will, but it could better our chances. They're not very fast, just strong. I guess we're going to head west before they reach the area. You're welcome to join us.

SLICX

Naw, mwa bwoy. I gonna drink the rest this shit and juss wait.

Fuckas come for me, at least I die feelin' good, feelin' great. Dat be my fate, then dat my fate.

JEFF

All right, man. Good lookin' out. How much I owe you?

SLICX

It's on me, mon.

Jeff nods and mouths, "thanks."

**JEFF** 

Sure you don't want to come?

SLICX

Yeah. If it's the end of the world, I'm standin' my ground, goin' down fighting, Red Dawn style. Tings can't get much worse. On the news, Army guys was shootin' the muthafuckas, aint killin' 'em though. Don't think my guns will do much, but I'm still going to shoot the bastards if they fucks with me.

**JEFF** 

Take care, Slicx.

SLICX

A-ight, good luck, mwa bwoy.

They pound fists, and Slicx walks toward his house.

**JEFF** 

Good luck to you, too.

Slicx holds up a peace sign as he walks away. Jeff gets in the car and drives.

EXT. STREET IN THE SUBURBS - NIGHT

The silver sedan pulls up to a house and stops. Jeff steps out of the car, goes to the passenger side, lifts Caitlin cradling her in his arms, and carries her to the door. She seems pretty light without her legs. He pulls out his keys and enters.

INT. CAITLIN AND DAVID'S HOUSE - NIGHT

It's dark. There are no lights on. He sets Caitlin down on a sofa and turns on a table lamp. He walks around turning on more lights then picks up the phone and dials a number.

JEFF

Come on, Mom. Answer dammit.

It goes to voicemail. He slams the phone down repeatedly.

**JEFF** 

Shit, shit, shit, shit.

He leaves it cocked on its base and throws Caitlin up over his shoulder. He carries her up the STAIRS

Before he reaches the top, She groans and awkwardly mumbles.

CAITLIN

David, where are we?

**JEFF** 

We're home. I'm going to put you to bed. You had a little too much wine last night.

CAITLIN

Kay. Where's Julia?

He doesn't answer. He reaches a door and kicks it open.

### MASTER BEDROOM

He pulls up the comforter, sets Caitlin down gently on the bed, strips her bloody robe off of her, and pulls the comforter over her. He reaches in his pocket, takes out the MP3 player, and turns it on. The music plays from the earbuds. He puts them in his ears to adjust the volume. The song has a SMOOTH GROOVE. He takes them out of his ears and puts them in Caitlin's. She grumbles.

CAITLIN

What are you doing?

**JEFF** 

Nothing.

She smiles at the smooth melody and lets out a sigh of comfort.

CAITLIN

Oh, that sounds nice.

Jeff drapes the robe over his arm and exits the door.

CAITLIN

David, don't leave me.

## CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM - DAY

The room is pulsating with vibrant colors. She's pretty relaxed. At this point, Caitlin's slowly gaining her visual memory as the drugs kick in hard. Then the song changes to a FAST, NOISE DRIVEN TUNE that messes with her mind. Things are quite fuzzy and she's very confused. She tries to get up, but can't seem to move. In a blast of intense color and spinning, she grips the sheets tight holding on with all her might. It feels like she's on a fast spinning carnival ride. The door opens. She turns to look, but everything is still in motion. WOMP, WOMP, WOMP. Finally the spinning stops and she sees David.

#### MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

David is actually Jeff. He's carrying the baby carrier. He takes it to the crib and sets it inside. Caitlin is thrusting around on the bed like she's possessed. She stops and faces him as if she sees him through the gauze that covers what used to be her eyes. She smiles wide. Her demands are loudly mumbled and quite wild.

## CAITLIN

David, get over here and fuck me. Fuck me hard. Fuck me like we'll never make love again!

She's not very appealing; in fact, she looks awful, but that doesn't matter to Jeff. He doesn't even care that she sees him as David, he loves her so much, he obliges and goes with the flow of her fantasy. He crawls under the comforter, gets on top, and kisses her. Her stumps wrap around his waist as much as they can.

# CAITLIN

Oh David, you make me so horny.

In reality, the sex isn't as pretty as from Caitlin's perspective. Her kissing and touching is sloppy in her state. The gauze around her eyes is sticky with coagulated blood, not to mention her unsightly stumps. Though she's not bleeding, those are still open wounds. The way she pants and groans is a put off, quite disturbing. Jeff doesn't seem to mind at all. He loves her so.

This is the moment when we first met Caitlin on page six in her mind's eye perspective. To avoid any confusion, from this point on everything is revealed linear, bouncing back and forth from her hallucinations to the reality of the apocalyptic monster attack, except one obvious flashback.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff exits the house with Caitlin in her sundress, attached to the contraption he built, and Julia's corpse strapped in the carrier on his back. He carefully lifts Caitlin and the contraption down the steps then pulls it by the rope and moves fast up the walkway.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - OUTSIDE - DAY

Caitlin is flying through the air. A playful beat pumps in her ears. The sky is pink and yellow swirls with buttery clouds. Her hair flows loosely in the breeze.

Birds fly in a V-formation around her.

Below, David holds a spool of kite string. He runs faster causing her to fly higher.

The ground is covered in colorful flowers. The grass is long and green blowing in the wind.

CAITLIN

Higher! Higher!

David lets out more string and runs even faster.

The sun is so close to her she reaches up and draws a smiling face on it with her index finger.

It winks and gives her a thumbs up.

The land below is colorful and glorious. The landscape is different shades green rolling through hills and mountains. Trees. She spreads her arms wide and soars through the sky still guided by the birds.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Jeff pulls Caitlin by the rope attached to the contraption. The street is crowded with PANICKED PEOPLE as he hurries quickly to the car. Caitlin has her arms stretched out wobbling along to his pull. She slurs her speech.

CAITLIN

Wanna go higher!

JEFF

Okay. Here you go.

He pulls her to the car and stops.

A MAN practically knocks him down while running by panicked.

Jeff tilts her wheels between the curb and the car to secure her. PEOPLE scream in terror in the darkness. He opens the driver's side door and takes off the baby pack and sits it on the passenger seat. The baby is a pale blue lifeless form.

### INSIDE THE CAR

He sits down in the driver's seat and tries to start the car. It screeches with each turn of the key. He pulls the lever and pops the hood, peers sadly at Julia in the passenger seat, and stands up. David's cell phone beeps alerting him the battery is dying. Jeff pulls it from his pocket, stares at the screen, sighs, and places it on the driver seat.

#### OUTSIDE

He walks to the front of the car and gets down on all fours. There's a pool of fluid underneath the engine.

JEFF

Shit! Fuck shit!

He opens then slams the hood down with force and kicks the fender. He shuts the driver's side door and pulls Caitlin away from the car. She awkwardly wavers her arms.

The baby is left on the passenger seat. The phone sits on the driver's seat. Jeff stares through the window longingly at Julia for a moment and leaves her there...alone.

The street is backed up with traffic as he hustles pulling Caitlin along.

**JEFF** 

I'm going to reel you in now.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE

Caitlin continues to soar through the sky like a kite.

CAITLIN

No, David! I wanna fly.

DAVID

We're going to take a motorcycle ride.

CAITLIN

Yay! I love bike rides. Okay. Get me down.

David twists the string around the spool to bring her down for a safe landing.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

PEOPLE continue to run around panicked.

An SUV slams into a car causing a pileup.

It is dark on the sidewalk. The power has been knocked out. People scream in trepidity. The monsters are getting close. Jeff pulls Caitlin by her rope to him.

JEFF

You okay, baby?

CAITLIN

Everything's wonderful. Love you.

Jeff stares at her. He shakes his head in disappointment. She looks terrible. She's pale. The blood from her eye gauze streaks down her cheeks. She's not bleeding though. She sits wobbling on the contraption.

In a moderately lit area of the street, a MAN and WOMAN run through the crowd. The man is carrying a four year old GIRL with blonde hair. The woman is cradling a BABY BOY wrapped in a blue blanket. PEOPLE shove by them. The woman is knocked to the ground. The man grabs the woman's left hand with his left hand to help her up. The creatures swarm. In a bloody display, everyone is ripped to shreds. Body parts fly through the air.

The woman's SEVERED HEAD lands on the concrete with her eyes wide-opened and a portion of her face melted. The couple's SEVERED LEFT HANDS bearing rings of "til death do us part" land next to her head still grasping one another.

Jeff witnesses the attack from the distance. It is a blur of blood and carnage from where he stands. He turns on the generator and the lights brighten the entire sidewalk and street. The generator purrs and rattles loudly. The creatures squeal and scatter from the bright lights. Beyond the lights is bitter darkness. Screams of pain and panic echo in the distance. Jeff grabs Caitlin by her arms.

**JEFF** 

Okay. Get on the bike.

He ties the rope around his waist.

She wraps her arms around his mid section and squeezes firm.

He runs as quickly as he can, though hindered by her extra weight. The light shines in all directions from her contraption.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - DAY

David and Caitlin ride on a bright purple Harley Davidson. David is wearing a biker's outfit and looking real cool. She is still in her pink dress. To each side of them are rainbow waterfalls leading to bordering bright blue streams with fish of many colors continuously jumping in arches from the water. The street is paved with baby blue brick. A travel worthy tune plays in her ears. Her long hair trails behind them. The sky remains pink and yellow swirls.

CAITLIN

Everything's so pretty.

She stretches her arms out and rejoices.

DAVID

Hang on, sweetheart.

The bike accelerates and does a wheelie as she wraps her arms back around his waist.

CAITLIN

This reminds me of when Jeff would take me for rides on his bike. I miss those days.

She squeezes his waist, hugging him tight to the thought.

CAITLIN

Where's Julia?

David doesn't answer.

CAITLIN

Baby?

DAVID

Yes.

CAITLIN

Where's Julia?

DAVID

Jeff took her in the car. He's going to meet us there.

CAITLIN

Where?

DAVID

The cotton candy forest.

CATTLIN

Oh, good. I love Jeff.

They ride along the swirling path. A pack of deer run along side them. They gallop back and forth between each other. The movement is followed by an array of trails.

CAITLIN

Baby, I want chocolate.

David doesn't respond.

CAITLIN

Honey, do another wheelie, please.

David accelerates and pulls the bike up onto its rear tire. Caitlin holds tight and screams. They ride on the rear tire for a while until the bike launches into the sky.

CAITLIN

Whoo hoo!

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff struggles to pull Caitlin along. Bloody body parts litter the concrete. He tries not to look at the carnage while avoiding the obstacles as he awkwardly runs. He rounds a corner. Slicx's house is doors away. The attackers screech and scatter from the light as he approaches. He runs up in front of Slicx's house. Dim light shines inside.

CAITLIN

Why are we stopped?

**JEFF** 

We're going to visit Slicx.

CAITLIN

Cool. Slicx is awesome. I didn't think you were friends with him, David?

**JEFF** 

Jeff asked me to stop by.

CAITLIN

Okay. He probably wants the pot.

EXT. SLICX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff pulls Caitlin to Slicx's porch steps. He bends down to lift the vehicle, but the bulbs are too hot for him to get close enough, so he shuts down generator.

As soon as the lights shut off, the creatures rush them from the darkness. Jeff sears his hands hastily lifting Caitlin up the steps as the creatures quickly approach. He turns the knob on the door. It is unlocked.

Smoke pours out the entrance as Jeff enters and slams the door shut.

INT. SLICX'S HOUSE - ENTRANCE

Jeff secures the lock. The creatures violently bang against the door from outside. Thumping reggae music plays from the living room. Jeff pulls Caitlin into the

### LIVING ROOM

Slicx is dancing in the middle of the room with a large blunt in his hand and a gas mask filled with smoke covering his face. He takes off the gas mask, hits the blunt rapidly, and puts on sunglasses. He's dressed in the Trinidad flag jersey with shorts, knee high white socks, and shower shoes. He gyrates in an unusual way to the Island Music. Areas of his flesh are seared. Nasty wounds run up and down his arms. His clothes are tattered and left jawbone is exposed right above his neck. His right knee is a gory, bloody mess.

In a metal bowl on the table, a brick of marijuana is burning filling the room with smoke. Jeff and Caitlin cough.

Jeff has a horrified look on his face. On the couch are THREE of the monstrous CREATURES, side by side. They are in an absolute daze appearing quite docile. The smoke is undulating through the air around their heads. They move slow and awkward. One of them is sloped over the arm of the couch.

EXT. SLICX'S MIND EYE - ISLAND PARTY - NIGHT

It is a beautiful, clear evening on the beach. The group sits around a flaming beach fire pit. Slicx wears swim trunks. His head is clean shaven. THREE beautiful, topless, EXOTIC GIRLS wearing only thong bottoms sit in beach chairs next to the fire. Slicx dances around the fire smoking his blunt. He no longer has the wounds. He appears in perfect health when he notices Jeff and Caitlin. Caitlin is in a two piece bikini. Jeff wears baggy swim trunks with no shirt.

SLICX

Mwa bwoy. How you get all the way down here to the isle? I thought you still be up in Jersey.

JEFF Slicx, are you okay?

SLICX

I'm good, feelin' great. Weze partyin' mwa bwoy. I want you to meet my girls here. This is Lilia, Janella, and Chioma.

The girls giggle and wave to Jeff. Slicx leans into Jeff and passes him the blunt. He takes and hits it.

SLICX

They be really feelin' me, bro. If you want one, take a pick.

Caitlin starts dancing.

CAITLIN

Hey Slicx, I love this song.

SLICX

This song be the shit yo. Take your top off and get comfortable.

Caitlin undoes her bikini top. Everything shakes and morphs.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEACH - DAY

The vision of the beach shifts from Slicx view to Caitlin's much different interpretation. It is a beautiful, sunny day. The beach is combed clean and perfect. The ocean is a lovely, bright blue. Dolphins constantly bound from the water through the air. Slicx and Caitlin grab hands and dance about the beach. His hair is in thick dread locks like she remembers it. He is dressed in a flower patterned shirt with shorts and no shoes. David is dressed similar with a different pattern and color scheme to his flowered shirt. Caitlin is wearing a completely different bikini than in Slicx's vision. The sky still swirls pink and yellow above. Slicx has the blunt in his hand. He hands it to Caitlin.

CAITLIN

Oh. I don't smoke anymore.

SLICX

Come on gril. Dis be a party. Dis be a celebrat-shawn. Hit dis shit.

CAITLIN

Okay, I guess once won't hurt.

Caitlin hits it and coughs. She hands it to David.

CAITLIN

Here baby. You can have a hit, just one.

David takes a hit. He relinquishes a huge cloud of smoke in a cough.

DAVID

I'm going to swim.

David dives into the sand and swims through it.

CAITLIN

How can you swim in sand?

DAVID

Come on in. It's perfect temperature.

Caitlin and Slicx run and dive into the sand. Slicx can't swim. Caitlin doggy paddles to him and pulls him out. David gets out of the sand and shakes it off him. Slicx pants as he recovers from the near drowning.

David takes Caitlin by the hand and pulls her to her feet. He guides her away from Slicx.

DAVID

I'm going to set off some fireworks. I want you to stand back here. Okay?

CAITLIN

Alright. Be careful. Don't blow your hand off. How'd we get to the beach all the sudden?

DAVID

We drove the motorcycle. Remember?

David walks over to fireworks on the beach.

INT. SLICX'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Slicx continues to hit the blunt. It is about half way gone. The monstrous creatures still sit on the couch in a daze. Jeff looks horrified as slime drips from their maws. They are hideous and menacing. There is banging coming from the doors and windows. People scream outside the house as the Island Music plays the smooth melody.

Slicx moves around still dancing and hands the blunt to one of the monsters. The creature does not take it from him.

It falls into its lap. It jumps up from the couch startled by the burn.

The smoke remains thick and lingering from the burning brick in the metal bowl.

Jeff observes confused. Slicx grabs the creature by its arms as it leaps upward. Slime drips onto his arm. Slicx's flesh dissolves where it landed.

SLICX

Gril, you wanna dance.

He dances with the heinous being. Jeff pulls him away from it. The thing plops back down on the couch.

**JEFF** 

Dude, you have no clue what's going on here. That shit's got you fucked up.

SLICX

Why you wanna spoil the party, mon? Everything is going great. We got some lovely ladies. I'm ready to get my dick wet.

Caitlin remains across the room still strapped to her device. She moves oddly to the music. Jeff glances at her and lowers her voice.

**JEFF** 

Slicx, these aren't women. These things are...I don't even no what they are. This could be the end of everything. You need to snap out of this.

SLICX

I'm fine, mon. Why you come down to the isle juss to cock block?

**JEFF** 

Listen to me. There is no cock block...

Jeff realizes it is futile to try to convince Slicx. He is in his own private fantasy.

**JEFF** 

Okay. I'm going to set off some fireworks.

SLICX

Cool, mwa bwoy. Now you comin' round.

Jeff walks over to Caitlin. She wraps her arms around him. Blood leaks from the gauze around her eyes.

**JEFF** 

Hold onto me, baby. The fireworks are about to go off.

CAITLIN

Sweet.

Jeff reaches to the contraption and turns on the generator. The lights illuminate the entire room. Everything is pure white in the bright lighting. The three creatures screech, bound upward, and burst into flames.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEACH

Fireworks shoot into the sky and burst in a loud squealing. Caitlin covers her ears. She turns to David.

CAITLIN

It's so loud, honey.

The fireworks squeal and burst in the sunny, pink sky. It is a colorful array of glittery rain. Each rocket delivers a different shape. One bursts into an umbrella shape. Another kind of looks like a pineapple. The next explosion is pink and looks like Julia.

CAITLIN

Baby, that one looks like Julia kind of.

Above the pink glittering another rocket explodes neon blue in the shape of Jeff's face

SLICX

Whatchoo do, mon? You burnt up the grils. What the fuck?

DAVID

Calm down dude. The girls are fine.

SLICX

They runnin' around burnin'. They aint fine.

CAITLIN

I'm trying to enjoy the fireworks, boys.

Another firework explodes into a tree shape.

EXT. SLICX'S MIND EYE - ISLAND PARTY - NIGHT

The beautiful ladies are running around the beach in flames. They burn until they are nothing but black embers. Slicx runs over to a toasted girl and touches her. She crumbles to ash. Jeff pulls him away. Caitlin stands with an ill informed smile on her face.

INT. SLICX'S HOUSE - HALLWAY

Jeff smacks Slicx across the face a couple of times.

**JEFF** 

Dude, I need you to snap out of this. You took Gloaming. You're all fucked up.

SLICX

I aint take that shit. Where are we?

**JEFF** 

We're in your house, Slicx. Come on. You're all fucked up. Look at your arms. Your skin is falling off.

Slicx looks at his arms horrified. There are red chunks of his flesh missing. Jeff pulls gauze from his pocket. Slicx panics and walks into the living room.

SLICX'S LIVING ROOM

P.O.V. SLICX

Slicx's arms are dripping flesh. It looks like he's melting. He continues screaming and falls to his knees. The room has a bitter, red tone. The walls pulsate.

The floors undulate dark as if they are on water.

Jeff's face is horrifying, as it shifts constantly in a warped pulling of the flesh.

Slicx sees Caitlin on her vehicle. Her eyes are covered in gauze and bloody. She appears grotesque as she wavers on her contraption with a smile on her face. Slicx screams.

The three bodies of the creatures are blackened and charred on the floor. Everything combines for quite a hellish vision.

SLICX

What da fuck?

Jeff gets down on his knee and unravels the gauze. Slicx scurries away from him in fear. Jeff slowly approaches him.

JEFF

Reality bro. Let me help you out. Quit running from me.

SLICX

Stay away from me. This is some shit.

Slicx stands and runs out of the room.

JEFF

Slicx, no!

Jeff runs to the window.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

Slicx runs out into the street. He is attacked by a dozen creatures and ripped to shreds.

INSIDE

Jeff bows and shakes his head.

JEFF

Slicx.

CAITLIN

David, the fireworks are done. What are we going to do now?

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff slowly pulls Caitlin along on the device. He appears defeated. The creatures are all around scurrying in the darkness. Jeff notices a HOUSE lit up bright in the distance. All around him, houses and vehicles burn consumed by fire. He walks toward the brightly lit home.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BRIGHT WHITE

Blinding. Caitlin hears voices behind a futuristic tune in her ears...five different, distinct speeches.

As David leads her down the path to the house, the shapes are blurs in the bright light. They appear alien-like. Silhouettes. Enormous heads on thin bodies. Two ninety degree angles from their shoulders to their ears. Another set of arms extending to their sides. A FAMILY. As they approach, the voices are more clear, their bodies evidently human. Held in front of their heads are large round fishbowls with a single Beta fish swimming in the water. Their faces are magnified through the glass: eyes large and round, noses bulbous, lips full, mouths Cheshire-like.

An ADULT MALE is in the center holding hands with an ADULT WOMAN and a YOUNG LADY. A SMALL BOY and LITTLE GIRL hold hands with the women at each end falling slightly behind like ducks flying in a V. They keep their hands locked together as if they are one. They are dressed in colorful suits and dresses that shift a rainbow of colors...every color imaginable. The adult male extends a fifth hand from his chest. David shakes it.

#### BERNARD

Man, you two are a wreck. What the heck you folks still doin' out there? It's dangerous tonight. Thing's not goin' right at all. A dark night, but we have light, the right light. It is safe here, safe.

This lovely angel to my right is my wife, Lenina, to my left is my daughter, Sarojina. The tots on the end are my son, John, and my youngest, Fanny. And I am Bernard. We are the Fords.

Caitlin shakes his weird hand.

CAITLIN

I'm Caitlin and this is David. You are a peculiar looking family. Aren't they quite queer darling?

DAVID

Quite queer indeed.

LENINA

Grab the children's hands and don't let go. You are welcome to rest with us. We have light.

Caitlin grabs hold of Fanny's hand. David extends his fingers to John who grabs it with his tiny appendage.

CAITLIN

You are the family submerged in the light. But why?

DAVID

They need the light to survive, the right light.

CAITLIN

Strange.

The group holds hands as they walk toward the bright white. Rays from the lights streak through the air. They arrive in a grassy yard. Caitlin takes David's free hand and holds it firmly. All seven beings stand in a large circle. Behind each individual is bright white.

BERNARD

Everyone step to the right.

The circle shifts to the right. Sarojina glares at Caitlin's huge engagement ring.

SAROJINA

Are you married?

Caitlin looks at her mesmerized by the Beta fish. It is the same blue color as Sarojina's eyes. It swims facing her in front of the left eye, staring at Caitlin. Sarojina's face is enlarged from the water in the bowl.

CAITLIN

Not yet, soon though. Right honey?

DAVID

Soon.

FANNY (O.S.)

Mommy, John's trying to put Pfitzner in my bowl again.

Little John has his emerald Beta fish, green as his eyes, in his third, chest hand stretching it across the circle ready to drop it in to Fanny's bowl. Her fish and eyes are light blue.

LENINA

Everyone under twenty years old take one step backward.

Fanny, John, and Sarojina take a step back making the circle more of a crown shape.

LENINA

There. Now he can't reach, baby.

FANNY

He always tries to kill Clara. She will get him if he puts that wretched thing in her bowl.

John smiles devilishly and plops his fish back in his own bowl.

BERNARD

Stand down.

Everyone unlocks hands.

John sneaks up behind Fanny and plops Pfitzner in her bowl. Fanny becomes horrified as the Beta fish puff their necks ready for battle.

FANNY

Mom! He did it again.

Lenina sighs and walks over to Fanny. The fish nip at each other.

LENINA

Damn it, John! You're going to kill that fish if you keep doing that.

In one motion Lenina reaches her right hand into Fanny's bowl, grabs the blue fish, and tosses it. Pfitzner arches through the air and lands in John's bowl.

JOHN

Pfitzner is the strongest fish ever. He will kill Clara.

Lenina scolds him with her massively magnified eyes.

JOHN

Sorry, Mom. It'll never happen again. Fair enough.

Lenina smiles wide and rolls her eyes to Bernard.

LENINA

What do you teach this kid?

**BERNARD** 

Hey, he's gonna be a salesman like his ol' Dad. Right, kiddo?

Bernard rubs John's head behind the fish bowl. John smiles wide and nods causing some of his water to flow up over the edge of the bowl.

**BERNARD** 

Whoa! Watch it there, Son.

He looks at David and Caitlin.

BERNARD

Have you folks eaten lately? We found quite the delicacy if you are hungry.

CAITLIN

I'm starving. I could use a shower as well.

Sarojina grabs Caitlin's hand.

SAROJINA

I'll take you to the bath. I want to shower, too.

EXT. FORD YARD - NIGHT

Jeff lets go of Caitlin's hand. Sarojina stares at him sadly and leans into his ear. She is young and beautiful with long, brunette hair and a similar body shape as her mother. Stacked.

SAROJINA

Don't worry. I'll take care of her for a little while.

Jeff whispers back.

**JEFF** 

Make sure you put her headphones back on when you finish.

Sarojina leads Caitlin inside the house. The house and yard is a typical suburban dwelling, well kept, upper-middle class living standards. The family is quite ordinary. Bernard has a beer gut under his T-shirt. Fanny and John are cute kids. Lenina is thin up top with wide birthing hips. The adults are in robes, the children wear pajamas. The kids have plastic fish bowls with plastic fish toys. John chases Fanny playfully around the yard with the fish weapon. Bernard walks into the house.

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - SHOWER - DAY

From the shower head swirls streams of vivid green and blue. The shower stall is bright purple. The walls breath and move like countless worms squiggling along. Sarojina stands to the rear washing Caitlin's back with a free hand. Two of her hands keep the fishbowl in place in front of her face. Caitlin turns to her. Sarojina's flesh is a vibrant rose color.

Caitlin glances at Sarojina's perfect breasts.

CAITLIN

You don't have an arm coming out of your chest.

Sarojina giggles.

SAROJINA

You're silly...oh...I mean no. Women don't have an extra arm.

CAITLIN

That makes sense.

Sarojina sensually washes Caitlin's breasts with a fluffy cloth. Her movement is followed by trails.

SAROJINA

Your fiancee is hot.

Caitlin smiles.

CAITLIN

I love him...

Sarojina slowly washes Caitlin's stomach in a circular motion.

CAITLIN

...and our daughter, Julia.

Sarojina gestures with the washcloth.

SAROJINA

May I wash down there for you?

Caitlin thinks about it.

CAITLIN

Well, yeah, go ahead.

Sarojina drops the cloth, squirts green soap into her hand, and washes Caitlin between her legs with her bare hand. Caitlin squirms.

CAITLIN

Ooh, that tickles. I feel so tingly.

SAROJINA

You have a daughter?

Caitlin hums in pleasure.

CAITLIN

Yeah, Julia was born seven months and eight days ago. Mothers always remember that kind of stuff.

SAROJINA

You're still pretty tight for having a child so recently.

The walls pulsate. Caitlin grunts as Sarojina gently strokes.

CAITLIN

I had a C-section. All the pushing from a natural birth messes with the shape the baby's head...I read that somewhere before. I wanted her to be beautiful.

SAROJINA

You excited to get married?

Caitlin squirms uncomfortably. Sarojina continues washing between her legs, working her fingers a little faster. Caitlin quivers and groans.

CAITLIN

Life is confusing, quite mystifying. I met David through Jeff, my ex-boyfriend, his brother.

Caitlin shakes her head slowly still enjoying Sarojina's soft yet firm touch.

CAITLIN

I love Jeff. I love David too...but I'm not sure. Jeff has a wonderful sense of everything that involves me. His touch makes me melt, his kisses as well.

She guffaws and pauses.

CAITLIN

The amazing thing about Jeff is he really knows me. He understands what I love, where I like to be touched and how, my favorite foods, all of my likes and dislikes; for example, he knows my favorite book is Brave New World even though I mostly read romance novels. My favorite dessert is marshmallows. He knows what I want versus what I need. David is so consumed by his work, he doesn't.

Caitlin continues to grunt in pleasure as Sarojina rubs her chest with her one hand still with the fishbowl obscuring her face and her other hand working between Caitlin's legs.

SAROJINA

Then why choose David? It seems you love Jeff desperately.

CAITLIN

Jeff is a dreamer. He smokes the pot. He surfs and skateboards and rides motorcycles. I met him cause he saved my life when he was a lifeguard. David is in business. He makes good money. When I learned Julia was coming, it was difficult, but I made my choice. Jeff hasn't been the same since. Funny thing is...

Caitlin relinquishes an orgasmic growl. The water oozes from the shower head more like slime than H2O.

SAROJINA

How did that feel?

CAITLIN

Wonderful.

SAROJINA

Let's switch. Will you wash me?

The water runs like thick jelly as Sarojina squeezes passed Caitlin to get under the stream. Their bodies cling together briefly. Sarojina hands her the washcloth. Caitlin squirts thick soap onto it and starts with her back. Countless bubbles fill the shower area.

SAROJINA

That is a pretty tough decision you made. Do you really think the money is that important? Love seems to be more of a road to happiness than money.

CAITLIN

Haven't you ever loved two men at once, Sarojina?

SAROJINA

Just my dad and brother. I'm a lesbian.

Caitlin drops the cloth and stops washing.

CAITLIN

You like girls?

SAROJINA

I love girls. Don't be afraid.

Sarojina picks the cloth from the tub and firmly presses it into Caitlin's hand.

SAROJINA

I only bite if that's your thing.

CAITLIN

I'm sorry...I've never been with a girl before. I guess I always wished to try it though. I'm just not sure how to even do it.

The walls pulsate. The shower streams glistening green and blue slime that striates their different tones of pink flesh. Sarojina grabs Caitlin's hands.

SAROJINA

Please let me show you. You won't regret it.

EXT. FORD YARD - NIGHT

Bernard, Lenina, John, Fanny, and Jeff sit at a picnic table. Big chunks of meat cover their plates. The food looks like nothing Jeff has eaten before...and he's a cook. He slices a piece with a steak knife. It cuts like butter. He stares at the family digging into their feast. Bernard speaks with a mouthful of food.

**BERNARD** 

What you are doing is quite valiant. You must really love her.

Jeff pauses and stares at the food on his fork. He looks up at Bernard.

**JEFF** 

I truly do, more than anything.

Bernard pulls Lenina close to him on the bench, squeezes her lovingly, and kisses her forehead with his greasy lips. She eats a bite from her plate. Jeff stares at her chewing and forking another bite. The kids are scarfing down their smaller chunks. They are all sweating profusely.

### **BERNARD**

You're welcome to stay here with the kids and us. It's much safer than trekking out there. It's a war zone. These lights should hold until morning. Not sure what will happen in the morning, but they were saying on TV that these monsters can't survive in the sun rays...before the stations went out.

Jeff decides to take a bite. He chews it slowly. His eyes open with amazement. Without swallowing, he asks,

JEFF

What is this delectable meat we are eating? It's like nothing I've ever tasted.

Bernard smiles wide.

**BERNARD** 

It's them.

Food falls from Jeff's mouth to the picnic table. He turns and spits the rest to the grass and jams his fingers in his throat.

**BERNARD** 

It's okay. It's scrumptious. Serves the bastards right after they destroyed our kitchen. Caught us one, so we thought we'd dine.

Jeff heaves as fluid flows in chunks from his mouth. He looks at the sweaty family as they chew on.

JEFF

These things could be poisonous...or mutants. You don't know if they are safe to eat.

Everyone is silent. In the distance, terrifying screams, growls, and clattering of utter destruction fill the night. Lenina grabs at her stomach. Her flesh is reddening. She jerks and gags. Jeff looks around the table. The children and Bernard are quite red as well. They violently quiver.

LENINA

I feel so hot.

Jeff's eyes dart as they rip off their robes and pajamas. Everyone is gyrating abnormally but him.

BERNARD

I feel like I'm on fire.

The entire family reels in pain.

FANNY

Stop, drop, and roll.

The kids drop to the ground and roll around like they are on fire. Their flesh begins peeling from them with each roll. Jeff looks on in horror.

BERNARD

The lights!

Bernard runs into the house in a flash. Lenina screams in pain and shakes as if she's having a seizure. Her flesh splits down the center and peels away. Fins rip through her face. The children are reeling on the grass, just lumps of muscle and blood with fins. Their bodies morph before Jeff's eyes. He stares at Lenina as her bra bursts open and fatty tissue relinquishes through the air.

INT. SAROJINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sarojina wheels Caitlin inside. Both girls are nude. The walls are blush plastered with Indie Rock chicks, actresses, and models on posters and pictures: Ani DiFranco, Indigo Girls, Tori Amos, Dixie Chicks, Kate Moss, Madonna, Ellen Degeneres. The bedding is rainbow. Makeshift fixtures hold bright lights that illuminate the room. Sarojina lifts Caitlin from the device to the bed. She stares at her gauze wrapped gory eyes then at her stumps. She holds Caitlin's earbuds to her own ears, smiles, and places them in Caitlin's ears.

SAROJINA

Well, this will be a new experience.

CAITLIN

Ohh. This song is pretty.

Sarojina straddles Caitlin and kisses her. She kisses her breasts and makes her way down.

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BEDROOM

Soft, sensual drumbeats play in her ears. Sarojina's fish bowl rests on Caitlin's pink stomach with her head below it, her huge eyes staring at her through the bowl. Caitlin wiggles in ecstacy. Sarojina's fish stares at her. Colorful trails follow the fish's swim. Caitlin groans and grunts in pleasure. The walls breathe and appear as if countless wriggling snakes consume them. The bed has a consistency and color of red gelatin. Their bodies sink into the bed. Sarojina lifts her bowl back in front of her face and moves up to Caitlin's lips. Caitlin's face penetrates the bowl kissing her lips fervently. Caitlin fondles Sarojina's breasts. Their bodies are completely consumed by the jelly like bed. They move torridly, kissing and stroking. Like with David earlier, it is as if their flesh has no barriers.

CAITLIN

This feels so nice, unbelievably wonderful.

Sarojina moves her pelvis between Caitlin's legs. She presses her labia to Caitlin's and grinds.

INT. SAROJINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sarojina continues to grind. Caitlin wiggles in return. Caitlin's gauze around her stumps is sticky with blood. The blood streaks Sarojina's stomach flesh. Both girls groan passionately. Caitlin's mangled body arches in extreme pleasure. The lights go out.

BLACK

GRUNTING, PASSIONATE SUCKING AND GROANING.

From OUTSIDE: Painful SCREAMING, monstrous HOWLING, flesh TEARING.

JEFF (O.S.)

Caitlin!

CLOSER howls and grunting. A small flashlight clicks on. Sarojina shines the light to the window while putting on a long nightshirt. A CREATURE's claw bursts through the glass. She screams. It has red hair just like Lenina's. She searches Caitlin's device.

CAITLIN

What's going on? Why did you stop? That was fun.

SAROJINA

How do you turn this damned thing on?

CAITLIN

You already turned me on.

Caitlin cackles strangely.

SAROJINA

Shut the fuck up. This isn't funny.

Footsteps quickly approach the room. The door bursts open. Sarojina shines the light in the direction. It's Jeff.

JEFF

We need to get out of here...NOW!

A CREATURE appears in the doorway.

SAROJINA

No shit.

Jeff hits a switch on the device and the lights illuminate the room. The hideous creature bursts into flames in the doorway. The monster that was crawling through the window explodes into flames and squeals in pain. Glass shatters when the beast explodes.

Jeff grabs Caitlin from the bed. The bed is soaked under her lower region.

JEFF

Come on, baby. We got to go.

CAITLIN

Awe! But Sarojina was teaching me how to scissors.

Jeff looks at Sarojina bewildered. She shrugs her shoulders.

SAROJINA

Might be my last opportunity for sex.

Jeff shakes his head with a half smile. He straps Caitlin into her device.

JEFF

Where's her dress?

SAROJINA

What's it matter anymore?

Jeff gives her an angry glare.

SAROJINA

Chill. It's in the bathroom. I'm not going in there. Here, I have something that should fit her.

Sarojina pulls an outfit out of the closet. It's an old time maiden's dress.

SAROJINA

She doesn't need to be such a tatterdemalion, this one's not as bad.

Jeff rips the dress from her and lets it fall over Caitlin. It gets caught on her head. From within the dress, she speaks.

CAITLIN

Where are David and Julia?

Jeff pulls the dress down from her head.

JEFF

I am David.

CAITLIN

You are not. You're Jeff. I know your voice.

Jeff turns to Sarojina.

JEFF

Do you have any scissors?

CAITLIN

Yay! Scissors!

Sarojina shakes her head.

SAROJINA

Not in here.

Jeff bites at the dress to form a hole then rips slits to put over the lights.

CAITLIN

I want to hold Julia.

JEFF

David took Julia in the car. Remember...we rode the bike.

Caitlin slowly shakes her head as Jeff continues to bite at and rip the dress. The coagulated blood clings to her cheeks from the gauze around her eyes.

CAITLIN

I'm so confuged. Yutergerdin.

Caitlin sloppily dances on top of the contraption. Sarojina smiles.

SAROJINA

You go girl. Shake that booty.

The smile falls from Sarojina's face. She pulls Jeff close and whispers.

SAROJINA

Are my parents okay?

Jeff looks sadly to the floor and slowly shakes his head. Sarojina wells up and bursts into tears.

SAROJINA

No, no, no. They went peacefully I hope. Please tell me they went peacefully.

Jeff finishes the final hole and loops it over the remaining light. He ignores the request. She grasps him by the collar and gets in his face.

SAROJINA

Answer me!

JEFF

Something must have gotten to the generator. Once the lights went out, it was all over. I'm sorry.

Sarojina runs toward the opened door. Jeff grabs her shirt from behind and stops her. Caitlin continues dancing on the cart.

JEFF

Wait for us. There's nothing you can do, they're gone...besides, you don't want to see that.

INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - NIGHTCLUB

A whimsical disco beat plays in Caitlin's ears. Jeff is standing cocked to his side, leaning, while holding his arms at an angle making a motion like he's reeling in a fish with an invisible fishing rod. Sarojina motions as if she is trying to start an non-existing lawn mower. A strobe light flashes like they are in a music video.

CAITLIN

How'd we get to the club?

She laughs uproariously.

CAITLIN

You guys are dancing so peculiar. This has been such a strange day.

EXT. FORD YARD - NIGHT

Sarojina trembles with tears streaming from her eyes. On the grass next to the discarded pajamas and robe is the thick flesh of her siblings and mother, peeled as though they shed their skin. Sarojina stops and stares in horror. She picks up the coat of her mother. Jeff pulls Caitlin through the yard as she oddly gyrates above the vehicle.

**JEFF** 

Come on. Put that down. She's gone. Just keep moving, Sarojina.

Caitlin points her right index finger to the sky and swirls her hips.

CAITLIN

Webongagiicankerdgunter.

Jeff looks at her and shakes his head. Sarojina controls her emotions, gently places her mother's remains over the back of a lawn chair, and follows Jeff as he pushes Caitlin along.

## EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff pulls Caitlin along by the rope. Sarojina walks beside them, crying. As they move down the road avoiding the bloody, torn body parts and carnage that pollute the concrete, the creatures howl and scurry in the darkness to avoid the bright lights. There are no human screams, the area is wiped out. One of the ten lights has burnt out, but the remaining bulbs illuminate a circular area around them. Caitlin moves oddly on the contraption.

The moon hangs full and steady in the sky.

The group rapidly moves down the street.

CAITLIN

Ingonatodataleaf.

Jeff smirks and rubs the back of his neck. Ahead in the darkness, BOOMING BLASTS of light hit creatures in large fleshy explosions. Another and another from two different positions. Jeff halts. A sign of life. Sarojina keeps walking wiping at her tears. Jeff grabs her by the arm and pulls her back.

JEFF

Wait, there is something going on up ahead.

SAROJINA

Maybe it's soldiers. They can help us.

**JEFF** 

Some people are not trying to help others. Tonight is about surviving. The more the wearier.

The shadowy figures approach. Once close enough, it is clearly an OLDER MAN in his fifties and a YOUNGER GUY in his twenties, maybe early thirties. Both are machismo and dressed in Army fatigues with the sleeves cut off at the shoulders. They have large, unusual looking guns strapped to their backs and hips. Both are scarred, their arm flesh seared, holding strange firearms in their hands as well.

OLDER MAN

Hello friends. It's great to find some survivors.

He stares at Caitlin's device.

OLDER MAN

Brilliant. Brilliant. Using light defense. We're using the light as offense. Killing the fuckers.

The younger guy stands still as a statue.

**JEFF** 

We're heading west...just trying to get to sanctuary.

The older man cackles wickedly. His friend breaks his statue stance and does the same.

OLDER MAN

There aint no sanctuary. These things are tearing the world apart. There's no choice but to fight back.

He points to Caitlin's vehicle with his eyebrows.

OLDER MAN

You reckon that generator will last the night.

Jeff nods.

JEFF

Should, we hope. You're welcome to join us if you want.

The men chortle.

OLDER MAN

You wish. We don't need y'all anchorin' us down. Get that messed up bitch off of there. We're taking that cart.

He reaches for the device. Jeff steps between the older man and Caitlin.

CAITLIN

Elotrangan. Anunimeeniecom.

YOUNGER MAN

What that fucked up bitch just say?

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - FIELD OF SHEETS - DAY

The sky is pink and orange swirls with yellow clouds drifting slowly by the bright red sun.

The group stands in a grassy field. Jovial music plays in Caitlin's ears. Jeff and Sarojina begin melting like candles. Sarojina's fish bowl drops from her hands as they liquefy. Her face is a featureless span of pink flesh under her hair. Her features were in the bowl. Caitlin grabs Jeff as he sifts through her fingers. His voice melts as he speaks.

**JEFF** 

Don't worry, Caity. I'll be back. Meet you at the cotton candy...

Both her friends are reduced to colorful puddles of wax. Caitlin is all alone. She looks around. In the distance to her right are large mountains. Similar glorious scenery is on her left. The landscape seems to undulate and shift. Lively, colorful, LARGE SHEER SHEETS dance weightlessly in the breeze throughout the field. A green sheet hovers in a perfect rectangle and lifts off into the air. Behind it are TWO STRANGE BEINGS. Their flesh has a fluffy, marshmallow look to it. The MAN and WOMAN approach her. They stand before her nude but not anatomically correct, or perhaps they already ate those parts. The woman's breasts are lacking nipples with multiple bite marks and chunks missing. The man's groin is also bitten. That could be the remains of a marshmallow testicle down low around the picked at flesh. They both pick at each other devouring one another. Half of the man's torso is gone. The woman's throat has a large chunk missing. Her left arm is consumed to her elbow. She puts it to her mouth and eats some more.

CAITLIN

Mmm. You look delicious. May I have a taste?

The sheer SHEETS wiggle in the air around them, at times getting very close. They change shapes frequently, blowing weightless, guided by the wind. When close enough, faces appear through the sheer material like there is someone behind the sheet scowling at her in disapproval, then they just drift away.

The marshmallow guy extends his arm out for her to pull a piece off of him. She tears a chunk and slams it into her smiling mouth. Caitlin becomes dizzy and squeals as her body totally spirals and swirls in a boneless twist like a towel being rung out. She unravels quickly in a spin, recovers, and asks.

CAITLIN

Oh my. What happened? I'm so dizzy now. You are yummy though. So sweet...sweeter than I expected.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

There's a cost to taste something so sweet. We are gustatory creatures, we are.

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Caitlin awkwardly picks at the air in front of her and lifts her hand to her mouth a few times between which she twists her body oddly.

OLDER MAN

What is she doing?

Jeff and Sarojina back away from the guys; Jeff pushes Caitlin with his back to her.

**JEFF** 

Stay away from us.

The older man lifts his leg and pulls a small gun from his ankle. He aims it at Jeff. Sarojina and Jeff put their hands up in the air.

OLDER MAN

Them big guns are for the creatures. This one here is for acquisitions. We're taking that there cart if you like it or not.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - FIELD OF SHEETS - DAY

Caitlin peels another piece of marshmallow flesh from her new friend and eats it. Her body spirals once again. She stumbles around as she recovers. It is quite exhausting.

CAITLIN

Delicious, but I shouldn't have any more.

The man holds his leg out to her. She shakes her head "no." She stares as he takes a large bite of his lady friend. The marshmallow woman bites off his ear.

CAITLIN

Doesn't that hurt? How do you expect to move on in life if you keep eating yourself?

The man bellows deep.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

We are destined to devour our existence, dear. It is the purpose of life.

The man takes another large piece from his friend. He speaks with a full mouth the entire time.

CAITLIN

What sort of purpose is that? Seems silly to me.

The woman never speaks. She's too busy chomping.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

A very important purpose, not silly. We are here to point you in the correct direction.

The woman breaks off the man's leg from the knee down and rapidly devours it. He hops around to keep his balance. The sheer sheets continue to blow all around.

CAITLIN

Where do I go?

MARSHMALLOW GUY

Just follow the path. You will enter the Bukaki forest and, though it won't be pleasant, once you make it through you will find the truth.

CAITLIN

The truth? I don't understand. What truth?

The man and woman continue picking each other apart.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

You will discover with whom your true heart lie. Everything will be clear as a cloudless afternoon: the man, the child, the truth.

Portions of his lady friend dangle from his stuffed mouth.

CAITLIN

Please stop eating. It's gross.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

We are overindulgent by nature. The very beings of gluttony.

Our kind only last for a few hours before we are gone. If we do not usurp ourselves, we are. We can't fight the urge alas.

Both marshmallow people are devoured below the waist. The woman offers Caitlin another bite. She turns her back disgusted.

CAITLIN

No, I can't.

MARSHMALLOW GUY

It is quite difficult to turn down. So delectable.

Caitlin quickly spins around.

CAITLIN

The sweetest candy I've ever tasted, I admit. I need no more.

She squats into a baseball catcher's position to address the man.

CAITLIN

Now what path? All I see is grass and sky and all these sheets blowing around.

The woman lay on the ground eating the guy in large chunks. Caitlin sits on her ass impatiently waiting for the answer. The man points with his stumps. Caitlin looks in the direction. The grass dies in a three feet wide clearing that stretches to an unusual cluster of white, dripping, humongous Japanese Banzai trees in the far distance. She squints to see it. She looks at the guy on the grass. He is only a head. The last of the woman is being chewed.

CAITLIN

I see. Thank you my strange friend.

The head mumbles "your welcome" as his lip pulls up over his nose and soon nearly the entire man is gone. Only an ear remains alone on the grass. Caitlin picks it up and stares at it pinched between her fingers.

CAITLIN

I'm sure one more taste won't hurt; besides, I may never have this opportunity again.

She swipes a violet sheet, lingering very close to her, out of the air, tosses the marshmallow in her mouth, and squeals as her body spirals once more.

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff continues to back Caitlin away from the armed men. The younger guy holds a gun to Sarojina's head.

YOUNGER MAN

Give us the cart or I kill her...BANG!

Sarojina and Jeff jump startled.

The older man has his gun drawn on Jeff. The men laugh devilishly.

SAROJINA

Let him just kill me. I have no reason to live.

Jeff communicates with Sarojina using his eyes. She nods a bit. Jeff slides behind Caitlin. He reaches down.

Just as the lights go out, Sarojina's heel strikes the younger man in his crotch. He leans forward and grabs between his legs in pain as she drops to the ground and rolls away.

Two shots fire from the older man's gun in the blackened night.

Sarojina lay still on the ground.

Another shot and she jerks upward. Growls and rapid scurrying surround them.

A tongue lassos around the younger guy's waist.

The older man grabs his light gun and blasts at the creatures rushing them. The monsters explode with each bolt of light.

The younger guy is torn in half and falls to the concrete.

Jeff rolls over to the younger man's corpse and grabs the light gun and pistol still clenched in his hand. He blasts every monster that comes close to Caitlin.

The older man fires at the creatures. The generator powers up and bright lights illuminate the night once more. Every hideous creature within range bursts into fire. Some are able to retreat before they are destroyed. The older man slyly smiles and looks at Caitlin.

He takes a step toward her and reaches, when suddenly, his right eye expels a gush of blood followed by a cloud of smoke through the wound. He falls dead to the ground. Jeff stands behind him with the smoking gun in his hand.

He looks at Sarojina. Her eyes are wide-open with a small bullet hole centering her forehead trickling blood. Her shirt has two blood soaked holes, one at her heart, another on her stomach. Jeff slowly shakes his head biting his lower lip. He sadly sighs with a vibrato in his growl. His eyes look sunken and tired.

Caitlin remains on the cart wriggling her arms around in front of her speaking oddly. Her face wears an expression of imbecile happiness. Jeff can't understand what she is saying. He gathers all the weapons the guys were carrying, strapping some to his person and the rest to Caitlin's vehicle. He gets behind her and pushes onward.

### INT. CAITLIN'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Caitlin sits on the toilet waiting for the results of her home pregnancy test. The colors change: clear, blue, easy. She sighs and stands up still peering at the results in disbelief. She looks at her reflection for a long moment pondering her situation, at first distraught, then she shakes it off and smiles. She races into her

## **BEDROOM**

And leaps excited on to the bed, holds up the test, and sits it on a night stand.

CLOSE UP on her face.

CAITLIN

Baby, I've got some exciting news.

## INT. RESTAURANT KITCHEN - DAY

A hand sets a plate of delicious food under the heat lamp in the server window. Jeff looks at the clock.

It is 2:08 P.M.

He is dressed in a white chef's jacket stained with the day's special and chili pepper patterned chef pants. He wears a ball cap on his head. He lifts the hat and runs his hand through his hair. His face is sweaty. He turns to his COWORKER, a similarly dressed, hefty man in his early thirties with a stylish beard and tattoos smothering his forearms. Jeff picks a towel from a metal pan and wipes down the metal surfaces.

JEFF

You sure you'll be fine?

COWORKER

Yeah. No one comes in between two and five any way. Everything is prepped. I'll be cool.

**JEFF** 

Thanks dude. I appreciate it.

COWORKER

I hope you get it, bro. You're above this job.

**JEFF** 

This is my third interview. I should know today. I passed the drug test...that was the hardest part.

COWORKER

If you get it, let's hook up and celebrate. I'll roll up the biggest blunt you've ever seen. I can even get a little...

He holds his finger to his nose and sniffs. Jeff smiles.

JEFF

Nah...I'm done with that shit. I'm only doing this for Caity. It was devastating when she dumped me. I understand though. I'd do anything for her. She deserves better than this. I never wanted to be an office jockey, but I guess everyone ends up in line for the societal meat grinder at some point...especially if you want to provide for a family. The job just pays so much more.

The coworker grins as he cleans the grill. Jeff sets the towel in a pan of sanitizer and grabs a plastic bag of clothes from a table.

COWORKER

Try raising three boys on this pay. I know what you're sayin' dude.

Jeff walks into the walk-in cooler.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Jeff stands up and shakes a WOMAN's hand. Her hair and attire are completely business professional. Jeff is wearing a suit and tie. His face is clean-shaven and hair is neatly combed.

NAMOW

Welcome aboard. Do you have any further questions?

**JEFF** 

No, you've answered everything. I appreciate the opportunity. Thank you.

**WOMAN** 

I'll see you Wednesday for your orientation.

OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

Jeff clenches his fist and jams his elbow into his chest lifting his knee at the same time in celebration.

JEFF

Yes!

The SECRETARY sits behind his desk. He smiles at Jeff.

SECRETARY

Congratulations!

Jeff nods with a grin.

**JEFF** 

Thank you.

He walks toward the elevator.

INT. JEFF'S CAR - NIGHT

Jeff is still in his suit. He takes a diamond ring out of a box and places it around the green tissue wrapping of a single red rose. He stares ahead through the windshield with a confused look on his face.

EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff gets out of his car and walks to the sedan parked in front of his car. He looks inside with a grimace. With the key ready in front of him, he walks up the path to the door. The rose is in his other hand behind his back. He opens the door and sneaks inside.

## INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE

He walks inside and immediately hears sexual grunts and groans coming from the bedroom. He tiptoes to the entrance. The door is cracked open. His eyes open wide in shock as he stares.

### INSIDE THE BEDROOM

Caitlin grunts and squeals as she rides David in a reverse cowgirl position. David grips her firmly by the hair. She claws violently at his legs.

### HALLWAY

Jeff takes a grieving step backward and puts his hand on his forehead. His eyes flow. The lachrymose feelings of loss consume him. The groans get louder and the bed rocks faster inside the bedroom. Jeff slowly walks toward the exit. He looks at the rose and ring, tosses them in the trash can, and walks out the door.

## EXT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE

Jeff's car's trunk opens. With tears rolling through his five o'clock shadow, he pulls a nine-iron out of his golf bag and saunters over to David's sedan. He twirls the club smoothly around his fingers and bashes the front headlights and window out in three solid strikes. The alarm goes off. He twirls the club as he moves back to his car, opens the door, tosses the weapon in the back seat, and gets in. The car starts up, the tires squeal, and it speeds away.

The lights turn on inside Caitlin's house.

The car rounds the corner right before David storms out the front door wearing just his boxers with his keys in his hand. He shuts off the alarm, walks over to his car, and stares at it disgusted with his arms over his head.

## INT. CAITLIN'S HOUSE

David angrily stomps inside and notices the rose in the trash can. He picks it out and slides the ring from the wrapping. He looks at it inquisitively and then to the door. He slowly walks over and looks outside.

CAITLIN (O.S.) Is everything okay, baby?

### OUTSIDE

The door slams shut.

### THROUGH THE WINDOW

David is down on the one knee with the ring and rose held out before him. Caitlin is stunned. Excitement overcomes her. She dances in puerile celebration as tears of joy roll down her cheeks.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - FIELD OF SHEETS - DAY

Caitlin walks along the path alone. The macadam is overspread with broken marble glistening in the sun. The sheer sheets of random colors are plentiful floating lively in the air. She snags a sheet that lingers too close and places it in her hand with many others she has collected. They wriggle in her grasp. A cloud of bees swarm at her from behind. She turns and her eyes are consumed by fear.

### CAITLIN

Holy shit.

She takes off running along the trail. Her legs take long running strides as she runs from the bees toward the forest off in the distance.

The sun is shifting a deeper orange color above the mountains to her right.

Suddenly, she smacks into an invisible wall and falls to the ground.

## BLACK

Caitlin opens her eyes. Everything is hazy. Through the invisible barrier, she sees her destination. From the cluster of trees ahead, thousands of streams of semi-translucent, white cream shoots through the air and rain from above. The earth surrounding the forest is smothered with the slime, white as snow.

She stands, looks behind her, and bangs on the invisible barrier in frustration. It appears the bees have given up. Not one insect buzzes in the air.

A bony, wrinkled claw emerges from the edge off the macadam and grabs her by the ankle. She falls to the ground once more and pulls at the claw attempting to free herself. Two more bone-like hands grab her wrists and pull her flat to the ground. Her free foots kicks at the fist securing her other leg to the ground. Yet another skinny claw restrains that ankle.

A VERMILION SHEET floats in the air above her. It twists and turns in her line of view for a while until an imprint of a beautiful female face forms in the center. Below the face, the crimson sheet dangles like a dress. Above the face, the sheet splits appearing like long, flowing hair. The mouth speaks in a warbled, yet lovely, feminine voice.

VERMILION SHEET

And where are you off to so hastily, missy?

CAITLIN

I am trying to get to the Bukaki Forest, but I've seemed to ever so happened to hit a wall.

The sheet hovers holding its shape.

VERMILION SHEET

And why would you like to wind up in such a direful place?

CAITLIN

My tasty friend told me that beyond the woods just so happens to be where I will find the answer.

VERMILION SHEET

The answer to what, my pretty?

CAITLIN

I'm not quite so sure...to the question, I guess.

VERMILION SHEET

...and what, per say, is the question?

CAITLIN

With whom my true heart lies, of course.

Caitlin remains restrained staring up at the odd sheet. A portion of the cloth points to Caitlin's right hand, which still grips the wriggling rainbow of sheer sheets.

VERMILION SHEET

What are you doing with my friends and family there?

Caitlin releases the array of sheets. They catch a breeze and flutter away.

CAITLIN

I'm sorry...I didn't realize...

The sheet twists abruptly, the face gets closer.

VERMILION SHEET

And why would you care to learn the answer to a question you must already know, foolish girl?

CAITLIN

Excuse me, ma'am, but you certainly ask quite a bit of questions. I would like to be released now.

VERMILION SHEET

Why do you persist to seek answers when obviously only questions are being asked?

The claws release Caitlin and retract into the earth. She sits up with her hands behind her back glaring at the mesmerizing beauty of the sheer cloth.

CAITLIN

I was told to follow the path. There must be something important passed that barrier in those trees where it appears to be snowing...yet here is quite warm and comforting.

The sheet swirls in the air with a blusterous snigger and swoops down close to Caitlin's face. Caitlin's eyes open wide.

VERMILION SHEET

Honey, what makes you so sure that is snow?

CAITLIN

It's white.

The sheet giggles. Caitlin stands.

CAITLIN

Enough of this foolishness. How do I get to the other side?

The sheet excels into the air, shoots in spiral flight to Caitlin's right, and points in the form of an arrow. It holds the form for a moment and returns to Caitlin.

VERMILION SHEET

Haven't you noticed the cave over there? Isn't that Womb Rock? Don't you think that may be the only way?

CAITLIN

I was told to follow the macadam. No one mentioned such a place as Womb Rock. The trail ends here and continues on the other side.

Caitlin squints to her right.

CAITLIN

That hole is too small. There's no way I could ever fit.

VERMILION SHEET

Are you a stupid little girl?

Caitlin turns as red as the sheet in anger. She stomps her foot and gets in its face.

CAITLIN

First off, I am not a little girl...I am a woman! And I'm not stupid!

The sheet hisses at her. Caitlin grabs it from the air. It relinquishes its shape and falls limp in her hand. She airs it out and stares at it.

CAITLIN

I am rather fond of your color. I think I'll keep you.

Caitlin ties it around her head like a bandana and walks through the grass toward the opening in the mountain. It seems to shrink even more the closer she gets. Caitlin stops her amble.

CAITLIN

Peculiar.

She walks up to the small opening wondering how she could ever fit. She touches the rocky side of the gap. It turns pink and fleshy in response to her touch.

CAITLIN

Oh my.

She puts her other hand on the opposing rock. It too turns to warm skin and gives enough for her to squeeze through.

She tries to enter when the vermilion sheet unravels itself from her head and lifts into the air. The face forms and glares at her.

VERMILION SHEET

Do you really think you can just climb in there? Wouldn't it be a good idea to take off your clothes first?

CAITLIN

I guess.

She disrobes.

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

The moon dangles bright in the sky surrounded by stars.

Jeff hurriedly pushes Caitlin on her vehicle through the blood soaked street. Buildings burn in the distance past the monstrous howls and terrified screams. White flakes falls from the sky. Jeff tastes one and notices it is ash raining from above. Another light burns out on Caitlin's vehicle. Jeff flicks it wearily with his middle finger. It stays out. Only six lights remain. In a violent tug, he rips the bulb from the contraption and throws it into the darkness. He sighs and exhaustively falls to his knees and rests his head on Caitlin's forearm as she wobbles unsteadily above him. She speaks, but he hasn't understood a sound she's uttered since leaving the Ford abode. Jeff remains with his head down at her side.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - WOMB ROCK - DAY

Caitlin stands before the vermilion sheet completely nude. Her flesh a glowing pink.

CAITLIN

May I enter now?

VERMILION SHEET

Why don't you ask the gentlemen standing behind you?

Caitlin turns around. David and Jeff appear. Their bodies are fused together. Both their heads wiggle on top of extended necks. They are nude.

QUICK FLASH on their double penis.

CAITLIN

Jeff? David? I'm glad you joined me.

Jeff violently thrusts his hand at her with an orgasmic grunt and pushes her into the opening.

#### INSIDE WOMB ROCK

Caitlin is a pink sperm cell wriggling rapidly in a blast of fluid. She races billions of other pink and blue tadpoles into a chamber. In the center of the fleshy, fluid filled chamber is an egg. She beats everyone to the egg and jolts into it, wriggling her tail to penetrate fully.

Once inside the egg she is trapped. The chamber is a slippery smooth surface all around her. It begins filling with amniotic fluid. Caitlin is not frightened. Her body quickly forms into a fetus. From a cluster of blood vessels within the cave, a placenta if you must, a fleshy cord wavers and connects to her future belly button. She rests surrounded by fluid in the crowded cave while growing and gaining strength.

The vessel bursts and the fluid drains her into a tight tube. The cord wraps around her neck causing her to turn a bluish pink color. A slit opens above her as a tip of a sharp object rips through it. The light is blinding.

# INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - MATERNITY ROOM

A DOCTOR in a surgical mask and hair net unwraps the cord from her neck. The room is so bright as if she is opening her eyes for the first time. David stands there with a sharp object and a smile and cuts the cord from her. The doctor holds her upside down and smacks her rear end firmly. Her entire body is wrapped in a fluffy sheet and handed to David. She uncontrollably cries, and through blurred eyes, sees her adult self unconscious on the bed. She screams as David hands her to a NURSE.

Caitlin is tiny in a comfortable, hospital crib. She stares up at the ceiling. The surface moves in spirals and swirls. She looks around the room. Hundreds of cribs contain babies, some pink like her, some blue. The BABIES simultaneously leap straight up and down in the air like they're on a trampoline. From their tiny mouths they release bubbles into the air. The room is filled with billions of colorful bubbles. Caitlin leaps a few times and lands in the arms of a NURSE. She screams and cries.

The nurse carries Caitlin into the pulsating room where her adult body lay on a bed exhausted. Caitlin screams as she is placed into her adult arms. She looks into her own face and stops screaming. She smiles an infantile grin. Adult Caitlin hands the baby to David who stands close to the bed. She begins screaming and crying again. His hold on her is sloppy. He appears distressed and annoyed as she screams loudly.

Suddenly, his face morphs into Jeff's appearance. Caitlin stops screaming, her mouth forms a puerile smile, and she giggles. The man hands the baby back to the woman on the bed.

Caitlin lay on the bed staring into her arms that hold little, pink Julia. She smiles cradling the baby and looks up at the guy who has half of Jeff's face and half of David's face. She stands up and kisses Julia's forehead. The baby smiles all gums at her.

Caitlin looks up and is standing butt-naked next to the mountain with the vermilion sheet floating to her left. She looks into her arms. She is cradling thin air. She puts her hand on the invisible barrier in front of the vermilion sheet which remains on the other side.

#### CAITLIN

Thank you.

The sheet's mouth silently says, "you're welcome" and flutters away in the breeze. The sound of blasts of liquid fills her ears. She turns around and realizes she is in a tunnel. Wiggling fingers poke from the earth covering the entire ground. As she walks, they tickle the bottoms of her feet. She dances while laughing. A minty green, sheer sheet lingers close to her. Caitlin takes it from the air and wraps it around her breasts keeping her feet moving to lessen the tickle sensation. She knee raises through an array of different colored sheets floating in the tube. A hunter green cloth flutters feet ahead of her. She runs to it, rips it from the air, and wraps it around her waist still laughing at the annoying tickling. All the other sheets dissipate in the air and disappear. The tunnel walls are a fleshy tone and texture. She dances over to the wall and touches it. A dozen human eyes open and a fist pops out of the wall and punches her in the face.

## EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff remains with his head on Caitlin's arm. Ash continues to fall from the sky. Vicious howls and scurrying sounds echo from the darkness. He lifts his head slowly and looks into what were once her eyes. The gauze is thoroughly soaked gooey, brownish red streaming down her cheeks. He grabs her chin and pats it attempting to wake her. He begins sobbing. She wobbles on the device, insensate.

## **JEFF**

I wish I could undo this. I regret what I've done...didn't want to spend our last moments with each other with you in this state.

Even if we were torn to pieces hours ago, at least...at least we would have died together. With you like this, I am alone...you are alone.

Jeff pulls the small gun from his pocket and holds the cold barrel to her head. He stands contemplating. Tears stream through his stubble. He cocks the gun.

CLOSE UP on his trembling finger on the trigger.

Jeff quickly drawls the gun back and fires the remaining rounds into the darkness in a circle twist. He throws the gun overhand into the night and kneels down in front of Caitlin once more. The light guns are still strapped to his back and the machine. He slaps her softly on the cheek again and tries to talk to her.

**JEFF** 

Caity. Caity...you there?

CAITLIN

Imageetinklo.

Jeff sadly shakes his head. Another light fizzles and burns dead. Jeff remains crouched at her side. Something rushes quickly behind him. He pulls the light gun from over his right shoulder and fires a bright blast of light in the direction. Slime lands on his shirt at his shoulder. The CREATURE explodes in a blast of charcoal. Jeff quickly rips off his shirt as the ooze burns through the fabric. He wipes away the searing acid with the clean section shirt. It sears his skin a little. He tosses the smoking shirt to the blood soaked earth, grabs the rope, and drags Caitlin away. The vehicle protects them three-quarters of the way around. He aims the light gun in the dark quarter. Only five bright lights remain as he spiritlessly muddles onward blasting the gun when the monsters get close.

## INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - FLESH TUNNEL

Caitlin is down on the floor rolling along the tickling fingers. When she tries to stand, the fingers move causing her to lose her balance. She has tears streaming her face from laughing so much. She rolls close too the wall. A foot pops out amongst the blinking eyes and kicks her in the stomach. She rolls to the center of the fingers floor.

The fingers continue to wiggle. She grabs four of them with each hand and snaps them. A howl rings through the tunnel. The rug claws at her feet as she stands and runs. Each time her feet hit the floor, the fingers crunch, and the tunnel echoes a scream of pain.

As she runs faster, different sized balls of flesh burst from the walls. She dodges them as they roll quickly around the tunnel trying to hit her.

She catches one and uses it to smack the other balls away. She stares at the ball as a red slit forms on its surface. The slit opens wider and gushes puss and blood in her face. She hits another approaching ball away with it and throws it against the wall.

She dodges the balls, stepping her feet high to avoid the wiggling fingers, and runs tremulous and confused. She looks at one direction. Her head rips to the opposite end. She can't remember which way she was traveling. She unwraps the minty green sheet from her breasts and fans it out. She releases it, still dancing and avoiding the oozing balls.

## CAITLIN

Can you tell me which way to go?

The sheet dodges a ball and drifts down the tunnel. Caitlin high steps toward it. It gestures in the direction and hovers. She grabs it from the air and looks into the half-face it formed.

### CAITLIN

Thank you.

She dances and dodges more balls. An oozing ball of flesh hits the sheet. Caitlin twists the sheet around capturing the ball and uses it to knock away oncoming attacks. She runs as fast as she can falling down a few times while approaching the light at the end of the tunnel.

EXT. CONTRAPTION LIT STREET - NIGHT

Jeff continues blasting the oncoming attack. He is tiring. Caitlin is laughing and moving awkwardly on the vehicle.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BUKAKI FOREST - DAY

White cream shoots from the trees. The entire land surrounding them is overspread with the fluid. The trees look exactly like Banzai trees except they are enormous. Caitlin falls out of a slit in the air. She has the flesh ball still wrapped in the minty sheet as she lands on the grassy edge of the white covered ground.

She opens the sheet and stares at the gross meat ball. She spins around in the grass and releases the ball into the sheet covered, grassy field behind her. It hits a few sheets before it lands. She wraps the minty green sheet around her breasts and stands facing the Bukaki Forest.

She hesitantly steps into the fluid with her bare foot and proceeds. Her face cringes at the noxious odor.

CAITLIN

Gross.

The substance covers her feet as she sloshes through it. Soon she is up to her ankles. She dodges globs of the fluid shot into the air from the trees out of twelve-inch, branch-like cannons with large barrels that shutter open and closed to release the enormous globs.

The fluid consumes half way between her ankle and knee as she moves closer. She stands before the edge of the forest dodging the globs left and right. She hesitantly walks to the tree line and sloshes into the midst of the large, dripping trees. The fluid is slightly above her knees as she wades through it. She quickly turns her head to avoid the blast of cream heading right for her face.

CAITLIN Whew. That was close.

As she moves deeper into the trees, the surfeit globs shoot around her in streams with colorful trails. She avoids each stream as they fly all around her. In a flash, a vicious, small creature bounds at her, restrained and growling in her face. She backpedals startled by the thing. It shakes the slime from its body and underneath the coating appears to be a WOODEN CHILD secured by a rubber cord wrapped around its torso. It appears child-like, but evil and minatory. Its teeth are sharp triangles of wood. Its head is round, bald, and splintering. Its arms swivel unnaturally and reach at her with sharp, splintered claws at the ends of the hands. She avoids the boy's grasp.

Suddenly, another WOODEN CHILD's head blasts up above her shoulder. She turns her head in terror and stares into its glowing red eyes inches from her face. Both kids blast off into the air and dangle swinging around in their harnesses, clawing at the air in front of them.

As Caitlin looks up into the trees, an enormous glob hits her and saturates her hair, head, and shoulders. She wipes it away from her eyes and flicks her hands repeatedly.

CAITLIN Yuck! Disgusting!

She looks up into the trees dodging the raining globs and more WOODEN CHILDREN on harnesses. Some are restrained around their torsos, many are secured by their ankles, and quite a few have harnesses around their necks.

Every time one gets close, growling, it is pulled into the air by the rubber harness. From the trees above, many WOODEN CHILDREN hang from the branches struggling against their restraints. The things secured by their ankles hang upside down. The kids secured by their necks dangle limp. Caitlin looks at the base of the trees. Submerged in the thick fluid at the foot of each tree are the head tops of many wooden children crouched in an attack position. Their eyes follow her eerily.

Another GROWLING WOODEN CHILD rushes her face bearing its sharp teeth. It has a collar around its neck and blasts into the tree tops. Caitlin looks up at it disgusted as it hangs limp.

## CAITLIN

Ford!

She takes a running stride darting between the trees dodging everything coming at her. She is covered head to toe in thick, white fluid. One of the children swings into her feet first knocking her to the ground. She gets up and runs as quick as she can through the thick substance. During a final stride, she is engulfed by a pool of the fluid.

## EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Only three lights remain on Caitlin's vehicle. Jeff stands close to her, firing the light guns at each attacker, exploding them to bits. One of the guns falters. He grabs another gun from his back and continues blasting the creatures to hell with two weapons. Caitlin wavers oddly on the cart. Both Caitlin and Jeff have more searing wounds from the caustic phlegm of the creatures.

## INT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - BUKAKI POOL

Caitlin swims through the pool of white gel. She passes the skeletal remains of other human beings and wooden children floating in the substance. She swims to the surface and slowly climbs out using tree roots to escape. She stands and runs as the children continue to attack more furiously, knocking her around like a pinball. She darts between a few more trees as the children are yanked back up into the tree tops. She trips once again and gets to her hands and knees. Her head barely reaches out of the thick fluid. She slowly stands and turns around noticing she has made it through. One more child swoops toward her harnessed by is ankles. She punches it in the face. Its head explodes into splinters as its head-ridden corpse flings back to the tree tops.

CAITLIN Take that, bitch!

Ahead of her in the distance is a colorful, fluffy group of trees. The cotton candy forest. She smiles and wipes the globs of glutinous goop off of her as she sloshes through the white ooze until she reaches grass, renascent. She shakes as much of the substance from her as possible.

CAITLIN

I always wondered what those poor girls felt like. Quite humiliating, I must say.

DAVID (O.S.) Quite humiliating indeed.

She's startled by his voice. She slowly turns around. It's David's head on top of the body of a beagle. He yelps and barks between sentences. Caitlin crouches down to him. His tail wags happily.

CAITLIN

David, you're a puppy.

He walks to her and relinquishes a long, spotted tongue from his mouth and licks the fluid from her. The tickling sensation causes her to giggle and squirm.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Jeff protects Caitlin blasting the never ending onslaught of creatures who are coming very close. The two lights remaining on the cart destroy approaching attackers as well. He keeps the vehicle spinning in a circle with the rope wrapped firmly around his waist, firing a weapon in each hand. In the background, the sound of aircraft approaching fills the night. Jeff continues blasting and looks off to the distance.

OVER THE HORIZON

A bright phalanx of light moves closer. Explosions emit from the ground below it.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - COTTON CANDY FOREST - DAY

Colorful butterflies flutter about. Caitlin giggles as if she is being tickled. Flowers sprout from the ground overspreading the entire surface. David continues licking the fluid from her. He gets her foot completely clean. She stands and pats him on his head. He growls at her.

CAITLIN

Don't growl at me.

DAVID

So, you have chosen me.

David's body morphs from a dog's torso to the body of a monkey.

CAITLIN

Why do you keep changing?

DAVID

I don't know. You tell me.

They walk through the colorful pattern of trees. The trees are spread apart from each other. The forest is beautiful.

DAVID

I'm going to guide you the rest of the way. Follow me.

David runs in his monkey body. Caitlin is not that fast.

CAITLIN

You need to slow down, David.

Hair consumes her flesh and soon her body takes the form of an ape. She catches up to him. He looks behind him.

DAVID

See...you caught up.

David suddenly stops before a large tree with pink leaves.

DAVID

Now we must climb to the truth.

Caitlin slams on her brakes and rolls her eyes.

CAITLIN

Ford, I'm tired. Can't we rest?

DAVID

No.

David grabs a branch and quickly scales the tree.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

The phalanx of light approaches as the aircraft noises get louder only miles away. In the distance, explosions continue on the earth below.

Jeff continues spinning the vehicle as he blasts the creatures. Ash falls from the sky like snow.

**JEFF** 

Take that fuckers!

He blows more and more away with each blast. His expression is maniacal.

**JEFF** 

Die! Die! Die!

The creatures continue a never ending swarm. Jeff is heaving as he blasts more and more. The generator shuts down on Caitlin's vehicle.

JEFF

Fuck!

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - TREE OF KNOWLEDGE - DAY

Caitlin follows quickly from tree branch to tree branch up the enormous pink leafed monster. Her ape arms are massive. She climbs up beside David and goes at a steady, fast climb. David turns to her still rapidly climbing.

DAVID

You must choose me. I am the one.

David stops climbing and spins full circle on a clear branch a few times. Caitlin smiles.

CAITLIN

That looks fun.

DAVID

Give it a try.

She spins around her own branch in a complete loop a few times.

CAITLIN

Whew...I'm dizzy now.

David chuckles.

DAVID

Follow me.

He quickly scales the tree. He pauses and gazes down at her.

DAVID

You are too slow.

CAITLIN

Am not. I'm hanging just fine.

They swing playfully through the branches. Butterflies flutter about them the entire time.

CAITLIN

What is the answer? I need to know now.

She looks up into the tree. It goes on past the clouds.

CAITLIN

My arms are tired. Does this thing even have a top?

DAVID

I'll give you your answer. What has two thumbs and would pull the rug out right from under his own mother?

CAITLIN

What?

David twirls around a branch and lands Indian style on top of it. He point his thumbs at his chest.

DAVID

This guy.

CAITLIN

That is the dumbest, oldest joke. I don't even know what that means.

David grabs another branch and scales upward. Caitlin follows.

CAITLIN

Will this ever end?

Her eyes open amazed. Pink-toned Julia crawls on a branch about twenty strides away.

CAITLIN

Oh my Ford! Julia! Be careful baby.

David pauses dangling from a branch with his feet.

DAVID

Race you to the little bitch.

Caitlin's face lights up with choler.

CAITLIN

What have I told you about calling her a bitch?!? She's my angel.

David wickedly cackles and quickly climbs.

Caitlin moves up the enormous tree as fast as she can, but David gets to Julia first. He grabs her like a rag doll by the arm and puts the tuft of her neck in his mouth. He speaks with her flesh clenched firmly in his teeth.

DAVID

Catch me if you can.

He disappears into the cloud above. Losing sight of him, she climbs quickly into the thick white.

BRIGHT WHITE

Blinded by the cloud, she has no choice but to slow down and carefully grab at each branch. She stops and hangs by her ape feet exhausted.

CAITLIN

My dear.

She recovers and continues her climb.

Twenty branches later, her head pops up out of the clouds. She climbs out of the tree to the top of the cloud. David stands at the top holding screaming Julia upside down by her right leg over the edge. His body is back to normal. Jeff stands before him pleading.

**JEFF** 

Give me my daughter. You can't do this.

Caitlin looks at her body. It too has returned to her natural form. She is dressed in a pure white, long, flowing gown.

David pretends to let go. Caitlin's eyes open in fear.

CAITLIN

No! Why are you doing this, David? You wanted to marry me. Julia is your daughter.

DAVID

You know I'm a big, fat liar and fool. I didn't even buy you a ring. I found that one in the trash.

Caitlin stops and scorns him with her eyes.

CAITLIN

What?

DAVID

Jeff got an office job and was going to propose when I just weaseled my way in and scooped up your broken heart when Jeff had his guard down. Then the dumb bastard gave up and simply disappeared.

Jeff looks over to her.

**JEFF** 

He's telling the truth.

CAITLIN

But I love you, David!

David laughs and violently tosses Julia through the air. Jeff dives and catches her before she falls.

DAVID

That's the problem. I was so eager to jump all over you. You got pregnant and I felt trapped.

She looks at him with question marks flying about her head. She swats at them like flies.

CAITLIN

I don't understand. I thought you loved me.

David chuckles.

DAVID

Bitch, I've been banging broads on the side the entire time you were pregnant. Jeanie at the office...did you really think I work that much? I couldn't even bear looking at your fat ass. Everything you say is idiotic. And this tree obsession of yours is fucking ridiculous. We would have been divorced in less than a year.

Caitlin's eyes fill with tears. She falls into him pounding his chest.

CAITLIN
Asshole, asshole!

David violently pushes her to the cloud. She falls through leaving behind a piercing dark hole. The sound of branches breaking comes from below. Jeff dives at David.

**JEFF** 

Motherfuckin' thief!

They both go over the edge and grasp on to the branches of the tree top. They kick at each other trying to knock one another off. Julia climbs around through the misty top.

#### BRIGHT WHITE

Caitlin lands on a wide branch. She recovers, stands, climbs back to the top. When she emerges from the cloud into the bright, blue sky, she takes a look around and sees Julia close to the edge, giggling, blowing bubbles, and grabbing at her feet. Caitlin floats to her and cradles her in her arms. She stares down at the brothers hanging from the branches. She pulls the top of her gown down exposing one breast and attaches Julia's mouth to her nipple. The baby sucks hard as she lets her go. Julia dangles from her chest, feeding. Caitlin leans over and grabs both the guys by their hands. David grabs her with both hands and desperately looks her in the eyes.

DAVID

Help me. I love you, baby.

Jeff's hand slips a little. The vermilion sheet bursts upward through the cloud. It swirls in the air and forms the lovely face. Caitlin looks at it intensely.

CAITLIN

Can you help me?

VERMILION SHEET

Why don't you make a decision? Isn't it about that time?

Caitlin looks down at the brothers. David has a firm grasp on her hand. Jeff's hand slips a little more.

CAITLIN

I'm sorry, David.

She lets David's hands go. He screams as he pierces a hole through the cloud.

DAVID

Nooooooooo!

She quickly grabs Jeff with both hands and pulls him up. He embraces her and holds her firm to him giving Julia enough space to suckle. The vermilion sheet circles around them quickly as they make out, surrounding them in a blur of red. Jeff looks into her eyes.

JEFF

I love you.

Caitlin smiles wide.

CAITLIN

I love you more.

Suddenly, the sheet stops spinning around them and lingers in the air. It shoots upward and Jeff, Caitlin, and Julia are back on the ground on a bed of flowers in the midst of the cotton candy forest. Colorful butterflies are plentiful fluttering about. Caitlin sits down exhausted. Jeff plops himself down and rests his head in her lap. The vermilion sheet flutters in the breeze and soon disappears out of sight. Caitlin kisses Jeff's forehead.

CAITLIN

What a strange day.

**JEFF** 

You got that right.

She looks at his head on her lap. A bee buzzes past them.

CAITLIN

Jeff, I thought I said no bees?

The bee disappears in mid-flight. Caitlin smiles and looks into Jeff's eyes.

CAITLIN

Did you really get a new job?

**JEFF** 

I did...for you. We're on vacation now. No more talk about work.

CAITLIN

Kay.

Caitlin smiles and rests flat on her back glaring up at the bright blue sky with Julia cradled in her arm.

CAITLIN

I'm so happy, Jeff. What do we do now?

Jeff pauses for a long moment and looks up from her lap.

**JEFF** 

Live!

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Jeff fires the guns exploding more and more creatures. One of the guns burns out. He holds it firing the trigger repeatedly.

JEFF

Shit!

He throws the gun to the ground.

The military aircraft are approaching quickly, lights blazing, destroying all the creatures below. Jeff looks desperately at Caitlin wobbling on the vehicle.

CAITLIN

I'm so happy, Jeff. What do we do now?

Jeff smiles and looks at her. He shoots the approaching monsters behind her until he has a clearing and pushes her to the side of the road. He unties the rope from his waist, takes out a few more creatures with his gun, and puts his foot up on the device.

**JEFF** 

Live!

He kicks the vehicle over on the side of the road and quickly moves away from her. He fires at every creature in his path protecting her until his last breath. The phalanx of light is very close the area.

**JEFF** 

Come on mother fuckers!

The creatures swarm him faster than he can shoot until he is completely engulfed. Blood squirts and flesh flies from the massive huddle of creatures. Suddenly, the creatures look up at the aircraft approaching. Some scurry to temporary safety. Most just hold their positions, look up at the quickly approaching lights, and burst into flames.

INT. DARK ROOM - DAY

SOLDIERS IN HAZARD SUITS catch the cute fish creatures, no longer in their monstrous form, in nets and plop them into large containers. One of the fish scurries away and is quickly scooped by a net.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

SOLDIERS pull the large containers from a building. As soon as the creatures within hit the sunlight, they shrivel to charcoal dust. Other PEOPLE in hazard suits stand around the burning bins cheering.

MEN and WOMEN in protective gear clean up the blood soaked streets. Body parts still litter the pavement.

A rubber gloved hand picks up half of Jeff's head and drops it in a garbage bag on top of dismembered body parts. The bag is tossed into the overflowing bed of a large military truck. The truck drives off and another pulls up.

A BEARDED MAN in a hazard suit finds Caitlin still strapped to her vehicle. He sits her up. Her unconscious body slumps to her side. She groans.

BEARDED MAN

My God!

He checks her pulse. The man turns and shouts to a MEDIC UNIT across the street.

BEARDED MAN

You're not going to believe this, men. We got a live one here.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - COCKAIGNE - DAY

MONTAGE

Caitlin and Jeff run around the forest playing. Caitlin holds the smiling baby.

They spin in circles and fall to the ground.

Caitlin kisses the engagement ring then Jeff.

The family plays a chase game with their new friend, the vermilion sheet, chasing it through the beautiful trees.

A marshmallow person joins them around a campfire. They toast pieces of the guy on the ends of sticks enjoying the sweet sensation. Jeff takes a bite and his body twists like ringing out a wet shirt after being caught in a downpour.

Caitlin and Jeff make love on a bed of flowers.

A view from above of the new family playing below amongst the colorful trees that look much like a mass of sweet cotton candy. It is Caitlin's condign Cockaigne.

CLOSE UP on Caitlin's halcyon face. She smiles peaceful in utter bliss.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

CLOSE UP on Caitlin's bandaged face. She lay on a hospital bed hooked up to machinery with tubes running through her nose and throat. Many other unconscious people lay in beds around her. Caitlin's eyes are wrapped in clean gauze. She is completely covered by a sheet from the neck down. A DOCTOR and NURSE approach her. The doctor picks up the clip board from the foot of the bed.

NURSE

This woman here has been in a coma for three months now. They found her in the midst of the attack.

DOCTOR

In the midst? I didn't think there were any survivors?

NURSE

As far as I know, she is it. It must have been a miracle.

The doctor chuckles.

DOCTOR

A miracle, if she wakes up. Put her up in the ICU. Has anyone identified her yet?

The nurse shakes her head as they walk away.

EXT. CAITLIN'S MIND EYE - COCKAIGNE - DAY

Caitlin, Julia, and Jeff lay on a bed of flowers. Butterflies dance around them. Her head is on his chest. He puts his hand over her heart.

TEFF

Baby...I think it's time to wake up now.

CAITLIN

What do you mean? I don't ever want to leave here.

**JEFF** 

I'm sorry, but you can't stay here forever. It's time.

Suddenly Jeff, Julia, and the cotton candy forest fade away and all she sees is black.

BLACK

There is a television on tuned to the local news. Caitlin hears a reporter speak.

NEWSCASTER RICK (O.C.)
It's been six months since the attack destroyed the coasts of every continent. Some of the creatures still lurk in dark areas. It is important to stay in well lit areas. If you come in contact with one of these vicious monsters, run. They are dangerous and will kill. The Navy have combined efforts with military personnel worldwide to vanquish any of the creatures that remain in the oceans. Well it looks like the world is safe once again...

Caitlin sits up in her bed.

INT. HOSPITAL ICU ROOM - DAY

A NURSE spots Caitlin awakening from the corridor and shouts.

NURSE

She's awake!

She runs to Caitlin and helps her into a sitting position.

CAITLIN

I can't see.

NURSE

Do you know your name?

CAITLIN

Caitlin Powers.

NURSE

You are a survivor. This is a miracle.

Caitlin pulls the bedding down and reaches around her legs. She feels they are nothing but stumps. She touches her face and feels the gauze around her eyes. She laughs maniacally slowly grazing her fingers down her cheeks.

CAITLIN

No...no...noooooo!

CLOSE ON Caitlin's face as she lets out a blood curdling scream.

FADE TO BLACK.

ROLLS END CREDITS.