

Hunter

By: ShaDon Manigault

FADE IN:

BLACK SCREEN

QUOTE: "The day of my birth, my death began its walk. It is walking toward me, without hurrying." - Jean Cocteau

BABY CRIES innocently on the screen.

INT. HOSPITAL/ NURSERY ROOM - DAY

A NURSE hands NATALIE ROBERTS, 32, her new born BABY BOY.

Natalie PANTS heavily and sweats. She holds the baby boy closely and caresses him dear to her heart.

NURSE

Here he is, Hunter Anthony Roberts.

Natalie smiles at Hunter as he continues to CRY. Natalie stares at Hunter delightfully.

ANTHONY (O.S.)

He's beautiful.

Natalie looks up and sees her husband ANTHONY ROBERTS, 34, staring back at her. He smiles with pride at his new born son.

NATALIE

Isn't he?

ANTHONY

Of course, he has your eyes.

Anthony gives Natalie a lovely kiss on the forehead. Her face blossoms with content.

INT. HOSPITAL/ WAITING ROOM - DAY

JULIA STONE, 71, NATHAN STONE, 42, and NICHOLAS STONE, 74, all wait patiently. It's silent in the waiting room besides Nicholas's BREATHING MACHINE.

CLOSE UP: Nicholas stares off; looking desolate as he breathes. Nicholas begins to COUGH harshly. Julia holds his hand tightly, supporting her husband.

JULIA

You're okay honey?

NICHOLAS
(groggily)
Yes I'm fine.

NATHAN
Do you need some water?

NICHOLAS
No, thanks son.

A beat.

Anthony slowly OPENS the door to the waiting room, he has a look of despair in his eyes.

Everyone in the room notices his expression and they are all concerned.

JULIA
Oh no, what's the matter?

Anthony begins to smile jubilantly.

ANTHONY
It's a boy!

Julia SIGHS and everyone begins to CLAP and CHEER.

INT. HOSPITAL/ NURSERY ROOM - DAY

Everyone is gathered around Natalie as she holds Hunter. They all smile gleefully at the bundle of joy.

NATALIE
(to Nicholas)
Father, I named him Hunter.

NICHOLAS
Now why would you do that?

NATALIE
Because you're a hunter yourself. I wanted him to have a name that would remind him of his grandfather.

NICHOLAS
Well, how about Nick?

Natalie looks dissatisfied.

NATALIE
Too generic.

Natalie smiles and looks back at Hunter.

NATALIE (CONT'D)
Hunter, it's perfect.

TITLE SCREEN: HUNTER

TIME CARD: ONE MONTH LATER

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

Natalie holds Hunter delicately in her arms, feeding him a bottle.

The doorbell RINGS.

ANTHONY (O.S.)
I got it!

INT. NATALIE'S HOME - DAY

Anthony opens the front door and sees Nicholas and Julia at the door. Nicholas still has his breathing machine with him. Anthony looks delighted, Nicholas and Julia are delighted as well.

ANTHONY
Hello folks, thank you for coming by.

NICHOLAS
Of course.

JULIA
Where is Natalie and Hunter?

ANTHONY
They are in the back. Natalie is feeding him.

A beat.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
Come on in.

Anthony scoots over to the side leaving room for Nicholas and Julia to walk. Nicholas and Julia slowly walks in.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

Nicholas and Julia OPENS the room door slowly, Anthony is behind them, making sure they get in safely.

Natalie looks up and sees her parents walking in, she is delighted.

NATALIE

Oh my God, mom, dad. What a pleasant surprise.

JULIA

How are you sweetie? And how is Hunter?

NATALIE

We're both doing fine. I would hug you but as you can see. I'm a little busy at the moment.

JULIA

That's fine dear.

NATALIE

I was just about to put him to sleep for a little nap.

Natalie notices her father; he looks tired and worn, breathing slowly.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Are you okay dad?

NICHOLAS

(weakly)

Yes. I'm fine dear.

A beat.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

You're putting Hunter asleep already? We just got here.

NATALIE

Yes, he needs his rest.

NICHOLAS

But I want to talk to him first.

Natalie CHUCKLES.

NATALIE

About what? He's only a month old.

NICHOLAS

(irritated)

Natalie...

NATALIE

Okay, fine. Whatever you say. Would you like to hold him too?

NICHOLAS

No, you can put him in the crib. I just want to tell him a little bedtime story.

NATALIE

Of course.

Natalie raises up from the rocking chair and slowly places Hunter in his crib.

Natalie walks back to the rocking chair and moves it closer to the crib.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Here you go dad.

Nicholas smiles. He steadily sits down in the rocking chair, with Natalie helping him sit.

NICHOLAS

Thanks sweetie, this body ain't what it used to be.

Natalie CHUCKLES.

NATALIE

You're welcome.

Natalie heads towards the bedroom door and passes by Anthony.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Come on dear.

Natalie walks out the door, Anthony follows her, and CLOSES the door behind her.

Julia is still there. A beat.

NICHOLAS

I want to be alone with him please.

A beat.

JULIA

Okay, just let me know if you need anything.

Julia slowly OPENS the door, walks out of it, and CLOSES it behind her.

Nicholas is left by himself staring at his first grandson through the crib.

NICHOLAS

You're such a handsome fella.

Hunter stares at his grandfather through the crib. His eyes are innocent and filled with life.

On the contrary his grandfather's eyes are lifeless and jaded.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - DAY

Natalie is at the kitchen table with her mother Julia. She is pouring Julia some herbal tea from a pot. Natalie pours herself some as well.

Julia takes a sip of tea as Natalie sits down to join her. A beat.

NATALIE

Mother? What's going on with father?

JULIA

I'm not sure dear.

NATALIE

How's the treatment?

JULIA

Well, your father isn't getting better.

Julia takes a small sip of her tea.

JULIA (CONT'D)

We went to the doctor last week.

A beat.

JULIA (CONT'D)

His cancer is spreading.

Julia begins to CRY wholeheartedly.

NATALIE

Oh mother.

Natalie puts down her cup of tea, runs towards Julia, and begins to caress her mother.

JULIA

We don't know what else to do at this point.

NATALIE

Oh mother, it's okay, everything is going to be fine.

Natalie continues to caress her mother. Tears drip from Natalie's eyes as well.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

Nicholas stares at Hunter wistfully through his crib. Hunter stares back at him with his pure, doe eyes.

NICHOLAS

I want to tell you something Hunter.

Hunter continues to stare.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

The origins of your name.

A beat.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

One of my favorite hobbies is hunting. I'm infamous for it.

INT. NICHOLAS'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

Nicholas's living room is filled with the heads of deer hung up on the wall; the rugs are made from deer skin as well.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

It all started about 50 years ago...

We see several golden hunting trophies on display.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Hunting was the only way I could control myself.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

PRESENT DAY: We are back to Nicholas talking to Hunter.

NICHOLAS

There's a reason why hunting became
such a vital hobby for me, I never
told anyone why...

Hunter stares at Nicholas with his innocent eyes.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

I want to tell you now before it's
too late...

BLACKOUT

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

It all started when I was a little
boy...

PART ONE: COMMENCEMENT

TIME CARD: 1944

EXT. LUSH PARK - DAY

The local park is filled with lush scenery. The trees, the field, and the other vegetation is exhilarating in the scintillating sunlight.

BARBRA STONE, 35, an up tight looking woman with a very conservative aura, sits on a bench talking animatedly to another WOMAN.

We can tell we are in the south due to their strong southern accents.

EXT. LUSH PARK/ PLAYGROUND - DAY

LITTLE CHILDREN run around whimsically. Playful SCREAMS echo in the playground as children chase each other. They don't have a care in the world.

We see a little boy, his eyes look familiar...

We notice it is LITTLE NICHOLAS, by himself, with a stick, picking at a dead squirrel.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

I was five years old.

Nicholas continues to poke at the squirrel.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Something was so fascinating with
dead animals. They were so...

Barbra stops talking to her friend and glares over to where Nicholas stands. She notices Nicholas as he is picks at the dead rodent. Barbra SIGNS harshly.

BARBRA

There he goes again. NICHOLAS!?

Nicholas ignores his mother and continues to poke the squirrel. He finally flips the squirrel over with the stick.

The squirrel is on its back side now. The squirrel's insides are revealed, there are maggots inside, furiously eating away at the insides.

NICHOLAS (V.O)

Organic.

A beat.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

I was fascinated.

Barbra grabs Nicholas by the collar, nearly choking him. Little Nicholas is in shock.

BARBRA

Nicholas!? What did I tell you about playing with dead animals!?

LITTLE NICHOLAS

I'm sorry mama.

BARBRA

Come on we're going!

Barbra drags him away furiously. Nicholas begins to WHINE slightly.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

You're embarrassing me in public. Why can't you just play with the other children and be normal!?

Barbra continues to drag Nicholas along. She passes by her friend; quickly hiding her anger and smiling superficially.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

See you later Debra!

DEBRA

See you dear.

Barbra smiles at Debra as she continues to drag Nicholas.

INT. BARBARA'S CAR - DAY

Barbra drives her car; a very stern look is on her face. The radio is on, playing 1940's MUSIC.

Nicholas is in the back, sadden that he has to leave the playground so early.

BARBRA

How many times do I have to tell
you Nicholas, that is not right!
It's just not normal!

LITTLE NICHOLAS

I'm sorry momma.

BARBRA

You know what you're going to get
when you get home?

LITTLE NICHOLAS

(afraid)
Not a paddle!?

BARBRA

Oh yes you will.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - EVENING

We see the backside of Nicholas's pants, his mother pulls them down; exposing his buttocks.

Nicholas bends over, Barbra has a paddle in her hand. She gives Nicholas a tough SMACK on his bottom, leaving a sharp sting. Nicholas WHINES again.

LITTLE NICHOLAS

Ouch mommy!

Barbra STRIKES him again.

NICHOLAS

Mommy stop!

Nicholas CRIES now. Barbra continues to STRIKE him.

LITTLE NICHOLAS

Mommy I promise I won't do it
again!

Barbra continues to STRIKE him, over and over again...

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ BATHROOM - NIGHT

The faucet to the bathtub runs warm, steaming water.

Nicholas is in the bathtub as it fills with water. He's not crying anymore but pouting.

Barbra slowly turns the faucet off.

She begins to rub soap on Nicholas's soaked body and scrubs Nicholas with a washcloth.

BARBRA

I only did that because I love you.

Tears fall out of Nicholas's eyes.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

I want you to be protected from
evil son. One day you will
understand.

Barbra continues to scrub Nicholas with the washcloth.

EXT. BARBRA'S HOME/ BACKYARD - DAY

Nicholas is in the backyard chasing after a rabbit. He LAUGHS as he chases it.

Nicholas pounces on top of the rabbit. The rabbit struggles to escape from Nicholas's weight but it has no luck.

Nicholas put his hands around the rabbit's neck, he begins to squeeze the rabbit, choking it.

The rabbit struggles more now, kicking its legs and clawing spasmodically.

Nicholas grasps the neck of the rabbit with a tighter grip. The rabbit's body spasms and jerks manically.

MOMENTS LATER: Barbra walks in the backyard, searching for Nicholas.

BARBRA

Nicholas time for lunch!

Barbra continues to walk, finally finds Nicholas, and stops in her tracks; aghast.

NICHOLAS (V.O)

Momma's paddles never did any good.
I never learned my lesson.

(MORE)

NICHOLAS (V.O) (CONT'D)
 I was simply too obsessed to care
 about the consequences.

Nicholas is covered in blood; peeling the skin off the dead
 rabbit. Nicholas notices his mother and smiles.

LITTLE NICHOLAS
 Mommy, look what I found!

Barbra's face has flushed to white with pure horror in her
 eyes. Barbra SCREAMS at the top of her lungs.

BLACKOUT

TIME CARD: 1954

INT. NICHOLAS'S HIGH SCHOOL/ SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Nicholas is a teenager now, growing into his looks. TEEN
 NICHOLAS, 15, has on goggles, an apron, and gloves.

He uses dissecting tools as he rapidly dissects a frog, much
 faster than his classmates.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
 As I grew older, my obsession grew
 with me.

MR. SCHWARTZ walks around the classroom, looking at the
 students dissect the frogs.

MR. SCHWARTZ
 As you begin to dissect your frogs.
 I want you to be able to label the
 different parts of the frog. You
 should be able to label the fat
 bodies, the peritoneum, the liver,
 the heart...

TEEN NICHOLAS
 I found all of them!

Mr. Schwartz looks over at Nicholas, Nicholas looks excited.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 Mr. Schwartz look, I've labeled all
 of them!

Mr. Schwartz begins walking over to Nicholas, puzzled at his
 speed.

MR. SCHWARTZ
 Okay Mr. Stone, let's see what you
 got.

Mr. Schwartz reaches Nicholas's lab. All of the frog's organs are laid out.

MR. SCHWARTZ (CONT'D)
Impressive, now let me see your lab sheet.

Nicholas hands Mr. Schwartz his lab sheet. Mr. Schwartz begins to scrutinize it, carefully.

MR. SCHWARTZ (CONT'D)
Very impressive Mr. Stone. All of these are labeled correctly. You get a one hundred.

Nicholas begins to smile.

MR. SCHWARTZ (CONT'D)
And an extra 10 points for your speed.

Mr. Schwartz walks away. Nicholas smiles to himself, the other students scold at him. Especially THOMAS WILKINSON, 17, he's huge and menacing looking.

The school bell RINGS.

INT. SCHOOL BUS - DAY

Nicholas rides on the school bus. He sits next to SIMON COOK, 15, one of Nicholas's friend.

His other friend ALVIN MCGREGGOR, 15, sits behind them in a seat by himself, hovering over them to join the conversation.

ALVIN
Hey, do you guys still want to go the drive in tonight, the talkie starts at 8.

SIMON
Yeah, I still want to go. How about you Nick?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I want to go too but my mom wants me to go to church for my youth group meeting.

ALVIN
Try talking your mom out of it.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Are you crazy!?! Do you know who my
mom is!?!?

ALVIN

Geez, pipe down, it was just a
suggestion.

The bus STOPS and Simon grabs his backpack.

SIMON

See you guys later.

A beat.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Well, I'll see you later Alvin.

Simon walks toward the bus's door. A beat.

Alvin looks to the back of the bus. Alvin notices Thomas
Wilkinson in the back; staring at Nicholas vengefully,
waiting for him.

ALVIN

(whispering to Nicholas)

Hey Nicholas, Thomas is staring at
you again.

Nicholas looks back at Thomas in the back of the bus. Thomas
begins pounding his fist.

Nicholas is nonchalant about it.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Another day, another punch.

ALVIN

Are you sure you're going to be
okay walking home by yourself?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes I'll be fine, I have no choice.

ALVIN

I can walk with you.

TEEN NICHOLAS

And get beat up with me? I told you
I'm fine.

ALVIN

Well, you should tell your mom.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Trust me, she doesn't care.

ALVIN
Well, you should tell somebody!

The bus stops.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I'll see you later.

Alvin looks nervous.

ALVIN
Okay, see you later.

A beat.

ALVIN (CONT'D)
Be careful.

Nicholas rises from the seat and walks towards the bus's front door.

Thomas follows behind; Alvin has a worried expression on his face as he sees Thomas walking behind Nicholas.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY

The sun beams down on Nicholas as he walks down the dirt road. The dirt rises in the air as he walks, the sand CRUNCHES underneath his feet.

He carries his books, with his huge backpack, and he has on large glasses.

Thomas hears FOOTSTEPS running towards him. Nicholas embraces himself - THUMP!

Nicholas FALLS harshly to the ground; his books SCATTERS on the ground.

Thomas LAUGHS.

THOMAS
Pick up your shit, freak!

TEEN NICHOLAS
Just leave me alone!

THOMAS
Awww what's wrong? The baby needs his bottle?

Nicholas attempts to get up from the fall.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Here let me feed you!

Thomas KICKS Nicholas in the stomach. Nicholas GRUNTS loudly and CRIES, Nicholas FALLS back to the ground.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
That's what you get for thinking
you're so smart.

Thomas takes one more look at Nicholas and SPITS on him.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Retard!

Nicholas is still lying on the ground, he cries to himself.
Thomas walks away.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

Nicholas walks in the front door, dirty, he holds his stomach in pain.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - DAY

Barbra is in the kitchen. She cooks chicken and mashed potatoes. She sees Nicholas walking in.

BARBRA
Hey honey, how was your day?

TEEN NICHOLAS
(weakly)
Great.

A beat.

BARBRA
Why do you sound like that?

Nicholas begins holding his stomach tighter.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Just a stomach ache.

BARBRA
Well, I hope you feel better.

Barbra takes a look at Nicholas and notices how dirty he is.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
And why are you so dirty?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I fell down, my shoes were untied.

Barbra CHUCKLES.

BARBRA
You can be such a klutz sometimes.

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Look at this mom!

Nicholas suddenly digs in his backpack, pulls out his lab sheet, and hands it to Barbra excitedly.

Barbra grabs it, reviews it, and is ecstatic.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
It's my dissection lab I did today
in Biology.

BARBRA
Oh, my goodness son! How did you
get the extra ten points?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I was the fastest one in the class.

Barbra smiles at Nicholas.

BARBRA
I can see it now, Dr. Stone. I know
that one day my little Nicholas is
going to be a brain surgeon.

Nicholas smiles. A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Now come on, it's time to get ready
for the youth group at church.

TEEN NICHOLAS
But mom I told you, I was supposed
to meet up with some friends
tonight, we were going to the drive-
in theatre.

BARBRA
I already told you, the youth group
are your friends.

TEEN NICHOLAS

No they're not, I don't even like them. I have my own friends at school.

BARBRA

I already told you your generation is filled with sin. Don't you want to be free from sin?

Nicholas SIGHS.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes, mom.

BARBRA

Then you're going to church.

Nicholas hold his stomach for dear life.

NICHOLAS

But my stomach.

BARBRA

No excuses, get in the shower and change your clothes. You can't walk in the church looking like that.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

And Nicholas?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes.

Barbra puts a sturdy finger in Nicholas's face.

BARBRA

You better behave tonight, no foolishness. You hear.

Nicholas nods his head.

INT. CHURCH/ YOUTH CLUB - EVENING

Nicholas sits in the pews with other TEENAGERS. He looks fresh and clean but his expression is blank, he's bored out of his mind.

REVEREND LAMBERT, is in front of the group, he's the youth group leader. He stands on the pulpit reading a scripture from the Bible.

REVEREND LAMBERT

Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, I am only a youth; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.

A beat.

REVEREND LAMBERT (CONT'D)

That scripture is from Jeremiah 1:4-8. Now my little disciples of Christ, what do you think the meaning of the scripture is?

ANNA WALKER, 16, raises her hand, we can tell she's the type of girl who always reads her Bible.

REVEREND LAMBERT (CONT'D)

Yes, Ms. Walker.

ANNA

Yes, I think what the scripture is saying is that God knows all of us even before we were created, and he is our father and because we are his children we should all spread his good word because that's our duty as his children.

REVEREND LAMBERT

You're precisely correct Anna.

Anna smiles. Nicholas is irritated.

TEEN NICHOLAS

But that doesn't make any sense.

Reverend Lambert looks confused.

REVEREND LAMBERT

What do you mean Nicholas?

TEEN NICHOLAS

If God knew us way before we were born, then he knows our sins already. So how can he punish us for our sins?

REVEREND LAMBERT

Yes, God knows our sins but we should still try to live as righteous as possible and spread his word.

TEEN NICHOLAS

But our lives are already predetermined according to God.

REVEREND LAMBERT

Nothing is predetermined.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Then how can God already know us? He's omniscient, right?

REVEREND LAMBERT

Yes, he is.

TEEN NICHOLAS

So he already knows who's going to heaven and hell, right?

REVEREND LAMBERT

Right.

TEEN NICHOLAS

So what's the point of serving him, if he already has his own agenda? He sounds like a dictator to me!

REVEREND LAMBERT

(angrily)

Do not call our Lord a dictator!

TEEN NICHOLAS

But that's what he sounds like to me.

REVEREND LAMBERT

That's enough!

Reverend Lambert takes a DEEP BREATH.

REVEREND LAMBERT

Nicholas please leave.

TEEN NICHOLAS

But - !

REVERAND LAMBERT

Just leave!

Nicholas rises from his seat and storms out of the church.
The other teenagers MURMUR to themselves.

Reverand Lambert takes a look at his good pupils.

REVERAND LAMBERT (CONT'D)

Back to our lesson, shall we?

INT. STONE'S HOME/KITCHEN - EVENING

Nicholas walks in the kitchen, walks towards the refrigerator, he OPENS it searching for food.

Barbra is shocked to see him.

BARBRA

Youth club is over already?

TEEN NICHOLAS

No.

A beat.

BARBRA

You weren't kicked out again were you!?

TEEN NICHOLAS

I'm sorry momma.

BARBRA

What did I tell you!?

Barbra SIGNS.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

What happened this time?

TEEN NICHOLAS

I had some questions about God.

BARBRA

There you go again with all your questions! Why can't you just accept God's word for what it is? Don't you see your questions are getting you in trouble?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I'm sorry momma, I just want to
understand God better.

BARBRA
Satan tried questioning God's
authority and you see what happened
to him right!?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Yes.

BARBRA
He questioned God's authority and
was sent to Hell, exactly where he
deserved to be! Precisely where you
are headed!

TEEN NICHOLAS
Why are you always comparing me to
Satan!? I'm not Satan!

Barbra looks guilty. A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
I'm going to my room!

Nicholas STOMPS out of the kitchen and head towards his room.

BARBRA
Yeah, you go to your room and think
about where your decisions are
leading you! Straight to damnation!

INT. STONE'S HOME/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas lies on his bed. He silently CRIES himself to sleep.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
That was a typical day in my life
in those days, those were trying
times...

Nicholas sees a rat crawling in his room; he looks at it
perplexedly.

He gets up from his bed and tenderly picks it up. He pets it
softly; the rat SQUEAKS in fear.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Awww, little rat. I won't hurt you.

Nicholas continues to pet the rat. Suddenly, Nicholas applies pressure on the rat's neck with his thumb.

Nicholas presses his thumb harder and harder against the rat's neck, the rat SQUEALS in pain...and then...CRACK...

Nicholas breaks the rat's neck. Silence.

NICHOLAS (V.O)
My hunger for vengeance grew and
grew...

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY

Nicholas walks home from school, looking somber. It is a typical day for him again. The dirt CRUNCHES beneath his feet as he walks, he knows what is coming next - THUD!

Nicholas is on the ground and his books SCATTERS again. Thomas KICKS at Nicholas's stomach repeatedly.

Nicholas GRUNTS and SCREAM.

THOMAS
Get up punk! Get up you little
fucker!

All of sudden, Nicholas's eyes opens wide, he charges for Thomas, and TACKLES him to the ground.

NICHOLAS (O.S.)
Out of no where, this other being
took over me. The "hunter" I like
to call it.

Nicholas chokes Thomas with his hands, similarly to the rabbit he killed eariler. He's GROWLS as constricts Thomas's neck tighter and tighter with his hands. Thomas struggles to escape from Nicholas's grasp but it is impossible. Thomas COUGHS manically.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Don't get angry with me because
this is your second time repeating
Biology! Who's the retard now!?

Nicholas bites Thomas's neck, Thomas SCREAMS at the top of his lungs, he is bleeds severely, blood splatters from his neck.

Nicholas let's go of his grip. Thomas pushes Nicholas on the ground.

Thomas stands up weakly, holding his neck, blood pouring from his neck.

THOMAS
(weakly)
I'm going...to...fucking...kill...

Thomas CRASHES to the ground - dead.

Nicholas is stunned, his mouth is covered with blood, he SPITS a portion of Thomas's neck skin out of his mouth.

He walks over to Thomas's corpse to check his pulse; nothing.

Thomas quickly runs home.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

Nicholas runs into the house and goes directly to the bathroom.

Barbra is in the house as well, hearing Nicholas enter the house.

BARBRA
Hey son, how was your -

The bathroom door SLAMS.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Day?

INT. STONE'S HOME/ BATHROOM - DAY

Nicholas stares at himself in the mirror. Smirking menacingly in the mirror, the blood still around his mouth.

NICHOLAS
That was my very first murder and I
loved it.

Nicholas continues to stare at himself in the mirror while he licks some of the blood off of his lips.

And then he begins washing his face.

INT. NICHOLAS'S HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Nicholas walks down the hallway.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Thomas was a pretty popular kid so everyone was talking about his disappearance. At first everyone thought he just had a fever but he didn't come back to school the next day, and the next day, and the next day.

STUDENTS MURMUR in the hallways.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

It's been about three days and no one has seen any sign of him.

EXT. STREETS - DAY

THOMAS'S MOTHER and THOMAS'S FATHER are handing out "MISSING" posters with Thomas's picture. They hand the posters to random PEOPLE walking in the neighborhood.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

His parents were worried sick.

Thomas's father staples a "MISSING" poster on a telephone post.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Eventually, they got the police involved for a search.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY

Two POLICEMEN walk near a corpse, we notice it is Thomas's body. There are buzzards surrounding Thomas's corpse, picking at his flesh savagely.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

The police eventually found him but it was hard to make out the corpse. His parents decided it had to be him because the body was found on his route when walking home from school. They tried suing the school for Thomas's death, but it failed. Luckily they had no idea who I was but my bus driver knew...

INT. SCHOOL BUS - MORNING

Nicholas enters the bus, his bus driver, MR. WALTERS, stares at Nicholas suspiciously.

MR. WALTERS

So Nicholas, you have no idea what happened to Thomas?

TEEN NICHOLAS

No, it must have happened after I got home because he was still alive when I last saw him.

MR. WALTERS

His body was found in an area before we even reach your house and you walk home with him everyday.

Nicholas shrugs.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Maybe, he went back out or something but I promise you he was alive when I reached my house.

A beat.

MR. WALTERS

Okay, have seat.

Nicholas walks to his seat on the bus. He sits next to Simon and Alvin; Alvin hovers over Nicolas like always.

SIMON

(to Nicholas)

Isn't what happened to Thomas insane?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes it is.

ALVIN

It's kind of sad but hey...

(to Nicholas)

At least you don't have to worry about getting beat up anymore.

Nicholas smiles to himself.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

Barbra and Nicholas are at the kitchen table, eating their food.

BARBRA

Did you hear what happened to that poor kid Thomas Wilkinson?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes, it's really sad, he was in my Biology class.

BARBRA

What a shame, I heard he lived so close to us as well. How scary, say your prayers tonight Nicholas, to keep us safe.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Okay.

Nicholas GIGGLES to himself.

BARBRA

Nicholas!? Why are you smiling?
This is not a laughing matter!

Nicholas quickly wipes the smile off his face but still smirking slightly.

Barbra looks suspiciously at Nicholas.

INT. NICHOLAS'S SCHOOL - DAY

Nicholas walks down the hallway, he sees the memorial display the school created for Thomas.

There's a huge picture of Thomas on a table. It is decorated with candles and flowers.

The display says: R.I.P. THOMAS ROBERT WILKINSON: 1937-1954

STUDENTS around the memorial CRY and MORN; leaving flowers at the site.

Nicholas reaches the site, looking around at the students, smiling to himself slightly.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

I had to admit, causing this much commotion and getting away with it was very appealing to me.

(MORE)

NICHOLAS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It gave me a sense of power I never
 knew I could manifest; I wanted
 more.

Nicholas walks away from the site.

EXT. STONE'S HOME/FRONT PORCH - DAY

Nicholas sits on his front porch reading the local newspaper:

HEADLINE NEWS: LOCAL TEEN FOUND DEAD, THE CAUSE OF DEATH IS
 STILL UNKNOWN.

Nicholas looks at the picture of Thomas in the newspaper and
 smiles to himself again.

All of a sudden a pink rubber ball rolls into the front yard
 from the left.

ALICE, 6, appear in the yard; chasing after the ball.

Nicholas looks up with his cold eyes and smiles villainously.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
 And I found more, a little smaller
 than I expected but still; a
 satisfying target.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Hey, what are you doing in my yard?

Alice looks up at him terrified.

ALICE
 I'm sorry, I was just getting my
 ball.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Where are your parents?

ALICE
 They are working.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Someone should be watching you.

ALICE
 I have a baby-sitter but she is in
 the house, on the phone, watching
 TV.

Nicholas smiles again.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What's your name?

ALICE
Alice.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Hey Alice, do you like candy?

Alice nods her head sheepishly.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Well, I have plenty of candy in the house.

ALICE
I don't know, my parents told me not to talk to strangers.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I just want to give you candy, you can give some to your parents, and also your baby-sitter.

Alice ponders this for a second.

ALICE
Okay!

Alice rushes to the porch. Nicholas smiles and OPENS the door to the house letting Alice in first.

He looks behind him; making sure no one is watching. The coast is clear and he CLOSES the door.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ BASEMENT - DAY

Alice runs down the basement stairs, excited for the candy. She reaches the end of the basement stairs.

Nicholas follows behind her, finally reaching the end of the stairs.

Alice looks confused.

ALICE
Where is the candy?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Right here.

ALICE
Where?

Nicholas grabs Alice by her throat, choking her, she GAGS severely; she begins to CRY.

ALICE (CONT'D)
Stop! Stop hurting me!

Nicholas grasps her neck tighter and tighter.

Life slowly begins to leave her body, her eyes roll to the back of her neck, and she slowly FALLS to the ground.

Nicholas lets go of her, staring at her body, amazed that he committed another murder.

NICHOLAS (V.O)
And there went my second victim.

Nicholas continues to stare at Alice lying dead on the ground.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Ever since tasting Thomas's flesh
in my mouth, I've had cravings for
more...

Nicholas begins licking his lip.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Barbra enters the living room through the front door, carrying groceries.

BARBRA
Nicholas? Nicholas? Where are you?
I have some groceries in the car.

Barbra walks in the kitchen.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ BASEMENT - EVENING

Barbra walks down the stairs to the basement, she hears GRUNTS and GROWLS. She reaches the basement floor.

She hears quiet SMACKING sounds, curious as to what it could be. She turns to her left and SCREAMS at the top of her lungs.

She spots Nicholas eating away at Alice's flesh, he digs inside of Alice's body like a wild savage beast.

Nicholas looks up, his mouth bloody. He sees Barbra staring at him in fear, disgust, and shame.

BARBRA
GET OFF HER!

Barbra runs towards Alice's body, Nicholas gets out of her way. Barbra holds Alice's body close to hers. Alice's blood smearing on Barbra's clothes.

ALICE
How could you do this to poor
Alice!? She's an innocent girl!

Nicholas doesn't say anything, wiping his mouth with his sleeves.

ALICE (CONT'D)
She's innocent! What kind of devil
are you!?

Nicholas continues to stare at Barbra, speechless, lost in a daze.

BARBRA
GET OUT, GET OUT OF MY HOUSE AND
STAY OUT!

Nicholas snaps back in reality now.

NICHOLAS
Get out? Are you trying to kick me
out!?

BARBRA
YES, GET OUT! GET OUT! I REBUKE
YOU!

NICHOLAS
But I'm your son!

BARBRA
YOU'RE NO SON OF MINE! I REBUKE YOU
IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

NICHOLAS
But mom -

BARBRA
GET OUT SATAN!

NICHOLAS
But where am I going to go?

BARBRA
TO HELL!

Nicholas takes this in, his eyes begins to water.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I SHOULD OF KNOWN THIS WOULD HAPPEN
YEARS AGO! YOU'RE FULL OF SATAN
JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER! GET OUT!

Nicholas begins to CRY.

NICHOLAS
Fine mom, I'll go far far away so
you'll never see me again! Is that
what you want!?

BARBRA
YES! NOW GO!

Without hesitation Nicholas walks away, wiping the blood away from his mouth.

Nicholas runs out of the basement door and SLAMS it.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ BASEMENT - EVENING

Barbra continues to hold Alice's corpse. She SOBS to herself, holding the corpse; feeling guilty as if she did the crime herself.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Mama covered up for me.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ BASEMENT - NIGHT

Barbra mops the blood away from the floor, still in tears as she wipes furiously.

MOMENTS LATER: She wraps the body up in plastic trash bags and she duct tapes the trash bags together; covering the body.

EXT. STONE'S FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Barbra carries the wrapped corpse to the trunk of her car and SLAMS the trunk shut.

She looks to her left and notices her neighbors YELLING at the BABY SITTER, the baby sitter's CRIES are filled with guilt.

Barbra says nothing, gets in the driver's seat, SLAMS the door, and CRANKS the car.

INT. BARBRA'S CAR - NIGHT

Barbra drives far away, her face wet from tears, her CRIES continues.

EXT. MURKY POND - NIGHT

Barbra is out of her car, walking to the trunk. She OPENS the trunk and struggles as she lifts up the wrapped corpse. The body finally FLOPS to the ground.

Barbra struggles with dragging the body to the pond.

Barbra finally reaches the pond and DUMPS the corpse in the water.

The wrapped body floats away into the pond...slowly... it begins to sink to the bottom.

Barbra drops down to her knees and immediately begins praying.

BARBRA

Be merciful to me, O God, because
of your constant love. Because of
your great mercy, wipe away my
sins! Wash away all my evil...

Barbra continues to pray in tears.

FADE OUT

INT. STONE'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The doorbell RINGS.

Barbra opens the door and sees ALICE'S MOTHER and FATHER at the door.

Barbra is puzzled at their sight and tenses up. The two parents appear distraught.

ALICE'S MOTHER

Sorry to bother you Barbra.

BARBRA

No, it's fine, what's the problem?

ALICE'S FATHER

We were looking for our little girl
Alice.

BARBRA

Oh no, what happened to her?

ALICE'S FATHER

We don't know, we were wondering if you've seen her?

Alice's mother begins to CRY.

BARBRA

No I haven't seen her.

ALICE'S MOTHER

We've looked everywhere for her.

Alice's mother CRIES on her husband's shoulders.

ALICE'S FATHER

She disappeared yesterday. The baby-sitter lost sight of her.

BARBRA

Oh no, I'm so sorry to hear that.

ALICE'S FATHER

It's not your fault. If you haven't seen her we'll leave you alone, we were just counting on you.

Barbra looks guilty. Alice's father begins to tear up.

ALICE'S FATHER (CONT'D)

We'll just contact the police for a search warrant. You have a great day.

BARBRA

Okay, good luck, I hope you find her.

ALICE'S FATHER

Thank you for your condolences, God bless.

Alice's parents begin to walk away from the door, distraught. Barbra closes the door SHUT and kneels down as she CRIES to herself.

BARBRA

Forgive me Father for I have sinned again. Have mercy on my sinful soul Lord God...

FADE OUT

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

Nicholas walks by himself in the rain; sulking. He has no idea where he's going, just walking to nowhere like a nomad; drenched and dirty.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

As for me I was left to take care,
defend, and survive all by myself.
It was no easy task...

Nicholas continues to walk his lonely path in the dark as lightening STRIKES.

FADE OUT:

PART 2: FAIRY GODMOTHER

EXT. DARK ROAD - NIGHT

A MAN walks down the street by himself. He reaches his car that is parked in an obscure place, he digs in his pocket searching for his keys.

All of a sudden a MASKED THUG headlocks him and CRACKS his head. The man falls to the ground with a THUMP.

The masked thug takes off his ski mask, Nicholas is revealed. Nicholas is the same age but he looks grungy and unkempt now.

Nicholas digs in the man's pockets; taking out his wallet, change, and anything else that might be valuable to him.

MONTAGE:

Various scenes of Nicholas killing and robbing people are displayed.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Mama didn't want me to be a killer,
but her abandonment only made my
cravings worse. I wasn't just
killing for sport anymore. I was
killing for survival.

THE KILLING AND ROBBING MONTAGES CONTINUE.

Nicholas takes the clothes off of some of his victims and stuffs them in a sports bag.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

At least 15 died in my name, during
that period...

EXT. DARK PARK - NIGHT

Nicholas walks down the road; dirty and disheveled. Carrying his handy bag filled with the stolen clothes.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
After a killing I would walk at
least five miles away. That way if
the police found the corpse, I
would be nowhere in sight...

Nicholas finds a bench in the park, lays down on one of the benches, and slowly rests his eyes.

INT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

Nicholas walks through the front door of a diner with his handy bag on his shoulder; still looking dirty and filthy.

He quickly sneaks inside one of the restrooms and locks the door.

A WAITRESS notices him.

INT. DAN'S DINER/ BATHROOM - DAY

Nicholas digs in his bag and pulls out his toothbrush and begins to brush his teeth.

He takes off his clothes, wets a dirty rag, and begins scrubbing his body with it, using the bathroom soap.

He then takes a shirt and a pair of pants from the bag and puts them on.

INT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

Nicholas walks out of the bathroom now, trying to remain low-key.

He takes a seat at an empty booth. He grabs a menu on a metal rack and begins looking through it. He's disappointed; everything looks too expensive.

NICKI (O.S.)
Is there anything I can get started
for you?

Nicholas looks up and sees NICKI HAZE, 37, beautiful, ladylike. She looks at him smiling, he's charmed by her.

NICHOLAS (O.S.)
And there she was, my fairy god
mother.

NICKI
I'm sorry let me introduce myself
first, my name is Nicki. Nicki
Haze.

TEEN NICHOLAS
(shyly)
Nice to meet you.

NICKI
Aren't you going to tell me your
name sugar?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Nicholas.

Nicki smiles.

NICKI
I'm Nicki and you're Nicholas. What
a coincidence.

Nicki CHUCKLES and Nicholas joins her.

NICKI (CONT'D)
What can I get started for you?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Can I just have a grilled cheese
and also...

Nicholas begins looking at the menu again, realizing he can't
afford much from it.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
I'll just take a glass of water.

NICKI
You sure that's all you want dear?

Nicholas smiles at her.

NICHOLAS
I'm sure.

Nicki scribbles in her pad.

NICKI
Okay, it should be ready in about 5
minutes.

Nicki walks away.

INT. DINER - DAY/ MOMENTS LATER

Nicholas sits by himself sipping on his water. Nicki is walking towards Nicholas's booth carrying a large portion of food.

NICKI

Here you go sweetie pie.

Nicki places the large plate in front of Nicholas. The plate has grilled cheese, grits, eggs, and bacon.

Nicholas is delighted but suspicious.

TEEN NICHOLAS

I only ordered the grilled cheese.

NICKI

Don't worry about it, relax, and enjoy yourself. There won't be any extra charges.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Why are you doing this?

A beat.

NICKI

I'm just feeling friendly I guess.

Nicki smiles at him.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Eat up dear.

MOMENTS LATER:

Nicholas devours the food; like the beast that he is, making brief GRUNTS as he eats. There is a couple of CUSTOMERS in the diner that stares at Nicholas disgustingly.

He pauses, stares back at them, and then resumes with his eating but more properly this time.

MOMENTS LATER:

We see a CLOSE UP of Nathan's plate; it is completely clean.

Nicholas relaxes now. Nicki walks by, smiling from ear to ear.

NICKI (CONT'D)
All stuffed?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Yes, thank you so much, I really appreciate it. How much would that be?

Nicholas begins to dig in his bag.

NICKI
You don't have to worry about that.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What do you mean?

NICKI
I got you covered hun.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Why are you being so nice to me?

A beat.

NICKI
My break is in five minutes. Meet me outside, I want to talk to you.

TEEN NICHOLAS
About what?

NICKI
Just meet me outside in five okay?

EXT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

Nicholas leans against the diner's outside wall. Nicki walks out with her purse. She's digs in her purse searching for something, and then eventually pulls out a pack of cigarettes and a lighter.

She offers Nicholas a cigarette.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Sure.

Nicholas grabs the cigarette. Nicki smiles at him as she reaches in her purse and pulls out her lighter.

She lights Nicholas's cigarette for him. Then, Nicki pulls out a cigarette for herself and lights it. She inhales and exhales.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
So you wanted me out here just to
offer me a cigarette?

A beat.

NICKI
I saw you when you walked in. You
looked a whole lot dirtier when you
first walked through the doors.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Okay?

NICKI
You must of washed up in the
bathroom.

Nichols takes a drag from his cigarette.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Where are you getting at?

NICKI
Are you a runaway?

Nicholas is silent. A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)
I knew it.

Nicholas remains silent. Nicki takes a drag from her
cigarette.

NICKI (CONT'D)
So you don't have a home huh?

TEEN NICHOLAS
(shamefully)
No, I don't.

Nicki takes another drag from her cigarette. A beat.

NICKI
Come to my house.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I couldn't, I don't know you.

NICKI
Well, who do you know? If you knew
somebody you wouldn't be straying
around.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Listen -

NICKI

No you listen to me! You put your bag in my car and I'm driving you to my place, while I'm on break!

Nicholas stares at her; somewhat timid.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Don't stare at me, put your shit in the car and let's go!

TEEN NICHOLAS

Okay, geez!

Nicholas puts out the cigarette and does what he was told without anymore hesitation.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - DAY

Nicki OPENS the front door, she let's Nicholas in the door first.

Her place is small but still quaint. It's decorated well, very motherly.

The walls are painted a faint pink color, it's antique looking, with beads hanging on the doorways instead of doors.

Nicholas looks around.

NICHOLAS

Nice place.

NICKI

Thanks.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I have some leftover lasagna in the fridge.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ KITCHEN - DAY

Nicholas is at the kitchen table stuffing a plate of lasagna down his throat. Nicki looks at him smiling and pleased.

Nicholas stops for a moment.

TEEN NICHOLAS

What?

NICKI

Oh nothing, I just love seeing a growing boy eat. Especially someone like you.

She takes a look at Nicholas's frail body.

NICKI (CONT'D)

You need some meat on your bones.

Nicholas faintly smiles. Nicki looks at her watch.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I should be heading out back to work now. Your room is the room down the hall to the left. Get some rest.

Nicki gets up from the table and heads towards the door.

NICKI (O.S.) (CONT'D)

And when I come back you better still be here. Don't think about running away!

Nicki CLOSES the door behind her. Nicholas continues to devour the lasagna.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - EVENING

Nicki walks into the door and walks down the hall.

NICKI

Nicholas, you better still be in here.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - EVENING

Nicki OPENS the door and sees Nicholas sound asleep on the bed she gave him. She smiles to herself.

NICKI

Sleep tight little angel.

She CLOSES the door and walks away.

INT. NICKI'S HOUSE/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - EVENING

Nicholas stretches his arms and YAWNS.

INT. NICKI'S HOUSE/ HALLWAY - MORNING

Nicholas walks down the hallway, his hair is disheveled, and he continues to YAWN.

INT. NICKI'S HOUSE/ KITCHEN - MORNING

Nicholas walks inside of the kitchen and sees Nicki standing up fixing breakfast.

Nicki notices him.

NICKI

Hey there, good morning.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Good morning.

NICKI

Did you sleep well?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Like a baby, thank you so much. I don't know the last time I've done that.

Nicki smiles.

NICKI

No problem sweetie. Have a seat, I fixed breakfast.

INT. NICKI'S HOUSE/ KITCHEN - MORNING

Nicholas devours food once again; pancakes, eggs, and sausage.

Nicki continues to smile angelically. A beat.

NICKI

So what happened?

TEEN NICHOLAS

What do you mean?

NICKI

Why are you a stray?

Nicholas is dumbfounded.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Ummm, because....

Nicki is waiting for a response.

NICKI
Because???

Nicki is still waiting.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Because I ran away.

Nicki CHUCKLES.

NICKI
Smart aleck. Why did you runaway?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I just hated my home life. My
mother was so controlling I just
couldn't take it anymore.

Nicki takes this in.

NICKI
I understand.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)
Your mother doesn't understand what
a blessing you are.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What do you mean?

NICKI
Giving birth, my body can't bear
the task.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I'm sorry to hear that.

NICKI
It's fine.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)
You're so young, aren't you still
in school?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Well, not anymore.

NICKI

That's not good, you need an education in the world baby.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Well, I can't get one right now. I don't have a home and I'm not going back to my mother's so...

NICKI

How long were you a stray?

TEEN NICHOLAS

It's hard to tell. The days get meshed together. But possibly about six months now.

NICKI

How did you manage to survive?

Nicholas is silent.

NICKI (CONT'D)

You can tell me, I won't judge you.

Nicholas SIGHS.

TEEN NICHOLAS

I had to rob people for money and clothes and my dinner was usually scraps found in dumpsters, okay?

Nicki takes this.

NICKI

I wonder how your mother would react if she knew this.

TEEN NICHOLAS

She wouldn't care, to her I'm Satan.

Nicki appears somber. A beat.

NICKI

Oh yeah, I forgot to mention.

TEEN NICHOLAS

What?

NICKI

Well, if you want me to I can get you a job working at the diner.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Oh.

NICKI

Yeah, the money can help you get on your feet again.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yeah, that'll be great. Thanks.

NICKI

You're welcome dear.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)

And Nick?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes?

NICKI

You do have a home. You have a home here with me. Okay?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Okay.

Nicki smiles at Nicholas, Nicholas smiles back.

INT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

We see Nicholas dressed in waiter attire, walking towards CUSTOMERS at a booth.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Hello, my name is Nicholas and how may I serve you today?

Nicholas smiles at his customers.

NICHOALS (V.O)

Nicki found me a job as promised. I enjoyed it, it was easy, I was getting money, and it distracted me from my cravings.

INT. NICKI'S HOME/ DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas is at the table eating dinner; beef, broccoli, and rice.

Nicki smiles at him as usual.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
 Nicki cooked me breakfast and
 dinner every single day. She didn't
 want me eating anymore leftovers.

INT. NICKI'S HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Nicki and Nicholas are on the couch together watching an old 1950's sitcom; they LAUGH together in harmony.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
 Nicki and I were growing so close.
 She was like a second mother who
 actually loved me, she saved me
 from so much, I didn't know what I
 would have done without her.

NICKI
 Hey, Nicholas.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Yes?

NICKI
 I never told you.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Told me what.

NICKI
 I was a runaway too.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 Really?

NICKI
 Yes.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 What happened?

NICKI
 Well, when I was 16. I had my first
 boyfriend. My mother thought I was
 having sex out of wedlock; damning
 me to hell. So I ran away.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)
You know what I had to do to
survive in the streets?

TEEN NICHOLAS
What?

NICKI
I had to sell myself.

Nicholas is taken back.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What?

NICKI
You're judging me huh?

NICHOLAS
No of course not.

NICKI
That's why there's no way in hell I
can judge you for robbing people,
your options are limited when
you're trying to survive in the
streets alone.

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)
So when I saw you, I already knew
your whole life story because I was
you, not too long ago.

Nicki stares directly in Nicholas's eyes, he faintly smiles
back at her.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Thanks again for everything you've
done for me. I'll probably still be
on the streets, locked up, or dead
if it wasn't for you.

Nicki continues to stare in his eyes.

NICKI
You're welcome baby, you're oh so
welcome.

Nicki's eyes gets intense, she leans forward, and
passionately kisses Nicholas on the lips.

Nicholas kisses her back; we can tell he's been wanting to do this for some time.

Nicholas savors the kiss but eventually breaks it.

TEEN NICHOLAS

What are you doing?

NICKI

Don't you mean we?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Listen, I love you okay? But not in that way. You're like a mother to me.

NICKI

And you're like a son to me but I love you even more than that...

Nicki kisses him again, Nicholas kisses back. Nicki breaks the kiss.

NICKI (CONT'D)

And don't try to act like you don't feel the same way.

Nicki and Nicholas intensely stare at each other in the eyes again. Nicholas jumps on top of Nicki and makes out with her furiously.

Nicki is submissive to Nicholas as he kisses down her neck and begins ripping her clothes off.

Nicki MOANS and GRUNTS.

Nicholas grabs her breast, his hands go down to her skirt; he furiously takes her skirt off and her panties.

Nicholas begins to THRUST his body against Nicki's; Nicholas and Nicki MOAN and YELP together in pleasure.

Nicholas continues to THRUST savagely against Nicki's body, she continues to MOAN; breathing hard.

Nicholas's breaths are elevating; he's thrusting, faster and faster...

Nicholas GROANS loudly, until he is out of breath.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

And that's how I lost my virginity.

A beat.

Nicholas is still on top of Nicki, catching his breath, sweating, staring Nicki in her eyes.

Nicholas smiles and LAUGHS slightly; Nicki does the same and they both kiss each other again.

INT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

Nicholas and Nicki are both on the floor waiting tables.

NICHOLAS (V.O)
 We knew to keep our relationship a
 secret but the coworkers were
 definitely catching on.

Nicholas and Nicki walk by each other smiling flirtatiously. Some COWORKERS see it and begin to MURMUR to themselves.

INT. DAN'S DINER/ KITCHEN - DAY

Nicholas looks at the receipts that are posted outside of the kitchen. Nicholas examines through the receipts carefully, searching for a particular one.

Nicholas peaks through the kitchen and sees a COOK.

TEEN NICHOLAS
 (to the cook)
 Hey is order 17 out on the floor
 yet?

COOK
 I don't know, why don't you ask
 Nicki?

The cook LAUGHS to himself along with other COWORKERS in the back. Nicholas looks pissed.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
 Eventually the word got out to
 authorities.

INT. DNA'S DINER/ MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

DAN DAY, 55, redneck, the manager at the diner. He sits at his desk, not happy.

The room is rusty and a bit filthy.

He looks disgusted at Nicki and Nicholas who are stationed across from him. Their anxiety are rising.

DAN

Do you know why I called the two of you in here.

Nicki and Nicholas both shake their heads quietly.

DAN (CONT'D)

Rumor has it, there's something going on between you too.

Nicki and Nicholas both look at each other uncomfortably. Nicki begins to speak.

NICKI

Yes, I already told you. He's a runaway and he's staying at my house until he can get on his own.

Dan isn't buying it.

DAN

Are you sure that's all that's going on?

A beat.

NICKI

Yes I'm sure.

DAN

I heard you guys are looking at each other "funny".

TEEN NICHOLAS

What do you mean by "funny"?

DAN

Like you guys are perhaps, more than roommates.

NICKI

That is preposterous!

DAN

This is a place of business and not only are we a place of business, we are a place under the law.

TEEN NICHOLAS

But we're not doing anything we swear!

DAN

Nicki you should know better, you can go to jail for what you are doing.

NICKI

Nothing is happening between us!

DAN

Even if that's true, the looks don't lie, you can't tell me you're not thinking about.

Nicki is silent and begins to tear up.

DAN (CONT'D)

And how is it going to look on the business if customers see you two flirting in public.

Nicholas and Nicki both takes this in.

DAN (CONT'D)

I hate to say it but you're both are fired.

TEEN NICHOLS/NICKI

What!?

NICKI

How could you do this to me!?

DAN

You know this breaks my heart Nicki, especially because I've known you for the past twenty years but I have to do what's best for the business.

A beat.

DAN (CONT'D)

And plus, let's face it, a whore will always be a whore.

Nicki reaches across the desk and SLAPS Dan in the face.

DAN (CONT'D)

FUCK!

Dan holds his face and PANTS.

NICKI

Come on Nicholas, let's go.

Nicki STOMPS out of the office and Nicholas follows her.

DAN
Yeah, you better run bitch! Or I'll
have the cops on your ass for
assault!

INT. DAN'S DINER - DAY

Nicki STORMS out of the diner, with Nicholas behind her. The COWORKERS see her and MURMURS to themselves again.

Nicki and Nicholas both exit out of the front door and SLAMS it shut.

A few moments later, Nicki returns, and SLAMS the door open.

NICKI
FUCK YOU! FUCK ALL OF YOU!

The COWORKERS and CUSTOMERS stare at her; Nicki SLAMS the front door shut again and runs away.

INT. NICKI'S CAR - DAY

Nicki steers her car; full of tears. Nicholas is in the passenger seat; he looks guilty.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I'm so sorry.

Nicki wipes her tears as she drives.

NICKI
Don't worry about it honey,
everything is going to be fine.
We'll be fine.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What are we going to do now?

Nicki is silent. A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
What are we going to do now!?

NICKI
I don't know! Okay!?

Nicholas is silent.

TEEN NICHOLAS

I could always go back to robbing people.

NICKI

No, you shouldn't be doing that.

TEEN NICHOLAS

What else are we going to do for money?

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ NICKI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicki gazes at her reflection in the mirror while she applies scarlet lipstick on her full lips.

Her hair is curled, she has on heavy eyeliner, and she has on a very skimpy outfit. The outfit emphasizes the size of her breast and reveals her legs.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas lies on his bed; spacing out, thinking, pondering.

He hears a KNOCK on his door. He rises from the bed and OPENS the door.

He sees Nicki in her revealing outfit, it's shocking to him.

NICKI

I'm going out tonight okay?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Where?

NICKI

Out. With friends. Don't wait up.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Okay, have fun.

It's clear to see that Nicholas does not believe her. Nicki slowly walks away, her heels CLICKS.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - MORNING

Nicholas wakes up, his hair is disheveled.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/KITCHEN - MORNING

Nicholas walks in the kitchen, disappointed that he does not see Nicki.

He looks over to the empty stove, empty pots, and empty plates.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Nicki OPENS the front door of the apartment. She quietly CLOSES the door behind her.

She's strolls quietly down the hall, the heels are CLICKING down the hall.

TEEN NICHOLAS (O.S.)

Where were you?

Nicki looks towards the direction of the voice. She sees Nicholas on the couch; he looks angry.

NICKI

Oh, hi Nicholas. I thought you'd be sleeping.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Where were you!?

NICKI

Out with friends, I told you not to wait up?

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS

You're prostituting yourself again aren't you?

Nicki is silent.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Answer me!

Nicki is still silent, looking defeated.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

How could you do this? What about our love? What about our relationship?

NICKI

I knew you wouldn't understand.

TEEN NICHOLAS

No, I get it. I'm not a child, so you don't have to hide it from me.

NICKI

What else do you expect me to do for income at this point!?

TEEN NICHOLAS

I told you, I can start robbing people again!

NICKI

You really think that's going to be enough to keep us stable?

A beat.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Look at this.

Nicki opens her purse and pulls out a stack of cash.

NICKI (CONT'D)

1,245.00, In one night!

Nicholas is astonished.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I still love you Nicholas, that's why I'm doing this. I'm trying to keep us both alive here.

Nicholas continues to stare, speechless.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Now, I'm going to shower up and when I'm done I'm going to fix us both some breakfast okay?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Okay.

Nicki walks down the hall, her heels CLICK.

EXT. DARK STREETS - NIGHT

Nicki is on the side of the asphalt road, with her thumb in the air, trying to get the attention of the cars driving by.

One car stops near her, the driver rolls down his window. Nicki walks towards him.

NICKI

Hey there sweet thing what are you looking to get in tonight?

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Nicki continued to hustle herself. I hated it but I knew it was best for our survival.

DRIVER

How much is it for a little oral action?

NICKI

\$50.

The driver smirks and Nicki smirks back.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - DAY

Nicki walks into her home.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

She began coming home later and later...

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ KITCHEN - DAY

Nicki walks in the kitchen, she sees Nicholas there, eating a bologna sandwich.

Nicholas sees her but is silent. He notices that Nicki looks tired; more exhausted than usual.

Nicholas is concerned now.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Why do you look so tired?

NICKI

Think about it Nicholas.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Like more tired than usual.

Nicki is silent.

NICKI

Put that sandwich away. I'm going to shower and make you some real food.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Please Nicki, just rest; it looks
like you need it.

Nicki looks defeated and she walks to her bedroom.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Nicki wakes up slowly, YAWNS, stretches. She sees Nicholas by himself watching television.

She joins him on the couch. She tries to cuddles with him, but he seems distant.

NICKI
Hey baby.

Nicki tries to give Nicholas a kiss on the lips, but he dodges it.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Hey.

Nicki is taken aback.

NICKI
Well, how was your day?

TEEN NICHOLAS
(flatly)
Fine.

A beat.

NICKI
Aren't you going to ask me about mine?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I think I know that answer.

Nicki looks disappointed. A beat.

NICKI
Things just aren't the same between us anymore. Lately, you haven't been showing me any affection.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Yeah because I don't know how many dicks you had in your mouth!

Nicki is offended.

NICKI

Excuse me?

TEEN NICHOLAS

You heard me.

NICKI

So this what I get for supporting us!

TEEN NICHOLAS

Stop! Stop with your excuses. You could find another job if you wanted too! Sometimes I think you just like sleeping around!

NICKI

Oh yeah? Is that what you think of me!?

TEEN NICHOLAS

You could get a job at another diner, a gas station, anywhere!

NICKI

If it's so easy, why don't you find a job!?

Nicholas looks guilty.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Instead of sitting here, in my apartment, shitting on what I'm doing. Why don't you find a job!? Me prostituting is the only reason why you can live freely right now, I'm not asking for any bills from you, I'm always cooking for you, cleaning up your messes and you're shitting all over me!

Nicholas takes this in and Nicki begins to CRY. Nicholas feels guilty now.

TEEN NICHOLAS

I'm so sorry.

Nicholas tries to hug her but Nicki avoids it.

NICKI

Don't touch me!

Nicki pushes Nicholas away. This exposes her arms; Nicholas sees red marks on them, red puncture marks that resemble pimples. There are several.

TEEN NICHOLAS

What happened to your arm?

Nicki hides her arms away from Nicholas.

NICKI

Nothing.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Let me see them.

Nicholas grabs her arms and looks at the red track marks. He's really upset about the sight.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

What is this?

Nicki isn't saying anything, quivering at the mouth.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

What is this!?

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

I've seen those marks before on the streets. Those are heroin marks.

Nicki looks guilty. Nicholas begins to CRY.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Why are you doing this to yourself?

Nicki begins to CRY as well.

NICKI

It's what I use sometimes to numb myself after the night? Do you think I like prostituting myself!? You think it's fun!? Look at me, I'm a wreck!

Nicki begins to CRY more. Nicholas holds her and she CRIES on his shoulder.

NICKI (CONT'D)

My mother is right, you're right, everyone is right! I'll just be a whore for the rest of my life.

Nicki's CRIES continues.

TEEN NICHOLAS

That is not true, we are going to find a way out of this. Don't worry. Everything is going to be okay.

Nicholas continues to caress Nicki as she CRIES.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

That's what I truly believed but something happened that completely changed my mind...

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/NICKI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicki is in her room, taking clothes out of her drawers and stuffing them in her opened suitcase.

She hears KNOCKS on her door.

NICKI

Come in.

Nicholas OPENS the door and enters the room.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Hey.

NICKI

Hey.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Still no luck finding a job today.

Nicki is silent as she continues to pack her clothes.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

(hopeful)

But I'll continue my search tomorrow.

Nicholas notices all of the packed suitcases, the room appears empty.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

What are the suitcases for?

The doorbell RINGS. A beat.

NICKI

Could you get that for me?

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - NIGHT

Nicholas is at the front door and OPENS it. KENNETH BROOKS, 27, stands there. He looks suave, has slick greasy hair, and wearing a black leather jacket, the typical 1950's rebel.

KENNETH
Is Nicki home?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Who the hell are you?

Kenneth sticks out his hand.

KENNETH
Brooks. Kenneth Brooks.

Nicholas ignores his hand.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Why are you here? What do you want?

Nicki is at the door now. She smiles at Kenneth.

NICKI
Hey Kenneth, come on in and make
yourself comfortable.

Kenneth walks through the door and Nicki CLOSES the door behind him.

NICKI (CONT'D)
Have a seat on the couch and I'll
be ready shortly.

Kenneth takes a seat on a couch.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Nicki, what is going on?

Nicki looks at Nicholas; dishearteningly.

NICKI
Follow me.

Nicki walks down the hall and Nicholas follows her.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ NICKI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas sits on the bed. Nicki paces back and forth; preparing herself. Nicholas waits patiently.

NICKI
Nicholas?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Yes?

NICKI
You know I love you right?

TEEN NICHOLAS
Yes of course.

Nicki begins to CRY.

NICKI
I will love you forever Nicholas, I
truly will.

Nicki gives Nicholas a constraining hug, she begins to CRY
more intensely.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What's the matter Nicki? What's
happening?

Nicki takes a DEEP BREATH to calm herself and wipes her
tears.

NICKI
It's time to say goodbye baby.

Nicholas is caught off guard.

TEEN NICHOLAS
What do you mean?

NICKI
We can't be together anymore.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Why not? What is the problem?

A beat. Nicholas begins to CRY.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
(muffled)
Why are you leaving me?

NICKI
I've been seeing someone else okay?

Nicholas is enraged.

TEEN NICHOLAS
The guy out there!?

Nicki nods her head.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
How could you do this!?

NICKI
He's been helping me financially.
He has so much money, he drives a
nice car, and has a big house out
in the city.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Where does he work? How does he
have so much money?

NICKI
He's a dealer.

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS
So, that's the guy you've been
sleeping with for drugs!?

Nicki looks guilty.

NICKI
He promised me if I moved in with
him, I wouldn't have to prostitute
again.

Nicholas shakes his head furiously, tears flow out of his
eyes.

TEEN NICHOLAS
No! You can't!

NICKI
I have to Nicholas, this is going
to help me live a normal life
again.

TEEN NICHOLAS
So it's all about you huh!? What
about me!? Where am I going to go!?
I thought you said I have a home
here with you!

NICKI

You still do have a home here.
You're welcomed to stay in the
apartment.

TEEN NICHOLAS

I can't afford this place!

NICKI

Well, I hope you find a job soon,
if not just stay here until you get
evicted that's all I can offer you.

TEEN NICHOLAS

And then where am I going to go
after the eviction!?

Nicki shrugs her shoulders. Nicholas rises up from the bed
enraged and head towards the door; he OPENS it and SLAMS it
shut.

NICKI

Nicholas!

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ HALLWAY - NIGHT

Nicholas STOMPS down the hall.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

Nicholas is in the kitchen, OPENS a drawer, and grabs the
biggest butcher knife he can find and grasps it tightly.

He charges out of the kitchen with the knife in his hand.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kenneth is still seated on the couch; humming to himself.

KENNETH

(to himself)

I wonder what all that slamming is
about?

Nicholas STORMS in the living room, with the knife in his
hand.

KENNETH (CONT'D)

What the - ?

Nicholas charges at Kenneth with full force. Kenneth defends himself by pushing Nicholas away from him, both of his hands on Nicholas's shoulders.

Nicholas continues to SLASH at Kenneth continuously but Kenneth is dodging the strikes.

Nicki runs in the room; she GASPS at the commotion.

NICKI

Nicholas!?! What are you doing!?!

TEEN NICHOLAS

Trying to kill this bastard that's what!

Kenneth continues to defend himself from Nicholas's SLASHES.

KENNETH

Nicki, get your freak show son away from me! Where is his dad!?!

Kenneth SLAPS the knife out of Nicholas's hand. Nicholas bites Kenneth's hand.

CRUNCH!

KENNETH (CONT'D)

Ouch!

Kenneth hand backs away, he's defenseless now.

Nicholas takes advantage of this and charges for Kenneth's neck, biting it like a vampire.

Kenneth SCREAMS in pain; blood SQUIRTS all over the couch, like a fountain.

Nicki SCREAMS in terror. Kenneth GAGS and GASPS for air. He eventually stops breathing and slowly decease. His body FALLS to the ground.

Nicki SCREAMS again.

NICKI

No! Kenneth!

Nicki caresses Kenneth's bloody corpse in her hands, as she CRIES.

Nicholas picks up the knife he dropped and walks closer to Nicki.

He stares at her for a moment, watching her CRY. His stare is cold; no sympathy.

Nicki stares back at Nicholas, she's in total shock as she stares at Nicholas with his cold stare and bloody mouth. It was as if a stranger was staring at her; Nicholas has been transformed.

Nicholas grabs the knife in his hand tighter, smiling villainously.

NICKI (CONT'D)

You stay away from me! You monster!

Nicholas LAUGHS at her.

TEEN NICHOLAS

You sound like my mother.

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

So that's all I was to you Nicki? A son moving in with his father!?

Nicki continues to CRY.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Well you were everything to me! You were my best friend! A sister! A lover! A mother!

Nicholas takes a BREATH to compose himself. A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

You want to know why I really had to run away from home?

Nicki is silent. A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Because, the person you see before you with the cold stare, bloody mouth, weapon in hand is who I really am.

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

And it's been way too long since, I've let myself free.

Nicholas raises the knife, Nicki SCREAMS, and Nicholas punctures Nicki in the chest with knife; blood gushes out of her.

Nicki MOANS and GROANS in pain.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
They always said the first breakup
is the hardest.

Nicki stares at Nicholas in the eyes again, trying to find him, he's not there.

Nicholas stares back into her eyes; watching the life fade out of her eyes.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I love you.

Nicholas gives Nicki one last passionate kiss before he takes the knife out of her.

Nicki's body FALLS to the ground and Nicholas pounces on her body, stabbing her corpse repeatedly; he YELLS out of rage.

He finally quits and GASPS for air; he's a bloody mess now.

Suddenly, he snaps out of his rage; he studies the destruction around him, the destruction he caused. The living room is a bloodbath.

His emotions take a U turn; he slowly begins to CRY. He looks at Nicki's corpse, sadden about what he's done, he holds her tightly.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
NOOOO! What have I done!? What have
I done!? Nicki come back! Come
back!

Nicholas continues to hold her tightly as he continues to CRY to himself; embracing her corpse.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ BATHROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas is in the bathroom, showering the blood off of his body.

Nicholas changes clothes; still distraught.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas quickly packs all of his clothes in his handy sports bag.

INT. NICKI'S PLACE - NIGHT

Nicholas walks towards the front door, he takes a look back at the two corpses; emphasizing on Nicki's body.

His eyes water but he walks out of the apartment and CLOSES the door behind him.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Nicholas walks down a dirt road by himself, cold, and shivering...

TEEN NICHOLAS

I had no where to go again, no home, and no one to turn to...

EXT. STONES'S HOME - MORNING

Nicholas reaches the front door of a residence. He RINGS the doorbell. The door OPENS.

We see a familiar looking woman; Barbra Stone.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Except mother...

She disgruntling looks at the stranger with his unkempt hair, dirty clothes, and horrid odor.

Barbra fans her nose.

BARBRA

(impatiently)
May I help you?

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

It was worth a try.

TEEN NICHOLAS

Mom?

Barbra's face flushes and her mouth gaps open.

BARBRA

No, is it really you?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Yes, ma'am.

Barbra immediately beings to SOB. Nicholas immediately BURST in tears and falls to his knees.

TEEN NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Please mom take me back! Please!
Please!

Barbra kneels down as well and caresses her son despite his filth and odor.

BARBRA

I'm so happy to see you! I thought you were long gone! God has answered my prayers, every night I asked God to keep you safe and to bring you back home one day. Every night I asked myself, how could I abandon my own son!?

TEEN NICHOLAS

Mom please take me back! I'm lost, I'm so lost!

BARBRA

Not anymore son, not anymore. Come on.

Barbra stands up wiping the tears from her eyes, smiling at Nicholas.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

Let's get you all cleaned up baby!

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ KITCHEN - MORNING

Barbra delightfully stares at Nicholas. Nicholas is all cleaned up.

He's eating food from a plate; french toast, eggs, bacon, and a glass of milk is to the side.

BARBRA

After all this time, look what God put back in my life. Isn't God good?

Nicholas looks around at his surroundings as he eats.

TEEN NICHOLAS
It looks like nothing has changed
here, including yourself.

Barbra smiles and CHUCKLES.

BARBRA
It's been about a whole full year.
Can you believe that?

Barbra CHUCKLES, the chuckle fades and she appears serious
now.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Where were you this whole time?

A beat.

TEEN NICHOLAS
Sleeping around on benches at
parks, starving, begging for food,
stealing money, eating out of
garbage cans.

Barbra looks guilty; the sound of that is horrifying to her
ears, she begins to tear up.

BARBRA
Son, I'm so sorry. Please forgive
me.

TEEN NICHOLAS
You're forgiven.

BARBRA
If it was that bad why did it take
you so long for you to come back?

TEEN NICHOLAS
I thought you only saw me as a
monster.

Barbra looks guilty again; bowing her head in shame.

BARBRA
I'm sorry you felt that way but
what you did was down right
horrifying.

Nicholas looks guilty now.

TEEN NICHOLAS
I know mom.

A beat. Barbra looks like she is about to cry again but quickly picks her mood up.

BARBRA
(gleefully)
But that's way in the past now, all
of that is past us. I'm sure a lot
has changed since then.

Barbra smiles at Nicholas. A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Right?

Nicholas glares at her.

TEEN NICHOLAS
(halfheartedly)
Sure.

Barbra smiles.

BARBRA
That's my boy.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I can just feel it, things are
going to be different this time
around. I just know they are.

Barbra continues to smile warmly.

FADE OUT

BLACK SCREEN

PART 3: HOMEBOUND

TIME CARD: 1960

EXT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - DAY

A YOUNH MAN is inside the hood of a rugged car, he's rigging it with a wrench, bolting a nut.

We notice the man is Nicholas, he is a young adult now; his face has more defined features, his facial hair has grown, he's more handsome now. He resembles a rugged heartthrob, sort of like a James Dean.

He finishes bolting the nut and SLAMS the hood and walks over to the CUSTOMER who is still in the car.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Well, everything is fine with the
car now, the engine was leaking
because of a loose bolt but it's
all fixed now.

CUSTOMER
Oh, that's it? I feel so silly now!

The customer LAUGHS and Nicholas laughs with him.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
It's okay, it happens all the time.

CUSTOMER
How much do I owe ya?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Oh, it was just a loose bolt, you
don't have to worry about it.

CUSTOMER
You sure bud.

Nicholas smiles at him.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I'm sure.

The customer smiles back at him.

CUSTOMER
Thanks again bud, you take it easy
now you hear?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Will do, so long.

The customer CRANKS up his car and DRIVES away waving back at
Nicholas and Nicholas waves back.

INT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - EVENING

Nicholas walks in the building, wiping his hands on an old
towel, he OPEN the door to the restroom and enters it.

INT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE/ BATHROOM - EVENING

Nicholas washes all of the oil and soot off of his hands.

INT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - EVENING

Nicholas walks out of the bathroom, passing by his manager CHARLES HOLGUIN.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
See you later Charles.

CHARLES
Alright, see you tomorrow.

Nicholas CLOSES the door behind him.

EXT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE/ PARKING LOT - EVENING

Nicholas enter his car, SHUTS the door, and CRANKS the car.

INT. NICHOLAS'S CAR/ HIGHWAY - EVENING

Nicholas drives down the highway, windows down, and hair blowing.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Well, after going back to school
and getting my GED. I found a job
at a local automobile repair shop.
I've been working there for the
last three years now. Oh, I also
picked up a little habit, something
I'm regretting now.

Nicholas grabs a pack of cigarettes, picks up a lighter, and lights the cigarette. He inhales and exhales.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
But I needed something to keep my
urges under control.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ KITCHEN - EVENING

Nicholas walks in the kitchen and sees his mother fixing food; steak, potatoes, and string beans.

He kisses his mother on the cheek.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Hey mom.

Barbra savors Nicholas's kiss and smiles.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Although I could move out at this point, I wanted to stay with my mother and help with the bills she was getting older and her job at the nursing home wasn't paying so good.

BARBRA

Hey dear, how was your day?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Typical day and yours?

BARBRA

The same.

Barbra begins to SNIFF around the atmosphere.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

Just had a cigarette huh?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom don't start.

BARBRA

I won't, I know it "calms" you...

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

Mother is aware of my "urges" but it's something we never ever talked about.

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

I'm going to shower now.

BARBRA

Okay, dinner should be ready when you get out.

Nicholas walks away.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

Barbra and Nicholas are at the kitchen table, eating their food in silence.

Barbra stares at Nicholas. Nicholas notices and stops eating his food.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

What?

BARBRA

I was doing some thinking.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Okay, what are you thinking?

BARBRA

Maybe I can help you find someone to control your "anger".

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom, we went over this. I haven't slipped in five years, I am fine!

BARBRA

I'm just letting you know it's still an option.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Thank you for the reminder but I'm not seeing a shrink we can't afford it and plus I have my cigarettes.

BARBRA

But recent studies are showing how horrible those things are for your health. It could possibly lead to lung cancer. I just want my Nicholas to be healthy.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

If you want me to be "healthy" then you should know these are what's best for me!

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

I'm stuffed, good night.

Nicholas rises from the table and walks away. Barbra looks guilty.

BARBRA

Good night.

EXT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - DAY

Nicholas and Charles are outside the shoppe. It's a hot day, they are both drinking Coca-Cola's in glass bottles; waiting for their next customer.

MOMENTS LATER: A CAR zooms up to the shoppe creating clouds of dust while it's pulling up.

The car leans on the left side; one of the left tires is flat.

Charles CHUCKLES a little a bit.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Well, well, would you look at that.

The car finally parks, a woman OPENS the door.

SABRINA BLAIR, 21, pretty, professional, it looks like she's ready talk business.

Nicholas notices how beautiful she is, he checks her out; he's never seen anyone quite like her.

Charles notices Nicholas checking her out. Charles smiles at Nicholas.

CHARLES
She's all yours.

Charles OPENS the door to the shop, enters it, and CLOSES the door. Charles continues to smile at Nicholas teasingly through the glass door.

Nicholas notices and HITS the glass door, Charles LAUGHS and walks away.

Nicholas's attention goes back to Sabrina, she walks towards him in a hurry.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Is there anything I can help you with today?

SABRINA
Well, I think its's pretty obvious what happened!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
You're right, my mistake.

SABRINA

I ran over a nail, a stupid nail!
I'm going to be late for my class,
it starts in 5 minutes!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Okay, okay calm down pretty lady.
I'm not sure if I can get a new
tire installed in fives minutes but
I'll try to get one in as soon as I
can okay?

SABRINA

Okay, stop talking and hurry up!

EXT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - DAY

Nicholas is in the process of replacing the tire. Sabrina is tapping her foot, furiously.

Nicholas tries to break the ice.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

So you have a class today?

Sabrina continues to tap her foot; ignoring him. A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Hello?

SABRINA

Could you just do your job!?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Okay geez.

A beat. Sabrina feels guilty now.

SABRINA

Listen.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

I'm listening.

SABRINA

I'm sorry okay? You didn't deserve
that.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Maybe I did.

SABRINA

No you didn't. I'm just really stressed, please forgive me.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

You're fine darling.

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

All done.

Nicholas rises from the ground and walks towards Sabrina.

SABRINA

Oh my God, thank you so much.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Just doing my job.

A beat.

SABRINA

Yes I have class today. I go to Walden University about 30 minutes up the road.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Oh a college girl?

Sabrina smiles.

SABRINA

Yes it is my third year.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Congratulations.

SABRINA

Thanks.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

What do you major in?

SABRINA

My major is nursing.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Sounds like you're a busy girl.

SABRINA

I guess.

A beat.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

But honestly, sometimes I like to act more important than what I really am.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Don't we all?

SABRINA

Especially when you're in college, you have to constantly prove how intelligent you are.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Well, I wouldn't know anything about that, I'm just a simple man at a car shoppe.

SABRINA

Well, I still appreciate what you do.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Thanks.

Sabrina stares in Nicholas's eyes. A beat.

SABRINA

Okay, well I have to get going now. Even if class will be over by the time I get there. I still have a lot of research to do in the library. How much will it be?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Twenty-five.

Sabrina digs in her purse and hands Nicholas twenty-five dollars.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

But don't worry about it.

SABRINA

Excuse me?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

I won't tell if you don't.

Sabrina place the money back in her purse.

SABRINA

Oh my God, thank you so much I really appreciate it.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 No problem, now you go ahead and
 head to class dear.

Sabrina smiles again, OPENS the car door, and CRANKS it. Her windows are down, Nicholas takes advantage of this to get one more word out.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 Hey!

SABRINA
 Yes?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 It was very nice to meet you.

A beat.

SABRINA
 It was nice meeting you too.

Sabrina gives Nicholas one last stare before she DRIVES away. Nicholas smiles back at her.

INT. NICHOLAS'S CAR - EVENING

Nicholas drives his car with the radio playing 1960's MUSIC. The windows are down, his hair is blowing in the wind.

He reaches for the glove compartment and OPENS it. He reaches inside of it and feels nothing. He's upset.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 What the - ?

Nicholas's hand continues to search for the cigarettes; still no cigarettes.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 Got dammit!

Nicholas SLAMS the glove compartment back; he's pissed off.

INT. STONES'S HOME - EVENING

Nicholas BURST opens the front door.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Mom!?

Nicholas STOMPS inside the house.

INT. STONES'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Nicholas enters the living room and sees Barbra in the living room.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom!?

BARBRA

Oh, hi dear. I decided to rest from cooking tonight. We still have left overs though.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Where are my fags?

Barbra is silent.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Where are my fags!?

BARBRA

Nicholas, you don't need them.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Yes, I do mom! And you know why!

A beat.

BARBRA

Do you remember Reverend Lambert?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

What does he have to do with anything?

BARBRA

I invited him to come over tomorrow.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

For what?

BARBRA

He's going to bless the house for us.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Bless the house from what?

Barbra is silent.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

From me!?

BARBRA

Since you're going stop smoking I think it's the safe thing to do, we don't want to risk a slip up -

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

First of all mom, I'm not quitting smoking. In fact I'm heading to the gas station right now to get some more cigarettes! And second of all, if that reverend comes in here. Trust me, I just might have a slip-up!

Nicholas runs away.

BARBRA

Nicholas wait!

Nicholas SLAMS the front door.

INT. STONES'S HOME - DAY

The doorbells RINGS, Barbra walks to the front door and OPENS it.

Reverend Lambert stands there, with his reverend attire, Bible, and holy water. Barbra smiles.

BARBRA

Welcome Reverend Lambert, let me grab your coat.

REVEREND LAMBERT

Thank you Barbra, that is too kind of you.

Barbra grabs his coat and hangs it on the coat rack. Nicholas walks angrily towards them; Reverend Lambert notices.

REVERED LAMBERT

Oh, hey Nicholas. It's so good to see you, I haven't seen you in almost six years.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Get out!

BARBRA

Nicholas -

REVEREND LAMBERT

Still the trouble maker eh?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I said get the fuck out!

BARBRA
Nicholas stop it!

NICHOLAS
(to Barbra)
This is all your fault! Why are you
doing this out of the blue? My
urges are under control.

REVEREND LAMBERT
Urges? What urges?

A beat.

BARBRA
Nicholas is prone to having...

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Temper tantrums, he's getting anger
management soon for it though. He
used to smoke cigarettes to calm
himself down, but he quit smoking.
So, I just want you to bless the
house to keep all those angry
demons away.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I didn't quit, I bought some more!

Nicholas pulls out a pack of cigarettes. Barbra quickly
snatches them out of his hand, throws it on the ground, and
STOMPS on the pack repeatedly.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Mom!?

Barbra continues to STOMP until the cigarettes are smashed
and shredded.

BARBRA
You stop your foolishness right
now! Go to your room and let
Reverend Lambert bless this place!
This is for the best of us!

Nicholas runs towards the front door and SLAMS it. A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
 (to Reverend Lambert)
 I'm sorry about that. Let's go
 ahead and get started before
 anymore distractions.

Barbra smiles, Reverend Lambert smiles back.

REVEREND LAMBERT
 Good idea.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME - DAY

Nicholas BURST inside of the front door; with a new pack of
 cigarettes.

He hears Reverend Lambert from afar, Nicholas pauses and
 listens.

REVEREND LAMBERT (O.S.)
 O God, you fill the hungry with
 good things. Send your blessing on
 us, as we work in this kitchen, and
 make us ever thankful for our daily
 bread. Grant this through Christ
 our Lord. Amen.

Nicholas evilly smiles and begins to walk near the kitchen.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ KITCHEN - DAY

Nicholas reaches the kitchen, he sees Reverend Lambert
 sprinkling holy water around the kitchen. Barbra stands next
 to him, watching.

Nicholas stares menacingly at Reverend Lambert. Reverend
 Lambert looks frightened; they intensely stare at each other.

Reverend Lambert only sees Satan in Nicholas's eyes.

REVEREND LAMBERT
 Back so soon?

Nicholas doesn't say anything, he just stares at Reverend
 Lambert with his infamous cold eyes. He slowly grabs his
 cigarette box and pull out a cigarette, he begins to light it
 with a lighter.

BARBRA
 Nicholas, stop it! Stop polluting
 our house with that toxin!

Nicholas inhales and exhales the smoke. Reverend Lambert looks at Barbra.

REVEREND LAMBERT
Which room is next?

A beat.

BARBRA
Nicholas's.

Reverend Lambert looks frightened.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
He's not going in my room.

BARBRA
Yes he is!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No he's not!

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
He has to get past me first.

Another beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Come on Rev, if you want to get to
my room, get past me first.

Nicholas leers at Reverend Lambert; Reverend Lambert stares back clearly threatened.

REVEREND LAMBERT
I'm not playing this game with you,
Nicholas.

Nicholas SCUFFS at the Reverend.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Pussy.

BARBRA
Nicholas!?

Nicholas glares at his mother, SCUFFS at her, and walks down the hall still smoking his cigarette.

Barbra looks back at Reverend Lambert apologetically.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ NICHOLAS'S ROOM - DAY

Nicholas hears KNOCKS on the door. He walks up to the door and OPENS it.

Barbra stands there, she looks upset.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Hey, Barbra.

BARBRA
What is wrong with you!? Reverend Lambert left, you scared him away!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Good and hopefully he'll never return.

BARBRA
Your behavior was so embarrassing.

Nicholas smiles.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Good.

Barbra SCUFFS and furiously STOMPS away. Nicholas continues to smile as he watches Barbra STOMP down the hall.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Hey mom?

Barbra turns around angrily.

BARBRA
What Nicholas!?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What's for dinner?

Barbra turns back to him, highly annoyed at this point.

BARBRA
(abruptly)
You need to get yourself together!

Barbra SCUFFS at him and continues to STOMP off. Nicholas CHUCKLES to himself.

EXT. CHARLES'S CAR SHOPPE - DAY

Nicholas stands outside of the repair shoppe waiting for his next customer. He waits patiently.

A car drives up in front of the shop, the car looks familiar.
The car parks.

Sabrina walks out of the car, not looking like her professional self, just wearing 1960's casual clothing.

Sabrina smiles at Nicholas and Nicholas smiles back as she walk closer to him.

SABRINA
Hey there handsome.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Hey, back so soon? What's wrong
with your car now?

Sabrina stops walking and stands in front of Nicholas.

SABRINA
Oh nothing.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Then why are you here?

SABRINA
I don't know, just bored on a
Saturday.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Shouldn't you be studying or
something?

SABRINA
Well, I've been doing that all day.
I need a break.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
So you drove up to a car shoppe?

SABRINA
Yes.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
With no car problems?

SABRINA
Yes

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Wow and I thought I had no life.

They both LAUGH together.

SABRINA
But I wanted to see you.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Oh really? Why so?

SABRINA
I wanted to ask you something.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
And what is that?

A beat.

SABRINA
This is so embarrassing.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What? What's the question? Don't be shy.

A beat.

SABRINA
Do you want to hangout sometime?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
And do what?

SABRINA
Just hang I guess. It won't be until next weekend though.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Are you trying to plan a date with me?

Sabrina smiles sheepishly.

SABRINA
I guess so.

Nicholas smiles back.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I'd love to.

We hear Charles CHEERS. Nicholas flicks him off. Everyone LAUGHS.

EXT. MURKY POND - NOON

Nicholas jumps off a deck and cannon balls into the pond, creating a huge SPLASH.

Sabrina is already in the pond, the water splashes all over her, she LAUGHS out loud.

Nicholas rises up from the water and continues to SPLASH Sabrina with his hands.

Sabrina playfully SCREAMS and SPLASHES him back. Nicholas LAUGHS back romantically.

Sabrina eventually stops and begins to make out with Nicholas, Nicholas joins her without hesitation.

EXT. MURKY POND/ GRASSLAND - EVENING

Nicholas lies on the grass as Sabrina lays on his bare chest. They are still drench from the pond; savoring their time together. Sabrina looks up at Nicholas, Nicholas looks back at her.

SABRINA

So Nicholas.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Yes?

SABRINA

Tell me more about yourself.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

What do you want to know?

SABRINA

Your dreams and aspirations, I know you don't want to be at a repair shop for the rest of your life.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

And how do you know that?

SABRINA

I don't know.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Maybe I'm happy there.

SABRINA

Okay, sorry if you are.

A beat. Nicholas LAUGHS.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No, you're right.

Nicholas and Sabrina LAUGHS together again.

SABRINA
So what are your plans for the future?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Well, I wanted to go to college like you after high school.

SABRINA
Really? What did you want to study?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
In high school, I was a natural at dissecting animals. I wanted to be a surgeon.

SABRINA
Wow, there's great money in that.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Tell me about it but I couldn't afford college. So I decided to work.

SABRINA
Yeah college expenses are no joke. I couldn't afford the dorms. So I'm living with my parents at the time. Luckily, the college is only about 30 minutes away.

A beat.

SABRINA (CONT'D)
Do you live with your parents?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
With my mom.

SABRINA
What about your dad?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
My dad died back when I was two.

SABRINA
What happened?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
A fatal car accident.

SABRINA
Sorry to hear that.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
It's fine.

A beat.

SABRINA
Hey Nicholas?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Yes?

SABRINA
Thanks.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
For what?

SABRINA
For all the fun I had today.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I should be thanking you as well.

SABRINA
It's a nice to sit back, relax, and
just talk. Being in college makes
me forget to be human sometimes.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No problem anytime.

Sabrina leans in for a kiss, Nicholas kisses her back. They both let go of the kiss. Sabrina stares at Nicholas in his eyes.

Nicholas caresses her hair and stares back in her eyes.

Sabrina begins to kiss Nicholas again; passionately. Nicholas is submissive.

Sabrina begins to take off the top of her bathing suit, exposing her breasts.

Nicholas grabs her breasts tightly, he then begins to take off his swimming trunks.

He pins Sabrina on her back, gets on top of her, and begins to thrust his body against hers.

FADE OUT

INT. STONE'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The doorbell RINGS. Barbra walks towards the door and OPENS it. She sees Sabrina there, Barbra is perplexed.

SABRINA
Hello there.

BARBRA
Who are you?

SABRINA
I'm Sabrina, you must be Nicholas's
mother.

BARBRA
Yes I am.

Sabrina sticks out her hand. Barbra ignores it; as if she's disgusted. Sabrina is taken aback.

Nicholas walks towards the door. He sees Sabrina and smiles delightfully.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
You look stunning.

Barbra is taken aback. She stares at Nicholas; baffled.

BARBRA
Nicholas? Who is this?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Oh, right. Mom this is Sabrina and
Sabrina this is my mother Barbra.

BARBRA
She already told me her name but
who is she to you?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
A friend mom.

BARBRA
Just a friend Nicholas?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Mom? Can you please stop the
interrogation? We're going to run
late for the movie.

Nicholas runs out of the door and passes by Sabrina.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 (to Sabrina)
 Come one let's go.

SABRINA
 (to Barbra)
 It was nice to meet you.

Nicholas and Sabrina walks away and enters the car. Nicholas CRANKS the car and Barbra watches as the car DRIVES down the street.

Barbra is still dumbfounded.

EXT. DRIVE IN THEATRE - NIGHT

Nicholas and Sabrina cuddle together as they enjoy the movie together.

Sabrina is suddenly distracted.

SABRINA
 Hey Nicholas?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Yes?

SABRINA
 I think your mom hates me.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 No, she doesn't hate you, she's just not used to me dating.

SABRINA
 So you haven't told her?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 No, not officially but I bet she knows now.

SABRINA
 I told my parents about you. What's taking you so long to tell her?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 I don't know, how she would react I guess...

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 But don't worry about it. I'll tell
 her tomorrow, so that there will be
 no more surprises okay?

Nicholas kisses Sabrina on the lips, Nicholas parts his lips
 away from Sabrina's.

Sabrina nods her head.

SABRINA
 Okay.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - MORNING

Barbra and Nicholas eats their breakfast quietly at the
 table. Barbra stares at Nicholas; not smiling. Nicholas
 notices and stops eating his food.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 What?

A beat.

BARBRA
 How was your outing last night?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Great, we had a good time.

Nicholas continues to eat his food.

BARBRA
 Nicholas? I have another question
 for you, are you two - ?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Yes we are dating.

Barbra takes this in.

BARBRA
 I knew something was up; you've
 been coming home later recently.
 Why did you feel like you couldn't
 tell me?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Because I knew you were going to
 overreact like this.

BARBRA
 I am not overreacting!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Yes you are, with all these
 questions. So what if I have a
 girlfriend?

BARBRA
 I'm your mother, I just want to
 know! I have that right! And
 believe it or not I'm completely
 fine with it, you're 21 now. You
 don't have to hide it.

A beat. Nicholas calms down.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
 Are you - ?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 What now mom?

BARBRA
 Active.

A beat. Nicholas SIGHS.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Yes mom, we are having sex.

Barbra is taken aback.

BARBRA
 Well then, is she your first?

Nicholas SIGHS again.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
 You don't have to answer that if
 you don't want -

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 (irritated)
 When I was 16 and living on the
 streets I lost my virginity to a 37
 year old prostitute okay!?

Barbra's mouth gaps open.

BARBRA
 Oh my, you never told me that.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 You never asked.

A beat.

BARBRA
I just have one more question.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Yes mother.

A beat.

BARBRA
You've been back home for about 5
year now.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Yes.

BARBRA
During those times did you ever - ?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Yes?

BARBRA
Have a "slip"?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Mom!?

BARBRA
I'm just curious okay!? And be
honest! I need to know! I'm
concerned! You barely talk to me!

Nicholas SIGHS to keep his composure.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No mom, I did not have a slip.

BARBRA
Are you sure?

Nicholas glares at Barbra. A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I'm going to wash up now.

Barbra gets up from the table and walks away.

TIME CARD: 3 MONTHS LATER

INT. DRIVE IN THEATRE - NIGHT

Nicholas and Sabrina cuddles together at the movies again.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Sabrina and I continued to see each other. During this time, Sabrina was on summer break. We couldn't get enough of each other.

Nicholas and Sabrina make out together.

EXT. SWAMP POND - DAY

Nicholas and Sabrina jumps in the pond together.

EXT. POND/GRASSLAND - EVENING

Nicholas and Sabrina make love on the grassland.

EXT. FAIR - DAY

Nicholas wins a stuffed animal for Sabrina. Sabrina is thrilled.

Nicholas and Sabrina stroll along the fair holding hands and smiling.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
I could tell she was the one.

Nicholas stops Sabrina in her tracks and begins to make out with her.

INT. RESTURANT - NIGHT

Nicholas and Sabrina eat together at a resturant. It's an elegant resturant; the most elegant you can get in the small town.

Nicholas and Sabrina are dressed in their best as they eat together; exchanging romantic looks to each other.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Now, I was just waiting on the right time to tell her.

SABRINA
This is so lovely Nicholas.

NICHOLAS
I'm so glad that you're enjoying yourself Sabrina. I love you so much.

SABRINA

I love you too.

Nicholas scoots closer to Sabrina for a kiss and Sabrina kisses him back romantically.

They both let go of the kiss and resume with sitting.

NICHOLAS

Sabrina, we've been seeing each other for about half a year now.

SABRINA

Yes?

NICHOLAS

And you're the best thing that has happened to me in this town. I never met someone so beautiful. You stabilize me. I've always had a chaotic life. I don't see a bit of chaos in you.

Sabrina smiles.

SABRINA

I think you're the first to say that.

Sabrina CHUCKLES and Nicholas joins her. A beat.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

And I think you're the most down to earth guy. You're so humble and sweet. The nicest gut I ever met.

Nicholas CHUCKLES.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Thanks.

SABRINA

And you're so intelligent too. Sometimes I feel so undeserving to be in college you deserve it not me. Your mind is beautiful.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Thanks.

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
So, it's safe to say that we're in
love right?

Sabrina smiles.

SABRINA
Of course.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Well then.

A beat.

Nicholas digs in his pocket and pulls out a ring case, and
opens it to reveal a beautiful diamond ring.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Will you marry me?

Sabrina is shocked.

SABRINA
Oh my.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I don't want to lose you, I want
you to always be apart of my life,
I need you, you complete me. So
what do you say?

Sabrina begins to CRY to herself happily.

SABRINA
Of course.

Sabrina takes the ring and Nicholas kisses her.

SABRINA (CONT'D)
I love you.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I love you too.

The CUSTOMERS and the WAITERS CLAP for Nicholas and Sabrina.
Nicholas and Sabrina smile back sheepishly.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME - NIGHT

Barbra and Nicholas eats dinner together. Nicholas is clearly
pondering something, he finally decides to let it out.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Mom?

BARBRA
Yes?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
I have something to tell you.

BARBRA
Yes, what is it?

Nicholas takes a DEEP BREATH.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Sabrina and I decided to get
engaged.

Barbra immediately puts her fork down.

BARBRA
What!?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
We're getting married.

Barbra is shocked. A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
We won't be getting married until
she's finished with college next
year though.

Barbra smiles superficially.

BARBRA
How long have you two known each
other?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Six months now.

BARBRA
Well, don't you think that's a
little too soon to make such a vast
decision?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
But we love each other.

Barbra SCUFFS.

BARBRA

Love? What do you two know about love?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom don't mark us.

BARBRA

And do you plan on moving out once you get married?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Yes mom, that's what happens when two people get married.

BARBRA

Well, who's going to help me with all the bills around here?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom, you can't hold me under hostage forever?

BARBRA

So now you're under hostage?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom, don't get so offended?

BARBRA

Offended? I'm not offended.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

You sure sound like it.

BARBRA

Fine! Go and get married to the hussy you just met, see if I care.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Don't call her that.

BARBRA

I'm going to bed.

Barbra rises out of the chair.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME - NIGHT

Barbra hears the doorbell RINGS. Barbra walks to the front door and OPENS, she sees Sabrina there dressed in her best.

Sabrina smiles at Barbra and surprisingly Barbra smiles back.

SABRINA

Hey there.

BARBRA

Hey there Sabrina, Nicholas said you would be over here soon.

Sabrina looks curious.

SABRINA

Where is he?

BARBRA

Oh yes, he is out he said he'll be back shortly.

Barbra leans in and begins to whisper to Sabrina.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

(whispering)

I think he's buying you some last minute chocolates and roses for your date.

Sabrina smiles again.

SABRINA

That Nicholas.

A beat.

BARBRA

Well, don't stand out here. Come on in, have a cup of tea with me.

Barbra moves out of the way so Sabrina can walk by. Sabrina walks through door.

SABRINA

Thank you.

INT. BARBRA'S HOME/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

Barbra and Sabrina sits at the kitchen table. Barbra pours Sabrina some steaming tea.

Barbra smiles and Sabrina smiles back.

BARBRA

So, I heard the good news.

SABRINA

Oh you did huh?

BARBRA
Yes congratulations.

SABRINA
You're not upset or anything?

BARBRA
No, of course not.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I just have to ask you something.

SABRINA
Yes?

BARBRA
How much do you love Nicholas?

SABRINA
Oh my goodness, with all of my
heart.

Barbra smiles.

SABRINA (CONT'D)
You see a future with him? Starting
a family perhaps.

BARBRA
Yes of course but the children will
come after I get a career going
though.

Barbra smiles and then Barbra turns serious.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Well, you should know this.

Barbra stares at Sabrina gravely.

SABRINA
What's the matter?

BARBRA
Nicholas has an issue.

SABRINA
Oh the smoking? Yeah I told him
needs to quit.

A beat. Barbra begins to tear up.

SABRINA (CONT'D)
What's wrong Miss Barbra?

BARBRA
There's more to the story.

SABRINA
What are you talking about?

BARBRA
It all started when he was a little boy.

SABRINA
What happened?

BARBRA
He has an obsession that started when he was a little boy. He liked animals a lot, he was really obsessed with them.

SABRINA
Yeah, he told me.

BARBRA
He did?

SABRINA
Yes back when he was in high school he loved dissecting animals.

Barbra smiles.

BARBRA
Oh yes, he was always the best in his class.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
But there is more to the story than you think.

SABRINA
How so?

A beat.

BARBRA
He was five when he killed his first animal.

Sabrina GASPS and puts her hand over her mouth.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
It followed him into his teenage
years.

SABRINA
What happened?

BARBRA
When he was fifteen he killed his
first...human being.

Sabrina begins to GASPS and covers her mouth with her hands.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
And before that a boy went missing
in our town. I'm sure Nicholas had
something to do with that too.

SABRINA
No, no, that's not true!

BARBRA
I had to cover up for him and hide
the body. I was devastated to find
this out. So I kicked him out the
house five years ago.

SABRINA
What?

BARBRA
Yeah he was in the streets by
himself, trying to survive, who
knows what kind of atrocities he
committed. I asked God for
forgiveness. I asked God for
forgiveness!

Sabrina and Barbra CRIES together.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
He returned to me a year later and
he's been living with me ever
since.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
He told me he stopped but I know
deep down in my heart he's still
doing it. He's hiding it from me.
He tried smoking to calm him down
but I know he still does it. It's
in him.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
 (to Sabrina)
 I want you to be safe and aware of
 Nicholas's habits. I just don't
 want you to be next.

Barbra and Sabrina stare at each other intensely. A beat.

Sabrina rises from her seat and runs out of the house and
 CRIES.

EXT. BARBRA'S HOME - NIGHT

Sabrina runs out of the front door. Nicholas steps towards
 her.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Hey baby.

Nicholas tries handing Sabrina her chocolates and flowers but
 Sabrina pushes Nicholas out her way. Nicholas drops the
 chocolates and flowers.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
 What's wrong baby!?

SABRINA
 Just leave me alone!

Sabrina rushes to her car, OPENS the car door, SLAMS it shut,
 and CRANKS the car.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Sabrina!? Wait!

Sabrina ZOOMS out of the driveway and drives away.

Nicholas looks at Sabrina's car drive away; dumbfounded.

INT. BARBARA'S HOME - NIGHT

Nicholas SLAMS through the front door.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
 Mom!

Barbra walks towards Nicholas.

BARBRA
 What's wrong?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What did you tell Sabrina!?

BARBRA
Nothing.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Why is she running away!? Like
she's scared of me!

BARBRA
I don't know Nicholas! I swear!

Nicholas stares at Barbra in her eyes, his eyes are intense,
tears are falling out of his eyes.

He STOMPS away down the hall and SLAMS the room to his door.

Barbra is silent and in tears.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

Nicholas is at the kitchen table eating his food. The phone
RINGS.

Nicholas immediately gets up from the table and answers the
phone.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Hello?

INTERCUTS:

SABRINA
Hello?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Sabrina!?

SABRINA
I called because I have to tell you
something.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What? What's the problem? Why did
you run off?

SABRINA
I can't continue with the
engagement.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What? What's the problem?

SABRINA

I just think, we've grown apart.

Nicholas CRIES suddenly.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

No don't leave me! Why are you doing this!?

SABRINA

I have to protect myself.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

From what!?

SABRINA

I will always love you Nicholas.

Sabrina HANGS UP the phone. Nicholas hears the DIAL TONE.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Sabrina!? Sabrina!?

Nicholas continues to hear the DIAL TONE.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

SABRINA!!!

Nicholas kneels down to his knees as he continues to SOB. He's on the ground in fetal position holding the phone tightly.

Barbra runs in the kitchen and caresses Nicholas on the ground.

BARBRA

Nicholas!? What's wrong?

Barbra continues to embrace Nicholas as he's on the ground.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Sabrina! Sabrina! Don't leave me!

BARBRA

Shhhh! Nicholas, just calm down baby, things are going to be alright.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Sabrina! Come back please!

BARBRA

Don't worry, everything is going to be okay.

Barbra caresses Nicholas closer to her, laying Nicholas on her breast.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Shhh, just calm down. Everything is for the better. Now we can finally be together.

Barbra leans in and tries giving Nicholas a kiss on the lips. Nicholas is taken aback and quickly rises to his feet; stunned.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Mom!? What is wrong with you!?

BARBRA
I was just giving you a kiss.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
On the lips!?

BARBRA
Nicholas! It was an accident!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No it wasn't!

BARBRA
Yes it was!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
No it wasn't!

BARBRA
Nicholas! You're thinking too much on this!

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I can't even give my own son a kiss!? During a devastating time in his life.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Mom, that was just scary okay!?

BARBRA
Okay, I'm sorry.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
It's just you and me now huh? Like
how it's supposed to be.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Only I can truly love you.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What do you mean mom?

BARBRA
Sabrina can't love every part of
you like I can.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What do you mean?

A beat.

BARBRA
I told Sabrina about your little
problem okay?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
What did you say?

BARBRA
I was just trying to protect her!?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Protect her from what!? Me!?

Barbra is silent.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
Why the fuck would you tell her
that!?

BARBRA
I wanted her to understand what she
was getting into? Her life was in
danger.

Nicholas begins to CRY.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT MOM!?

Barbra jumps in fright.

BARBRA

Listen Nicholas, I'm sorry okay!
But I want you to know that I will
always be here for you! I love
okay!? I love you!

A beat.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

So let me get this straight. You
told Sabrina about me, so that you
could have me all to yourself?

BARBRA

No, now why In God's name would I
do that? That's almost like incest
and that's against God's law.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Mom stop with the Bible babble bull
shit! I see the way you look at me
and the way you treat me! You're in
love with me! You're fucking in
love with me!

Barbra begins to CRY in shame.

BARBRA

No I'm not! No I'm not! You're sick
to believe such a thing!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Yes, you are! Mom, you're a sick
woman! You're the one who needs
help!

BARBRA

Okay fine! You want to know the
truth!?

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

Yes!

BARBRA

Okay fine! Yes, ever since your
father died I've missed having a
male figure around the house. Yes
that is true! But it doesn't mean
I'm in love with you!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

I don't know what to believe
anymore!

Barabra gives up. A beat.

BARBRA
Okay, fine I'm in love with you!

Barbra begins to CRY and Nicholas joins her.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
Ever since you came back home, I
fell for you because I've been
lonely for so long!

Nicholas YELLS in frustration.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
I can't stand the idea of someone
taking you away from me! I'm sorry
okay!? But this is the truth!

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
You sick and twisted bitch! How can
you fall in love with your own
son!?

Barbra kneels down.

BARBRA
Forgive me father for I have
sinned! Please wash away all of my
evil ways. Let me see and feel your
light and mercy again -

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Yeah, keep praying it's not going
to do any good!

BARBRA
Wash the evil deeds of Satan out of
my mind, heart, and body. Cleanse
my soul from these wicked thoughts.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS
Shut up! Shut up! SHUT UP!

Nicholas charges for Barbra and wraps his hands around her
neck choking her tightly.

Barbra GAGS but smiles.

BARBRA
So that's what you want to do? You
want to kill me? Big surprise.

Nicholas stares in Barbra's eyes. His infamous blank eyes are present, he squeezes his hands tighter.

Barbra continues to GAG.

BARBRA (CONT'D)

Go ahead and do it, I'm not scared to die. I deserve to die anyway. Everyday I live with guilt about what I did to your father...

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

He died in a car accident, what does that have to do with you?

A beat.

BARBRA

I killed your father Nicholas.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

What?

BARBRA

Yes, he cheated on me numerous times...

FLASHBACK:

INT. STONE'S FIRST HOME/ BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barbra OPENS the door to her bedroom and finds her husband, BEN STONE, 35, under the covers with another WOMAN.

Nicholas is a baby, in his crib, right next to his parent's bed.

Ben looks up at his wife.

BEN

Oh, hey honey.

Ben continues to have sex with the woman.

WOMAN

Your wife is home? You told me she was taking a vacation.

Ben continues to thrust his body against the woman.

BEN

I tell every woman that so that they're not afraid to come to my house.

A beat.

WOMAN

What!?

BEN

But don't worry about her? She's harmless, she's not going to do anything, she's used to it.

WOMAN

Used to it?

BEN

Yes, just another night at our house. Isn't that right honey?

Ben turns to his wife.

BEN (CONT'D)

Isn't that - ?

Ben GASPS.

Barbra grips a pistol aims for Ben's forehead.

BEN (CONT'D)

Holy shit! Barbra what are you doing?

Barbra is silent as she points the pistol at Ben. Moments later she changes her target to the woman and SHOOTs her in the head.

Blood SPLATTERS on Ben, Nicholas, and Barbra herself. Nicholas begins to CRY.

Ben SCREAMS and rises from the bed, trying to protect himself from his wife.

BEN (CONT'D)

Honey! What are you doing!? Why would you do that!? Listen, I'm sorry okay!? I'm sorry for all of it!

Barbra continues to stare at her husband with a cold expression, very similar to Nicholas's.

BEN (CONT'D)
Honey just put the gun down! Just
put the gun down!

Barbra continues to point the gun and then - BAM! BAM!

Blood SPLATTERS on her and Nicholas again. Ben is dead now
with two bullets in the head.

Barbra snaps out of it and begins to CRY, BABY NICHOLAS
continues to CRY.

Barbra drops to her knees and caresses her dead husband.

BARBRA
Please forgive me dear God for I
have sinned. Keep me in your grace
and mercy Lord God. Let me be
washed with your blood once more
Jesus.

INT. STONE'S FIRST HOME/ BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barbra scrubs the blood off the carpet with a scrub. She dips
the scrub in a bucket filled with soap water now stained red.
She continues to clean the stains as she CRIES.

INT. STONE'S FIRST HOME/ BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barbra wraps both of the corpses with trash bags and duct
tape.

INT. STONE'S FIRST HOME/BATHROOM - NIGHT

Nicholas and Barbra are in the bathtub together. Barbra wipes
herself off and does the same to Nicholas. Barbra begins to
sing him a lullaby very softly.

BARBRA
(delicately)
Hush, little baby don't say a word.
Mama's gonna buy you a mockingbird.
And if that mockingbird don't sing.
Mama's gonna buy you a diamond
ring. And if that diamond ring
turns to brass. Mama's gonna buy
you a looking glass...

EXT. MURKY RIVER - NIGHT

Two wrapped bodies floats on the surface of a river, they eventually sink to the bottom.

INT. BARBRA'S CAR/ HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Barbra zooms down the highway, tears roll down her face.

BARBRA (V.O.)
I moved far, far away and never
looked back.

Barbra turns to baby Nicholas in his car seat sleeping. She stares at him and faintly smiles.

BARBRA
I love you.

INT. STONE'S HOME/ KITCHEN - NIGHT

BACK TO PRESENT

Nicholas still has his hands over Barbra's neck. Tears trickle down his eyes. Tear trickle down Barbra's eyes as well.

BARBRA
I can only blame myself for how you
turned out. You watched your own
father die because of my hands. You
were born into chaos.

A beat.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
No matter how hard you try,
destruction will follow you
wherever you go.

Nicholas YELLS in frustration.

BARBRA (CONT'D)
But I still love you.

Barbra force her lips against Nicholas's. Barbra savors it for as long as she can. Nicholas breaks it.

Nicholas YELLS again in defense.

He grasps Barbra's neck tighter. Barbra GASPS for air.

Nicholas's yelling continues.

His grip on Barbra's neck becomes constricting at this point.

Nicholas stares in Barbra's eyes, watching the life slowly fade away from his mother, her eyes roll at the top of her head, and she slowly decease...

Even though it's clear to see that Barbra is dead. Nicholas continues to choke her, he SCREAMS while doing so.

He eventually gives in, he kneels down somberly as he caresses his mother's corpse; he CRIES to himself.

YOUNG ADULT NICHOLAS

I love you too mom.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)

After your great grandmother's death. I buried her...

EXT. STONE'S HOME/ BACKYARD - EARLY MORNING

Nicholas feverishly digs a grave in the backyard. He continues to CRY.

MOMENTS LATER...

After he digs six feet under the ground, he picks up his mother's still body that is wrapped in black plastic bags.

INT. STONE'S BACKYARD/ OUBLIETTE GRAVE - AFTERNOON

He walks down a short ladder as he carries the body. When he reaches the bottom of the pit, he cautiously places his mother's body on the ground as if she is a fragile glass statue.

The tears continue to stream down his face as he stares at the wrapped corpse. He places a vivid red rose on top of her body.

EXT. STONE'S HOME/ BACKYARD - AFTERNOON

Nicholas covers his mother's body with soil using a shovel, until the whole grave is filled with soil.

MOMENTS LATER...

He then punctures the ground with a handmade wooden cross above his mother's grave and walks way.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
And moved far far away and never
looked back...

We linger on the wooden cross.

FADE OUT

INT. BARBARA'S CAR - DAY

Nicholas drives, looking back at the house through the rearview mirror. He wistfully stares back at the house, silently reminiscing of old times.

Nicholas continues to drive away...

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
I drove all the way until I reached
Oregon. There I found another job
at an automobile shop...

EXT. CAR SHOPPE/ ROAD - DAY

Nicholas is inside a car repairing the engine.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
I worked there until I got enough
money to go to college.

INT. UNIVERSITY/ MEDICAL CLASSROOM - DAY

Nicholas is at a desk. He reads a textbook and jots down notes in a notepad..

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
When I finally enrolled I started
my surgeon career.

Nicholas looks over to a young woman in the classroom, it's YOUNG JULIA. She looks at him as well and they smile at each other.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
At the University of Oregon I met
your grandmother. He it hit off
instantly.

INT. SMALL CHURCH - DAY

It's a small and private wedding with just Nicholas, Julia, and the pastor.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
She became my wife after two years.

Nicholas and Julia kiss at the alter.

INT. HOSPITAL/ NURSERY - DAY

Nicholas holds and caresses BABY NATALIE. He smiles at the baby and kisses Julia on the hospital bed.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
And I had your uncle and your mother.

A FAMILY PHOTO of Nicholas, Julia, Nathan, and Natalie are smiling in the photo, looking like a happy family.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
Your great grandmother was wrong,
destruction did not follow me
wherever I went.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

PRESENT DAY

We are back to Nicholas in the present day, he wistfully stares at his grandson Hunter through the crib. With tears slowly coming out of his eyes.

NICHOLAS
But smoking didn't keep my urges in control for all those years so I picked up the habit of hunting.

INT. NICHOLAS'S HOME/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

The camera display Nicholas's living room again. His trophies, plaques, and ribbons are displayed.

NICHOLAS (V.O.)
I was a natural.

INT. NATALIE'S HOME/ HUNTER'S ROOM - DAY

Nicholas stares at Hunter again, smiling faintly.

NICHOLAS

I regret all those cigarettes now.

Nicholas begin to LAUGH, he COUGHS slightly.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

You're the only person that know
about my past. I never told anyone,
not your mother, not your uncle,
not grandmother, not anyone.

A beat.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

I hope you can keep a secret,
Hunter. I love you.

Nicholas continues to stare at Hunter through his crib. All
of a sudden Nicholas begins to COUGH, manically.

He continues to COUGH, his coughs are becoming harsher.

Hunter begins to CRY.

Nicholas continues to COUGH, there's a little bit of blood
coming from his mouth.

All of a sudden he becomes stiff, he is deceased now. The
only sound in the room is the CRIES of Hunter.

Natalie BURSTS in the room.

NATALIE

Hunter? What's wrong?

Natalie takes a looks at her father's stiff body lying in the
chair.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Dad?

Natalie walks up closer to Nicholas to examine his breathing
She presses her fingers against his neck to check the his
pulse, there is none.

Natalie GASPS.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

MOM!?

Moments later Julia slowly steps in the room.

JULIA

What's the - ?

Julia sees Nicholas's body.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Oh no!

Julia runs towards the body and begins to shake it.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Nicholas! Nicholas wake up!

NATALIE

Mom, I think he's -

JULIA

No he's not!

A beat.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Nicholas! Nicholas! Wake up!

Julia continues to SCREAM making Hunter's CRIES louder. Natalie picks Hunter up from his crib and begins to caress him.

NATALIE

Shh, Hunter calm down mommy's got you.

Julia continues to SCREAM. Anthony runs in the room.

ANTHONY

What's the matter in here?

Anthony sees Julia caressing Nicholas's dead body. Julia continues to CRY in despair.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Oh no.

Anthony looks at Natalie who caresses Hunter as he continues to CRY. Natalie begins CRYING as well.

Anthony walks towards Natalie and embraces Natalie. Natalie begins to CRY harder. Anthony sheds a few tears as well and kisses Hunter on his forehead.

THE END

FADE OUT:

