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.
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.

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.

Yes, Ms. Walker.

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.

You’re precisely correct Anna.

Anna smiles. Nicholas is irritated.

But that doesn’t make any sense.

Reverend Lambert looks confused.

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 where you are heading! 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.
Micholas (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.

Micholas (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.

Micholas (V.O.)

His parents were worried sick.

Thomas’s father staples a “Missing” poster on a telephone post.

Micholas (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.

Micholas (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 appeasing to me.

(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 begin 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
erself.

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 godmother.

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.

Nicholas 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.

NICHOLALS (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 NICHOLALS
    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 ate 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 fired.

TEEN NICHOLAS/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 Nick, 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, YAWS, 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

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.
The guy out there!?

Nicki nods her head.

(CONT’D)

How could you do this!?

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.

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

He’s a dealer.

A beat.

So, that’s the guy you’ve been sleeping with for drugs!?

Nicki looks guilty.

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.

No! You can’t!

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

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 Nichola’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 YOUNG 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 enters 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 it'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 (CONT’D)
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.

REVEREND 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 beings 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 drunks.

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

INT. RESTURANT - NIGHT
Nicholas and Sabrina eat together at a restaurant. It’s an elegant restaurant; 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. Nichoals 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.
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 float 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 beings to CRY harder. Anthony sheds a few tears as well and kisses Hunter on his forehead.

THE END

FADE OUT: