FADE IN:

INT. MOTEL ROOM – DARK

An aging room, depressing.

JOHNNY, 20’s, leans back against the windowsill and studies a cockroach that moves along the green carpet below towards TOMMY, 30’s, who stands arms crossed in front of a single bed.

JOHNNY
I have a bad feeling about this.

He nervously strokes his thick beard that doesn’t hide his boyish looks.

TOMMY
Stop worrying. Everything is going to be fine. We just have to lay low for awhile.

JOHNNY
You don’t think they’ll find us here?

TOMMY
With that fucking weather, no chance.

JOHNNY
But we need to keep moving.

TOMMY
It’s impossible to drive out there. The wind alone we’ll force us off the road...

He walks a few feet over to the wall.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
...We’re safe in here until the storm passes.

Tommy tears at the flower pattern wallpaper along the wall, rips off a small piece.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
A castle for his king...
He points to a small T.V that barely hangs on its hinges from the opposite wall above and laughs.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
...Look at this place.

Tommy rolls the paper up, flicks it to the ground and walks away.

JOHNNY
Where are you going?

TOMMY
To the bathroom.

JOHNNY
You can’t leave me.

TOMMY
(smiles)
You’re not coming in with me bro.

JOHNNY
(worried)
But you promised to always stay with me.

TOMMY
I’ll be back out in a minute.

JOHNNY
But you promised.

Tommy walks over to Johnny.

TOMMY
(angry)
This shit has to stop Johnny. She’s fucking dead...

JOHNNY
But I see her everywhere I go.
TOMMY
It’s nothing more than hallucinations. Your mind is messing with you.

JOHNNY
Tommy, you don’t...

TOMMY
Enough! It’s been two days and all I’ve heard from you is how this bitch keeps haunting you.

JOHNNY
It won’t stop. I can’t get her out of my head.

TOMMY
And that’s why you need help Johnny. As soon as this storm passes I’m getting you some.

Tommy places his hand across Johnny’s face.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
Okay?

Johnny nods yes. A single tear rolls down his cheek.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
I love you little brother.

JOHNNY
Love you too.

Tommy walks to the back of the room, opens a door and closes it behind him.

Johnny wipes the tears away, stands in front of the bed and studies a painting of a ship sailing through rough seas that hangs above on the wall.

A women’s voice is heard from behind Johnny.

WOMAN (O.S)
Hello Johnny.
Johnny turns to a YOUNG WOMAN in a red dress.

JOHNNY

Noooooo!

Scared, he trips over the edge of the bed, falls to the ground. Calls out.

JOHNNY (CONT’D)

Tommy!

The woman laughs as she moves towards Johnny.

JOHNNY (CONT’D)

Tommy!

WOMAN

He can’t hear you. It’s just you and me.

Johnny hurries to the back of the room and tries the bathroom doorknob. Locked.

JOHNNY

Tommy! Can you hear me!

He pounds on the door.

JOHNNY (CONT’D)

Tommy! Tommy! Help me! She’s back!

No response from Tommy.

Johnny turns, eyes the front door. Hurries back and tries the doorknob. Won’t budge.

He stands face to the door and closes his eyes.

JOHNNY

(to himself)

You’re not real. It’s just my imagination. You’re not real. It’s just my imagination.
Opens his eyes, turns around. The woman stands in front of him.

WOMAN

BOO!

He screams, falls backwards against the door. He reacts quickly and bends down to one knee, lifts his right pant leg up, pulls out a handgun tucked into his sock and points it at the woman.

JOHNNY

Stand back!

The woman moves towards Johnny. He pulls the trigger. Four bullets hit the wall behind her.

A shocked look on Johnny’s face.

WOMAN

Did you actually think that was going to work?

Johnny drops the gun and slumps down to the ground.

JOHNNY

Why do you keep showing up?

WOMAN

I’m a reminder of what you did.

The woman snaps her fingers. The room becomes dark. A WOMAN NEWS REPORTER holds a microphone to her mouth, appears under a spotlight in front of Johnny.

NEWS REPORTER

I’m standing outside First National Bank where minutes ago two armed men stormed in and took several people hostage. As you can see behind me...

The spotlight becomes dim. A second spotlight appears from behind the reporter.
An OLD MAN and the young woman in the red dress both down on their knees, next to each other, hands to their chest in the praying position.

OLD MAN
Please don’t kill me.

WOMAN
(crying)
I don’t want to die.

A hand holds a gun pressed against the man’s head. A shot RINGS out. The man falls to the ground, stares at Johnny as blood forms underneath him.

The woman screams.

WOMAN
Please I beg you. I have two kids at...

The gun turns to her. A shot RINGS out. She collapses over the old man, dead.

Sounds of people screaming are heard.

The spotlight fades away. The light over the reporter appears again.

NEWS REPORTER
Two hostages appear to be dead and the manhunt now begins for the two suspects.

The room goes dark. Light appears from over the bed. A rip in the wallpaper zigzags along the wall and continues to the back wall before it stops at the ship painting above.

A man’s voice is heard.

MAN (O.S)
We’re taking on too much water.
Abandon ship! Abandon ship!
The painting tilts down. Water leaks out onto the bed and floor. Screams of people dying are heard.

MAN (O.S)
Save us Johnny! Save us Johnny!
Save us Johnny!

JOHNNY
Make it stop! Make it stop! Make it stop!

The room goes dark, than lights up. Everything back to normal.

WOMAN
(smiling)
I threw that last one in for fun.

JOHNNY
I’m sorry for what we did.

WOMAN
Are you now?

JOHNNY
Yes.

Johnny tucks his head between his knees.

JOHNNY (CONT’D)
I just wish this nightmare would end.

The woman stands over Johnny.

WOMAN
You want this to end?

JOHNNY
(looks up)
I do.

WOMAN
I have but one request?
JOHNNY
Anything! I’ll do anything!

WOMAN
Kill Tommy.

JOHNNY
What?

WOMAN
Kill Tommy.

JOHNNY
I can’t... He’s my brother.

WOMAN
He’s a wolf in sheep clothing!

Johnny begins to cry.

WOMAN (CONT’D)
Tears of sadness, how ironic.

JOHNNY
I didn’t want to do it but Tommy said nobody was going to get hurt.

WOMAN
He lied to you to Johnny. He controls you. You’re like his little puppet.

JOHNNY
No.

WOMAN
He told you to kill me.

JOHNNY
It wasn’t me.

WOMAN
Liar!
JOHNNY
I’m not lying! It was Tommy who killed you!

WOMAN
Than kill Tommy and this nightmare will end.

JOHNNY
Please, I’m begging you. I’ll do anything else you want.

WOMAN
I can do this all night, Johnny...

She comes face to face with him.

WOMAN (CONT’D)
...And for the rest of your life.

Sweat and tears roll down Johnny’s face.

WOMAN (CONT’D)
Kill Tommy! Kill Tommy! Kill Tommy!

The old man appears from behind the woman. Johnny closes his eyes, holds his hands to his ears. Surrounded by horrors.

OLD MAN
Kill Tommy!

WOMAN
Kill Tommy!

OLD MAN & WOMAN
KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY!
KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY!

JOHNNY
Leave me alone!

Johnny opens his eyes. Tommy sits before him.
TOMMY
Johnny, what’s wrong? I leave to use the bathroom and come back to you screaming.

Johnny slumps his head.

JOHNNY
It was your fault.

TOMMY
What’s my fault?

JOHNNY
You’re the reason I see ghosts. ...And I can’t take it anymore.

TOMMY
I told you, you’re hallucinating.

Johnny lifts his head. His face exudes madness.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
What’s wrong with you?


TOMMY (CONT’D)
Johnny.

Johnny stares intently at Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
You’re scaring me.

Johnny raises the gun towards Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT’D)
Hey man! Don’t fuck around! This isn’t funny!

JOHNNY
KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY! KILL TOMMY!
11.

The room goes dark. A shot RINGS out.

FADE OUT