

Lenny's Last Call

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INT-NIGHT-BEDROOM

Darkness. We see a young man, early thirties, lying in bed in a pair of boxer shorts, no covers, staring at a ceiling fan, eyes wide open.

We hear the sound of someone having sex in another room. The rhythmic thumping of a bed. Moaning.

WOMAN

(Off camera)

Ugh, Yes, yes, harder, Don't stop.

The thumping gets faster and louder. The man in the bed just stares.

WOMAN(CONT'D)

Ugh, don't stop, don't stop, Oh shit..

The thumping gets faster, louder.

WOMAN(CONT'D)

Oh shit...Oh God, Ahhh...

The thumping stops. Quiet. The young man stares at the spinning ceiling fan. He sits up and puts his feet on the floor, his hands to his head. He sits for a moment.

He's in his early 30's, about 6ft with a thin yet athletic build, his head crowned with scruffy dark hair in a nondescript style.

He gets out of bed and puts on a pair of old worn out, baggy jeans and a washed to often t-shirt. The clothing is stretched out hiding his physique. He slips on a pair of old sneakers.

He walks out of his bedroom door.

INT-NIGHT-LIVING ROOM

The young man walks through the living area towards the front door. The house is old, unkempt, cluttered. As he gets near

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the door, a woman wearing a robe, chunky in build, her dirty blonde hair a mess, drunk, comes out from another room.

WOMAN

Where are you going?

MAN

Out for a walk mom.

WOMAN

(Slurring)

It's a little late to be going for a walk.

MAN

It's 10 O'clock.

WOMAN

Why are you going out? Ohhh...I get it.

She walks over and grabs his face in both hands. He can smell the liquor on her.

WOMAN(CONT'D)

Did we make too much noise in there?  
Can't sleep?

He pulls away.

A man walks out from behind her wearing a stained t shirt and shorts. He's fat, has a scruffy look to him. He's smoking a cigarette and holding a can of beer. He gives the young man a disgusted look.

MAN

This the kid you been tellin me about?

WOMAN

Yeah, this is my son, Lucas. Lucas, this is...is...what the fucks your name again?

MAN

Don't make no fuckin difference anyways. Ain't like I'm staying for dinner. Hey kid, we keep you up? Sorry, your mom's a real animal.

He slaps her on the ass.

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Lucas looks down, shaken and turns towards the door.

WOMAN

Leave him alone. Don't stay out to  
late honey unless of course you hook  
up with someone. Oh , who am I kiddin?  
See you soon.

Both laugh. Lucas walks out and closes the door.

EXT-NIGHT

Lucas walks down the main street of his small town. It's summer and muggy. He shuffles, his demeanor showing a lack of confidence, shy. He passes a few people. They ignore him. One couple walking a dog. The dog barks at him. The owners pull the dog away as he walks by.

He looks into some of the homes. He sees people sitting, watching TV, happy. He passes one of the bars in town. Its pretty full inside. People are laughing, drinking. Friends.

He walks down a little farther past the old homes, past the pizzeria, and past the towns second bar, an old home built in the 1700's converted to a tavern. He stops in front for a moment, hands in pocket, head down. He admires this place. It seems inviting.

It looks full. People laughing. A group of men toasting. Lucas wants to toast something. He wants to be in there with them. His eyes catch the bartender. She looks to be in her twenties, long dark, cascading hair, pretty. She has a look of abandon about her. She's moving around talking to customers. For a moment Lucas thinks she sees him and smiles. No, he's wishing.

He wants to go in but can't bring himself to do it. He closes his eyes, turns and continues his walk. As he gets to the end of the street two drunk townies come around the corner and almost bump into him.

The first man, early 20's, medium height wears a tight t shirt showing his athletic build and shorts. The second is stocky, wearing a polo shirt and jeans. They're both drunk.

FIRST MAN

Dude. What the hell? Hey I know you.

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Lucas looks down trying to avoid eye contact.

LUCAS  
(Very softly)

S...sorry.

He moves around them. The first man blocks him puffing his chest out.

FIRST MAN  
No man, I know you. You're the town retard.

SECOND MAN  
Yeah, guy is always walking around with his head down. Lookin for quarters dude?

FIRST MAN  
(challenging)  
You ignoring me retard?

LUCAS  
(Nervous)  
I'm just taking a walk.

FIRST MAN Just taking a walk? Can I take a walk with you retard?

Lucas stands there, head down, his hands in his pocket and says nothing.

SECOND MAN  
C'mon man. Leave em alone. Besides, it's almost last call.

The first man gives Lucas an up and down look. Lucas doesn't move.

FIRST MAN  
Yeah, you're right. See ya retard.

As he moves past he bumps Lucas hard jarring and knocking him back.

Both men head toward the other bar down the street. Lucas stands still for a few moments ashamed of himself, defeated. He turns and walks off.

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INT-LUCAS LIVING ROOM

Lucas is on his couch watching an action movie. He's mesmerized. His eyes are fixed on the hero, handsome, well built, confident, fighting 4 men effortlessly.

He wants to be that man. He wants to have that confidence. His eyes don't move from the screen.

He...jumps

Off Screen

DELORA  
(Loud) Lucas!

LUCAS  
(startled) What mom?  
Lucas mother, Delora walks into the room. She's wearing a form fitting dress to tight for her build. The years of drinking show on her cracked pinkish face.

DELORA  
I'm going to work. Not sure when I'll be home.

LUCAS OK.

DELORA  
Are you working today?

LUCAS  
Yes ma.

DELORA  
(Disgusted)  
A grocery store for God's sake. Why can't you try to get something a little better. You're in your 30's. You think you'd grow up. Your father was a loser. (Sigh)I was hopin you'd turn out different.

She shakes her head in disgust.

A mother can only do so much.

Lucas says nothing. He just stares at the movie. His mother notices.

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DELORA (CONT'D)  
Another fuckin action movie.

She turns and walks out. Lucas just stares straight ahead. The man in the movie is still fighting. His back is to the camera. The man turns around and it's Lucas.

Lucas is fighting, dodging, punching. As he's being attacked he disarms the man's gun and uses the gun to shoot another.

An older woman comes out of a limo. She has a gun in her hand. Lucas spins around and shoots her in the forehead. The woman stands there for a second, her pistol still pointing. It's Lucas mother.

She drops. Lucas smiles.

INT-DAY-GROCERY STORE

A grocery store full of shoppers moving in and out of aisles. Lucas is in the produce area taking apples out of crates and stacking them in boxes. He moves slow and methodically.

His manager. Pete Abello, 45, balding, chunky, arrogant, his white shirt looking one size too small, walks past Lucas. He stops for a moment, turns and walks behind him.

He smacks Lucas on the back.

PETE  
How we doin Luc? Stackin skills up to par?

LUCAS  
(Softly)  
Umm..huh? Yes...I'm fine.

PETE  
What Luc? Couldn't make that out. You're good?

LUCAS  
Yes sir, I'm good.

PETE  
Well speed it up. We've got another 12 crates out back and I want them done before you leave. Wouldn't want your hours cut would you.?

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LUCAS

N..no sir.

A young woman, blonde, her long hair tied in a pony tail, late twenties, plain but cute, thin, in her store smock walks by Lucas and Pete.

YOUNG WOMAN

(Smiling)

(Hi Lucas.)

LUCAS

(Shy)

Hi...hello Mary.

Pete looks at her checking her out as she walks past.

PETE

What? No "hi" to me?

Mary keeps walking.

God I'd like to bang that ass.

Lucas makes a disapproving face. Pete sees.

PETE(CONT'D)

What? You don't approve? Jeez Lucas, do you even like women? Get moving before I add another bunch of crates.

Pete walks off into the crowd. Lucas stands, takes a breath and closes his eyes.

Lucas mind begins to wander. He sees himself turn to his manager after his remark about Mary. Lucas is confident, the smock fits tighter revealing a well defined frame.

LUCAS

You know Pete? I've had enough of your shit.

Lucas punches Pete in the face, throws him around and tosses him into a box of peppers. Pete is out.

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OLD WOMAN

Excuse me, sir? Lucas opens his eyes.

LUCAS

Hmm?

OLD WOMAN

Could I just get in there please.

LUCAS

Yes maam, sorry.

The woman smiles, moves around him and takes a few apples.

INT-EVE-GROCERY STORE LOCKER ROOM

Lucas is at his locker in the store locker room. As he puts his smock inside Mary walks in.

She seems to bounce, her pony tail rocking from side to side. Lucas sees her but just looks down. She goes to her locker, takes her smock off and hangs it up.

MARY

(cheery) Hi Lucas!

LUCAS Umm, Hi.

Mary walks over to him and puts her hand on his shoulder. Lucas looks uncomfortable.

MARY Are you OK?

LUCAS

Wh...what do you mean? Yeah, I'm Ok.

MARY

It's just that I saw Pete giving you a hard time. He's such an ass. Don't let him get to you Lucas.

LUCAS

No...it's fine...I won't.

Mary moves a little closer to him and looks him in the eyes. Lucas doesn't know what to do. He looks down trying not to make eye contact.

MARY

You're a good guy. Don't let people take advantage of you.

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LUCAS

I...won't.

MARY

Are you working tomorrow?

LUCAS

Yeah, um, yes.

MARY

Alright. See you tomorrow.

Mary walks out. As she goes out the door she looks back for a moment.

Lucas is still looking down but we see a faint smile.

EXT-EVE-TOWN

Lucas is strolling through his town again, wearing the same clothes, a t shirt and jeans, hands in pocket, looking down, shuffling more than walking. He stops in front of the same bar as the other night. He looks inside the window.

The bar doesn't look as crowded as the last night. He sees the pretty bartender working, her long black hair flowing down and over a tight low cut shirt.

She's pouring beer and laughing. He can't keep his eyes off her. She looks up, sees him outside, and smiles.

He freezes. A man walks past him. Lucas takes a breath and starts toward the entrance of the tavern. He stops, waits and turns back the other way. He begins to leave then stops again.

He turns and looks through the window at the happy people. He stands straight and shuffles to the doorway.

INT-EVE-TAVERN

Lucas goes inside and stops at the small entrance to the bar. the bar itself is long, made of oak. It's age shows but there's a comfort to the place. A tight walkway separates the bar from some small tables and bar stools where groups of people sit. The crowd doesn't seem to notice him.

He makes his way through the tight aisle, shoulders slumped, head down, to a seat at the far end against a wall. He sits trying not to draw attention. The young bartender walks over to him, a big smile on her face. She's wearing a tight top

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and jeans hugging a very fit body.

BARTENDER

It's about time you came in.

LUCAS

Huh?

BARTENDER

I see you out there all the time. We don't bite in here.

LUCAS

(Nervous)

Um, no.. just...

BARTENDER

Well I'm glad you came in. We could always use another regular.  
(addressing another man at the

bar)

Right Len?

LEN

Sure, whatever you say Skylar.

SKYLAR

Len's been a regular here for a very long time.

LEN

Too long.

Len, middle aged, trucker looking regular guy. He's wearing jeans and a t shirt over a thin frame with a small beer gut. He's wearing a baseball cap.

Len turns on his stool and faces Lucas. He puts out his hand.

Hi, I'm Len.

Lucas shakes it unsure.

LUCAS

Hi, Lucas

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SKYLAR

Lucas, I like that name. What can I  
get you Lucas?

LUCAS

Umm, beer.

SKYLAR

What kind of beer?

LUCAS

Oh...Bud?

SKYLAR

A man of basics I see.

She walks to the cooler, bends over showing her assets, gets  
a bottle of Budweiser, opens it and pours into a glass. As  
she puts it in front of him she gives a disarming smile.

LUCAS Thank you.

Skylar moves on to other customers. Lucas sits taking a  
drink. He watches nervously, unsure. He feels alone in a  
crowded room.

The man he was introduced to earlier, Len, sits next to him  
laughing with another guy. Lucas wants to say something but  
can't bring himself to it. He just listens.

Three middle aged women sit behind him at one of four small  
tables all occupied.

Len turns to Lucas.

LEN Lucas, right?

LUCAS

(startled) Huh? Oh yeah.)

LEN

So Lucas, live around here?

LUCAS Yeah, yes...

LEN Where?

LUCAS Um, Pine Lane.

LEN (CONT'D)

Down by the cove?

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LUCAS Yes.

LEN(CONT'D)  
That's a nice area. I always wanted to  
live that way. How long?

LUCAS All my life.

LEN(CONT'D)  
Funny, I never seen you around. What's  
your last name?

LUCAS Perso.

LEN(CONT'D)  
Perso, Perso. I knew a woman named  
Perso. It was a long time ago.

Hearing that Lucas becomes nervous. He looks away from  
Len. Len notices.

LEN(CONT'D)  
Sorry man, didn't mean to strike a  
nerve. She related?

LUCAS She's my...

Skylar interrupts.

SKYLAR  
Oh God, I see Len is talking. Sorry  
Lucas, Lens a two beer motor mouth.

LEN  
Don't you have a table to clean?

LUCAS No its good.

LEN(CONT'D)  
Just trying to make our new patron  
here feel comfortable. After all, we  
want him coming back, right Sky?

SKYLAR  
Yes we do. Can I get you another beer  
Lucas?

LUCAS  
No, thanks. I should get going.

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SKYLAR

All right sweetie. Don't make yourself scarce.

She leans in getting close, her cleavage showing. Lucas can smell her breath. It's sweet.

I'd like to see you again.

Lucas doesn't know what to do. He gets up almost knocking the bar stool over.

LUCAS

Umm, I will...ah, won't. Thank you.

LEN

Take it easy Lucas. Nice meeting you.

Lucas smiles, nods, and hurry's out.

INT-EVE-LUCAS HOUSE

Lucas walks through his front door. He hears the TV. As he walks into the living room he sees his mother on the couch. Next to her sits a guy. Not the same guy as the other night. His shirt is off, he's old, un-shaved. His mother's tight dress looks as if it was put on in a rush.

Her leg is over the guy's leg. She's smoking and has a glass of what looks like vodka in her hand. The guy has a beer. She gives Lucas a drunk look. The man pays no mind.

DELORA Where were you?

LUCAS

(flippant) Out.)

DELORA

Is that attitude I detect? I asked a question. Where were you?

The man keeps watching the TV. He belches.

LUCAS

Out ma. I went to a bar.

DELORA

You went to a bar? By yourself? Jesus H Christ. Which bar? No, you know what? Don't tell me. I don't want to hear you struggle to come up with a name.

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Lucas gives her a disgusted look. The man next to her has fallen asleep.

DELORA(CONT'D)

And don't give me that look. You just remember who pays your fuckin rent.

Lucas walks past her and up the stairs.

DELORA(CONT'D)

And don't you walk past me with attitude.

Lucas disappears up the stairs. His mother looks at the sleeping man next to her and takes a drink from her glass.

DELORA(CONT'D)

(Disgusted)

Jesus. A mother can only do so much.

INT-EVE-BAR

The bar has a good crowd tonight. Skylar is pouring drinks and mingling with the customers. Len is in the same seat as always pretty much dressed the same. He's drinking a beer while talking to a man and his girlfriend.

People are at the tables, a group of older men and women at one, two men at another. Skylar looks up. Lucas is standing at the entrance.

SKYLAR

Look who's back.Come down here. I've been saving this seat just for you.

Lucas smiles, walks over, and sits.Len turns to him.

LEN

Lucas right? How ya doin?

LUCAS Good, Len.

They shake hands. The couple next to Len look and smile. There's something odd about them.Their smiles seem a little sad.

SKYLAR

What can I get for you sweetie?

LUCAS

Beer, Bud is fine.

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SKYLAR Bud it is.

Skylar gets him a bottle and places it on the counter along with a glass. She pours.

LEN

Where have you been Luc?

LUCAS Nowhere, work.

SKYLAR

Where do you work?

Lucas looks embarrassed.

LUCAS

I don't have a really good job. It's OK.

LEN Hey, you're working. What difference does it make? Besides, we're all hangin out in this small town bar. I don't think any of us are CEO's.

SKYLAR

If he doesn't want to talk about his job he doesn't have to. It just means he's a lot more interesting than his work, right Lucas?

LUCAS

No, it's not that.

(pause)

I work in a grocery store.

SKYLAR

Big deal, I work in a bar and have Len for a customer.

LEN

That's why you work in this bar.

The man sitting next to Len overhears.

MAN

Working in a grocery store is nothing to be ashamed of kid. I worked in one ten years before I moved on.

LUCAS I guess.

The man leans around Len and extends his hand.

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CONTINUED: (3)

They're older, 60's. He's wearing a somewhat out of date shirt but nice, slacks, and a blazer.

The woman is wearing a light summer dress, almost vintage.

MAN(CONT'D)

Names Matt and this is my girl

Casey.

CASEY

Hi, nice to meet you.

LUCAS

Nice to meet you.

There's something very odd about these two, almost dated.

MATT

So how long ya been there?

LUCAS

Just a couple of years.

Lucas finishes his beer.

SKYLAR

Can I get you another?

LUCAS

Um, yea, yes, sure. Thanks.

Skylar pours another beer for him. She leans in a bit making sure her attributes are noticed.

SKYLAR

So Lucas, do you have a girlfriend?

LUCAS

(embarrassed) No.)

SKYLAR Good.

Skylars face goes from bright to a look of disdain as she looks past Lucas and out the window. Outside, a young man is looking inside. Lucas sees Skylar's face and turns to see the man. He notices it's one of the guys who gave him a hard time a few nights back.

LUCAS What's wrong?

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SKYLAR

Oh, nothing. It's just that, well, I hope that guy doesn't decide to come in here.

LUCAS Why?

SKYLAR(CONT'D)

Whenever he does he gives me a hard time.

LUCAS How?

SKYLAR(CONT'D)

He's just rude to me. He acts as if I'm his servant. He makes mean remarks. I just don't want to deal with him.

She leans close to Lucas.

Sometimes I wish something bad would happen to him. I'm sure you don't know what its like to be treated that way.

LUCAS

No, I do. I get it.

The man outside is still looking in. After a few moments he turns and continues walking.

SKYLAR Thank God.

Some time goes on. Lucas is listening and not saying much but we see he's becoming more comfortable.

After awhile.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Well, I should be going. How much do I owe you?

SKYLAR

It's on me tonight.

LUCAS No, I can't.

Skylar puts her hand on his.

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SKYLAR I want to.

LUCAS Thank you.

SKYLAR(CONT'D)  
Well, it's not entirely free.

LUCAS Oh, um...

SKYLAR(CONT'D)  
You have to promise to come back.

LUCAS  
(smiling)  
I will. Definitely.

LEN  
I come here all the time and you never  
give me a drink for nothing.

SKYLAR  
So what is that telling you?

Lucas gets up to leave. He turns to the older couple.

LUCAS  
Nice meeting you two. Have a good  
night Len. Good night Skylar. Thanks  
again.

SKYLAR  
You promise to come back soon?

LUCAS I promise.

Lucas walks out with a huge smile on his face.

EXT-EVE-STREET

Lucas is walking home from the bar. He's moving faster than normal. His head is down but he's smiling. As he walks down the abandoned street he notices someone stumbling his way.

He can't see who it is at first. As the man gets closer Lucas notices that its the guy who Skylar says bothers her. The man is drunk. Lucas puts his head down, hands in his pockets. He passes the man saying nothing. After a few more steps Lucas stops and turns around.

LUCAS  
You shouldn't give her a hard time.

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The man walks a few feet and stops. He turns and faces Lucas.

DRUNK MAN What?

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I...I said you shouldn't, It's not  
right to bother people.

The man stumbles over to Lucas.

DRUNK MAN What the fuck are you talking about? Ohh, it's the  
retard.

Lucas gets nervous. He starts to shake.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I..I'm saying it's not nice to give  
people a hard time. You shouldn't  
bother the waitress at the bar.

DRUNK MAN  
What waitress? And who the hell are  
you to tell me what to do asshole?  
I'll bother or talk to anyone I want  
retard.

The drunk man gives Lucas a hard push knocking him back.

LUCAS Don't...

DRUNK MAN Don't what retard?

Lucas moves backwards trying to avoid the confrontation.

LUCAS I...I..Uh.

DRUNK MAN Duh duh duh.....

He pushes Lucas harder sending him on his back near a tree.  
Lucas looks petrified. The man goes at him.

DRUNK MAN (CONT'D)  
Might as well finish the night with a  
little ass kickin.

Lucas is scared. He looks to the side and sees a large tree  
limb. Desperately he grabs it and swings wildly hitting the  
guy in the leg. The guy goes down.

DRUNK MAN (CONT'D)  
Son of a bitch! You'll pay for that.

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CONTINUED: (3)

The guy tries to get up but Lucas fear takes over. He swings the limb at the man hitting him and knocks him down again. Lucas sees him on the ground and becomes emboldened.

He swings.

LUCAS Don't...

He swings. bother...

He swings. her..

He swings.

again.

The man is a bloody mess on the ground, his head bashed in. Lucas looks at him, raises the limb up high.

LUCAS

And I'm not a retard.

He brings it down on the mans head. Lucas stares at the mess in front of him as it twitches. As he stares, his heavy breathing slows and he realizes what he's done.

He drops the limb and runs.

It begins to rain.

EXT-MORNING.

A row of police cars line the street. A large area is quarantined from people. It's early morning. Two police officers are looking at a lump near a tree.

Detective Bob Collins is looking down. Next to him a female cop, horror in her eyes, assists him.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Who found him?

WOMAN COP

Some guy walking his dog.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Hell of a thing to find on your early morning dog walk.

WOMAN COP(CONT'D)

Jesus, this is brutal.

We see the murdered mans beaten bloody corpse.

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DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Very.

The detective sees a good size limb a few feet from the body, puts on a pair of gloves, picks it up, and gives it a good look.

WOMAN COP Whats that?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Looks like the murder weapon. Well this says one thing.

WOMAN COP What's that?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS I don't think it was premeditated. Someone planning on hurting another wouldn't leave the weapon lying near by. Whoever did this made no attempt to hide it.

WOMAN COP(CONT'D)  
So what do you think?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Not sure. Most likely some drunken altercation that went south.

Calls to another officer.

Hey Frank. Take this and bag it. Lets see if we can get anything off of it.

Frank walks over, takes the limb, and walks back towards a police SUV.

People are beginning to form a crowd.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS I think we're all set for now. Get the paramedics over for the body. We'll have to find out who this is and notify next of kin.

Bob waves his hand to a couple of paramedics. They come over with their equipment and begin to tend to the body.

WOMAN COP(CONT'D)  
What about the person who found him.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
Have him come down to the station. I want to ask a few questions.

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CONTINUED: (3)

WOMAN COP

Will do. Lot of excitement for our  
small town.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS It's only in small towns that this  
would be considered exciting. This isn't exactly big city  
news.

INT-MORNING-LUCAS BEDROOM

Lucas is lying on his bed not moving. After a while he gets  
up, puts his feet on the floor and sits up. He's in his  
underwear.

He picks up the remote control on his dresser and turns the  
TV on. He turns to the local news. There's a story about a  
dead body in town.

An anchor woman, young, is at the scene, police tape around a  
tree.

ANCHOR

The body was found this morning by a  
person walking his dog. At this point  
the police have nothing and are  
investigating the scene. We'll give  
more information as it comes in. Now  
back to....

Lucas shuts the TV off and closes his eyes. He falls back on  
the bed.

INT-AFTERNOON-GROCERY STORE

Lucas is stocking some shelves. He seems almost trance like.  
People are walking around him shopping.

Mary walks up behind him.

MARY

Hi Lucas

Lucas says nothing, he doesn't notice her. He keeps stocking.

MARY Lucas?

She taps him on the shoulder. Lucas jumps and startles Mary.

LUCAS

What? Oh, M...Mary, hi.

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CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

Sorry, I didn't mean to scare you. Are you OK?

LUCAS

I'm fine, yes, I'm good.

MARY

Did you hear what happened in town?

LUCAS What?

MARY(CONT'D)

They found some guy with his head smashed in.

LUCAS

(nervous)

No, who was it? Do the police know?

MARY

Not as far as I know. I heard it was some local guy. It's early but the police don't seem to have anything yet.

LUCAS

Oh. That's scary.

MARY

Yeah. Umm, Lucas, would you like to go for a coffee sometime? You know, after work?

LUCAS (caught off guard)

I..sure. Yes. Yeah. With me?

MARY Yes with you.

LUCAS I'd like that.

Great. I have to get back. We'll talk later.

LUCAS OK.

Mary turns and walks down the isle.

INT-DAY-POLICE STATION.

Detective Bob Collins is going through paperwork regarding the case. Another detective walks in and hands Bob the

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

results of findings on the limb.

Bob looks them over.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Not much info I see.

2ND DETECTIVE Outside of the blood from the dead guy, no. The rain probably wiped away some evidence.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Probably.

2ND DETECTIVE So who's the victim?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Marty White.

2ND DETECTIVE A local?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Yeah. Lived over on South st.

2ND DETECTIVE Family?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Just his parents but he lived in an apartment with a roommate.

2ND DETECTIVE  
It was a pretty brutal beating.

What do you suppose the motive was?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Don't know yet. He spent a lot of time at the local bar from what I hear. I'll be making my rounds there later.

2ND DETECTIVE Well, you know how it is with the drunk community. Doesn't take much to get people in a physical frame of mind when your trashed and angry.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS No it doesn't.

The 2nd Detective turns and walks out.

INT-DAY-LIVING ROOM.

Lucas sits in his living room watching a Transporter movie. He's totally focused on whats on the screen. Jason Statham is fighting a group of men while protecting a beautiful woman.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

Lucas stares mindlessly.

INT-EVE-BAR

Lucas walks through the entrance of the bar. Skylar looks up, a big welcoming smile on her face.

SKYLAR

Well look who's back? Where have you  
been? We haven't seen you in days.

Lucas walks over to the bar stool at the end of the table again.

LUCAS

Oh, you know, work.

Skylar walks over and leans in. She's wearing a very low cut shirt revealing the top of her breasts.

Lucas tries not to look.

SKYLAR

Well, I missed you.

Len walks through the door and sits next to Lucas. He notices Skylar's outfit.

LEN

Nice shirt Sky.

LUCAS Pig.

LEN I'm a pig?

Lucas smiles.

LEN(CONT'D)

Hey Luc, where ya been?

LUCAS

Just work and stuff. How are you Len?

LEN

Pretty good but I decided to bring  
myself down and come here.

SKYLAR Oh your funny.

The bar is pretty full tonight. Two couples sit at one of the tables behind Lucas. A man and woman sit at another.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The bar itself is full.

SKYLAR  
Beer tonight sweetie?

LUCAS Yes, please.

SKYLAR Bud?

LUCAS  
Yes...no, wait.Um, I'd like to try one  
of those IPO's.

LEN  
Whoa, look at you trying something  
new.

SKYLAR  
Shush, Len. That's what makes a person  
interesting. Why don't you try  
something new, ya know, like a  
different bar?

LEN  
How about this place just get a  
different waitress? Besides, I have a  
vested interest here.

Lucas is smiling. Skylar makes a face and pours Lucas his  
beer.

LUCAS Thank you.

SKYLAR  
Anytime sweetie. I'll be right here if  
you need me.

Skylar walks off to the other customers.

LEN  
So Luc, what do you think about the  
killin the other day?

Lucas gets nervous at the question.

LUCAS  
Umm, b..bad. It's to bad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LEN

Yeah, no clues as to who did it  
though. Seems like the police are  
really baffled.

LUCAS They are?

At this point Skylar walks back.

SKYLAR

That's what I heard also. Funny  
though. The guy was the one who always  
gave me a hard time.

She leans very close to Lucas and whispers.

SKYLAR(CONT'D)

Isn't it a coincidence that I  
mentioned how he bothered me and next  
thing you know he ends up dead?

She has an odd smile in her face.

LUCAS Yes. Really weird.

SKYLAR(CONT'D)

Well, you're such a nice guy you  
wouldn't have anything to do with  
that.

A man and woman both middle aged sitting at a table in back  
overhear the conversation.

MAN

That was pretty bad. I've lived here  
my whole life and I don't think I've  
ever seen something like this in town.

WOMAN

And the police have no leads?

LEN

Nope, not a one.

LUCAS

Police are pretty smart. I'm sure  
they'll come up with something soon.

MAN

Probably, but if they don't, it could  
allow that person to do it again

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

MAN (CONT'D)  
feeling he might be able to get away  
with it.

Lucas beer is almost gone. Skylar comes over.

SKYLAR  
Can I get you another one?

LUCAS  
Yes, please. It's pretty good.

She pours him his beer.

Lucas sits up straighter, he seems more confident.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Thank you Skylar.

As she puts the beer down her hand gently grazes his.

SKYLAR  
Anything for you.

Lucas gets flushed.

INT-DAY-MEN'S STORE

Lucas is browsing some clothing in a higher end men's store. He's dressed in old jeans and a denim shirt that's seen its day. He has no confidence. He looks at shirts, sweaters, pants. The labels confuse him. Regular, slim fit. tapered.

He picks up a shirt and puts it next to a pair of pants trying to decide if the pair go together. He has no clue. He roams around aimlessly.

A young sales assistant, tall, pretty, bubbly, the kind you would find in a store like this who's job is to stoke the ego of the desperate, walks over to him.

SALES ASSISTANT  
Hi, can I help you find something?

LUCAS  
Uh, no...yes, I guess. I'm not sure.

SALES ASSISTANT  
(chuckling)  
It's OK, my boyfriend has the same  
problem when it comes to choosing  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SALES ASSISTANT (CONT'D)  
clothes. That's what I'm here for.

LUCAS  
Yeah, I don't shop much.

SALES ASSISTANT  
OK, do you know what you're looking for?

LUCAS  
Well, not really. A nice shirt I guess. A better pair of jeans maybe? I don't know. What would look good?

SALES ASSISTANT Let me take a look at you. Let's see. What are you, about 6 feet? You look in good shape, slim build, yup, definitely a slim fit.

She walks over to a table for folded shirts and polo's. She picks up a couple of button downs. Here. I think this color would look good on you. Umm, maybe not this one.

She picks up a polo.

This should look good. Why don't you try the button down on. Oh wait, pants. Come with me.

She walks over to another area of the store. Lucas follows her holding both shirts like a little kid following his mother.

They stop in front of racks with pants. She goes over to the jeans area.

OK, so, you might be a slim fit with shirts, no definitely a slim fit with shirts but pants I'm not sure.

She picks up two pairs of jeans.

So, one is a slim fit the other is a regular. Go over to the dressing room and try them on.

LUCAS Um, OK.

Lucas walks over to the dressing room and shuts the door.

SALES ASSISTANT I'll be right out here if you need me.

The assistant tends to a few racks of clothes near the dressing room. A few minutes go by.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SALES ASSISTANT Everything alright? What do you think?

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I guess, I don't really know.

SALES ASSISTANT  
Come out here, let me see.

LUCAS Out there?

SALES ASSISTANT Yes out here. I can't very well go in there now can I?

Hesitation.

LUCAS OK.  
The door opens and Lucas walks out wearing the jeans and button down shirt. He looks good, really good. He feels lost.

The sales assistant's eyes widen and she smiles.

SALES ASSISTANT You look amazing. Are those pants the slim fit? Yes, yes they are. I had a feeling they would work.

Lucas stays by the door away from the other customers. Come out here and look in the mirror.

She takes his arm. Lucas looks embarrassed. He steps out and looks in the mirror. At first he looks down but as he sees himself he starts to smile.

SALES ASSISTANT See how nice you look? Now I'll be right here when come out of the dressing room.

Lucas walks inside the room and shuts the door.

He comes out a few minutes later.

SALES ASSISTANT  
Is there anything else I can do?

LUCAS  
No, thanks, thank you for your help.

SALES ASSISTANT I'm happy to do it. Are you taking everything?

LUCAS Yes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SALES ASSISTANT Great, I'll ring you up.

They walk over to a register where she completes the purchase and hands him the bag.

SALES ASSISTANT

If you ever need anything else, don't  
be afraid to look for me. Names Stacy.

Lucas smiles and walks out.

INT-GROCERY STORE

Lucas is at work stocking a shelf. He looks better than normal. He moves a little faster, looks a little happier. He's still not dressed in his new clothes but his attitude makes him look more confident.

Mary walks down the isle.

MARY Hi Lucas.

LUCAS

Hi Mary. How are you?

She notices the small change.

MARY

Good. So what time are you working  
till?

LUCAS

Nine.

Pete is at the end of the isle watching them.

MARY

Me too. Do you want to grab a coffee  
after work?

LUCAS

Yes, definitely.

MARY

(smiling)

Great. I'm looking forward to it.

PETE

We talking or working people?

Mary's disdain shows. Lucas gets withdrawn

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY Working Pete.

PETE(CONT'D)

That's right. Hey Luc, I'm going to need you to stay later tonight. We have another shipment coming in and we're gonna need the extra help. Hope you didn't have any plans. I'd sure hate to mess em up for you.

Mary's face shows her anger.

MARY

Don't you have your night crew Pete?

PETE

Are you the supervisor Mary? No? Then who are you to tell me how many people I need? Please go back to your station. What about you Lucas, any problems?

LUCAS

Well, I...kinda..

PETE

You kinda what? Kinda had a job?

LUCAS

(heavy sigh, defeated) No, I'll work.)

PETE

Wasn't exactly a request.

Pete walks off smiling. Mary gives him the finger.

MARY

He's such an asshole.

LUCAS Sorry Mary.

MARY(CONT'D)

Don't apologize. I hate the way he treats you.

She smiles at him and walks off.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

INT-EVE-DELIVERY AREA IN GROCERY STORE

It's 9:45 and Lucas is in the loading dock area waiting for the shipment. He's moving some pallets around when Pete walks in.

PETE

Good news Luc. I don't need you after all. Looks like that shipment won't be in until tomorrow night and I'll have more than enough help.

Puts his hand on Lucas shoulder. Well, hope I didn't screw up any plans for ya, you know, like with Mary. Hey, listen it's not quite quarter of ten so just put in a half hour overtime.

Pete walks off chuckling. Lucas just stares but his face becomes more furious. He closes his eyes.

INT-EVE-LUCAS LIVING ROOM

Lucas enters the room. He's dressed in his new pants and wearing the button down shirt he bought. He's a little uncomfortable but his confidence shows. He heads for the front door.

Delora comes into the room. She sees him in his new outfit.

DELORA

Where are you going?

LUCAS

Out for a little ma.

DELORA

(Contempt)

I see. You've been going out a lot lately.

LUCAS Not that much.

Delora walks over to him and looks him up and down.

DELORA (CONT'D)

Umm hmm. Where did you get the clothes?

LUCAS Bought them.

DELORA (CONT'D)

Don't get wise with me. I fucking know  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DELORA (CONT'D)  
you bought them.

Lucas smells liquor on her breath.

LUCAS I'm not...

DELORA (CONT'D)  
How nice for you. You bought new  
clothes. Where did you get the money?  
Oh, I know. You got the money from not  
paying rent. From not contributing in  
this house.

LUCAS  
I... I pay.. help with the bills.

DELORA You help with the bills. Which bills? Huh? C'mon  
Lucas, which bills?

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
The electric, the cable, the..

DELORA The cable Lucas? The cable? We wouldn't need the  
fucking cable if it weren't for your action channels. No, I'm  
not counting the cable.

LUCAS The gas bill. I bring groceries home.

DELORA  
Big deal. Ain't nothin compared to  
paying a full rent. Well, since you can  
afford top of the line clothes I guess  
I can start charging you to live  
here. You don't know how good you have  
it.

Lucas is beginning to get angry.

LUCAS  
Do what you want.

He turns and heads for the door.

DELORA  
Don't you turn your back on me.

Lucas keeps walking.

Your lucky I don't throw your shit out the window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

He gets to the door and opens it. He walks out.

DELORA (CONT'D)  
New fuckin clothes. Bastard never  
bought me nothin.

She belches

INT-EVE-BAR

Lucas is sitting at the bar having a beer. He looks happy, comfortable. Skylar is paying a lot of attention to him in between the other customers.

The place is full. It always is. He notices that it's always the same people. Skylar is always working.

Skylar walks over to him. She moves in close, her hand grazing his.

SKYLAR  
So, where have you been?

LUCAS Working mostly.

SKYLAR (CONT'D)  
You look really good tonight.

LUCAS  
(Smiling)  
Thanks. I decided to try something new.

SKYLAR  
You dress up well Lucas. You're a really good looking guy.

LUCAS  
I don't always think so. I don't really get compliments.

SKYLAR  
Don't put yourself down Lucas. You don't give yourself credit. Might be that you'll be too busy talking to the other women in here and not paying attention to me.

LUCAS  
(Hesitant)  
Skylar...do you think maybe, well  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
maybe you and I could...

Len comes walking in and slaps Lucas on the back.

LEN  
Well look at you all spiffied up. Ya  
gotta date?

LUCAS  
Hi Len. No, not yet anyways.

Len looks at Skylar.

LEN  
Ohhhh, I get it. No, please continue.  
I'll just watch.

SKYLAR  
How come you never take a seat  
somewhere else, like at another bar?

LEN  
Cause I can walk home from this  
one. Besides, I have history here.

Skylar motions over to Lucas. He follows her to the end of  
the bar.

SKYLAR  
Now what were you going to say?

LUCAS  
I thought maybe you and I could go  
out.

SKYLAR  
It's about time you asked me.

LUCAS Then yes?

SKYLAR (CONT'D)  
I want to, I really do, but there's a  
problem.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS

(Disappointed) Oh, I see.)  
She takes his hand.

SKYLAR

No, it's not you. You see, I have, had,  
had this boyfriend who treated me  
awful. The thing is even though we're  
not together, he doesn't want me with  
anyone else. Lucas, he can be very  
violent, I don't want you to get hurt.

Skylar looks out the window and gasps.

LUCAS Whats wrong?

SKYLAR (CONT'D)

Don't turn around.

LUCAS Why?

SKYLAR (CONT'D)

He's outside. He checks up on me all  
the time.

Lucas slowly turns around. Outside the window a man in a polo  
shirt and shorts, tall is looking inside. Lucas gets a good  
look at him.

SKYLAR (CONT'D)

Don't look at him.

LUCAS

I'm going to go talk to him.

SKYLAR No. Let it go.

Lucas looks at the man a little longer. The man walks away.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I'm going to use the bathroom.

He gets up and walks out. When he's out of sight of Skylar he  
turns and walks out of the bar.

EXT-EVE-STREET.

Lucas sees the man walking. He begins to quietly follow him.  
The man walks at a brisk pace. Lucas follows watching him. His  
face looks blank.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The man walks around a corner. It's later at night. No people are on the street. Lucas follows. As he walks he notices a large rock on the ground. He picks it up.

He gets closer to the man. The man doesn't hear him. They walk by the towns old church and cemetery. Lucas gets closer, he raises the large rock over his head. As he's about to bring it down the man turns and faces him.

Lucas freezes. His face turns to fear. They both stare at each other. The man looks older than he thought. Lucas eyes fill with anger and he brings the rock down on the mans head.

The man rocks back and tries to put his hands up but the rock comes down and down as if it had it's own will. Blood spatters up and on his face.

The man is on the ground but the rock keeps coming down. The man stops moving except for the twitching of his arm. Lucas is breathing hard.

Lucas eyes show no emotion. He leaves the man dead next to the cemetery, takes the rock with him, and heads back towards the bar. On the way he throws it into some bushes. He gets to the bar and walks up the stairs inside.

INT-EVE-BAR

Lucas walks inside the still crowded bar. There's blood on his face and hands. No one seems to notice. Skylar sees him. She smiles

SKYLAR

Where did you go?

LUCAS

I took care of your problem.

Skylar takes a bar towel, leans in close and gently begins to wipe the blood off his face.

SKYLAR

You're going to take care of me aren't you?

LUCAS Yes I am.

The crowd in the bar goes on as if nothing happened.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

EXT-MORNING.

Two women, middle aged, are doing an early morning power walk talking, oblivious to their surroundings. They walk briskly, arms flailing in that power walk way.

They round a corner and begin passing by the cemetery. As they do, the woman closest to the grass area stops talking and stares off to the side.

WOMEN 1

What? What are you looking....Oh my God!

As they slowly move closer they see two feet sticking out, then the body, and next a face or what looks like a face, broken to a nondescript mass of blood and bone.

The second woman throws up.

EXT-MORNING-CEMETERY

The cemetery is riddled with police cars and an ambulance. The street is blocked off from onlookers. Detective Collins, the medical examiner, and another cop stand over the body.

A CSI unit walks behind them taking pictures and documents the crime scene.

A Cadillac pulls up just outside the taped off area. A short, slightly balding man in a suit, District Attorney Eric Rollins gets out of the car and walks over to the detective.

Detective Collins greets him.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Eric.

D.A. ERIC ROLLINS

Bob. Jeez, this is a messy one.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Yup. I figure we'll need a warrant since we're going to have to investigate onto church and cemetery property.

D.A. ERIC ROLLINS Definitely. Do you know who he is?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Yeah, yes. His name is Frank Angeleco. Nice guy. He's been retired a few years. Has two grown children, a wife. Jesus, what the hell is going on?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

D.A. ERIC ROLLINS Where's his wife now?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Two officers gave her the news this morning. Her kids are with her. Not the kind of retirement they were hoping for.

D.A. ERIC ROLLINS This is the second murder in two weeks. You think there's a connection?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Not sure but I would suspect. We have no leads on the last one.

D.A. ERIC ROLLINS OK, I'm going to get that warrant. The CSI's are going to want to move inside the cemetery and gather up any evidence. I'll be back soon.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Thanks.

Eric turns and walks towards his car.

Detective Collins turns and looks up the street. His eyes focus at the corner where the bar is.

INT-DAY-DETECTIVE COLLINS OFFICE

Detective Collins is at his desk going through some paperwork when a middle aged woman, blonde, average build, walks in.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS What do we have?

WOMAN

Not much. We don't have a weapon yet.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Considering the smashed head it wasn't a knife.

WOMAN(CONT'D)

I get that. Judging from the damage to the head and the what was found it looks like a large rock.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

How far did the CSI's investigate?

WOMAN

They covered the cemetery, up the street and around the tavern. You guys secured the area. Thing is it's

WOMAN (cont'd) going to be pretty hard finding something like a large rock. For all we know the person has it in his

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

garden.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Anything else?

WOMAN(CONT'D)

Apparently the investigators didn't find anything of use.No signs of a struggle from the victim so we can't check his body for the assailants DNA. We'll keep working but whatever else you can come up with would be a help.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS Yeah, thanks.

The woman turns and walks out of the office.

INT-DAY-ARMY NAVY STORE.

Lucas is in an Army navy store looking intently at rows of knives behind a glass case.

He stares at each one. Some are big Bowie type knives, others, military marine type blades. There are butterfly knives, large blades, small blades, and others that look like credit cards.

He looks perplexed and confused. A salesman walks over, thin, long hair wearing jeans and a t shirt with an assault rifle print and the wording "Let God sort em out."

SALESMAN

How ya doin? Can I help you with anything?

LUCAS

Umm, yes. I don't know much about knives.

SALESMAN

Well, it all depends on what you need a knife for. Is it for work, camping, self-defense?

LUCAS

Self defense I guess.

SALESMAN

Self defense. Hey, in this day and age you can never be to careful. Don't know who your neighbors are, right? Me, I prefer a gun myself but a knife?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SALESMAN (CONT'D)

Well a knife is much more personal.

LUCAS Yeah, right.

SALESMAN (CONT'D)

OK then, lets take a look over in this section.

He walks Lucas to a couple of cases. Inside the case are military tactical blades, stiletto type, and smaller folders.

The salesman brings out a few different examples and places them on the counter. He shows Lucas a large Bowie knife

SALESMAN (CONT'D)

OK, the first one I have is a Bowie knife. You familiar with Jim Bowie?

LUCAS

No...I

SALESMAN

Well Jim Bowie was at the Alamo. He was the originator of this style knife. It has a good hefty 10 inch blade with what they call a false edge. Blades made for some heavy self defense if you know what I mean. Here, pick it up.

Lucas picks up the knife feeling a little uncomfortable with it. He moves it around and puts it back down.

LUCAS

I don't know. It's a little big.

SALES ASSISTANT

Something more covert then.

He picks up a smaller but still hefty military style knife.

This one is patterned after our Marine style knives. Its got a 7 inch blade, a 5 inch handle with a pointed butt cap for smashing car windows or heads, or maybe both.

Lucas looks at it and then glances over at a blade with a long thin handle and thin blade about 6 inches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS  
How about that one?

The salesman looks around and sees what Lucas is pointing at.

SALESMAN  
The salesman's eyes light up.

Now that's what I'm talking about.  
He pulls the knife out of the case.

This knife is made for nothing more  
than killing, uh, sorry, self defense.  
It's a folder, a liner lock, see how  
it works?

The salesman turns the knife open and pushes a piece of  
metal, then folds the knife.

And here's how you open it.  
He puts his finger against a small metal button on the side  
of the blade, pushes, flicks it out fast.  
Lucas smiles.

SALESMAN(CONT'D)  
Here, try it.  
Lucas turns it over, presses the metal tab and closes the  
knife. He then presses on the button. The first time his  
finger slips off, he tries again, the blade moves, he flicks  
his wrist and the blade flies out.

Lucas grin gets very wide.

LUCAS  
I'll take it.

SALESMAN  
Good choice my man, good choice.

INT-DAY-LUCAS LIVING ROOM

Lucas is watching another action movie. He's playing with his  
new knife. Opening it, folding it, staring at the television.  
The man on the TV is karate kicking ass all over the place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Lucas is opening, closing, opening, closing, never taking his eyes off the movie.

Delora walks in the room.

DELORA  
Aren't you going to work?

Lucas ignores her.

DELORA (CONT'D)  
(Annoyed)  
I'm talking to you. Aren't you going to work?

Lucas continues to ignore her.

Delora walks over to him and pulls his shoulder.

DELORA (CONT'D)  
You shit, I'm fucking talking to yo.....

Lucas turns and pushes her away giving her an angry look of contempt.

LUCAS  
Don't you fucking touch me.

He looks at her and smiles, then turns back to the TV. Delora sees the knife in his hand.

DELORA  
Where did you get that?

LUCAS  
(never taking his eyes off the movie)  
I bought it.

DELORA  
(nervous)  
What for?

LUCAS  
My right to bear arms. Any more stupid questions mom?

Delora is visibly shaken by her son's attitude.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DELORA

No. I'm going to work. Will you be home later?

LUCAS

Thought you said you were done with stupid questions?

DELORA

I...

LUCAS

No, I won't be home.

Delora says nothing and walks out.

Lucas keeps watching the movie.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Bitch.

INT-EVE-GROCERY STORE

Lucas is pulling out a pallet of boxes to be stocked. He moves confidently. He moves down an isle, stops the pallet, and begins to stock the shelf.

He's picking up the boxes as if they weigh nothing. He's whistling. Mary walks over to him.

MARY

Well look at you. You seem to be in a good mood.

LUCAS

Hi Mary. Yeah, I am. How are you?

MARY

Good. So whats going on? Wait, you don't have a girlfriend I hope.

LUCAS

No, no. It's nothing like that. I'm just in a good mood I guess.

MARY

I like it. So do you want to  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY (CONT'D)  
reschedule our coffee date?

LUCAS  
Yeah, I'd like that. Is tonight good  
for you?

MARY  
Tonight's perfect. 9:00?

LUCAS  
9:00 works, see you then.

Pete comes walking down the isle. He looks annoyed.

PETE  
You know, I'm getting real tired of  
having to break you two up. Mary, get  
over to the registers.

MARY  
I was heading that way Pete. See you  
later Lucas.

LUCAS  
Later Mary.

Lucas gets back to stocking the shelf.

Pete glowers at him.

PETE  
You know Luc, this slacking off needs  
to stop.

LUCAS  
I wasn't slacking off Pete. I talked  
to Mary for a couple of minutes.

PETE  
Now you're telling me how to do my  
job?

Lucas keeps working never looking at Pete.

LUCAS  
I don't see how saying I wasn't  
slacking off has to do with me telling  
you how to do your job.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

PETE

(Sarcastic)

Look at this. Lucas is attempting to grow a pair. Lets see how big those pair get when I write you up for insubordination.

Lucas stops, takes a long breath, gets up, and faces Pete.

LUCAS

Write you up, write you up. You know Pete, from the day I started here all you've done is give me shit. I do everything this bottom of the shit heap of a store expects from me and get nothing in return. You want to write me up? Knock yourself out.

Pete is taken back.

PETE

Right there, right there Luc, insubordination.

Pete turns and starts to walk away.

LUCAS

Oh, hey, Peteeee.

Pete turns and faces Lucas.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Mary's not going to go out with you so do yourself a favor and stop trying. You're beginning to look pathetic.

Pete turns and storms off. Lucas laughs to himself.

INT-EVE-CAFE

Lucas and Mary sit at a local cafe after their shifts. They sit on one of the couches.

It's later. The cafe has only a couple of people milling around.

It's Lucas first date and he's a little nervous. He's wearing one of his new outfits.

MARY

I like your new look Lucas.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS

Thanks, I'm not very comfortable  
picking out clothes.

MARY

You don't seem comfortable doing a lot  
of things.

LUCAS

It shows?

MARY

(laughs)

A little. Why is that?

LUCAS

I don't know. I'm not what you'd call  
popular.

MARY

Popular was what happened in high  
school. You have more going for you  
than you give yourself credit for.

LUCAS

Thanks, that's nice of you to say.

MARY

I mean it. You're nice looking, in  
pretty good shape, although it was  
hard to tell with the frumpy clothes  
you used to wear, and you're really  
nice.

LUCAS

Frumpy clothes?

MARY

(laughs)

And you have a sense of humor.

LUCAS

I'm trying a little harder. It's not  
easy to jump from frumpy to posh.

MARY

Well you're not doing so bad. So  
Lucas, have you had many girlfriends?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS

I don't know, whats your idea of many?I don't know, 4,5 more?Hmmm, counting none, none.

MARY

Wait, you never had a girlfriend? Not one?

Lucas is embarrassed and somewhat annoyed.

No, not one. So am I back to freak?

MARY(CONT'D)

No, I didn't mean it like that. It's just that...

LUCAS

No, I know, everybody has had at least one relationship. There must be something wrong with me.

Mary puts her hand on his.

MARY

Lucas, please. I don't understand, because who I see is not who you see.

Lucas calms down

LUCAS

I know you mean nothing hurtful. I'm just not used to the attention. Sorry.

MARY

Tell me something about your family. Brothers, sisters?

LUCAS

No, none. Just my mother.

MARY

Oh, your dad?

LUCAS

Father left a long time ago. I don't exactly have the classic family.

MARY

Don't feel bad. I don't think that family's been around since the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

MARY (CONT'D)

50's. Whats your mom like?

LUCAS

You know, the typical middle aged,  
alcoholic, brings strange men home  
kind of mother.

MARY

That's not very nice.

LUCAS

No but it's very true.

Mary looks down unsure of what to say.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry but you did ask. I guess my  
mother never really got over my father  
leaving. Maybe it's her way of coping.

MARY

Then lets get off that subject. What  
are your plans for the future?

LUCAS

I really have grown accustomed to  
produce.

MARY

Probably the melons.

Lucas laughs hard.

LUCAS

I don't know. I'm going to go with  
being a little more assertive with my  
life and see where it goes from  
there. What about you?

MARY

I'm finishing up my degree and then  
who knows.

LUCAS

Whats your degree in?

MARY

Liberal arts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LUCAS  
So then cashier.

MARY  
If I keep my fingers crossed, in  
charge of cashiers.

They both laugh, then pause a moment.

MARY(CONT'D)  
Can I ask you one more personal  
question?

LUCAS  
Just one?

MARY  
I promise.

LUCAS  
Go ahead.

MARY  
Since you haven't had a girlfriend,  
um, does that mean...

LUCAS  
Oh God, I know where this is going.

Mary laughs and puts her hand on his arm.

MARY  
I just, does that mean you've never,  
you know.

LUCAS  
Never what?

MARY  
You're going to make ask? fine, Been  
with a woman?

LUCAS  
I'm here with you.

MARY  
That's not what I meant and you know  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

MARY (CONT'D)

it.

LUCAS

(sigh)

No Mary, I've never been with a woman. Please don't hate me.

MARY

Believe it or not, I find that attractive.

LUCAS

Then at my age I'm Brad Pitt.

MARY

How about if you come back to my place and we see about correcting that.

Lucas looks nervous.

LUCAS

Umm.

MARY

I promise I won't hurt you.

LUCAS

You just want to claim me as a conquest.

MARY

Maybe.

Mary takes his hand and they both walk towards the door.

LUCAS

So I'm guessing you don't live with your mom?

INT-DAY-POLICE STATION.

Detective Collins is holding a meeting with the towns officers and getting feedback on their patrols and interviews.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

OK gentleman, ladies, whats to report?

A middle aged woman cop speaks up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

FEMALE COP

Not much sir. I spoke to a few locals over by the coffee shop and pizza place but know one seems to know anything.

A younger police office, male

OFFICER

Same here detective. Outside of the town bar everything quiets down after 9.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

That's it? Know one has seen or heard anything? C'mon people. None of you has seen anything or anyone out of the ordinary on patrol? Damn sleepy little towns make everyone lazy.

Another officer in the back speaks up.

OFFICER 2

Actually sir, I was on my shift last night and saw an older man walking his dog.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

And?

OFFICER 2

I stopped and talked for a bit. He mentioned a guy he sees walking sometimes, kind of a loner type.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Whats this guy look like?

OFFICER 2

The man never really got a good look. He said the guy usually walked, rather shuffled along, hands in his pockets, head always down. Said his clothing looked kind of old.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

How often would he see him?

OFFICER 2

Not often, usually when he walked the dog between 8 and 9, 9:30.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Alright. Lets keep an eye out for this guy. If you see him, stop him. And everyone, a little more observation please. Thank you.

The officers all get up and head out the door.

INT-EVE-BAR

Skylar is working behind the bar moving glasses around. She looks up and sees Lucas. He's sitting at the bar looking at her, a big smile on his face.

The bar is full. It always is. It's always the same people.

He's dressed well, looks good. She looks at him, smiles, but the smile cools quickly.

LUCAS

What's wrong?

SKYLAR

Nothing.

LUCAS

You sure? That smile seemed to fade pretty quickly.

SKYLAR

Nothing, I'm fine.

Skylar moves down the bar and talks to another customer.

Len is sitting next to a confused Lucas.

LUCAS

Whats up with her?

LEN

I don't know Luc. You know how women can be.

LUCAS

Truthfully, I don't. I haven't had much experience with woman outside of my alcoholic mother and I don't think Skylar's drunk.

LEN

Well then this is going to be one hell  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN (CONT'D)  
of a learning experience for you.

LUCAS  
You married?

LEN  
I was once. Long time ago.

LUCAS  
Oh. Divorced?

LEN  
Yeah, something like that.

LUCAS  
What happened, if you don't mind me asking? I mean, my dad just up and left when I was a kid. I don't remember any fighting or anything.

LEN  
It's OK. It was no fault of hers. I neglected the relationship. I let something else take over and it eventually led to the split.

LUCAS  
Oh.

LEN  
Thing is Lucas, there's too many choices, too many distractions in this world. Sometimes those distractions take away from what's really important. Ya gotta ignore the distractions.

LUCAS  
Yeah, well I'm nowhere near any kind of real relationship. Do you still see her?

LEN  
No, she's moved to another neighborhood, a much better one.

Skylar makes her way back down the bar giving Lucas a glance.

LEN (CONT'D)  
Here's your chance to see what's going on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS

Skylar? Did I do something wrong.

SKYLAR

No, what could you have done wrong?

LUCAS

I don't know. I'm kind of new at having friends and ...

SKYLAR

Oh so we're just friends then.

Lucas glances over to Len. Len shrugs his shoulders and gives an "I don't know" look.

LUCAS

Well, yes, I'm not sure...

SKYLAR

(sarcasm)

No, you're right, we're 'just friends'.

Lucas is way out of his element. His new found confidence is beginning to wade.

LUCAS

I...don't know whats, could you explain whats going on?

SKYLAR

Where were you last night?

LUCAS

What? Working.

SKYLAR

What did you do after work? Why didn't you come and see me?

LUCAS

I...I don't know.

SKYLAR

I know.I saw you at the store. I saw you talking to her.

LUCAS

Who?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

SKYLAR

That cute little blond girl.

LUCAS

Oh.

SKYLAR

Ohhh.

LUCAS

She works with me that's all.

SKYLAR

Did you go out with her?

LUCAS

Well, just for coffee.

SKYLAR

And what was for dessert?

LUCAS

I don't understand Skylar.

Skylars look softens, she leans in close to him.

SKYLAR

It's just that, I thought you and I had a connection. I thought maybe you and I could have more. You said you were going to take care of me.

LUCAS

No, I want that. I really do.

Skylars eyes harden. Her demeanor changes.

SKYLAR

And so don't I. Please don't let some little blond haired bitch get in our way.

Lucas is taken back by the comment.

LUCAS

No....I won't. I didn't know you felt that way.

SKYLAR

Well now you do.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Lucas looks down and pauses for a moment.

LUCAS

Thing is Skylar we haven't made a date  
or anything yet.

SKYLAR

We will sweetie. We've both been  
working you know? Maybe this weekend?

LUCAS

Yeah, that'd be great.

SKYLAR

OK, this weekend it is. I'm really  
looking forward to it. One more thing.

LUCAS

Whats that?

Skylars face turns again.

SKYLAR

The guy I want to be with wouldn't let  
his boss treat him the way your boss  
treats you.

LUCAS

How do you know how he treats me?

SKYLAR

I saw him the other day when he was  
talking to you. I saw him the same day  
I saw you with that little blond slut.  
The guy I want to be with wouldn't  
take that shit. The guy I want to be  
with would handle it and since you  
really want to be with me I think you  
know what I'm saying.

At first Lucas looks confused, but then he slowly smiles.

LUCAS

Yes, and you're right. I should handle  
it.

INT-EVE-GROCERY STORE LOCKER ROOM

Lucas is at his locker putting on his work smock. Mary walks  
in behind him and puts her hand on his shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

Hi.

She kisses him on the cheek.

Lucas turns, a big smile on his face but it fades.

LUCAS

Oh, hey.

MARY

Oh, Hey? Everything alright?

LUCAS

Yeah, yes, I'm sorry. I have something  
on my mind.

MARY

I hope that something is me.

LUCAS

(smiling)

Of course it is.

He leans in and gives her an awkward kiss on the mouth.

MARY

laughs.

LUCAS

What?

MARY

Still a little unsure?

LUCAS

I guess.

MARY

(seductively)

How about after work you and I....

Mary is interrupted by another employee. a young man about  
18.

EMPLOYEE

Excuse me, Lucas?

LUCAS

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

EMPLOYEE

Pete wants to see you in his office.

LUCAS

Why?

EMPLOYEE

I dunno.

LUCAS

I'll be right there, thanks.

Employee walks out.

MARY

What do you suppose that's about?

LUCAS

Probably about giving him a hard time yesterday. I'll talk to you later.

MARY

Alright.

She kisses him again.

Lucas walks out.

INT-PETES OFFICE.

Pete is sitting in his office looking at a few papers. Lucas walks in. Pete looks up, a sly grin on his face.

LUCAS

You want to see me?

PETE

Yup. Sit down Luc.

Lucas hesitates but then sits.

PETE(CONT'D)

After your insubordination yesterday, I decided to give HR a call and talk to them about the issue. After explaining it to them they suggested I put you on a final warning.

Lucas face drops.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS

A final warning? For what?

PETE

Hey Lucas, you told me to write you up so I did. Hell, I wanted you fired but HR didn't want to. But I figure, a final warning allows me to get rid of you for taking a piss break without my consent. Yeah, shouldn't take long at all.

Lucas begins to get nervous. His confidence fading.

LUCAS

Pete, this is my only job.

PETE

Shoulda thought about that before you decided to test out your new pair of balls.

LUCAS

I..., I'm sorry, I shouldn't have acted like that.

Pete sits back in his chair and puts his hands behind his neck.

PETE

Oh this is classic. A little late Luc. You can go now. We'll see if you make it through the end of the day.

LUCAS

Pete...

PETE

What part of "you can go now" didn't you get?

Lucas gets up, turns and slowly walks to the door.

PETE(CONT'D)

Oh, one more thing. Mary might not go out with me but we'll see how long she pays attention to you when you're broke.

Lucas stops, then opens the door and walks out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

EXT-EVE-PARKING LOT

It's late. The grocery store is closed. Pete is walking to his car parked out back. It's an older Nissan Altima. No ones around.

It's parked way in the back of the store.

He gets to his car and pushes the key fob. The doors click open. He hears a noise behind him and turns.

Lucas is standing there, his arms at his sides. In his hand is a knife with a long stiletto type blade, the light of a street lamp glancing off of it.

Pete's face goes white.

PETE

Lucas.

Lucas says nothing. He just stares.

PETE(CONT'D)

What do you think you're going to do with that, huh?

Lucas says nothing.

Look, maybe I was a little hasty about the final warning. I'm sure we can come to a more reasonable solution.

Lucas says nothing. The light gleams off the blade as he moves it with a slow twisting motion.

PETE(CONT'D)

(Getting angry)

Fuck you Lucas, you don't have the guts. I'm gonna shove that knife up your ass.

Lucas says nothing. He begins to smile.

Well c'mon. You just gonna stand there with that retarded grin?

Lucas grin gets bigger. Lucas is listening to something. We hear Skylars voice.

SKYLAR'S VOICE

The man I want to be with would demand  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SKYLAR'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
more respect.

Lucas begins to slowly and deliberately walk towards Pete.

SKYLAR'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
The man I want to be with would handle  
it.

Lucas gets closer to Pete.

Pete begins to back away. Lucas looks like he's in some  
trance.

SKYLAR'S VOICE (CONT'D)  
Handle it Lucas. Handle it.

PETE  
Jesus Lucas, please.

Lucas is on him. The blade flies and thrusts. Pete's hands  
are up. He's screaming.

Lucas blade goes through Pete's hands, his body, his throat.  
Pete's body bangs off his car and hits the ground. Lucas  
keeps stabbing until Pete is nothing more than shards of  
flesh.

Lucas steps back covered in blood. He looks at his work.

LUCAS  
That's the difference between HR and  
me Pete, I don't give final warnings.

Lucas turns and walks down the empty parking lot leaving  
Pete's body behind. As he does he hears a voice.

SKYLAR'S VOICE  
Now you're the kind of guy I would be  
with.

LUCAS  
Anything for you Skylar.

INT-EVE-GROCERY STORE LOCKER ROOM

Lucas is in the employee locker room putting his coat on.  
He's whistling a tune. He moves confidently as if nothing  
happened.

Mary comes walking in almost zombie like. She moves slowly,

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

her face showing shock.

Lucas turns and sees her, he smiles.

LUCAS

Hey Mary.

He gives her a hug. She barely returns it. Lucas looks at her.  
Her face looks pale.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Whats wrong? Are you OK?

MARY

You didn't hear?

LUCAS

No, hear what?

MARY

Pete.

LUCAS

What about him?

MARY

He was found dead in the parking lot  
this morning. He was stabbed.

Lucas doesn't seem fazed.

LUCAS

Dead huh. Too bad. Hey, do you want to  
go out this weekend?

Mary looks at him in disbelief.

MARY

Lucas, Pete was killed, murdered. I  
heard he was stabbed so many times  
that he didn't even look like himself.

LUCAS

Pete was an asshole. Maybe he had it  
coming.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

MARY

I cannot believe you just said that.  
Jesus Lucas, I know he was kind of a  
jerk but nobody deserves what happened  
to him. Who are you?

Lucas catches himself.

LUCAS

No, you're right. I shouldn't be so  
insensitive. I'm sorry. I guess I was  
mistreated by him so many times that  
I'm not showing sympathy.

He walks over and puts his hands on her shoulders. Please  
don't be mad at me.

Mary softens.

MARY

I'm not.

LUCAS

Do the police know who might have done  
it?

MARY

No, that's what I wanted to tell you.  
The police are going to question  
anyone under Pete's management. You  
might get called into the conference  
room at some point.

Lucas face hardens a bit but he quickly returns to normal.

LUCAS

I'm sure. Well, hopefully they can  
find who did it.

MARY

I have to get back.

Mary turns to walk out. Just before she reaches the doorway  
she turns back to Lucas.

And yes, I would like to go out this  
weekend.

LUCAS

Great. I know this really neat place  
to go for a drink.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Mary smiles and walks out.

INT-EVE-CONFERENCE ROOM IN GROCERY STORE.

Detective Collins is sitting at a table with 6 chairs around it. A whiteboard is behind him on the wall. He's looking at some papers and making check marks with a pen.

The door opens. Lucas walks in.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Please, sit.

Lucas sits opposite the detective. Det. Collins looks at the paper in front of him.

You're Lucas Perso?

LUCAS

Yes sir.

The Detective gets up and shakes his hand.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS(CONT'D)

My name is Detective Collins.I'm going to record this. Is that OK?

Lucas nods yes.

Do you know what happened here last night?

LUCAS

(nervous)

Yes sir.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

What was that?

LUCAS

Our manager...Pete, he was killed.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Um hmm. How well did you know Pete?

LUCAS

Pretty well, I mean, not very well.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Which is it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS

He was my boss. That well.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

How did you two get along?

LUCAS

Alright I guess.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Just alright?

LUCAS

Again, he was my boss, so just alright.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Did you have arguments with him?  
Disagreements?

LUCAS

No.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Never?

LUCAS

No.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Not once? That's pretty good. I mean  
even I have disagreements with my  
superior. Not once huh?

Lucas is beginning to look agitated.

LUCAS

Yeah, we had a few.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

What were they about?

LUCAS

I don't know. Overtime, hours, things  
like that. Why all these questions?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Well, a man was brutally murdered. As  
an investigator its my job to ask  
these questions. So, you felt you were  
being cheated on your hours?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS  
(defiant)  
I didn't say that.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
You mentioned hours.

LUCAS  
Yeah, and I also said I didn't  
remember.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
OK, OK. According to you're HR's, Mr.  
Abello, Pete, put you on a final  
warning. Do you remember that?

Lucas face drops but after a minute, it shows anger.

LUCAS  
Yeah, I remember that.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
Why didn't you mention it?

LUCAS  
Guess it slipped my mind.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
A final warning by the guy who was  
murdered slipped your mind.

A look of contempt and cockiness comes over Lucas.

LUCAS  
Yeah, weird huh? You see Detective,  
sir, Pete is, sorry, was an asshole. He  
treated me like shit every chance he  
got. He embarrassed me in front of  
customers, in front of other  
employees, and did his best to make my  
day Hell. He wasn't a nice guy so if  
you want to arrest me for not giving a  
shit about a goddamn bully, then go  
ahead but honestly, my days might be a  
little more peaceful.

Detective Collins gives Lucas a long look.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
OK then, I think I'm all set. You can go.

LUCAS  
That's it?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS  
For now, you're not the only person I'm talking to.

Lucas gets up, turns and walks out.

Detective Collins turns off the recorder.

INT-GROCERY STORE AISLE

MARY  
What happened?

LUCAS  
(seething)  
Guy was almost accusatory. Asking me questions like I did it. Fuckin asshole.

Mary is taken back, she looks confused. She's never seen Lucas like this.

MARY  
Lucas, he has to ask everybody questions. I'm sure he wasn't accusing you.

Lucas snaps at her.

LUCAS  
What do you know, huh? Always "up" Mary. What do you know about how shitty people can treat others? I'll bet you've always had a ton of friends, a normal family life with family events and birthdays and holidays, and shit. I'll bet you never had a drunken mother bring drunken men home. I'll bet you never had the privilege of hearing your mother get fucked by those drunken men. I'll bet you still have the perfect mommy daddy situation where every word out of their mouths is just full of Mary self  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS (CONT'D)

esteem affirmation. Yes Mary, he was accusing me like everybody else accuses me. I get accused of being good for nothing, lazy, a loser, and oh yeah, a retard.

Mary doesn't know what to say or do.

MARY

I...I'm sorry. I didn't know.

LUCAS

You didn't know because you didn't care to know.

MARY

That's unfair Lucas.

LUCAS

Don't even start about what "fair" is.

Mary goes to put her hand on his shoulder.

MARY

Lucas

He shakes her loose.

LUCAS

Don't touch me.

He storms off. Mary just stares watching him go.

INT-EVE-BAR

Lucas sits at the end of the bar taking to Len and a few of the other people. He's upbeat, happy. This is his place. He's at home here.

Everyone seems to like him. He feels confident, wanted. Skylar is putting bottles away. For a moment Lucas gets quiet and stares into his beer. Len notices.

LEN

Whats up? You look a little forlorn.

LUCAS

Ah, it's nothing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

Suit yer self. I mean you went from happy Luc to depressed Luc in a second.

LUCAS

It's just some bullshit I've been getting.

LEN

We're your friends Lucas. Always remember that. Your problems are ours. C'mon, whats up?

Skylar overhears and walks over. She puts her hand on his.

SKYLAR

Is my Lucas sad?

LUCAS

No, It's just that, well, I took care of a little issue I had at work.

SKYLAR

Would that little issue be a certain boss who's been giving you shit?

LEN

I love it when she talks dirty.

SKYLAR

Shut up.

LEN

And dominatrix.

LUCAS

Yeah, my boss problem seems to be at an end. Thing is, the police are questioning everyone. I was talked to today.

An older man sitting at a small table a few feet away overhears and pipes in.

OLD MAN

Don't sweat it kid. I ain't sure what  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

was done but they'd have to have some damn good evidence to pin somethin on someone.

LEN

He's right. Besides, if you had anything to do with anything you were just standin up for yourself.

SKYLAR

Don't worry about it Lucas. We're on your side.

LUCAS

That's what I love about coming here you know? I always feel part of the place. Like I belong here. Like I'll always belong here.

OLD MAN

You do belong here Lucas, more than you know.

Others in the bar look his way and all acknowledge.

SKYLAR

You know Lucas, sometimes people get jealous. They don't want you to have friends or relationships. They want to keep you down.

LEN

Yeah, sometimes people are out to cause you pain. They want to see you miserable, unwanted.

OLD MAN

Not like here son. We want to see you happy.

Lucas is smiling but as he looks around something is not quiet right about the place or the people.

Their faces seem to shift in and out of focus, but only for a moment. Lucas figures he's had a few.

LUCAS

Thanks guys. There's another thing bothering me.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

LEN

Whats that?

Lucas looks a Skylar a little nervous.

LUCAS

Well, I have this friend at the grocery store.

SKYLAR

Friend?

LUCAS

Um, yeah, and honest Skylar, she's just a friend but she's been good to me you know?

SKYLAR

Oh? How good? (embarrassed) Um...

LEN

Oh jeez Skylar, give em a break.

LUCAS

Anyways, I kind of went bullshit on her today and now I feel bad.

LEN

You were upset. Can't blame you for that.

SKYLAR

Why don't you bring her here?

LUCAS

I was thinking about it.

LEN

She's right. Apologize and bring her here for a drink.

SKYLAR

You guys are just friends right?

LUCAS

Oh, yeah...yeah, that's it, friends. You know, that's a good idea. I mean she would see how great everyone is here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LEN

Sure, bring her here and we'll all get acquainted. Hey, maybe she'll become a regular.

LUCAS

Thanks guys. I know she'll like it here.

Len leans back a bit in his chair.

LEN

Ya know Luc. As far as some of those issues in your life. Sometimes the best way to deal with a problem is to get rid of it. Know what I'm sayin?

LUCAS

I think I do Len, I think I do.

They both clink their beers.

INT-EVE-GROCERY STORE

Mary is at a register cashing out customers. Lucas is watching her looking apprehensive. He walks over to her.

She looks at him and keeps working. Lucas starts bagging some of the groceries for her.

LUCAS Hi.

MARY

Hi. You don't have to do that.

LUCAS

I know. Just thought I'd help.

MARY

Fine.

Mary keeps ringing up and totals.

MARY(CONT'D)

(to customer)

It's \$75.20

The customer, a middle aged woman hands Mary 4 twenties.

Mary makes the change and hands it back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CUSTOMER.

Thank you.

MARY

Have a good day.

The customer leaves and Mary begins ringing up the next person in line.

LUCAS

Look I'm really sorry about yesterday.

MARY

I don't think this is the right time  
Lucas.

Lucas keeps bagging groceries.

LUCAS

I know. Can we talk later?

MARY

I guess.

LUCAS

When?

MARY

I have a break in an hour.

LUCAS

I'll get us a couple of coffees and  
meet you out front by the bench.

MARY

That's fine.

LUCAS

Thanks Mary.

He finishes bagging and walks off. Mary smiles.

EXT-EVE-BENCH

Lucas is sitting on a bench in front of the grocery store. He's holding two cups. Mary walks towards him. He gets up and hands her one of the coffees.

MARY

Thanks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

She sits next to him.

LUCAS

I'm really sorry about yesterday. I didn't mean what I said.

MARY

I know.

LUCAS

It's just that I'm finally having some good things in my life you know? And when that detective interviewed me it seemed like he was accusing me. I didn't mean to take it out on you.

MARY

I can appreciate that Lucas. I get it but you need to let me in a little.

LUCAS

I know. It's just...I'm not used to that. No one ever cared about letting me in. It's hard for me, no scary for me to trust anyone.

MARY

Then start with me.

LUCAS

I want that.

Mary leans over and kisses him.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Listen, there's a small neighborhood bar that I go to once and awhile. I started going there about a month ago and well, the people are great. They always make me feel accepted. I was hoping maybe you'd go with me this weekend.

MARY

Yeah, I'd like that.

LUCAS

(excited)

Great. You'll like it there. The people are really friendly. Very down to earth you know?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MARY

It sounds like fun Luc.

LUCAS

Saturday night?

MARY

Saturdays perfect. I'm off that night.

LUCAS

I'm not but I'm not going to go in.

MARY

Isn't that going to get you into trouble?

LUCAS

Maybe but I'd rather spend the night with you. I'll pick you up at eight?

MARY

Eight's good. I'd better get back in.

LUCAS

Same here. Who's the new boss?

MARY

I'm not sure.

They both get up and walk towards the entrance.

INT-DAY-POLICE STATION-DET COLLINS OFFICE.

Detective Collins is meeting with another detective, Mark Harris discussing the case.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

So what have you got so far?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

I interviewed everyone in that store and one guy seems to stand out.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

Who's that?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Guy by the name of Lucas Perso. Thing is nobody seems to have anything bad to say about him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE HARRIS

Then what makes you suspicious of him?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

His attitude when I spoke with him.  
Most of the others took the  
questioning as routine. This guy  
flipped out a little.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

Do you have anything else on him?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Not really but he does bear watching.  
I did some digging and he's known in  
town but pretty much as a loner. The  
officers see him walking around here  
and there but nothing really  
suspicious. Oh and he didn't get along  
very well with the deceased.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

How so?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

From what I found out this Pete guy  
gave Mr. Perso a hard time quite a  
bit.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

Well there's motive.

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Maybe, but the guy has no record. I  
don't think he's even been in a fist  
fight. Still.

DETECTIVE HARRIS

What about the other murders? They  
happened in this guys town. Do you  
think there's a connection?

DETECTIVE BOB COLLINS

Possibly. Tell any patrol officers in  
the area to keep an eye on him if they  
see him walking around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DETECTIVE HARRIS

Will do.

INT-EVE-LUCAS HOUSE.

Lucas is getting dressed. He's putting on some new clothes. He looks good. He combs his hair, sprays some cologne on and gives himself a look in the mirror. He's pleased.

He begins to walk out of his bedroom but before he does he grabs his knife from the dresser. He opens it, admires it, smiles and closes it. He puts it in his designer jeans and walks out.

INT-EVE-LUCAS KITCHEN

Lucas walks through his kitchen where his mother, dressed in a revealing stretch white tank and too tight shorts sits at the table drinking a beer.

Next to her is one of her occasional hookups. He's balding, fat, and wearing a dirty t shirt and shorts. He's also drinking a beer.

Lucas looks at them disgusted.

DELORA

What kind of a fuckin look was that?  
You don't approve Mr. Grocery man?

The fat man snickers.

LUCAS

Yeah mom, I should approve of a drunk  
with a another drunk. Sorry, a fat  
drunk.

MAN

(Belches)

Hey.

DELORA

Ungrateful son. Just remember that  
this drunk pays for this house.

What..Wha the fuck do you pay for? Oh  
yeah, I forgot, cable.

Lucas looks at her and shakes his head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS

I'm going out.

DELORA

I noticed that about you lately. Goin out, buyin new clothes. Oh ,maybe you finally got some pussy. Is that it? did my little boy finally get his cherry popped?

MAN

Yeah, his balls finally dropped.

They both start laughing.

Lucas is getting angry.

MAN(CONT'D)

Oh shit, looks like we may have struck a nerve. The boy looks pissed.

DELORA

So is that it Lucas? You think buying new clothes is going to impress some young lady? New clothes ain't goin to impress nobody. After all, you still bring your sad little self with you. No escapin that.

Lucas is infuriated. The anger on his face is glowing but all of a sudden, his face goes calm.

Lucas hears Len in the back of his mind.

Off camera

LEN

(Whisper)

Best way to deal with a problem is to get rid of it.

LUCAS

You know what mom? You're right, I can't escape myself, but, I can escape you.

DELORA

Oh? How's that? You gonna runaway from home? You couldn't afford a cardboard box under a bridge.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

Lucas pulls the knife out and slowly opens it.

LUCAS

Oh, I don't think I'm going to have to  
worry about a cardboard box.

The man sees the knife.

MAN

Whoa, kid. What the hell?

DELORA

Really Lucas? What do you think you're  
going to do with that?

LUCAS

Not sure, but lets see where it takes  
us.

Lucas jumps across the table, his blade aiming for his  
mother. She tries to get up and knocks her chair over, her  
hands up in a defensive move.

DELORA

(screaming) )

Lucas!

The man staggers off his chair not knowing what to do. Delora  
is screaming.

The knife is slicing and plunging into her soft body turning  
her white tank red.

LUCAS

Jeez ma, every hole I make brings out  
the smell of cheap beer.

He cuts at her hands, her throat, until she slumps lifeless,  
a bloody heap to the floor.

Lucas is breathing heavy and looking at his work. He's  
smiling. The man is in shock standing against the  
refrigerator. Lucas slowly looks up at him.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Ya know? Red looks good on her. What  
do you think?

MAN

Jesus kid.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The man makes a run for it but Lucas is on him. He grabs the man around the throat and starts thrusting the blade into his liver and kidney.

LUCAS

Please keep Jesus out of this. I'm not sure he'd approve.

He keeps thrusting the knife violently until the man falls to the floor. Lucas looks at him smiling.

He looks at his knife admiring it.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

You know, for the use I got out of this I'd say it paid for itself.

Lucas walks over to the sink, turns on the water, and washes clean the blade.

He looks at his bloody cloths, then at the two bodies on the floor.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Now look what you two did. I have to go and change and ma, you know I can't afford much in the way of these fancy, shmancy clothes. Oh, and don't wait up.

He walks past the bodies and out of the kitchen. Lucas comes back and moves towards his mothers lifeless body. Her head hidden behind the table, her legs in view.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Almost forgot.

He gives her a vicious kick to her head. We don't see the kick to her head but her legs jump.

Lucas turns around and walks out.

INT-EVE-RESTAURANT

Lucas and Mary are sitting in a restaurant. It's a bit upscale.

MARY

This place is really nice Lucas. I thought we were just going out for drinks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS

We are but I wanted to take you  
someplace nice. You deserve it.

A waiter walks over.

WAITER

Hello, my name is Alex and I'll be  
your server tonight. Can I start you  
off with something to drink?

LUCAS

Yes please. Mary?

MARY

Um... I'd like a glass of cabernet  
please.

WAITER

And you sir?

LUCAS

I'll have the same. Thank you.

WAITER

I'll get those for you.

The waiter walks off.

LUCAS

You know Mary. I feel so alive today.  
Like things are finally going my way.  
You have a lot to do with that.

MARY

(Touching his hand) )  
I'm glad to hear it.

LUCAS

I want to apologize again for my  
behavior. I didn't mean to get so  
angry.

MARY

I know. The thing is Luc, I don't know  
much about you. How you grew up, what  
your life was like. I want to be a  
part of who you are.

LUCAS

I didn't grow up in the happiest of  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCAS (CONT'D)

households. My dad left when I was young. My mother became an alcoholic although that may be the reason my father left.

MARY

Did you ever hear from him?

LUCAS

Once in awhile but eventually it ended.

MARY

What about your mom?

LUCAS

My mom got meaner as she got older. Maybe she blames me for my father leaving.

MARY

Do you have other family?

LUCAS

No. My fathers side was bigger. I remember some cousins but they faded over the years. Never really made any friends either.

MARY

Does your mom work?

LUCAS

She used to work at the hotel on the turnpike. That's where she would pick up drunks and bring them home. I never knew who I was going to see the next morning.

MARY

That's awful. You said she used to work there. Not anymore?

LUCAS

She's retired.

MARY

God, to grow up like that. I feel so bad for you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The waiter walks over and puts their wine on the table.

WAITER  
Another minute?

LUCAS  
Yes, thank you.

WAITER  
Take your time. I'll be back in a few.

He walks off.

LUCAS  
Don't feel bad Mary. I feel like my whole life is ahead of me. Like everything is brand new. I love this quote, "That which is fated must come to pass but against my fate, nothing can harm me", and I really believe that what's come to pass was the worst of it.

Mary raises her wine glass.

MARY  
Then here's to a very bright future.

They clink glasses and drink.

EXT-EVE-OUTSIDE OF THE BAR

A car pulls up alongside a curb just outside the tavern.

Lucas and Mary are inside. Mary looks outside at the old bar.

INT-EVE-CAR

LUCAS  
Here it is.

MARY  
It looks pretty old.

LUCAS  
One of the oldest homes in town. It was a private residence when it was first built and then turned into an inn and finally a tavern.

Mary looks at the place, an odd look on her face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARY

It looks quiet tonight.

LUCAS

This place really changed my life. I used to walk by here and look at the people inside. I wanted to be one of them so bad but could never get the courage to go in, you know? But finally, one day, I walked in.

Mary, those people treated me like I was important. No, not important, like I was one of them. Equal. No judgement, no name calling.

MARY

That's great Luc.

LUCAS

I felt like I belonged someplace. If I had a bad day at work or had to deal with my mother, I'd come here and just feel better. C'mon, you'll really like these people. Oh, don't let Len bother you, he loves to joke, and just so you know, the bartender, Skylar, I think she has a crush on me.

Mary is still looking at the place a little perplexed. She smiles.

MARY

So long as you don't have a crush on her.

Lucas gets out of the car, walks around to the passenger side and opens the door. Mary gets out and they both walk toward the front door.

INT-EVE-BAR

Lucas walks inside and sees the crowd of people. Skylar is pouring a draft for someone. She looks over and smiles at Lucas.

The small bar tables are full. Len's in his spot. He looks over at Lucas and beams a big smile.

Lucas proudly walks in with Mary behind him, a confused look on her face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

Well look who just showed up, and  
Skylar, he brought a friend. Hey Luc,  
how's it going?

Everyone is focused on Lucas. We don't really see Mary.

LUCAS

I'm good Len, really good.

The other patrons see Lucas and Mary and give a nod to him.

Skylar walks over.

SKYLAR

(Looks over at Mary) )  
Hi sweetie. I see you brought a  
friend. Should I be worried?

LUCAS

I did, Len, Skylar, this is Mary.

LEN

Hi Mary, nice to meet you.

SKYLAR

Hi Mary.

LUCAS

Mary, this is Skylar and Len.

There's a look of horror on Mary's face.

Lucas notices.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Mary, what's wrong?

He moves near her. She backs away. Mary?

Mary's eyes are wide with fear. She looks around. She looks  
at the bar, she looks at Lucas.

The people in the bar look at Mary, all smiling.

LEN

Your friend seems a little spooked.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SKYLAR

Yeah. Mary, can I get you a glass of water?

Mary doesn't answer. She looks terrified.

LUCAS

Are you alright? Maybe it's something you ate at the restaurant.

Mary takes a few steps back. She's looking toward Lucas. Lucas is standing at the bar looking very concerned. Lucas is standing at a dusty, abandoned, empty bar. A bar with old busted tables, tipped chairs, and an old smell.

There are no people, no Len, no Skylar. Just Lucas talking to the air.

MARY

(Frightened)

Lucas...I don't understand.

LUCAS

What do you mean? Do you feel sick? Is it something you ate?

MARY

I...don't understand. Is..are you playing a trick? This isn't funny.

LUCAS

No, what trick?

LEN

Maybe she should sit down.

Lucas walks over to Mary and gently takes her arm.

LUCAS

C'mon. sit down.

Mary pulls away.

MARY

No, don't touch me. This isn't funny.

LUCAS

Funny? I'm not trying to be funny. Your embarrassing me in front of my friends.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

MARY

Friends? What friends? There's no one here.

Skylar, Len, and the other patrons all give each other a knowing look.

LUCAS

What the hell are you talking about?  
There's people all around you.

MARY

There's no one around you. The place is empty.

Skylar, Len, and the others look at Mary all smiling.

Lucas walks over to Len. He puts his hand on Len's shoulder.

LUCAS

Empty? You don't see Len right here?

Len looks at Mary, smiles, and gives a little wave.

Lucas points to Skylar.

And Skylar. You don't see her behind the bar?

MARY

(desperate)

Lucas there's no one here.

LUCAS

Mary, the place is full. Oh God, you're crazy.

MARY

I'm crazy? No...I want to leave.

Lucas face shows anger, defiance.

LUCAS

No, we just got here. These are my friends.

MARY

(screams)

What friends Lucas? There's no one here.

The old couple that Lucas sees periodically at the bar sit at

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

a small table. The old man interjects.

OLD MAN

Seems to me son, that the young lady  
isn't happy with your choice of  
company.

LEN

Yeah Luc, I guess she doesn't care for  
our kind.

Lucas looks at everyone. They're all smiling at him but he  
notices an odd ripple in some of their faces.

Mary is terrified. She's shaking. Lucas shrugs off what he  
sees.

LUCAS

Mary, your having some kind of  
hallucination. Look around. Everybody  
looks concerned.

MARY

(Frantic)

There's no one here. There's no one  
here.

SKYLAR

You know what I think sweetie? I think  
Mary is like everyone else. She  
doesn't want you to have friends. She  
doesn't want you to be happy.

LUCAS

No, that's not true.

He looks at Mary.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(cont'd) Mary, is that true? You don't  
want me to be happy? No, no I don't  
believe that.

LEN

I don't know Lucas. I mean the place  
is pretty full. Nope, I agree with  
Skylar. She's just like the rest. I'll  
bet in time she'll start to put you  
down,

(an evil smile) )  
just like your mother.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Mary see's Lucas talking to no one but acting as if people are in the room. She stands against a corner.

Lucas looks at her, defeat and sadness in his eyes.

LUCAS

Is that true Mary? It is isn't it. I'm just a joke to you.

LEN

Yup, just a joke.

Lucas feels lost.

LUCAS

That's it then. I'm just another joke. Yeah, a retard.

SKYLAR

Not to us Lucas. You're not a joke. You're our friend. You will always be our friend.

LEN

For ever and ever. You know Lucas, I think you know how to solve this problem.

Lucas looks at Len, Skylar, and the others.

LUCAS

No, I can't.

SKYLAR

So you just want to continue being that loser? What did I say to you before Lucas? The guy I would want to be with would demand respect.

LEN

You need to take care of your problems Luc. I mean if you can't I guess there's no reason to come back here anymore.

LUCAS

(disbelief)

What are you saying? Len? Skylar?

Len, Skylar, and the others all turn their backs on Lucas and act as if they don't see him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

Lucas looks confused and desperate. He's alone. He turns his attention to Mary shaking in the corner.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

Do you see? Do you see what you're  
doing to me?

MARY

I....I

LUCAS

(angry)

No. You're just like everyone else.

Whispers are heard.

WHISPERS

Just like the rest.

She doesn't want you to have friends.

Deal with her.

LUCAS

(defeated)

They're right. All right. But I know  
what I have to do. Yup, I know what I  
have to do.

Lucas is looking at Mary, behind her a dark empty building.  
Behind him, a bar full of customers.

He pulls his knife out and slowly opens it.

MARY

(desperate fear )

Oh my God!

LEN

Just like the rest Luc.

SKYLAR

She thinks you're a loser.

OLD MAN

Not us Luc.

LUCAS

You were making fun of me the whole  
time weren't you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

MARY

No..no Lucas. I wasn't. No. I...I see  
your friends. L..Larry...

LUCAS

(explodes)

Len!

Calms down.

It's Len Mary.

He explodes again

Say it! Say it Mary. Say Len.

Mary is beyond frightened. Her eyes tightly closed, her body  
against the wall as if trying to go through it...

MARY

Len...Len...

Lucas calms down again.

LUCAS

That's right. Len. Now apologize to  
Len for being so rude.

MARY

What?

LUCAS

(explodes) )

Apologize!

Not really seeing anyone, Mary looks nowhere in particular.

MARY

I'm sorry Len... I'm sorry.

Lucas looks at Mary and calmly shakes his head.

LUCAS

Mary.

Lucas points to a tipped bar stool at the bar. Len is sitting  
there.

Len looks at Skylar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

LEN

Yup, I'm sitting here.

Len gestures around the room. Not everywhere.

Skylar laughs.

Lucas looks at his knife.

LUCAS

(sighing)

No Mary, no, you don't see anyone.  
You're lying, patronizing me, laughing  
at me. Mary? Right now, this, this is  
my best friend. You know why?

Mary is looking at the knife. She's shivering with fright.  
She doesn't respond.

LUCAS(CONT'D)

(explodes)

Do you know why Mary. Huh? do you know  
why?

MARY

No....No...I...

Lucas calms down as quickly as he explodes.

LUCAS

I'll tell you. Because at moments like  
this, this solves the problem at hand  
and at the moment Mary, at this very  
fucking moment Mary, you are my  
problem at hand.

LEN

And remember what I said about  
problems. Sometimes the best way to  
handle a problem....

LUCAS

Is to get rid of it.

Lucas lunges for Mary, his eyes wide with hate, his blade  
ready to thrust.

Mary screams and then the sound of gunfire.

Lucas stops. His face goes from anger to confusion. Mary  
stands there, her eyes closed, her hands in front of her

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

face.

Lucas looks down at his chest, blood soaking his shirt. He looks in the direction of the gunfire. Standing at the entrance, Detective Collins has his gun pointed at Lucas.

Lucas looks at the detective, then at his shirt, then at the detective. His face explodes in anger as he runs toward the detective screaming, his knife in his hand. Det. Collins fires again hitting Lucas in the forehead. Lucas drops to the ground dead.

The guests at the bar all look at Lucas body. Len, Skylar, the old man, and the others. They all smile at each other and slowly fade away. A sort of evil passes their faces as they disappear into the old wood.

Detective Collins runs over to a crying Mary and holds her. The scene fades out.

INT-EVE-TAVERN

The bar is full. Len is sitting having a beer. Skylar is behind the bar handing a drink to a man with his back to us. Everyone is having a good time. People are at the tables.

Skylar looks out the window. A woman who looks to be in her late 20's, dark hair, wearing a baggy sweatshirt that hides her figure and jeans is looking inside the bar.

SKYLAR

There she is again.

Len turns around.

LEN

She should come in. We're not gonna bite.

Len looks at the guy next to him who's back is to us. What do you think?

The man turns around and looks. It's Lucas. He's with his friends. He's happy.

LUCAS

Well Len, we could always use another  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCAS (CONT'D)

regular.

The visual pulls away from the people and moves down the bar where an old newspaper sits at the end dated 1990. A headline reads, "Town Devastated by Murder Suicide", a picture of Len and a woman underneath the headline.

EXT-EVE

We pull away from the woman looking inside the bar and see an old worn out sign on the house,

"Lenny's Last Call"

We move past the lawn of the tavern, past the large maple tree on the lawn. We move across the street to the old town cemetery.

Past the multitude of grave stones. We come up to one in particular. It reads,

Leonard Milton

1943-1990

END