

MIDNIGHT UNDERGROUND

Written by

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EXT. FIELD - DAY

Bits of overgrown grass move like waves in the ocean as a huge breeze makes its way across the afternoon sky. The sun stands alone in the sky peering down at the earth.

A hand lies lifeless in the field, cold and pale. The wind is its only source of movement.

The hand belongs to the body of a WOMAN, 28, with long blonde hair. She lies in the middle of the field, her hair covers most of her face. Only her right eye is visible. Her body is clothed by only a blood-covered bra and underwear.

A MAN, 29, screams profanity and nonsense at the sky. POLICE OFFICERS tackle him to the ground. He struggles as they put cuffs on him.

TITLE:

AUGUST

ESTELLA MATTHEWS, 18, long dark hair and a look of innocence in her beautiful eyes, walks through the long grass and closer towards the body and the arrest.

GARETH MATTHEWS, 51, Estella's father, notices her approaching the body. He grabs her, holding her back from the disturbing sight.

GARETH

Estella, baby, let the guys deal with this. You know I don't want you here. They don't want you here.

An OFFICER approaches them.

OFFICER

Officer Matthews, we don't need you here.

GARETH

I just want to know what's going on.

OFFICER

Matthews, it's okay, go home.

GARETH

I need to know what's --

-- As he holds his daughter back, he notices the look on her face. It's a desire to find out who the victim is. He lets go of his daughter and she proceeds to the body.

Estella stands over the Woman's corpse as its right eye stares at her.

Gareth walks to his daughter.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Did you know her, Estella?

Estella doesn't answer, she just keeps staring.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Estella?

The right eye continues to stare back.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)
Estella?

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - EVENING

ABIGAIL, 18, typical young blonde, sits behind Estella on her bed as Estella stares at herself in a mirror.

TITLE:

SEPTEMBER

Estella does not answer Abigail.

ABIGAIL
Estella!

ESTELLA
What?

ABIGAIL
You know you really scare me sometimes.

Estella turns towards her.

ESTELLA
Why's that?

ABIGAIL
Listen to what you're saying.

ESTELLA
I'm just speaking my mind.

ABIGAIL

Yeah, but more than 99 percent of the time, when you're just speaking your mind, you carry out your actions.

ESTELLA

You really think I'm going to carry this out?

ABIGAIL

Yes. Remember in fifth grade, Donnie Britston told you that a vagina was just a penis tucked inside your body?

ESTELLA

Not really.

ABIGAIL

And then you told me you were going to find out if that was true.

ESTELLA

Abigail you can't --

ABIGAIL

-- And the very next day you went to the hospital because you nearly turned your vagina inside out trying find your dick.

ESTELLA

No! That was just a rumor. I went to the hospital because I was diagnosed with diabetes.

ABIGAIL

You have diabetes?

ESTELLA

No.

Abigail stares at her in confusion.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Abby? Why are you here. In my room?

ABIGAIL

Because you want to have sex with me.

ESTELLA

Abby!

ABIGAIL

Okay. Okay. I wanted to talk to you about Jeff Rogas's party tonight.

ESTELLA

And?

ABIGAIL

Are you coming?

ESTELLA

Yes.

ABIGAIL

Okay.

Abigail gets up to leave.

ESTELLA

That's it? That's why you came?

Abigail opens the door.

ABIGAIL

Yeah.

ESTELLA

So, you drove to my house, nearly ran over the garden gnome next to the driveway with your car, just to ask me if I'm going to Jeff's party tonight? You could've just texted me.

Abigail stares at her with a blank look on her face.

ABIGAIL

Yeah, I know.

She exits the room and closes the door.

ESTELLA

Dumb bitch.

Estella walks back to her mirror and closely examines herself.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

The truth is, Abby has every reason to be concerned.

(MORE)

ESTELLA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I do carry out my thoughts. And
this thought, was, let's just say,
a little thing called murder.

Estella turns to face the CAMERA and begins to talk to us.

ESTELLA
Now I know what you're thinking.
How can a tiny eighteen year old
girl like myself really be taken
seriously. Murder? Please. But
the truth is, I'm not like most
girls.

She walks over to her bed and picks up a scarf and wraps it
around her neck.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Most girls like to tell you about
what they love when they first meet
you. So let me tell you a bit
about myself, but, unlike most
girls, I'll just tell you about the
things I hate, and then, maybe
you'll take me seriously.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Estella exits her bedroom and paces down the narrow hall.

ESTELLA
First off, unlike most girls, I
hate the Twilight series. Why
can't you girls see that Edward is
way too controlling and he's such a
cry baby.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE ESTELLA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Estella exits her house and enters a small city-like
atmosphere. Taxis and buses drive by her. She walks down
the sidewalk.

ESTELLA
I hate whining, but then again who
doesn't hate that. Taxi!

A taxi pulls up to her.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Let me rephrase that, I hate people who whine, perfect example, all the girls at school.

She enters the taxi.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Estella tells the DRIVER where to go and then turns her attention back to us.

ESTELLA

I hate people who mess with wild animals.

EXT. ISLAND SHORE - DAY

Estella stands over a BOY in his bathing suit trying to feed an iguana a piece of bread. The iguana takes the bread and bites the boy's hand in the process.

The Boy begins to cry.

ESTELLA

(to the boy)

I told you.

The Boy gets up and kicks the iguana. The iguana scurries away.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

That's nice. Kick it because you stuck your finger near its mouth. That makes all the sense in the world, kid.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Estella looks out the window. She sees a stinkbug crawling around on the glass.

Estella turns back to the CAMERA.

ESTELLA

I hate stinkbugs. They have glands in their thorax between their first and second pair of legs which produce a foul smelling liquid, especially when you kill them.

(MORE)

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Why can't that happen when you kill
a human? There would be less
murder in the world. But then
again I told you murder was on my
mind, so who am I kidding?

INT. EXAMINING ROOM - DAY

The room is dull and cold.

ESTELLA
I hate needles.

A NURSE sticks a shot into Estella's arm.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Ouch!

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

Estella hands the Driver some cash and exits the taxi.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE JEFF'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff's house can be seen, it's a very nice brick covered
home.

Estella walks up to it. She knocks on the front door.

ESTELLA
I hate the Dallas Cowboys and their
fans. Stop trying to hype
everything up, you guys are no more
talented than any other team in the
NFL.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - EVENING

Estella watches the Washington Redskins score a touchdown
against the Dallas Cowboys.

ESTELLA
Hail to the Redskins, right Jerry
Jones?

She smiles.

EXT. JEFF'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The front door opens. Estella walks inside and stares at the immense amount of drunken chaos spread about the house.

TEENAGE BOYS, stare at her, trying to flirt with her via eye contact. She looks away from them, trying not to acknowledge their existence.

EXT. RANDOM STREET - DAY

Estella holds up a sign that reads, "God Hates Fags." She stands with a small crowd of people, who also carry anti-gay signs.

ESTELLA

I hate the Westboro Baptist Church.

She rips the sign in half and grabs a TEENAGE GIRL standing next to her. The Girl drops her anti-gay poster. Estella stares into the Girl's eyes.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

This is for Fred Phelps.

She kisses the Girl on the lips, lets go, and walks away. The Girl stares in disbelief.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Remember, God hates you, faggot.

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Estella sees Abigail in the distance. Abigail waves.

Estella heads towards Abigail, but somebody walks right in front of her.

MIA WELLNER, 18, proud yet arrogant looking, stares at Estella with a dirty look.

The two remain silent.

Mia walks away.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

And finally, I hate Mia Wellner.
She's pretty much Satan in human form.

She watches Mia walk away in the distance.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
So? What do you think of me now?

INT. JEFF'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

The kitchen is dimly lit. It's cramped as person after person walks in.

ABIGAIL
Still thinking about murder?

ESTELLA
Abigail, please.

Estella stares into space and examines everybody walking around the kitchen.

ABIGAIL
Please what?

ESTELLA
You really thought I was going to murder somebody?

ABIGAIL
You're a very convincing individual.

ESTELLA
It's one of my few good traits.

ABIGAIL
I know.

Estella watches an ASIAN GIRL hit a beer bong. The GUYS holding the funnel laugh as beer spills out of her mouth.

An AFRICAN-AMERICAN GUY approaches Estella and Abigail with two beers in his hand.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN GUY
Abbs, you want a beer?

ABIGAIL
I'm good.

The Guy turns to Estella.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN GUY
What about you, girl? Beer?

Estella is offended.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I hate when people call me, girl, I have a name. At least ask me what it is.

She grabs a beer from the Guy's hand.

ESTELLA

Sure. Got a bottle opener?

AFRICAN-AMERICAN GUY

Yeah.

He takes out his keys and uses a key chain bottle opener to make the beer drinkable.

Estella stares at the Guy as he opens his own bottle. She taps the top of his bottle with the bottom of hers. Beer spews out of the bottle. The Guy starts drinking away, trying to avoid the beer spilling onto the floor.

Estella laughs.

The Guy shoots Estella a dirty look. There is no response from Estella. She begins to drink her beer. The Guy walks away.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

He'll probably call me That Crazy Bitch who forced him to chug his beer for now on, but it's better than being called Girl.

A RANDOM GIRL approaches Estella.

RANDOM GIRL

Fred Dommie's here, he says he's looking for you.

ESTELLA

Where is he?

RANDOM GIRL

Upstairs, last room down the hallway on the right, that's where he said he'd be.

Estella turns back to Abigail.

ESTELLA

I'll be back.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The bedroom is empty, there's no furniture except for an unmade bed and a TV. A light flickers on the ceiling of the room.

Estella enters.

FRED DOMMIE, 20, sits on the unmade bed with a folder in his hand.

ESTELLA

Fred.

FRED

Estella.

ESTELLA

Do you have what I asked for?

Fred gets up from the bed.

FRED

You mean these.

He holds up the folder.

Estella grabs the folder and opens it. There she sees pictures of dead bodies.

FRED (CONT'D)

Names, date of death, all that jazz, right there. It's what you wanted, right?

ESTELLA

More than what I wanted. Fred, seriously, how do you get this stuff?

FRED

Magician never tells his secrets.

ESTELLA

Whatever. Thanks. I mean you got everything and everyone here, right?

FRED

Those are all of the girls. Lizzy Sherbel, Alice Freeman, etc. All of the girls are there.

Estella hugs Fred.

FRED (CONT'D)

You owe me more than a hug. It was tough to get that.

ESTELLA

What do I owe you?

FRED

Can I go down on you?

Estella looks at him and shakes her head.

ESTELLA

In here, isn't this Jeff's room?

FRED

I don't know. Who cares?

ESTELLA

Wait... wait, shouldn't you want oral sex from me? Not the other way around. Wouldn't you want me to blow you?

FRED

Do you want to blow me?

ESTELLA

No!

FRED

Well that's why I'm asking if you want me to eat you out. At least you get something out of it.

Estella chuckles.

ESTELLA

Bye, Fred.

INT. JEFF'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

TEENS sit about the room, drinking and smoking hookah as music blasts.

Estella and Abigail enter the room and sit on a couch. Two GIRLS sitting across from them, get up, look at Estella, and walk out of the room.

Estella watches the Girls walk away, she stares at Abigail, who smokes some hookah.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Most girls hate my guts. I know exactly why, too. It's because I'm too opinionated. But, I also think it has to do with the fact that I get the best sex.

Estella notices more GIRLS staring at her with hateful looks on their faces. Estella smiles at them.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Good sex in the teenage world is hard to come by, even though nobody acts like it is. Girls fake their orgasms while guys tell their friends they banged for over an hour. Sure. But I just know all the secrets to finding a guy who's good in bed. First --

-- Estella stares at a GUY sitting across from her. She stares down at his hands, they are covered in dry skin and appear to be very ashy.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Never sleep with a guy with ashy hands, that means he hasn't jerked it, and honestly having sex when you haven't jerked off is like playing Russian Roulette with a fully loaded gun.

Estella stares at another GUY wearing a high school football shirt.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Jocks are bad too, they spend all their energy on sports, so all they're thinking about while they're doing it is falling asleep after the big game.

Estella's eyes find a GUY with a tight shirt on, he has long brown hair, and a few tattoos along with piercings.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

That there is a punk. Never screw them, they pierce every inch of their body as they get older, and I mean every inch, and that's just painful.

Estella picks out a GUY wearing a Dallas Cowboys jersey.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 Let's face it, you know me too well
 now to think that I'll actually
 screw him.

Estella continues to look around the room.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 So? Who is the perfect score?
 Well, to be honest with you, I
 don't think he's here.

Estella falls back into the couch and sighs.

ESTELLA
 I'm bored.

ABIGAIL
 Well, smoke some hookah.

ESTELLA
 I don't want any.

ABIGAIL
 I don't know what to say. Go home.

ESTELLA
 No.

ABIGAIL
 Then stop whining. I thought you
 hate people who whine? Why'd you
 even come?

Estella hesitates.

ESTELLA
 I don't know.

Estella hears a bit of shouting in the distance, then she
 hears the front door swing open.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 The truth is, I did know why I
 came, and it wasn't just to get the
 photos from Fred. My real reason
 was about to enter the room in
 3...2...1.

HENRY DINIO, 27, looks like a thinner and hipster-like Marlon
 Brando. He enters the room.

HENRY
 Where the fuck is Jeffrey Rogas?!

He looks around the room.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Huh?

No response, the only noise is the music.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Can someone turn off the fuckin'
music!

SOMEONE stumbles over towards the speakers and shuts off the iPod that plays.

HENRY (CONT'D)

That's better.

JEFFERY ROGAS, 18, enters the room.

JEFF

What do you want, Henry?

HENRY

Where's Johnny's money.

Henry walks over to Jeff. The room is tense.

JEFF

Who?

Henry grabs Jeff and slams him to the ground. He pulls a gun out of the back of his pants and jams it into Jeff's head. Somebody shouts in terror.

HENRY

Shut up!

JEFF

I'll get him the money.

HENRY

It's been two months.

JEFF

What?! It's been two weeks.

HENRY

Yeah, but it feels like two months.
So we want the money now.

JEFF

I'll get you the money.

HENRY
You got till Monday.

JEFF
It's Friday!

HENRY
Which gives you three days, doesn't
it?

Henry gets up.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Monday. Okay?

Jeff remains on the ground.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Okay?!

JEFF
Yes! Yes! Please don't hurt me.

Henry walks out of the room and eventually exits the house.

A GIRL runs over to Jeff, but he pushes her away out of fear.

Abigail stares at Estella.

ABIGAIL
Should we call 911?

Estella doesn't answer.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Henry Dinio was his name. He
wasn't exactly who I was looking
for, but he was the next best
thing.

Estella stares down at a frightened Jeff.

CUT TO:

INT. STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

JOHNNY TALARIO, 30, black hair slicked back, smooth face with handsome features, sits back in a chair, getting a lap dance from a STRIPPER.

Henry enters the club, he hands the CASHIER five dollars and walks away. He sits in a chair next to Johnny and the Stripper.

JOHNNY

Can't you see that I'm busy?

HENRY

That kid still owes you money.

JOHNNY

Really?

HENRY

Yep. I just got back from crashing his party, probably made him piss his pants. Told him to pay you on Monday, but the idiot never asked where to meet us.

JOHNNY

Where is he meeting us?

HENRY

I don't know. I guess The Park.

JOHNNY

I'm going to a baseball game?

HENRY

No. The Park! That club. It's called The Park, you were going to take your girl, Monica.

JOHNNY

Monica? Oh shit. I forgot about her.

STRIPPER

I thought I was your girl?

JOHNNY

Don't be stupid, keep dancing.

Henry laughs.

The Stripper gets up from Johnny's lap.

STRIPPER

Thanks, baby. It's ten for a table.

JOHNNY

I only got five.

He gives her the money. She looks at him, anger written all over her face. She takes it and walks away.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Alright. I guess we'll meet him at The Park. Give him a call. We got his number, don't we?

HENRY

Yes, but don't you care about your money?

JOHNNY

Sure.

HENRY

Johnny. I know you got some money and some friends in high places, but just because you sold to a teenager doesn't mean you treat him differently. If he hasn't paid you back, scare some sense into him.

JOHNNY

I think you do that just fine.

Johnny lights a cigar. Henry watches him.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Johnny Talario is his name, and yes, he's the man I want dead.

CUT TO:

INT. ESTELLA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Estella's father, Gareth, sleeps in a lazy boy. Seven empty beer bottles stand next to the chair. Estella walks over to her father and stares at him, disappointed.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Johnny was a drug dealer, with a rich father, who hated him.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Estella lies on her bed, staring at the ceiling.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I lost someone I care for because of Johnny. Nobody seemed to care, not even the police, maybe Johnny paid them off, but, I cared, and hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

Estella closes her eyes.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
And Jeffrey Rogas was my only way
of getting to Johnny.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Estella and Jeff stand under a bunch of evergreen trees.

JEFF
What?

ESTELLA
I know who that was at your party.
His name is Henry Dinio and he
works with Johnny Talario. And you
owe them money for, what, cocaine?

JEFF
How do you know that?

ESTELLA
Friends in high places.

JEFF
I hate it when people say that to
me.

ESTELLA
People say that to you?

JEFF
Look, they told me to meet them
with the money at The Park, but
that was supposed to be today, but
instead, they're out of town and
told me to meet them on Friday.

ESTELLA
Friday? The first?

JEFF
Yep. This Friday.

ESTELLA
Can you take me there? You know I
don't have a car.

JEFF
It'll cost money.

ESTELLA
I'll pay you back.

JEFF
You don't have a job.

Estella doesn't respond.

JEFF (CONT'D)
But I guess you could help me with something.

Estella smiles, knowing exactly what he's talking about.

ESTELLA
Who?

Jeff doesn't answer at first.

JEFF
Eva Benny.

Estella smiles.

ESTELLA
Okay then.

INT. LOCKER ROOM HALLWAY - DAY

Estella sits on the floor, doing homework across from the gymnastics room.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
I know that you're wondering what that all meant. Well, unlike most kids my age, instead of getting a job --

-- EVA BENNY, 18, exits the gymnastics rooms and walks past Estella into the girls locker room.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
I specialize in certain artful photography.

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Estella watches Eva taking a shower in the locker room.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

You see, unlike most people who would do this, I don't put these photos on the internet, I just get requests and take the pictures.

Estella takes a picture of Eva with her phone as Eva stands completely naked in the shower with her back to Estella.

Estella stares at her photo, approves it, and walks away completely undetected.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

That's right, I take nude photos of girls in my school and then sell them to any boys who want to see their crushes wearing just their birthday suits.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - EVENING

Estella uploads the picture to her computer and begins printing it out.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Girls who play sports cost ten dollars, because they usually take showers after practice, therefore it's easier to take a picture.

Estella stares at the photo.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Other girls cost twenty because they're harder to get a good pic out of.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Estella gives Jeff the photo. He smiles and shakes her hand.

JEFF

See you Friday.

He walks away. Estella smiles and looks in the distance to see Mia Wellner looking at her.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

And perhaps that's another reason why I hate Mia Wellner. She's one of the few girls I've never photographed.

Mia is joined by her group of friends and they walk away.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
I guess you could say, she's my
white whale.

EXT. THE PARK - NIGHT

TITLE:

OCTOBER

Jeff and Estella pull up to the club. Music can be heard coming from inside.

JEFF
How are we going in?

ESTELLA
We don't know each other.

JEFF
Sounds good.

ESTELLA
Seriously, you can't be seen with
me.

JEFF
Why?

ESTELLA
Don't worry about it.

JEFF
Am I driving you home?

ESTELLA
No. Just go home when you pay him.
I'll take a taxi.

JEFF
You have money now? Did you take
some more photos this week?

ESTELLA
A couple.

INT. THE PARK - NIGHT

Estella walks amongst PEOPLE jumping around and dancing as strobe lights go off.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Jeff never asked why I wanted to come here, which was a good thing. He probably forgot I told him I knew who Henry and Johnny were.

After walking through the CROWD she sees Henry sitting right next to Johnny.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Sorry to disappoint, but I'm not planning on killing Johnny just yet. I had to get to know him first and this was the best place for him to notice me. And there's no better way of getting a man to notice you than acting incredibly drunk.

Estella walks closer to Johnny.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

No sign of Jeff, so I can assume he's left by now.

Estella watches Johnny and Henry converse.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

The only problem about acting drunk, is that some guys think you're just being sloppy, so, I had to think of another plan.

Estella notices a GIRL dancing by herself.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Maybe if I kiss this girl. She's clearly on Ecstasy, and when on E, you're libido goes up, I'm sure she'd go along with a kiss.

Estella approaches the Girl, but she realizes Johnny isn't watching.

Estella walks away.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

That's not working. Maybe if I pull the good old "silly me".

Estella gets a glass of water from the bar. She walks over to Johnny and Henry, while dodging a dozen DANCING IDIOTS.

Estella stands right next to Johnny. She holds the glass of water. She waits for the right moment.

Henry and Johnny begin to laugh.

Estella acts like she trips and spills the water all over Johnny's lap. Johnny looks down at his pants. Henry laughs.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Silly me.

Johnny looks up at her, face full of anger.

JOHNNY

You stupid bitch!

ESTELLA

I'm sorry.

Johnny gets up and smacks Estella.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Estella sits on the curb outside the club.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I know you're probably wondering why I was kicked out and not Johnny, well, it's just a case of Johnny having more friends than me.

Estella watches taxis drive by.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Mission failed. Right? Not exactly.

The entrance door opens. Johnny and Henry walk out, laughing.

HENRY

I'll go get the car.

JOHNNY

Alright then.

Henry walks away.

Johnny continues laughing, but slowly notices Estella. He stumbles over towards her.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Hey!

Estella turns around.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

You made it look like I piss myself tonight.

ESTELLA

My bad.

JOHNNY

No. No. My bad. I shouldn't have smacked you.

ESTELLA

That was pretty stupid.

JOHNNY

Hey. Watch it now.

ESTELLA

You smacked me. I can say whatever I want.

JOHNNY

True enough.

Johnny sits down next to Estella.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

What's your name?

ESTELLA

Estella.

JOHNNY

I'm Pip.

ESTELLA

What?

JOHNNY

It's a Great Expectations reference. Never mind.

ESTELLA

No. It's okay. I get it now. It was funny.

JOHNNY

Not really. My real name is actually Johnny.

ESTELLA

I know.

Johnny looks at her surprised.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Oh shit.

JOHNNY

How do you know my name?

ESTELLA

I don't know. I don't actually.
I'm terrible at holding a
conversation.

JOHNNY

So am I.

ESTELLA

You seem alright to me.

JOHNNY

It's your eyes.

ESTELLA

What?

JOHNNY

They're beautiful. They have this
very unique look to them. As long
as I look at them, I can keep a
good conversation. Are you Asian?
Or have Asian in you?

ESTELLA

No. I've just been blessed with
nice eyes.

Henry pulls up to Estella and Johnny.

HENRY

Let's go, man.

JOHNNY

Sorry about tonight.

Henry heads towards the car and jumps in. Estella gets up
and walks over to the passenger seat. Johnny rolls down the
window.

ESTELLA

Maybe you can make it up to me.

JOHNNY
How's that?

ESTELLA
813-7277. That's my number. Maybe
you can take me out some night.

JOHNNY
Why would you want me to do that?
I'm the jerk who smacked you.

ESTELLA
I'm a gluten for punishment.

Johnny stares at her, impressed by her attitude.

JOHNNY
Maybe.

Henry drives away, leaving Estella in the parking lot alone.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Mission complete.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

TITLE:

NOVEMBER

Estella walks with Abigail, and of course, GIRLS in the hall
stare at Estella with dirty looks.

ABIGAIL
So what was your weekend like?

ESTELLA
I got dick slapped at a male strip
club.

ABIGAIL
Nice. Is that really what
happened?

ESTELLA
I don't know.

ABIGAIL
You're so difficult sometimes --

-- Estella ignores Abigail and stares at Mia Wellner in the distance. Abigail is intrigued by Estella's reaction.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)
You really don't like Mia?

ESTELLA
Yep.

ABIGAIL
Why?

ESTELLA
Not now.

ABIGAIL
Estella I'm your best friend --

ESTELLA
-- Not now.

They stand outside the girls bathroom. Abigail opens the door for herself and Estella, but Estella doesn't enter.

ABIGAIL
Come on.

ESTELLA
I'm not going in there to listen to you crap.

ABIGAIL
I don't crap in public bathrooms, plus, I'm a woman, I don't even crap.

ESTELLA
Oh, you're so magical. Get in there.

Abigail sighs, but enters the bathroom alone. Estella leans against the wall. She stares at the CAMERA and begins to talk to us again.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Abigail was at another school when I was a freshman and sophomore. And, those were the years I started to realize Mia was a cold-hearted bitch.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Estella sits and watches her TEACHER in the front of the classroom. She turns her head back as she hears a couple GIRLS laughing. The girls stare directly at her and whisper into each others ears.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Sometimes people just don't like
each other for no apparent reason,
that was Mia with me.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Estella stares at a few GIRLS, eyeing her.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
There was history between Mia and
I, I guess. So one day she made
this rumor up that I broke up with
my ex-boyfriend because he sucked
in bed. Now when I was a
sophomore, I was still a virgin, so
that's completely wrong right
there.

Estella tries to ignore EVERYONE and continues to walk down the hall.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
That's not all. Mia said that the
only way I could get off was by
masturbating outside, she said it
was something about the natural
cool air. Could you imagine if
that were real.

EXT. FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Estella has her hands down her pants. In her NEIGHBORS house, a YOUNG BOY looks out his window and watches Estella. Estella stares back at the boy and winks.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - A FEW DAYS LATER (FLASHBACK)

Estella walks through the hall.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I didn't think Mia was capable of making up something so unique and original, but I didn't care, so I lashed out on her by calling her a cum dripping cunt and starting a rumor that she only got off by watching shemale on female pornography.

Estella walks up to her locker and stares in shock.

On her locker, a photoshopped picture of Estella's face mixed onto a naked woman's body.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Oh, how I hate Adobe.

Estella looks more than angered.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - DAY

Estella lies on her bed doing some homework.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

It's been over a month since I went to The Park.

She looks at her paper and realizes she's done nothing but doodle.

Estella sighs.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

No word from Johnny. I guess to him, I was just some chick with a school girl crush on him. But then again, he might think that I wouldn't want to hang out with a guy who smacks women. I guess that makes sense, I just wish he would call.

Estella throws her homework to the ground. She lies back in her bed and grabs a pillow and places it over her face and sighs once again.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Add that to my list of things I hate. A guy who never calls back.

INT. ESTELLA'S KITCHEN - A COUPLE NIGHTS LATER

Estella walks to the pantry and looks inside.

ESTELLA

Hey, Dad, I'm going to make some nachos.

She takes her head out of the pantry and looks over at the living room.

Gareth is asleep in the lazy boy, with a beer in his hand and a few more next to the chair.

Estella sighs.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Hey, Dad, I'm going to go give this guy I know a Jeff Smoker in your bedroom.

No response.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

What a shame.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Estella's phone rings.

Estella runs into her bedroom with a plate of nachos. She puts the nachos on her night stand. She rushes to her phone. The nachos fall off and spill on the floor.

ESTELLA

Shit.

She ignores the nachos and picks up the phone.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Hello?

JOHNNY

(filtered)
Estella?

ESTELLA

Yes?

JOHNNY

(filtered)
How about I make up for that slap I gave you.

ESTELLA

Who is this?

JOHNNY

(filtered)

Very funny.

ESTELLA

It's been over a month.

JOHNNY

(filtered)

Forgive me.

ESTELLA

I'll try.

JOHNNY

(filtered)

Listen, my friend, Doug, is having a huge birthday party this weekend. I feel like, you could come.

ESTELLA

Johnny, I'm eighteen, do you think your friends will find you a little strange if you're with me?

JOHNNY

(filtered)

You're legal aren't you, plus, these people aren't exactly my friends.

ESTELLA

I thought you said it was your friend, Doug's, birthday?

JOHNNY

(filtered)

Estella! Do you want to come or not?

Estella doesn't answer.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I know a smart girl wouldn't go near that abusive bastard again, but I'm not a smart girl...

JOHNNY

(filtered)

Estella?

ESTELLA (V.O.)
...I'm more than smart.

EXT. DOUG'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TITLE:

DECEMBER

Henry, Johnny, and Estella pull up to the home. It's huge, like a millionaire's house.

INT. DOUG'S FOYER - NIGHT

Estella, Johnny, and Henry enter the house.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
December 2nd was the night of
Doug's birthday party. And boy did
I meet some characters.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S FAMILY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DOUG, 30, introduces himself to Estella.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
First there was Doug. Really nice
guy. And boy was he having the
time of his life.

MIRANDA, 28, Doug's wife, black hair with a tattoo of a star on her cheek.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
There was Miranda, Doug's wife.
She was a beauty and that tattoo
was so awesome. She told me she
loved the shape of stars and always
wanted a tattoo of one, but she
couldn't think of a spot where it
didn't make her look like a
stripper, so she put it on her
face.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JENNY, 23, dirty blonde, dances with, SOPHIE ANN, 22, brunette a bit bigger than Jenny, yet still very attractive.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

There were the groupies, as I liked to call them, Jenny and Sophie Ann. Those girls love dancing, they act like every second of their life is at a Lady Gaga concert.

Estella tries to introduce herself to the Girls, but they continue to dance.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Johnny and Estella stand next to each other, nobody else around.

JOHNNY

So what do you think?

ESTELLA

I think your friend, Doug, has a huge house.

JOHNNY

Sure he does.

ESTELLA

Where does he work?

JOHNNY

You know, I don't know.

ESTELLA

What?

Johnny laughs.

JOHNNY

So tell me about yourself, Estella.

ESTELLA

Well, I hate Twilight, whining, people who mess with wild animals, stinkbugs, needles, the Dallas Cowboys, the Westboro Baptist Church, and Mia Wellner. Just to name a few things.

JOHNNY
Who's Mia Wellner?

ESTELLA
Just some bitch.

Johnny laughs.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
What about you, Johnny? Tell me a
bit about yourself.

JOHNNY
Not much to tell you.

ESTELLA
There's got to be something.

JOHNNY
I was born in April. I was also
born in New Jersey. And my
nickname amongst friends is Crazy
Johnny.

ESTELLA
Crazy Johnny? Why's that?

JOHNNY
You know what, I can't remember,
all I know is that it's stuck over
the years.

Estella giggles.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
So why did you tell me about the
things you hate?

ESTELLA
Because most girls wouldn't do
that.

JOHNNY
Let me guess, you're not like most
girls, are you?

ESTELLA
Exactly.

JOHNNY
I guess most girls wouldn't go to
The Park alone at the age of
eighteen.

ESTELLA
You'd be surprised.

JOHNNY
I bet. You know, I still don't
feel like I know you well enough.

ESTELLA
Then play five questions with me.

JOHNNY
Five questions?

ESTELLA
It's when you ask me five
questions.

JOHNNY
Oh, so it's exactly what it sounds
like? Okay? Favorite color?

ESTELLA
Green.

JOHNNY
Favorite number?

ESTELLA
Did you just ask me for my favorite
number? I'm not five.

JOHNNY
Answer the question.

ESTELLA
Eight.

JOHNNY
Favorite... I don't know... car?

ESTELLA
Dodge Charger, it's got the shape
of a sports car and the space of an
SUV. Next?

JOHNNY
Band?

ESTELLA
Nine Inch Nails.

JOHNNY
Movie?

ESTELLA
The Dark Crystal.

Johnny smiles and lightly chuckles.

JOHNNY
The Jim Henson movie with the
vulture dudes?

ESTELLA
Exactly.

JOHNNY
I remember that one. Classic.

ESTELLA
Well, cult classic.

JOHNNY
I guess so.

ESTELLA
You know me now?

JOHNNY
Sure.

ESTELLA
Good, because I have to visit the
bathroom.

JOHNNY
By all means.

ESTELLA
Thanks for your approval.

She walks away.

JOHNNY
(to himself)
I guess you're not like most girls.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Sophie Ann raises her head in the air and gasps after doing a
line of coke.

JENNY
Quit hogging it.

SOPHIE ANN
Jesus Christ, I feel like Mel
Gibson in Braveheart.

JENNY
I have no idea what that means,
Sophie.

A GUY knocks on the door, screaming to get in the bathroom.

SOPHIE ANN
Shut the fuck up!

JENNY
Sophie!

SOPHIE ANN
What?

As Jenny bends down to do a line on the bathroom counter,
Sophie Ann stands behind her and pretends to hump her.

JENNY
What are you doing?

SOPHIE ANN
Nothing.

JENNY
You're humping me aren't you?

SOPHIE ANN
Of course not, why would you think
that?

Jenny gets up and pushes Sophie Ann away.

JENNY
Stop!

SOPHIE ANN
Then let's go dancing. I just want
to dance!

The door opens and Estella enters the bathroom.

SOPHIE ANN (CONT'D)
I want to dance!

JENNY
It's coke, not E, Sophie, shut up.

Estella tries closing the door, but Sophie Ann notices her.

SOPHIE ANN
You! Estella, right?

ESTELLA
Yes?

Sophie grabs the bag of cocaine and holds it towards Estella.

SOPHIE ANN
Would you like some cocaine?

ESTELLA
No thank you.

Jenny takes the bag out of Sophie Ann's hands.

JENNY
Jesus, Sophie! Some people don't
find this shit cool.
(turns to Estella)
I'm sorry.

ESTELLA
It's okay.

JENNY
Did you need this bathroom, I think
there's like eight in this house.

ESTELLA
No. I'll find another one.

While this conversation goes on, Sophie Ann dances in the bathroom like an idiot.

JENNY
You sure?

ESTELLA
I'm sure.

Sophie Ann is now grinding herself against Jenny and grabbing her breasts.

JENNY
You sure you don't want some coke?

Estella stares at Sophie Ann.

ESTELLA
No, I'm good.

She leaves and closes the door.

Jenny pushes Sophie Ann off of her.

JENNY

Why do you have to do that?

SOPHIE ANN

What?

JENNY

You probably scared the shit out of that poor girl, it's the first time we've met her.

SOPHIE ANN

What?

JENNY

You know what.

INT. DOUG'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Everyone sings Happy Birthday to Doug. Doug smiles at everyone. In the front of the crowd singing, is Johnny and Estella. They finish. Everyone claps.

Johnny holds a glass of champagne in the air.

JOHNNY

Let's make a toast, to our good friend, Doug.

Everyone lifts their drinks up.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Anyone want to go first?

They all laugh.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Seriously, Doug, I got nothing, except the typical stuff, such as the fact that you're a great man.

DOUG

Thanks --

JOHNNY

-- It's Johnny, just in case you're too drunk to remember me.

DOUG

Good call.

Everyone laughs.

Doug's wife, Miranda, enters the room.

MIRANDA

Well, it looks like you all just sang Happy Birthday without the cake.

DOUG

Damnit!

A few people laugh.

DOUG (CONT'D)

It's okay, honey, people make mistakes.

MIRANDA

And you're living proof.

More laughs.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

I love you, baby.

DOUG

Same.

JOHNNY

No. No. I have a song for us to sing.

Everyone goes quiet.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(singing)

What do tigers dream of, when they take a little tiger snooze. Do they dream of mauling zebras, or Hallie Barry in her Catwoman suit.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I can't believe he's singing the Tiger Song from The Hangover.

People begin to join him.

JOHNNY

(singing)

Don't you worry your pretty striped head, we're gonna get you back to Tyson and your cozy tiger bed.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Then we're gonna find our best
friend Doug and then we're gonna
give him a best friend hug. Doug!
Doug! Oh Doug! Dougie! Dougie!
Doug!

Doug smiles.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

But if he's been murdered by
crystal meth tweakers --

-- He approaches Doug.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Well then we're shit out of luck.

Johnny punches Doug in the face. Doug falls to the ground.
Miranda screams. Johnny continues to punch Doug. Blood
flies everywhere. Everyone watches in shock.

Johnny finishes and throws Doug hard onto the ground.

Estella looks at Johnny in shock.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Where's my money you son of a
bitch! Huh? Where is it?!

He kicks Doug.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

You piece of shit!

Doug starts to cry.

Henry walks out of the crowd and grabs a hold of Johnny.

HENRY

Let's go, buddy.

Johnny doesn't move, but Henry finally pulls him away.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Let's go.

They walk away, but Johnny rushes back over to Doug and
starts all over again. Blood splatters on the floor, skin is
practically removed from Doug's face after every blow. Teeth
fall out of his mouth. Johnny stops and stares at Doug's
unrecognizable face. He punches him a few more times.

Henry rips Johnny off of Doug again.

HENRY (CONT'D)
 Fuck, let's go! Come on, Estella.

She looks at Doug's beaten body. She looks back at Johnny and Henry as they leave. Her face reads "what have I gotten into?" She looks back at Doug. People scream again as Johnny rushes back to Doug, but Henry gets a grip on him and violently thrust him back.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 I guess that's why they called him
 Crazy Johnny.

HENRY
 Estella!

She leaves.

Miranda cries and holds on tightly to her beaten husband. He doesn't even look like a person.

MIRANDA
 Call 911!

PERSON IN CROWD
 I did. They're on there way.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - NIGHT

Street lamps from outside brighten the interior of the beat up car.

HENRY
 You know, when I say you should be more concerned with your money, I didn't mean you beat the shit out of some guy at his party.

JOHNNY
 Whatever.

HENRY
 No! Not whatever. That's not cool! We could get into serious shit for that.

JOHNNY
 You're just a worry wart.

HENRY
 And you're drunk.

JOHNNY
Estella! You okay?

ESTELLA
Yeah.

HENRY
Do you want to go home?

JOHNNY
No. She wants to party.

HENRY
We're not partying, we're going home, to bed.

ESTELLA
Home sounds nice.

HENRY
(to Johnny)
See?

Johnny stares at Henry in annoyance. He turns back to Estella.

JOHNNY
Estella can you do me a favor?

She doesn't answer.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Can you not tell your friends about what you saw tonight?

No answer.

HENRY
Estella?

ESTELLA
Sure. Yeah. Yeah. Sure.

JOHNNY
Good girl.

Silence.

ESTELLA
Did you guys... were you actually friends with Doug?

JOHNNY
More or less.

She looks out the window and sees a stinkbug crawling on the glass. She looks at in anger. She flicks the glass and the stinkbug flies away.

INT. ESTELLA'S FOYER - NIGHT

Estella enters the house. All is quiet.

INT. ESTELLA'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

She holds a glass of milk in her hand, trembling. She stares at the clock.

12:00 A.M.

She turns to see her father asleep in the living room.

INT. ESTELLA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Estella stands over her sleeping father.

ESTELLA

Hey Dad... I saw, one of the most dangerous men in town, practically beat a man to death tonight.

Her father remains asleep.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

I was so scared.

No response.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

And you know me, I don't scare easily, even though I look like I do, I don't.

Silence.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

But it's like you say... never judge a book by its cover.

She stares at the empty bottles of beer. A tear rolls down her cheek. She turns her back on her father and walks away. He remains asleep.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BAR - MORNING

TITLE:

JANUARY

A glass is filled with ice, then liquor.

A BARTENDER, 27, hands Johnny the glass.

BARTENDER
Here's your drink, you alcoholic.

JOHNNY
Thanks... fag.

BARTENDER
Fag? That doesn't make any sense.

JOHNNY
What? Why?

BARTENDER
Because I called you an alcoholic,
which is what you are, you calling
me a fag, that's not me, brother.

Johnny laughs.

Two MEN enter the bar, they sit down a few seats away from Johnny. The Bartender gets drinks for them. He walks back over to Johnny.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)
So? What have you been crushing
recently?

JOHNNY
What?

BARTENDER
What have you been fucking?

JOHNNY
Anything that moves.

They both laugh.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Nothing really. I don't really
have a girl.

BARTENDER
No hood rats?

JOHNNY
Every now and then. What about
you?

BARTENDER
I'm not talking to you about my sex
life. That shit's personal,
brother.

JOHNNY
You're an asshole.

The bartender laughs.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Seriously.

BARTENDER
Just finish your drink so I can get
you another one and kick your ass
out of here for being drunk in
public.

JOHNNY
Certainly.

Johnny finishes his drink. The Bartender fills up another
glass.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
There is this one girl.

BARTENDER
Really?

JOHNNY
Yeah.

BARTENDER
Blonde, brunette, black hair?

JOHNNY
Can't remember. Brunette I think.
I'm always around her at night.

BARTENDER
Why, because you're stalking her?

JOHNNY
Fuck you. But, she's, there's
something about her, that, it gets
me.

BARTENDER
She got you under a curse?

JOHNNY
Maybe.

BARTENDER
You're in love, aren't you? Pussy.

JOHNNY
Fuck you! I'm just trying to hit
it.

BARTENDER
Think she's freaky in bed?

JOHNNY
Maybe, she'll be fun for me. I'm
sure she's tight down there.

BARTENDER
What is she, twelve?

JOHNNY
Yeah, she's twelve, I like little
girls.

BARTENDER
I'm just fuckin' with you. Tight?
She'll be fun to go muff diving
with.

JOHNNY
You mean eat out?

BARTENDER
Yeah, the buffet.

Johnny finishes his drink.

JOHNNY
Get me another.

BARTENDER
Sure thing, brother.

The entrance door opens.

ANGELO TALARIO, 52, enters the bar. He's Johnny, except
twenty years older.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Remember I told you that Johnny's
Dad hated him? Well, if you don't,
this is me informing you again.

BARTENDER

What can I get you, sir?

ANGELO

You can tell me, if that guy
sitting right in front of you is
Jonathan Talario.

The Bartender doesn't answer, he looks down at Johnny.
Johnny turns around and faces his father.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

It is! How's it going, son?

JOHNNY

Pretty good.

Angelo puts his hand on Johnny's shoulder, making Johnny
uncomfortable.

ANGELO

How long has it been?

JOHNNY

Well, when was the last time you
tried to kill me?

The Bartender stares in shock.

ANGELO

He's kidding. Don't worry.

BARTENDER

Sure.

JOHNNY

Well, kill me is a bad way to put
it.

ANGELO

You got that right.

JOHNNY

More like kick my ass.

Angelo stares at him in anger.

ANGELO

You trying to start something?

JOHNNY
Aren't you?

The Bartender finally gives Johnny his drink.

ANGELO
Johnny, I'm not --

JOHNNY
-- Cut the shit, Dad. You came here, because you finally found out where I went.

ANGELO
No, I finally found out where my money went.

JOHNNY
I needed to get out of Jersey.

ANGELO
And you needed my money for that?

JOHNNY
Fuck off.

ANGELO
There's no need for that.

JOHNNY
Stop trying to act like I'm the bad guy here!

ANGELO
You're a drug dealer, aren't you? So you must be the bad guy.

JOHNNY
And what are you?

ANGELO
A father trying to see his son.

JOHNNY
Fuck you.

Johnny turns his back on his father. Angelo stands patiently. He watches Johnny take a sip out of his drink and place the glass back on the bar.

Johnny faces Angelo.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
What?

Angelo grabs the back of Johnny's head and slams his face into the glass. It breaks and cuts Johnny. Angelo lets go and Johnny falls to the ground.

BARTENDER

Hey!

The two Men, who entered earlier, stand up, take guns out of there jackets, and point them at the Bartender.

Johnny lies on the floor, screaming in pain.

ANGELO

You wanna take my money?!

Johnny continues screaming.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

You can have my money!

Angelo takes money out of his pocket and throws it onto Johnny.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

You wanna sell drugs?!

Angelo takes a small bag of coke out of his pocket and rips it open, spilling cocaine on Johnny's blood-covered face.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

This should help your business!

Angelo kicks Johnny.

BARTENDER

Hey, buddy!

Angelo looks up at the Bartender.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)

Please. Do this somewhere else.

Angelo looks back down at Johnny.

ANGELO

That's okay, we were just finishing up.

He kicks Johnny, again.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

What would your mother think?

JOHNNY

That you're an asshole.

Angelo stares at Johnny, he does nothing, but turn around and leave, with the two Men following. Johnny remains on the floor coughing.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - A FEW DAYS LATER

Estella stands at her locker and puts a few heavy books inside. She closes it.

She notices in the distance, her best friend Abigail, talking and laughing with Mia Wellner.

Estella looks on in disappointment, then walks away.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - HOURS LATER

The school parking lot is empty, except for one red convertible.

Estella walks closer to the car, only to see Johnny sitting inside of it, with sunglasses on.

ESTELLA

Look at Jake Ryan, out here ready to sweep me off my feet.

JOHNNY

You better believe it.

Estella walks by the car, Johnny expects her to stop, but she just keeps walking. Johnny turns the car on and follows her.

ESTELLA

Why are you here?

Johnny answers from the car, following her in the empty parking lot.

JOHNNY

It's been too long.

ESTELLA

Not long enough.

JOHNNY

Why do you say that?

ESTELLA

I don't know, maybe because the last time I saw you, you beat the shit out of some guy.

JOHNNY

The last time you saw me, was in Henry's car when we drove you home.

ESTELLA

You know what I mean.

JOHNNY

Then let me apologize.

ESTELLA

Okay, sure, this is only the fifteenth billion time you've had to do so.

JOHNNY

Let me make it up to you.

ESTELLA

How?

JOHNNY

Lunch?

ESTELLA

Sounds like shit.

Johnny stops the car, he takes off his sunglasses, revealing bandages and scars.

JOHNNY

Estella!

She turns around to see Johnny.

ESTELLA

Jesus. What happened?

JOHNNY

Let me take you to lunch.

She doesn't answer.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Please.

INT. DINER - DAY

Estella and Johnny sit at a booth, across from each other.

ESTELLA
Tell me why I'm here.

JOHNNY
Because you wanted lunch.

ESTELLA
No. Tell me why I'm here, with
you, after all the stupid things
you've done.

JOHNNY
Because you're a gluten for
punishment.

ESTELLA
I'm not that stupid.

JOHNNY
Sure you are.

ESTELLA
I'll leave.

JOHNNY
I don't know, you tell me! Why are
you here?

Estella doesn't answer.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Because I want to kill you.

Johnny waits for an answer.

ESTELLA
I don't know.

JOHNNY
I'll be happy to... to never... to
never --

ESTELLA
-- Try to kill a man again, just
for me?

JOHNNY
Exactly.

ESTELLA
I can't trust you.

JOHNNY
Why not?

ESTELLA
Because you're a twenty-something
year old guy trying to make me fall
in love with you.

JOHNNY
That's not true.

ESTELLA
Why's that?

JOHNNY
Because I'm not twenty-something,
I'm thirty.

ESTELLA
Even worse.

JOHNNY
Then leave!

Estella doesn't respond, she just crosses her arms and stares at him.

Johnny feels his phone vibrate, he takes it out of his pocket, and reads a text message.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
There.

ESTELLA
What?

JOHNNY
It's Sophie Ann's birthday on
Saturday. You remember her?

ESTELLA
Sure, but does she remember me?

JOHNNY
Why's that?

ESTELLA
She was high as shit when she met
me.

JOHNNY

Trust me she's been worse than that before.

Estella looks at him, surprised.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Look, there's nobody who owes me money at this party, I think, therefore I'll have nobody to attack. I'll behave.

ESTELLA

Well that's great.

JOHNNY

Give me another chance.

ESTELLA

Another chance, after the slap to the face and the beat down at Doug's?

JOHNNY

Which all sounds more than terrible, but trust me?

ESTELLA

Why do you want me?

JOHNNY

I don't know.

ESTELLA

Is it my looks.

JOHNNY

I don't know.

ESTELLA

Is it my --

JOHNNY

-- Estella!

She stops.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Let me prove it to you, I'm not all bad.

She doesn't answer.

JOHNNY
Estella.

ESTELLA
Fine.

Johnny smiles.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
But you're not driving me. I'll
take a cab, you can give me the
address. Therefore I have an exit
strategy if you go insane again. I
won't have to endure another
awkward drive home.

JOHNNY
That's fine.

Estella smiles.

ESTELLA
Okay.

Johnny stares at her.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
That idea was perfect for Johnny.
Because, he had other plans before
the party.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE - SATURDAY EVENING

Johnny and Henry get out of Henry's car. Two HITMEN, wait
for them at their car.

HITMAN #1
We usually don't bring our clients,
but if you promise to be
professional about this, than we'll
bring you.

JOHNNY
I'm already here, aren't I?

HITMAN #2
Let's bring him.

HITMAN #1
Wait. Money?

Henry gives them a bag.

HENRY

All there.

EXT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A huge house with a big lawn, practically in the middle of nowhere.

A taxi pulls up to the driveway. Estella stares at the house.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I'm sure this wasn't Sophie Ann's house, but her parents. It was nice, too nice.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Music blasts in the background.

SOPHIE ANN

It's good to see you, Stella.

ESTELLA

Estella. With an E.

SOPHIE ANN

You have E? Hook me up.

ESTELLA

No!

SOPHIE ANN

Oh. Okay. I'm drunk.

ESTELLA

Where's Johnny?

SOPHIE ANN

Not here!

Sophie walks away and joins her guests. Estella stands, alone.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Johnny was in the city, taking care of some business.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Johnny, Henry, and the two Hitmen enter the hotel.

They approach the RECEPTIONIST.

JOHNNY
Where's it at?

RECEPTIONIST
Johnny Talario?

JOHNNY
You got it.

RECEPTIONIST
The indoor pool, wrapped in the
towels. Down that hallway.

The Hitmen, walk away headed towards the indoor pool.

JOHNNY
Mine too?

RECEPTIONIST
Towels.

JOHNNY
Thanks.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Of course, he paid off the
receptionist, another friend in a
high place.

The Receptionist gives him a key to the room. The key reads
1200.

INT. INDOOR POOL - NIGHT

The Hitmen grab a few towels off the towel wrack. They open
the towels up to find two guns with silencers. Johnny grabs
a towel that has a long object wrapped in it.

HENRY
That's not too obvious is it?

JOHNNY
Who cares.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Loud music plays, lights go on and off. People jump around,
having the time of their lives. Estella walks around the
crowd, she wraps her arms around her body uncomfortably.

She sees Jenny and a few RANDOM GUYS, doing coke on a table nearby.

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Angelo and his two MEN sit in the room, with drinks in their hands. They laugh.

A knock at the door.

They stare at the door. It knocks again. The two Men grab their guns.

ANGELO
Put those away, it's probably house
keeping.

MAN #1
At this hour?

ANGELO
Fuck you! Put them away.

They do so. One of the men approach the door.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sophie crawls on top of her kitchen counter. People cheer her on.

Estella watches her.

SOPHIE ANN
I'd like to make an announcement!

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

The door opens. One of the Hitmen, put a piece of plastic on the Man's face. The Hitman pushes him backwards and places a gun in his face. He shoots him, but the blood flies into the plastic, stopping it from flying everywhere. The Man falls to the ground.

ANGELO
Fuck!

The other man goes for his gun, but the other Hitman shoots him in the hand. Minimal blood flies, the Man falls to the ground. Some blood gets on the carpet.

Johnny and Henry are in the room now.

HITMAN #1
Check the hallway.

HENRY
Nobody heard it.

HITMAN #2
Shit!

JOHNNY
What?

HITMAN #2
This guy got his blood on the
carpet.

JOHNNY
So?

HITMAN #2
It means. When they see that,
they'll know something happened
here.

JOHNNY
We'll get somebody to clean it up.

Angelo stares at Johnny.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

SOPHIE ANN
I've always had this dream to be a
rock star and crowd surf.

People cheer for no reason.

SOPHIE ANN (CONT'D)
But, I've done nothing with my
young life so far. I'm obviously
not a rock star.

Jenny approaches Sophie Ann.

JENNY
You're my rock star!

Sophie laughs.

SOPHIE ANN
Jenny, you're so high right now!

The crowd laughs.

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

JOHNNY
Can you deal with him?

One of the hitmen put a piece of plastic on the last Man and shoot him. Once again, the plastic takes the blood.

Johnny walks up to Angelo, with the long object wrapped in the towel in his hand.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Hey, Daddy.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Everyone stares at Sophie Ann's as if she's making some important political speech.

SOPHIE ANN
Here's the deal. I jump off the counter and you guys help me crowd surf, for the first time. Help me be a rock star!

People cheer.

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

ANGELO
You son of a bitch.

JOHNNY
That's not nice to say about Mom.

Johnny holds the object up to Angelo's face.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sophie Ann turns her back on the Crowd. People cheer. Estella watches, still feeling uncomfortable.

SOPHIE ANN
Okay. One! Two! Three!

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Johnny shakes the towel off the object, revealing it to be a wooden bat.

HENRY
Johnny! No!

Johnny swings it. It strikes Angelo's face. Blood flies.
The Hitmen stare in disappointment and anger.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sophie Ann falls back into the crowd. They catch her, some try to rip her clothes off, she laughs and cheers.

Estella walks away from the crowd.

INT. ANGELO'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Johnny continues to beat Angelo and eventually stops.

HITMAN #1
You gonna get somebody to clean
that up too?

Johnny doesn't answer, he just stares at his dead father.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Crazy Johnny was at it again.

INT. SOPHIE ANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Estella heads towards the front door.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
And just when I was about to leave,
after another disappointing night.

The front door opens. Henry and Johnny stand outside.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
There was my knight in shining
armor.

JOHNNY
Too late?

Estella laughs.

ESTELLA
I guess you can come in.

They enter.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BAR - DAY

TITLE:

FEBRUARY

Estella sits down at the bar with Johnny. The Bartender from before converses with them. Sophie Ann sits a few seats away from them, flirting with some MAN.

Sophie Ann laughs in the background. Estella turns to see what she's up too, then she turns her attention back to Johnny.

ESTELLA

So what type of guy comes to a bar
this early anyway?

BARTENDER

An alcoholic.

JOHNNY

Hey!

BARTENDER

Just kidding. A hard working man
and a good one at that.

JOHNNY

That's more like it.

BARTENDER

Who knows how to tip his bartender,
real well.

JOHNNY

Don't push your luck.

ESTELLA

Look's like Sophie's having fun.

JOHNNY

When is Sophie not having fun?

Estella chuckles.

BARTENDER

I thought she was a lesbian.

JOHNNY

No. Why? What made you think that?

BARTENDER

She's always with that other chick, Jennifer, I think.

JOHNNY

No, they're just good friends. They love each other, but not in love with each other.

BARTENDER

Girls have changed, when I was in high school, girls loved each other up until one turned their back on the other, then they were all bitches.

ESTELLA

It's still that way today.

The Bartender looks at Estella, a little uncomfortably. Estella seems a bit confused.

JOHNNY

I think I'm going to buy Sophie and her new friend a drink.

ESTELLA

Do it.

JOHNNY

(to the Bartender)

Give her a vodka tonic and him what ever he's drinking now.

BARTENDER

Vodka tonic?

JOHNNY

This guy will thank me later.

ESTELLA

Trying to help that guy get his dick wet with Sophie Ann?

JOHNNY

I'm just the gift that keeps on giving.

The Bartender gives the drinks to Sophie and the Man. The Man seems offended.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
So, how bad are girls in high school?

ESTELLA
Bitches. I'm the only good one.

JOHNNY
Yes. I think you're one of the good ones.

ESTELLA
I figured that, otherwise, this wouldn't be our, what, eighth date?

JOHNNY
(sarcastically)
You're too cute.

MAN WITH SOPHIE
Hey, buddy!

Johnny looks over to the man.

JOHNNY
What's up?

MAN WITH SOPHIE
Think you could mind your own fucking business? If the lady and I want a drink, I'll order it.

JOHNNY
I'm her friend, just being a good guy, that's all.

MAN WITH SOPHIE
Fuck you! Mind your own fucking business! I got this!
(turns to Sophie Ann)
You suck his dick or something?

Estella notices anger written all over Johnny's face. She looks down at the bar, where Johnny is tightly grasping his drink.

JOHNNY
Son of a bitch.

He grabs the drink and almost charges over to the Man, but Estella stops him, knowing he is about to do something stupid.

ESTELLA

There was The Park and then Doug's,
that's two, three strikes and
you're out.

Johnny hesitates, but eventually puts his glass down.

JOHNNY

I wasn't gonna do anything.

ESTELLA

Sure, it just only looked like you
were going to bash his face in with
your drink.

JOHNNY

Exactly.

CUT TO:

A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Estella sits at the bar by herself. The Bartender approaches her.

BARTENDER

How old are you?

Estella doesn't answer, she just stares at the Bartender, who looks concerned for her.

Estella almost answers, but Johnny comes walking out of the bathroom.

JOHNNY

Let's get out of this joint.

ESTELLA

Okay.

The Bartender still looks concerned for her.

EXT. STREETS - DAY

Johnny and Estella walk side by side.

JOHNNY

So what does your Dad think about
you being out all the time?

ESTELLA

Not much. He's a busy man sleeping
in a busy chair.

JOHNNY
Why's that?

Estella stares at Johnny, she doesn't answer at first.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Drinking problems?

ESTELLA
You could say that.

JOHNNY
Want me to go over there and sort
things out for you? Teach your Dad
some respect?

ESTELLA
You're doing enough already.

JOHNNY
How's that?

ESTELLA
You're taking me away from him, he
hates that.

JOHNNY
Little bit of revenge in you?

ESTELLA
Sure.

JOHNNY
Well, listen, Henry and the girls
are gonna be at my place tonight.

ESTELLA
Your place, you have a house?

JOHNNY
A very nice condo, and actually it
belongs to me and Henry.

ESTELLA
I thought you said it was your
place and that he was only coming
over?

JOHNNY
I said that to impress you.

ESTELLA
Very nice.

JOHNNY

How about you come over.

Estella stares at him.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Perfect.

INT. ESTELLA'S HOUSE - EARLIER THAT DAY

Estella enters her father's closet.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I wasn't the only one who left the house that day.

Estella grabs a shoe box and opens it, inside is her father's gun.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

It was a good thing my Dad had off for a week, otherwise I wouldn't have been able to get away with this.

Estella stands in the kitchen and puts a note on the kitchen counter.

Dear Dad,

Abby's having a huge sleep-over, going to be there all weekend.

Love,

Estella

She exits the house.

INT. JOHNNY'S CONDO - LATER THAT NIGHT

Sophie Ann and Jenny jump around to exciting dance music, while Henry holds a drink in his hand and his cellphone in the other, checking texts and calls. Johnny tries to dance with the girls. Estella sits on a couch with a beer in her hand.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

That gun was just another piece of equipment along with make-up, keys to my house, and tampons lying peacefully in my purse.

Estella stares at the purse. She turns her attention to the dancing morons surrounding her.

JENNY
Come on, Estella!

CUT TO:

Estella sleeps alone on the couch.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
I wasn't going to be an easy girl,
so I decided to sleep by myself.

Estella gets up and scoots over to her purse.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Which, I never planned on sleeping
with Johnny all night, because for
some reason, this was the night.

INT. JOHNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Estella slowly and quietly opens the door.

She stands outside the door and cocks the gun outside the bedroom, trying not to wake up Johnny.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Maybe I finally grew tired of this
crap, but I was finished. Now,
most people wouldn't kill a person
with their friends in the house.
Well, I wouldn't, I guess most
people wouldn't actually care.

Estella enters the bedroom, she sees Jenny lying in bed with Johnny.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
Shit. That girl gets enough dick,
now she's trying to get it from
Johnny. They're both such whores,
but then again, I denied Johnny my
pussy, so I guess he had to crush
something.

She slowly approaches them, not making a sound, yet each step she takes is more frightening to her, than the one before.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 They say, never look your victims
 in the eyes, thankfully, my
 victim's eyes were closed.

Estella stands right over Johnny.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 This is it you dumb bitch, you can
 do it, you can end it right here.

She closes her eyes, the gun pointed directly at Johnny's
 head.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 What are you waiting for, Estella?

Estella opens her eyes. All she can see is an awake Jenny,
 staring at her in fear. Estella stands, frozen, with the gun
 at Johnny's head.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 Oh yeah, that's why you haven't
 pulled the trigger yet.

Jenny shakes her head, no.

JENNY
 Don't.

Estella remains quiet with the gun at Johnny. Jenny keeps
 shaking her head.

Estella lowers the gun and stares at Jenny, then at Johnny.

Estella nods her head at Jenny and slowly walks away. Jenny
 watches Estella finally exit the room. She quietly shuts the
 door.

CUT TO:

Estella sits down on the couch and puts the gun back in her
 purse. She lies back down on the couch and stares at the
 ceiling.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 What were you thinking?

Estella shuts her eyes.

INT. BAR - DAY

The same bar with the same Bartender.

The five of them sit at the bar. Johnny, Estella, Henry, Jenny, and Sophie Ann.

Estella stares at Jenny, who ignores her and converses with the Bartender.

SOPHIE ANN

Does anyone like Empire of the Sun?

JOHNNY

The movie?

SOPHIE ANN

No, the band.

HENRY

I've heard of them.

JENNY

I hate them.

SOPHIE ANN

Why? They're awesome.

JENNY

Sophie, if you throw a couple neat beats into any song, you'll love it.

SOPHIE ANN

That might be true, but I love them. They're so happy and fun loving, well at least their songs are.

JOHNNY

Like Daft Punk?

SOPHIE ANN

No! Not even close. Daft Punk is the God of dance music.

HENRY

Overrated.

SOPHIE ANN

Henry, you think everything's overrated. You think Alex Ovechkin is overrated. Dumbass.

JENNY

I could care less about this conversation, so I am going to visit the little girls room.

Jenny gets up and leaves. Estella watches her.

SOPHIE ANN
She going to get all coked up now.

BARTENDER
She better not, not in my bar.

ESTELLA
I have to go to the bathroom too,
I'll make sure she's not doing
anything wrong.

Estella gets up and heads to the bathroom, but not without her purse.

JOHNNY
What is up with girls and going to
the bathroom together?
(to Sophie Ann)
What do you guys do in there?

SOPHIE ANN
Masturbate.

BARTENDER
Really?

SOPHIE ANN
No, but I know that's the answer
you'd prefer.

BARTENDER
Good call.

INT. BAR BATHROOM - DAY

Jenny washes her hands, surprisingly she isn't doing coke.

Estella exits one of the stalls with her father's gun in her hand. Jenny sees her in the mirror.

JENNY
What are you going to do?

She turns to face Estella.

ESTELLA
More importantly, what are you
going to do?

Estella stands right in front of Jenny with the gun in her chest.

JENNY

You look like a professional with that.

ESTELLA

What are you going to do, Jenny?

JENNY

Not tell Johnny about what I saw last night.

ESTELLA

Good response.

JENNY

I thought you'd like it.

Estella lowers the gun.

ESTELLA

But, talk is cheap.

Jenny reels herself closer to Estella.

JENNY

Not my talk.

ESTELLA

Give me your money.

JENNY

You're robbing me?

ESTELLA

It'll make you think twice before you tell.

JENNY

Or, it will make me hate you more and want to tell Johnny everything.

ESTELLA

True enough. Keep your money.

JENNY

Now your professionalism is going away.

ESTELLA

I could shoot you here and make up for that.

JENNY

Yes. Yes, you could.

Jenny smiles, Estella stares into her eyes.

INT. JOHNNY'S CONDO - DAY

Estella sits in the living room by herself, watching television.

JOHNNY
Estella! Can you come in here?

Estella gets up.

INT. JOHNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Estella enters.

ESTELLA
Johnny?

Johnny's gone.

Estella sees his bathroom door closed.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Johnny?

She walks up to the door. She knocks.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Johnny?

The door swings open, Johnny exits and swings a bat at Estella, she dodges it and falls to the ground. Johnny falls on top of her.

Estella screams and smacks him. He drops the bat and holds her arms back.

He manhandles her and throws her onto her stomach, he climbs on top of her.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Stop! Get off me!

Johnny keeps quiet, he struggles, but pulls her pants off. She continues to scream.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Please! Stop! Get off!

He grabs her panties, but she won't allow him to continue.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

No!!!

He stops and grabs her head, squeezing it.

JOHNNY

Shut up!

She quiets down, but breaths heavily.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I'm done playing games.

ESTELLA

Please. Don't --

JOHNNY

-- Stop! Stop doing this to me!

ESTELLA

Please. Don't. Don't snap now.
Please.

JOHNNY

Shut up. Stop fucking teasing me!

He reaches for her panties, she struggles, but he eventually gets them off, revealing her bare body.

Johnny tries to take his pants off with one hand, while he holds her down with his other. Estella cries.

ESTELLA

Please. I want my Dad. I just
want to see him.

JOHNNY

Stop it!

He lies on top of her.

ESTELLA

I just want my Dad! I want him!
Please.

JOHNNY

Shut the fuck up!

ESTELLA

Give me my fucking father. I want
him. I just want my Dad.

Johnny starts to thrust his body against her. She's screams, but he quickly covers her mouth. She struggles, but he just keeps thrusting.

CUT TO:

MOMENTS LATER

Estella lies on the floor, bruises on her body. Her nose slightly bleeds. She wipes the blood off her face.

Johnny walks out of the bathroom. He walks over to her and leans down next to her.

JOHNNY
How you feeling?

She doesn't answer.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Huh?

ESTELLA
Fuck you.

He smacks her. She tries to squirm away, but he grabs her leg.

JOHNNY
Round two? Is that what you want?
Round two?

Johnny falls back on top of her.

ESTELLA
Please! Stop!

Henry enters the room, he stares at Johnny lying on top of Estella.

JOHNNY
Come join the party.

HENRY
You fuck!

Henry charges over to Johnny and throws him off of Estella. Estella crawls away and pulls her pants up.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Go! Go!

Henry punches Johnny in the face. Johnny yells.

Sophie Ann and Jenny enter.

SOPHIE ANN
What the fuck?

HENRY
Get her out of here!

Henry holds down Johnny. He reaches into one of Johnny's pockets to find a small bag of blow.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Goddamnit, Johnny.

CUT TO:

The girls exit the condo.

JENNY
Shut the door.

Sophie Ann closes the door.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

Estella pushes Jenny away.

ESTELLA
You said --

JENNY
-- I didn't tell him anything!

SOPHIE ANN
Tell him what?

ESTELLA
Shut up. Both of you. Fuck both
of you. And fuck Crazy Johnny!

Estella walks away.

Jenny and Sophie Ann watch her.

INT. TAXI CAB - DAY

Estella sits in the back, blank stare on her face. She looks out the window, noticing people walking, holding hands, laughing.

Tears slowly find their way out of Estella's eyes. Her face turns into immense distraught.

INT. ESTELLA'S FOYER - NIGHT

Estella makes her way through the foyer and into the kitchen.
Her face is red.

INT. ESTELLA'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

She walks up to the refrigerator, but sitting in the living
room is her father, fully awake.

GARETH

Estella?

Estella jumps. Her Dad rises to his feet.

ESTELLA

Jesus, Dad.

GARETH

You alright?

ESTELLA

Yeah. Why?

GARETH

Your face is red.

Estella wipes her face.

ESTELLA

It's freezing out there. Just my
body reacting to the cold.

GARETH

Right.

Estella turns back and looks into the fridge, trying to keep
herself occupied, but she can't help but ask her Dad...

ESTELLA

What made you decide to be awake
today?

Her father chuckles.

GARETH

I figured I'd use my week off
wisely.

ESTELLA

How so?

GARETH
I've been going to some
(coughs)
Some... um... AA meetings. Trying
to... trying to get myself under
control.

Estella stares at him, not knowing what to make of this.

GARETH (CONT'D)
It's not fair, what I've been doing
to myself. My body.

ESTELLA
And me?

GARETH
Sorry?

ESTELLA
Never mind.

GARETH
What are you looking for in that
fridge?

Estella puts her hand in the fridge, grabbing whatever she
feels first. She pulls out some whip cream.

ESTELLA
Cool Whip.

GARETH
Estella, what's up with you?

ESTELLA
What's up with me? How about you
being unconscious every day I come
home.

GARETH
I know, and I'm trying to fix that.

ESTELLA
Just like that? We're forgetting
the past few months and moving on?

GARETH
I'm sorry, Estella, but it's --

ESTELLA
-- Johnny Talario.

Gareth stares at her in shock and confusion.

GARETH
I'm sorry? What do you --

ESTELLA
-- Oh yeah. I know who he is.

Estella walks out of the kitchen. Gareth stands, unsure of what's just happened, but he follows her.

INT. STAIRCASE - NIGHT

GARETH
Estella! Come here, talk to me.

ESTELLA
You say that you're making a
change, now?

GARETH
Yes, but --

ESTELLA
-- It would've been nice to have
that change before
(she begins to cry)
Before Johnny raped me!

Estella wipes the tears off her face, she tries to walk away.

GARETH
Estella. What the hell are you
talking about?

ESTELLA
I just told you I was --

GARETH
-- I know what you said, but --

ESTELLA
-- But what?

GARETH
I'm trying to understand --

ESTELLA
-- You were dead to me. For
months! Now you want to change?

GARETH
Estella can we take this one step
at a time, you were --

ESTELLA

-- It was Johnny.

GARETH

Okay, clearly he's a deadman! But why were you with him? I mean --

ESTELLA

-- Because he practically killed you!

GARETH

I don't know what you mean --

ESTELLA

-- He took you away from me. He's the reason you've been dead to me, the reason I feel like my father's been... killed.

GARETH

Killed? I was dead, what do you mean by that?

ESTELLA

He killed you and I wanted you back.

GARETH

He killed me? I'm here! Right here!

ESTELLA

It's a figure of speech.

Estella covers her face in frustration.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)

Do you know how it feels to come home with a father passed out in a chair?

GARETH

No, I don't. And I apologize for that? But Talarío --

-- Estella walks up the stairs. Gareth follows.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Estella heads towards her room.

GARETH
Estella? Please.

She turns.

ESTELLA
July fourth. This past year.
Naomi Bertrand. Age 23. Brunette.
Remember her?

GARETH
Estella, I'm not sure how --

ESTELLA
-- Remember her?

GARETH
Yes. She was found dead in a
creek.

ESTELLA
Who killed her?

GARETH
I don't know.

ESTELLA
Who do you think killed her?

He's slow to answer.

GARETH
Johnny Talario.

ESTELLA
July 24th. Lizzy Sherbel. Age 21.
Brunette. Her?

GARETH
Johnny Talario.

ESTELLA
August 18th. Alice Freeman. Age
19.

GARETH
Johnny Talario!

ESTELLA
You can say he's attached somehow,
but you can't find the facts. You
can't lock him up.

GARETH

What the fuck does this have to do with me?!

ESTELLA

He's single handedly destroyed your life. This is who you need to get, but you can't get him.

GARETH

How do you know all this?

ESTELLA

Friends in high places.

GARETH

What the hell is that supposed to mean?

ESTELLA

I know he's had you for months. You can't find him or figure him out. And you blame yourself.

GARETH

How do you --

ESTELLA

-- It doesn't matter.

GARETH

Of course it matters if he raped you!

Estella remains quiet for a few moments.

ESTELLA

I've been with him, for months.

GARETH

Doing what?

She hesitates.

ESTELLA

Trying to kill him.

Gareth stares at her, nothing but confusion covering his face. Estella walks into her room and slams the door shut.

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Estella lies in her bed, her body lying out in the open with no sheets covering her.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

So that's it? That's why she did it? I know that's what you're asking yourself. That's all? That's why she almost got herself killed? The short answer is, yes.

She turns to her side and slowly places her hand in between her legs and grips tightly, feeling vulnerable.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

You all must be so disappointed in me. You thought I was so smart and so clever, but in the end, it was something stupid. Revenge? You told us that you lost someone you loved, well, that's what it felt like to me.

The tears make their way out of her eyes and down her cheeks.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

But I'm a teenager, and sometimes, we make dumb mistakes. So stop laughing. And I know a lot of you think I went too far with it, I know I went too far with it.

She rolls back onto her back, staring at the ceiling.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Who am I kidding? This is the dumbest thing anyone could do. How could I be so stupid? My Dad always told me I was a smart girl.

Gareth knocks on the door and enters the room. He gets on the bed and hugs his daughter. She grabs on to him tightly. He kisses her forehead.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

But hey, it's like he always says, you can't judge a book by it's cover.

The two lie on the bed together.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. CLUB UNDERGROUND - NIGHT

It's large and spacious, but insanity still piles up inside the club.

Lights flash, music blasts. PEOPLE jump up and down.

INT. PERSONAL ROOM - NIGHT

TITLE:

MARCH

Sophie Ann does a line of coke off of Jenny's body. Johnny claps, but Henry sits down staring at them, annoyed.

SOPHIE ANN
Goddamn. That's just powerful.

JOHNNY
I get the best.

JENNY
And you sell the best.

Jenny gets up.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Get on your back, Sophie.

Sophie gets on her back and rolls her shirt up.

The curtain opens. They all freak out. Jenny throws the coke under a seat. It's Estella.

JOHNNY
Look who came back for more.

Henry hits Johnny on the shoulder.

HENRY
Not cool.

Johnny looks at him, bothered by his remark.

JOHNNY
How are you doing?

ESTELLA
Can we throw the small talk away?

JOHNNY
Okay. What brings you here?

ESTELLA

Coke.

JOHNNY

The bar sells soda.

ESTELLA

You know what I mean.

JOHNNY

Do I?

ESTELLA

Guess not. Let me buy from someone else.

Estella nearly exits the room.

JOHNNY

Wait. Wait. Wait. Wait.

Estella faces him.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Henry, girls, how about you leave me and Estella in here, alone.

HENRY

For you to rape her?

JOHNNY

Of course not.

Henry hesitates.

HENRY

Let's get out of here girls.

(whispers into Johnny's ear)

I'm gonna be outside, no funny business.

Johnny nods.

Henry and the girls exit the room. Estella sits down across from Johnny.

JOHNNY

I'm sorry about --

ESTELLA

-- Enough. You're an idiot, I know that.

JOHNNY
Don't push it.

ESTELLA
You pushed your dick into me, so I
can push this all I want.

JOHNNY
Don't act like you didn't enjoy it.

ESTELLA
Don't act like a scum bag.

Johnny has no comeback.

JOHNNY
So you want blow?

ESTELLA
No.

JOHNNY
Then what do you want?

ESTELLA
To start over.

JOHNNY
Ha! You told me that Doug's and
The Park were two strikes, my
sexual actions would be three
strikes, I thought I'd be out by
now.

ESTELLA
How about I call it two balls and a
strike.

Johnny leans back in his seat.

JOHNNY
So you're giving me another chance?

ESTELLA
Well, if you knew baseball, you'd
know I'm actually giving you two
more chances.

JOHNNY
Right?
(beat)
How'd you know I'd be here?

ESTELLA
Friends in high places.

JOHNNY
There the best around, aren't they?

ESTELLA
Couldn't agree more.

Music can be heard, both remain quiet.

JOHNNY
There's a tiny bit of me that
doesn't believe you.

ESTELLA
Good, because there's more to it.

JOHNNY
Oh, yeah?

ESTELLA
I'm pregnant.

Johnny stares at her.

JOHNNY
What?

Estella gets up.

The curtain flies open, Two POLICE OFFICERS enter. Estella falls to the ground, tripping over herself.

COP #1
Freeze!

COP #2
Hands up! Hands up!

Estella lies on the floor and takes a small object and puts it in her mouth. She stands up next to Johnny and puts her hands up in the air.

Johnny gets a stare outside of the curtain. Henry, Sophie Ann, and Jenny are gone.

JOHNNY
How are we feeling today, Officers?

COP #1
Shut up.

The other Cop finds the bag of coke under the seat.

COP #2
What's this?

JOHNNY
Not mine.

COP #2
I bet. On the ground. Both of
you.

Estella remains standing, one of the Cops hits her in the face, blood flies out of her mouth.

COP #2 (CONT'D)
On the ground!

Johnny falls back and knocks a glass of water off a table nearby. The glass hits the floor and shatters. Johnny slowly gets to his knees. Estella goes to the floor as well, the blood still running down her lip.

COP #1
Cuff him.

Johnny lies his face down next to the broken glass. The Cop puts cuffs on him and then lifts him to his feet. The other Cop approaches Johnny, but Johnny rapidly kicks the Cop that has cuffed him in the groin. That Cop loses his grip, the other charges at Johnny, but Johnny lunges forward.

Johnny leans on the Cop and out of his mouth comes a piece of shattered glass, he cuts the Cop with the glass, the Cop shouts and bleeds.

Estella gets up, she spits the object that was in her mouth onto the floor. A fake blood capsule.

Johnny consistently head-butts the remaining Cop. The Cop falls to his knees and Johnny kicks him.

JOHNNY
The key. Grab it! And one of
their guns too!

CUT TO:

EXT. CLUB UNDERGROUND - NIGHT

Estella and Johnny run out of the club. The parking lot is wet.

Henry pulls up in his car to Estella and Johnny.

JOHNNY
In! In! In!

Estella hops in.

GARETH (O.S.)
Stop!

Johnny turns. Gareth stands a few yards away, dressed in uniform.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Don't move!

JOHNNY
Fuck that. I've been hearing that
all night.

Johnny fires the stolen gun at Gareth. It hits Gareth in the knee. He falls.

Estella watches, trying not to scream. Johnny hops into the car. They take off.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - NIGHT

Johnny and Estella sit in the back seat.

HENRY
Jesus. What are you doing?

JOHNNY
Where's Sophie and Jenny?!

HENRY
They got out.

JOHNNY
Obviously. Where are they?

Johnny gives Estella the Cop's gun.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Souvenir.

HENRY
Why's she here? She probably
called them.

JOHNNY
I'd agree if the pig hadn't hit her
in the face. You should've seen
the blood.

Estella remains quiet.

EXT. STOPLIGHT - NIGHT

The car pulls up to a red light. The street is completely empty.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - NIGHT

ESTELLA

Johnny.

JOHNNY

Yes.

ESTELLA

They're gonna come after you.

JOHNNY

I know... I know, but that doesn't mean they'll find me.

ESTELLA

But if they do --

JOHNNY

-- They won't.

ESTELLA

But if they do, I have one thing to tell you.

Johnny stares into her eyes.

JOHNNY

What's that?

ESTELLA

I love you.

Johnny smiles.

Estella swings the Cops gun under Johnny's chin and pulls the trigger. Blood flies all over the car, Johnny's body goes limp.

Henry looks back at Estella. She has a few drops of blood on her face, but the car got the worst of it. The stoplight outside turns green. Henry doesn't move, he just stares at Estella.

Silence.

Henry gives Estella a look that almost explains that he is relieved. Estella says nothing and eventually she exits the car.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Estella walks away from Henry's car. Street lights flicker above her.

She continues for a few blocks and stands on the side of the road. It's as if her murder is no big deal.

ESTELLA

Taxi!

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. ESTELLA'S ROOM - DAY

TITLE:

APRIL

ESTELLA (V.O.)

April and May were nothing to me.

She stares outside her window. It's pouring rain. She shows no emotion.

INT. ESTELLA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Gareth lies down on the couch, watching television, while a cast covers nearly his entire leg. Estella sits across from him, in his chair. She smiles at him, he smiles back.

INT. PARTY - NIGHT

Estella does multiple shots and screams with a few other PEOPLE in excitement.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Every chance I got, I drank way too much, it was one of the few ways I could get the past few months off my mind.

Estella is given a beer and she finishes it quickly.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 What an alcoholic, right? And I
 thought my Dad was bad, so I
 eventually decided that wasn't the
 best road to cruise down.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

TITLE:

MAY

Estella sits at a desk, finishing up an exam.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 Senior year was over for me.
 Graduation was coming. And this
 was the last high school exam I was
 ever going to take.

She finishes the test and leans back in her chair.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 But I still couldn't get it off my
 mind. The past few months had been
 so painful and difficult. Of
 course, I brought it onto myself.

Estella stares at Mia Wellner, finishing up her exam.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 But, I knew there was one other
 thing that was haunting me.

Mia finishes her exam and places her head down on her desk.
 Estella continues to watch, an almost maniacal look on her
 face.

ESTELLA (V.O.)
 I was going to find Moby Dick.

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

A sign reads: Congrats Seniors!

Mia Wellner, dressed in her cheerleader outfit, jumps around
 doing acrobatic stunts with a few other GIRLS.

TITLE:

JUNE

Estella sits in the middle of the CROWD, her eyes focused on Mia.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

It was the last time poor Mia was going to wear her sexy cheerleader outfit before she went off to become a whore at college.

The Crowd cheers.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

Oh how I hate this pep rally. But I wasn't going to hate the after party.

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Mia washes herself in the shower.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I thank God that Mia hates to sweat, so of course she would take a shower after the rally. All that sweat on her pretty little body.

Mia opens up a locker and pulls out some of her clothes. She unwraps her towel, revealing her body.

Estella stands a few feet away from her, unnoticed, her cellphone in her hand.

Mia turns to her.

MIA

Estella?

Estella takes a photo with her phone.

MIA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

ESTELLA

Hunting The Whale.

MIA

What the fuck are you talking about? Did you just take a... you bitch.

Mia puts her underwear on, but wraps the towel around her top half. She gets up. Estella puts the phone in her pocket. She slowly backs away.

MIA (CONT'D)

What did you do? Did you take a picture of me? You bitch! What are you doing?

She charges over to Estella. Estella stands still.

ESTELLA

Mia --

-- Mia slaps her. Estella falls to the ground. Mia hits Estella.

MIA

Give me the phone you... you freaky little bitch.

She smacks Estella again.

ESTELLA

Stop!

MIA

Give me the phone.

Estella kicks Mia. She falls. Mia screams as Estella climbs on top of her. Estella continuously hits Mia.

ESTELLA

You want to know how I get off, this is how, bitch!

MIA

Get off of me you freak!

A few TEACHERS run into the locker room. They pull Estella off of Mia.

ESTELLA

Fuck you!

MIA

Fuck you!

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Estella sits in the fancy office staring into the PRINCIPAL'S eyes.

PRINCIPAL

You realize you won't walk because of this.

Estella doesn't answer.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

Estella?

ESTELLA

I don't care if I walk, as long I graduate somehow and get out of this fucking school!

The Principal shakes his head.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Estella walks down the hall, proud of herself.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

So I won't walk, but I could care less. Let's just say I don't need to be at graduation when a little skimpy photo of Mia finds its way into the senior slideshow during the ceremony.

Estella smiles.

EXT. CRUISE SHIP DECK - DAY

TITLE:

JULY

Estella sits next to Gareth, bathing in the sun.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

For my graduation present, my father took me on a cruise.

GARETH

What did you think of Grand Cayman?

ESTELLA

It was nice. Duh.

GARETH

Don't get smart.

Estella eyes a few GIRLS running around in tight bikinis.

ESTELLA

Don't you wish that was me?

GARETH
Ha. Ha. Ha.

ESTELLA
I'd look good in a thong.

GARETH
Nobody's wearing a thong.

ESTELLA
Yeah. Look at that one.

She points to a Latino GIRL, wearing a thong.

GARETH
Jesus. You're right. Where's she from?

ESTELLA
Argentina, I think, there's a whole group of them on the ship.

GARETH
Argentina?

ESTELLA
Yeah, that's what somebody said. Supposedly that's what they do for girls fifteenth birthdays. They used to celebrate them in the country and throw a big party, but with the economy, they decided sending these girls on a trip together to celebrate all of their birthdays was easier.

GARETH
You learn that in school?

ESTELLA
Yep, it's called Quinceañera

GARETH
Full of information aren't you?

ESTELLA
Of course. Surprised?

GARETH
A bit.

ESTELLA
You thought I didn't listen in class.

GARETH
Possibly.

ESTELLA
What's that thing about books and covers.

GARETH
I forget.

ESTELLA
I bet.

They both chuckle.

A WAITER approaches Gareth.

WAITER
Would you like a beer, mix drink,
anything I can get my hands on?

Gareth doesn't answer, hesitating. Estella answers for him.

ESTELLA
He's good.

WAITER
You sure about that?

GARETH
Yes, sir.

WAITER
Alright, sir, just let me know if
you change your mind.

ESTELLA
I'll have a rum and coke.

The Waiter smiles, wondering if she's joking, but he just walks away.

Estella looks up at the sun, shining brightly down on her. Gareth stares at her, trying to say something. Estella notices.

ESTELLA (CONT'D)
Spit it out.

Gareth chuckles.

GARETH
You remember Henry Dinio?

ESTELLA
Perhaps, but I try not to.

GARETH
We were, trying to, get this drug
bust.

Estella stares at Gareth.

ESTELLA
Go on.

EXT. RANDOM HOME - NIGHT

Henry and a few DRUG DEALERS stand in a cramped room with
drugs everywhere.

HENRY
Clearly things aren't easy for me,
now.

DEALER
Listen, we're all struggling right
now.

HENRY
Don't talk to me about struggling.
Do you know what it's been like for
me recently?

DEALER
Yes, but --

EXT. RANDOM HOME - NIGHT

-- Cars, silently pull up to the driveway.

INT. RANDOM HOME - NIGHT

GARETH (V.O.)
Our guys knew this was happening.
So we go in there.

POLICE and DEA bust into the house. Yells and screams echo
in the house.

GARETH (V.O.)
We don't know why, but one of our
guys lost it.

An OFFICER holds his gun tightly, his hand slips on the trigger, he shoots a DRUG DEALER.

The Dealers fire back.

BANG! BOOM!

Powder from cocaine and heroin, bits of wood, and blood fly everywhere. It calms down. Some OFFICERS scream for help, but the Dealers lie on the floor, none of them move.

In the distance, Henry's body lies peacefully, eyes closed, blood slowly trickles out of his mouth.

GARETH (V.O.)

I guess it was a slip of the hand.
Something a rookie does.

EXT. CRUISE SHIP DECK - DAY

Estella listens on.

GARETH

Henry Dinio, goes down, blood loss
and everything. A couple weeks
later, we go after two girls. We
know they've been involved with
Johnny Talario.

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jenny stands in her family room. All she hears is banging on the front door.

GARETH (V.O.)

We come knocking on the door.

INT. JENNY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Sophie Ann sits on the bed. She's a mess, her face covered with bits of white powder.

GARETH (V.O.)

One of the girls, name was Sophie
Ann Harbidoll, she must've thought
we do business just by shooting
people. She hears about Henry and
decides that we're going to kill
her too.

Sophie Ann picks up a gun and places it on the side of her head.

GARETH (V.O.)
Now, she's coked up like crazy.
Puts a gun to her head and --

-- Officers open the door. Sophie fires the gun into her temple. Blood flies. Jenny stands in the distance and screams.

EXT. CRUISE SHIP DECK - DAY

Her father finishes, waiting for her response.

ESTELLA
Why are you telling me this?

GARETH
You know why.

Estella doesn't respond.

GARETH (CONT'D)
All of them, connected to Johnny Talarío, but more importantly, to you.

ESTELLA
I see.

GARETH
We know Talarío was murdered and we know who pulled the trigger.

Estella stares at him.

GARETH (CONT'D)
But that person doesn't have anything to worry about.

ESTELLA
Oh, really?

GARETH
I guess this person just has friends in high places.

ESTELLA
Would you have ever thought this person would do something like that?

GARETH

No, but I guess you can't judge a book by it's cover.

EXT. CRUISE SHIP - MORNING

The ship moves along slowly through the water. It's lonely in the ocean, but as we move closer, we see a figure running on the ship's top deck. We move closer and closer, the figure stops.

The figure, Estella, looks into the distance. Nothing but blue. Estella closes her eyes and smiles. Relieved.

The blue continues for hundreds of miles.

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. GARETH'S CAR - DAY

Estella, eyes closed.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

My father and I got back from our little vacation on August 12th.

The car stops, Estella wakes up.

Estella stares outside, a few police cars pulled over on the side of the road. Gareth unbuckles his seat-belt and exits the car.

ESTELLA

What are you doing?

GARETH

Stay in the car.

Estella watches her father walk into a field, where a few Officers arrest a Man, shouting at the sky.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

TITLE:

AUGUST

Estella walks through the long grass and closer towards the arrest. She sees a Woman's body.

Gareth grabs Estella, holding her back.

GARETH

Estella, baby, let the guys deal with this. You know I don't want you here. They don't want you here.

An Officer approaches them.

OFFICER

Officer Matthews, we don't need you here.

GARETH

I just want to know what's going on.

OFFICER

Matthews, it's okay, go home.

GARETH

I need to know what's --

-- As he holds his daughter back, he realizes her desire to find out who the victim is. He lets go and she proceeds to the body.

Estella stands over the Woman's corpse as its right eye stares at her.

Gareth walks to his daughter.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Did you know her, Estella?

Estella doesn't answer, she just keeps staring.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Estella?

The right eye continues to stare back.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Estella?

The wind blows.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I thought I was so smart and that I had the world figured out. But, just when you thought you did one thing right, something wrong finds its way into your life.

The hair covering the body's face is blown by the wind, revealing the person's face.

Estella remains speechless. The one thing that sticks out to her on the Body's face is a tattoo of a star and dark eyebrows that do not match the Body's blonde hair.

The Murderer screams in the background.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I thought I knew who this woman was. Miranda, Doug's little housewife, but who was she really? Why did she get herself killed?

Estella stares back at the Murderer.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

I don't know who this guy is, I don't know how Miranda got involved with him.

GARETH

Estella?

ESTELLA (V.O.)

The dark underbelly of this world is one that nobody should have to see, but I did, too much of it. I thought I could make a difference... but I was wrong.

GARETH

Estella, did you know her?

Estella turns to her father, hesitates, but answers.

ESTELLA

No.

She turns away from her father. Gareth doesn't know what to say.

ESTELLA (V.O.)

This is it, it's not some type of epic Hollywood ending, this is life, well, the darkside of life. And like I said, I met Miranda once and I thought she was just some innocent woman. A nobody to me, just someone I met at a party...

The Officers take away the Murderer, who continues to scream.

ESTELLA

... But I guess you can't judge a
book by it's cover.

Estella remains quiet, staring at the body.

CUT TO BLACK:

THE END