FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

NIGHTSTALKER, a black and white domestic house cat, wakes from his sleep on the top of a cat tree in the living room.

Nightstalker jumps down from the tree and stretches his body as far as he can while yawning widely.

Nightstalker see BAXTER, a full grown Golden Lab, walking towards him.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Wonderful.

Baxter tries to lick Nightstalker.

Nightstalker bats at Baxter’s face with his paw.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Keep your tongue away from me you buffoon.

    BAXTER (V.O.)
    Sorry.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Oh my cat, were you just drinking from the toilet?

    BAXTER (V.O.)
    It’s free water.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    It’s all free water you slobbering fool.

    BAXTER (V.O.)
    What are you going to do today?

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    That’s none of you concern, just get your mouth away from my face. My eyes are burning.

Nightstalker bats his paw at Baxter’s face again.

    DAVE (O.S.)
    Baxter, come here boy.

    BAXTER (V.O.)
    Sorry Nightstalker, gotta go.
Nightstalker sees Baxter turn around and run to the hall entrance from the living room.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Don’t be a slave, think for yourself.

Nightstalker sees Baxter turn around the corner.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Hopeless.

Nightstalker begins to walk. He sees LINDSAY walk around the corner into the living room. She pushes a vacuum cleaner.

Nightstalker stops in his tracks.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    The beast.

Lindsay spots Nightstalker. She leaves the vacuum cleaner and walks towards Nightstalker. She picks him up.

    LINDSAY
    You’re so cute Mr. Patches.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    I’m not Mr. Patches. I’m the shadow to your light. I creep in the darkness. The light fears my name. I’m Nightstalker.

    LINDSAY
    I just want to eat you up.

Lindsay pets Nightstalker vigorously.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    Unhand me, or so help me cat, you’ll be sorry.

Nightstalker starts to squirm in Lindsay’s arms.

Lindsay lets him down.

Nightstalker looks up at Lindsay.

    NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
    It’s good you headed my warning. It was not going to end well for you.

Nightstalker looks cautiously at the vacuum cleaner.
LINDSAY
It’s just a vacuum cleaner Mr. Patches.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Nightstalker.

LINDSAY
I got you something Mr. Patches. Wait here for a minute.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
My patience wears thin.

Nightstalker sees Lindsay walk out of the living room. In a few seconds Lindsay comes a fluffy ball attached to a spring. Nightstalker sees Lindsay put the toy down on the floor in front of him.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
What’s this?

Nightstalker bats the fluffy ball with his paw and sees it move back and forth on the spring.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Your toy pleases me.

Nightstalker knocks the fluffy ball back and forth a few times.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
This is quite entertaining.

Nightstalker bats the ball around some more.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
I’m bored with this now.

Nightstalker walks away from the toy.

INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS

Nightstalker rounds the living room corner into a hall. He sees the kitchen in front of him. Lindsay walks behind him into another room off of the hall.

DAVE (O.S.)
Patches, food is ready.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Nightstalker.
INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Nightstalker walks into the kitchen and sees DAVE placing his bowl of food next to the dog’s food. Baxter eats his food.

   DAVE
   Salmon formula today Patches.

   NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
   I accept your offering. I will consider not scratching you later today for calling me Patches.

Nightstalker sees his food and walks over to it.

Baxter slobbers everywhere.

   NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
   Can you not keep your slobber to yourself?

Baxter stops and looks at Nightstalker.

   BAXTER (V.O.)
   What do you mean?

   NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
   You truly are clueless.

Baxter puts his head back into his bowl and starts eating again.

Nightstalker looks at his bowl and starts to eat his food.

Nightstalker stops eating and walks away from his bowl, towards the hall.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

As Nightstalker turns the corner of the hall into the living room, he sees Dave with the vacuum.

   NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
   The beast.
   (beat)
   Human, the beast has you under his enchantment. Don’t attach him to the wall, you won’t be able to resist his temptation.

Nightstalker sees Dave plug the vacuum cleaner in. Dave walks back to the vacuum.
NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Don’t touch it human. The beast will take control of you.

Nightstalker sees Dave turn the vacuum cleaner on.

Nightstalker backs up to the corner of the hall and the living room entrance. He keeps an eye on the vacuum.

Nightstalker sees Baxter from the corner of his eye. Baxter stands in the entrance at attention.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Baxter. Protect me from the beast. It’s your duty as a dog.

Baxter starts to bark.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
What are you doing?

Baxter stops and looks at Nightstalker.

BAXTER (V.O.)
I’m protecting you.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Don’t bark at it you dolt, attack it.

DAVE
Baxter, go lay down.

Nightstalker witnesses Baxter back down.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
No Baxter, he’s under the influence of the beast. Don’t listen to him. He’s doing it’s bidding.

DAVE
Go lay down Baxter.

Baxter turns to walk away from the living room.

BAXTER (V.O.)
Sorry Nightstalker, I have to go lay down now.

Nightstalker sees Baxter walk into the kitchen out of sight.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Don’t use your slavery as an excuse you coward.
Nightstalker turns his head and sees Dave getting closer to him with the vacuum cleaner.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
It’s up to me now. The time has finally come. This day was inevitable.

Nightstalker sees Dave move the vacuum closer to him.

DAVE
Look out Patches.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
I’ll save you human. The beast won’t beat me today.

Nightstalker bats his paw at the vacuum cleaner.

DAVE
Patches, go away.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
I won’t leave you behind human.

Nightstalker hisses at the vacuum and bats at it again.

DAVE
Patches, stop it.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Human, be strong. Fight the monster with me. Only together can we vanquish it back to it’s hole.

Nightstalker hisses at the vacuum again. In a great leap, Nightstalker jumps at the vacuum cleaner and attacks it.

DAVE
Patches, that’s enough.

Dave turns the vacuum cleaner off.

DAVE (CONT’D)
What’s the matter with you cat?

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Human, I have saved you from the beast.

Nightstalker sees Dave reach down and pick him up.
NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Where are we going? Are you giving me a treat for saving you?

Dave walks to the cat tree with Nightstalker in his hands. Nightstalker sees the cat tree.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Oh yes, a nap is well deserved.
Thank you human.

Dave puts Nightstalker back on top of the cat tree bed.

Nightstalker gets cozy and lays down.

The sound of the vacuum cleaner wakes Nightstalker up. He perks his head up and sees Dave with the vacuum cleaner again.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Great catnip, the beast is back.

Nightstalker jumps down off of the cat tree.

NIGHTSTALKER (V.O.)
Don’t worry human. I’ll save you again.

FADE OUT