"R E T U R N"

TEASER

BLACK BACKGROUND WITH WHITE FONT:

“For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.”

FADE IN:

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY

It’s absolutely chaotic. Scenes of panic, disturbance and madness. A MAN waves round a black hand gun.

JASON(V.O)
When it comes, your never prepared.
Your never warned or given a clue,
just thrown in.

A women clutches her toddler son tightly.

WOMEN
It’s going to be OK.

Smoke fades away from a gun barrel. A MAN stands shocked, opposite the back windows. Those around him are frozen. JASON (18) eyes are engulfed by hate and vengeance. Sat at one of the back seats, he leaps on to man. The gun drops. They struggle on the ground.

JASON(V.O)
Failure is nature’s plan to prepare you for great responsibilities.

Suddenly the bus curves out of order and collapses on its side. Human bodies are tossed from their seats in opposite directions. Screams are dwarfed by the loud crash and clatter between the bus and the ground.

FADE TO BLACK

SUBTITLE: 4 HOURS EARLIER

FADE IN:
INT. COLLEGE -- CANTINE -- DAY -- 12.30PM

It’s vibrant and dynamic. Filled with layers of students munching on their feast. It’s crowded and congested, seats are hard to find. The floors are plastered with rows of litter, as the students shout to communicate with each other.

JASON, black, 17 lies in the corner. Away from the centre of crowded company. A thick beard covers the bottom half of his face with a hood covering the other side. His legs struggle to fit under table with his elongated hands stretched on the table.

With him is SHANICE (17), mixed race and very pretty sitting next to him. Opposite him is JACK (17), white, short and hairy. Sat next to Jack is KEVIN (16), black small head and rough skin.

All focus inventively at the table. Cards rap around each of their hands as Kevin holds his mouth, in deep thought over what he should do next.

JASON(V.O)
Cantine, the hub of activity. The pinnacle of socialism.

Kevin lays down a club of eights. Michael groans with anger and despair. Everyone else laugh.

JACK
No.... Why always me. Always your interference.

JASON(V.O)
And of course, the game that join all, even the bitterest of enemies.

JASON
Shan. Your go.

SHANICE
Hold on, blackjack queen is coming.

Shanice flicks through her cards, anticipating her next move. The rest wait.

KEVIN
Jase. Is Reggie in.

JASON
Ain’t seen him. But after yesterday I have no doubt he’s in.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Shanice lays down a three and four of clubs.

KEVIN
That facebook ting. Is he serious about beating her up.

JASON
Hey, the way he was talking he sounded like he wanted to beat the hell out of her.

JACK
What! I swear all she did was cuss him.

JASON
Yeah but it was the manner in the way she did it. You can’t go round cussing people on Facebook. If you’re gonna do it you should do it to their face.

KEVIN
Yeah but you shouldn’t wanna beat someone because of it. Come on.

JASON
He didn’t say he was gonna kill her or anything. Just said he was gonna rough her up.

JACK
Why you defending him here. It’s obvious he is in the wrong.

JASON
Listen, I ain’t defending no one. I told him he should leave it. I’m just saying, she should know he is a bit crazy in the head. She shouldn’t of antagonized him.

KEVIN
Antagonize him. How can little words over flipping Facebook get him so angry he wants to beat up a defenseless girl in the middle of the cantine.

SHANICE
He would be dumb to hit her cos’ he will get kicked out.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
(to Jason)
You need to talk to your friend.

JASON
He’s your guys friend as well.

JACK
Your more close to him than us though. He will listen to you.

SHANICE
Can we get back to the game please. I’ve had enough talking about that psychopath.

In the midst of a large group blocking the entrance to the cantine, REGGIE (17) emerges. He’s all in black. His hood covers his eyes. He scans the room. He spots Jason and walks to him.

REGGIE
(breathing heavily)
Have you seen her.

JASON
Who?

REGGIE
You know who.

JASON
Nah.... I haven’t seen her.

Reggie sighs in frustration.

REGGIE
I new she would be scared, that bitch.

Unknown to Reggie, JASMINE (17) – fat with a lot of hair and tomboy outfit walks in through the second entrance leading to the outside seating area.

KEVIN
Things are about to get heated.

Reggie spins around. He locks his eyes on Jasmine. She notices him looking at her.

Reggie waste no time and strides towards Jasmine. His fist in the air and his eyes bubbling.

(CONTINUED)
Jasmine reacts quickly though. She moves out of the way and Reggie misses his target.

Jason climbs over the table and jumps on Reggie. A crowd gathers, hoping for a fight.

JASON
It’s not worth it, trust me.

REGGIE
Get off me.

JASON
Trust me man, don’t throw it all away for nothing.

Jason manages to Shepard him out through the crowd into the college hallways.

INT. COLLEGE -- COMMON ROOM -- DAY

It’s much quieter and less lively than the cantine. There is more space to sit but still their is a sense of atmosphere.

Reggie sits, crouched down staring at the ground. Jason is opposite sipping on some ginger beer.

REGGIE
I’ve just had enough of people taking me for a prick. I’m not a prick.

JASON
It was a small joke man, nothing worth getting kicked out for.

REGGIE
Nah bruv. She tried to violate me online. Then when it came face to face, she scammed.

Jason laughs.

JASON
Where did she get that speed from. She was quick.

REGGIE
She’s lucky. I was about to rip her apart. No worries. I will get her later.
JASON
Just let it go.

REGGIE
Then I will look like a prick. Can’t do that.

JASON
You just proved how scared she was of you. She won’t mess with you again. Just leave it.

REGGIE
If you were in the same position as me would you allow a absolute nobody try violate you.

JASON
First of all I wouldn’t create such a dumb picture on Facebook. You new all it could do is make trouble.

REGGIE
It was a joke, can’t people take joke nowadays.

JASON
Tagging people to a group of old ugly people is destined for one thing. She’s scared of you. You have nothing to prove, and anyway who cares what people think.

REGGIE
I see where your coming from but one more thing though, one more word from her then I swear to God I’ll finish her.

JASON
Good.

REGGIE
For a fat chick she was pretty fast.

They both laugh hysterically.

JASON
You need a girl man.
REGGIE
A girl will come. I know you fancy Shanice though.

JASON
No.

REGGIE
Yes you do. And she fancies you. Don’t know what you waiting for bruv.

JASON
She’s a nice girl but we’re friends.

REGGIE
Yeah OK. What lesson do you have next?

JASON
Flipping English. That lesson sucks.

REGGIE
Good luck man, I’ve got a free.

JASON
Just stay away from that chick init. Don’t do anything stupid.

REGGIE
I’m calm now anyway.

Jason gets up and walks of towards the common room exit.

Reggie stares at his silver covered watch.

Across the common room, Candice (17) sits by herself reading a book on philosophy. Her hair is smooth and natural. She wears a dark green top and green trousers. She’s lost in her book.

Reggie notices her. His eyes lock on as if he has just recognized someone. He lifts himself from his seat and approaches her.

She’s totally oblivious to him as he takes a seat opposite her. She is still lost in her book.

REGGIE
Your in my Philosophy class?

Candice raises her head shyly.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

CANDICE
Erm..... Yeah.

Reggie smiles when he sees her face.

REGGIE
Can you help me out with something.

CANDICE
Erm.....OK. What do you need help with.

REGGIE
A lot of things.

She giggles like a school girl.

REGGIE
No, no, I’m Joking. It’s just the homework. It’s so long and I don’t understand any of it.

CANDICE
Oh Yeah. It’s kinda difficult. Erm, it’s kinda long and I have to meet someone, in like five minutes.

REGGIE
Let me take your number; and I’ll call you later.

Candice stutters in thought.

CANDICE
OK.

Reggie’s face breaths out Delight as he whisk out his phone from his back pocket and takes her number.

As she walks off Reggie punches the air like a winner.

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

PART ONE

FADE IN:
INT. COLLEGE -- CLASSROOM -- DAY

The chairs and tables are organized in two’s. Jason sits close to the back, next to a girl.

JASON (V.O)
This lesson is like a nine to five job. Can’t get out though, looks like I’m gonna have to survive. But... so sleepy. This lesson is so boring.

POV:
Jason slowly dozes off to sleep. Everything is dark. Then a loud bang rips into his ears. His eyes blaze open. Standing in front of him is the masterful figure of MR. THOMPSON.

MR. THOMPSON
This isn’t your bedroom where you can sleep. It is a place of learning. If you don’t want to learn leave my classroom.

JASON (V.O)
Damn, I fell asleep.

JASON
Sorry sir. Just a bit tired.

MR. THOMPSON
Can you wait outside please.

JASON (V.O)
Now look what you have got yourself into.

Students watch as Jason drags himself up and leaves the classroom.

INT. COLLEGE -- 1ST FLOOR CORRIDOR -- DAY

Jason stands, slouched on the wall outside his lesson.

Mr. Thompson leaves the classroom with his broad shoulders spread wide.

MR. THOMPSON
Stand up properly.

Jason readjust himself so he is standing straight.

Mr. Thompson eye balls him.

(CONTINUED)
MR. THOMPSON
My class isn’t a holiday young man.
I will not tolerate any student
disrespecting my rules. Do you understand.

JASON
Yes sir.

MR. THOMPSON
You are a very smart student. You
can go far in this subject. But
only if you stop being lazy and
work hard.

JASON
OK sir.

Mr. Thompson hands Jason a piece of paper. Jason scans it.

MR. THOMPSON
That’s your homework due for
tomorrow. I expect it to be
completed.

JASON(V.O)
Shit.

JASON
It will be.

MR. THOMPSON
You can go. Don’t make me have to
have this talk with you again.

JASON
Yes sir.

Mr. Thompson leaves and enters his classroom.

Jason face screws in anger as Reggie comes walking by with a
big smile on his face.

JASON
Why you so happy?

REGGIE
I’ve met my girl bruv.

JASON
(surprised)
Who?

(CONTINUED)
REGGIE
Candice.

They both turn and walk towards the staircase.

JASON
Candice. Really. She’s a bit too nice for you.

Reggie stops.

REGGIE
What do you mean too nice for me?

JASON
I’m just saying you don’t attract girls like that.

REGGIE
Your my best friend and you don’t know what kinda girls I like.

JASON
I know what girls you like. And she ain’t one of them.

REGGIE
She is one of them. Just keep your nose out of this. I know what I’m doing.

JASON(V.O)
If she saw the shenanigans earlier. She would run as far way from him as possible.

JASON
OK. Do what you like.

JASON(V.O)
Too stubborn to see it will never work.

REGGIE
Don’t tell Kevin. You know what he is like.

Jason nods.

JASON(V.O)
Kevin would rip him apart.

Reggie and Jason walk down the staircase into a crowd of people.

(CONTINUED)
JASON(V.O)
I’m a realist. It always ends in tears. Relationships. None of it clicks. Home time now. At least another day of boredom has past. Can get out of this place now.

EXT. OUTSIDE COLLEGE GATES -- DAY

Students disperse in their hundreds out the school and up the road towards the main road.

Jason walks with Reggie, then he spots Shanice standing by herself. He approaches her.

JASON
Who you waiting for.

SHANICE
You guys.

JASON
Why? Can’t you go home by yourself.

SHANICE
Shut up Jason. Obviously I can but I choose not to.

JASON(V.O)
Obviously she can. What a dumb thing to say.

Scampering behind Jason is Jack, Kevin and Reggie.

SHANICE
Your batch has arrived.

JASON(V.O)
Damn. I was getting somewhere.

Jason turns and greets his mates with claps in each hand. They then disperse towards the main road.

REGGIE
Who wants to follow me to Elephant.

JASON
To buy what.

REGGIE
One of those thingy hats..... erm new era cap.

(CONTINUED)
JASON
Yeah come then. You lot coming as well.

JACK
Yeah.

KEVIN
Fake hats.

REGGIE
Don’t start Kevin.

KEVIN
I’m not, just stating facts. Hats from a market are usually fake.

REGGIE
You know what, I don’t care. Just as long it looks good, it doesn’t matter.

KEVIN
(sarcastic)
OK.

They all erupt in laughter. Reggie jokingly punches him in the arm.

MICHAEL
What bus are we taking.

JASON
Legendary 121.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY

It’s crowded and ravaged with people - mostly students. Jason, Shanice, Kevin, Michael and Reggie sit at the back.

JASON
I’m sorry you guys I got the best swagger.

KEVIN
Oh please. My mum has better swagger.

They all burst out with laughter.

(CONTINUED)
REGGIE
Kevin I don’t know how you can really talk, I mean.....

Reggie points at Kevin up and down, and shakes his head. Kevin wears a green and white striped hoody with plain light blue jeans.

REGGIE
..... Look at what your wearing.

KEVIN
OK listen. A boy can’t really judge another boy’s swagger. It all comes down to a girls opinion.

MICHAEL
True.

JASON
OK. Shanice. It’s all on you. Which of us has the best swagger.

SHANICE
Erm..... You all really don’t have swagger.

The boys laugh at each other.

SHANICE
All you guys wear are the same hoodies everyday.

KEVIN
Nah that’s Reggie. He’s been wearing that hoody for the last two weeks.

Everyone laughs except Reggie who doesn’t find it funny.

REGGIE
Kevin, you always feel the need to cuss me. I’ve had enough of your bullshit. You’re going too far.

JASON
Come on Reg. He’s just playing with you.

REGGIE
Well I ain’t playing anymore. I’ve had enough of his shit all the time, even in secondary school you would never leave it.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: 15.

Goes silent for a couple of seconds.

    JASON(V.O)
    Need to break the silence. Cool the tension.

    JASON
    Relax guys.
    (to Reggie)
    Kevin’s been cussing you since primary school. He’s a joker, we all know it, no need to get angry about it.

The bus stops. Shanice gets up.

    JASON
    Shanice. Where you going?

    SHANICE
    Home.

    JASON(V.O)
    Damn.

    JASON
    Why?

    SHANICE
    I’m tired init.

    JASON
    Alright see you later.

    SHANICE
    Bye. (to the rest) See you guys later.

They all wave to her as she tussles down the stairs past the standing people.

Jason stares for longer. He turns around to find Reggie looking at him.

    JASON
    What?

    REGGIE
    You like her a lot, don’t you?

    (CONTINUED)
JASON
I’ve already told you we are friends. Focus on your love life, anyway I swear Candice got on the bus.

REGGIE
(whisper)
Keep it down.

KEVIN
Keep what down?

REGGIE
It’s nothing.

JACK
No. I heard a girls name.

KEVIN
Reggie’s getting a girl. Who is she? It’s nothing to be ashamed of.

REGGIE
I’m not ashamed. It’s Candice.

KEVIN
Candice. The one from our philosophy class. You and Candice.

REGGIE
I swear to God, don’t start.

KEVIN
I’m not.

Kevin erupts in laughter.

KEVIN
I saw her getting on the bus.

JACK
She’s at the front.

Kevin gets up and scans around before finding Candice, reading a book.

KEVIN
She is there. You guys are like opposite.

(CONTINUED)
REGGIE
Kevin if you want a punch in the face carry on.

KEVIN
OK OK, I’ll leave it.

Reggie glares at and Jason. Jason gives a ‘what could of I done look’ back.

At the front of the bus a phone goes off. A BLACK MALE all in black, with black shades picks up his phone.

BLACK MALE
(into the phone)
Yeah....... I’m on the bus......
With all the stuff.......I’m ready,
where are you.......OK cool.

The Black male puts his phone down, then looks round the bus. He sees innocent faces talking and socializing. Embracing each other.

The bus starts moving.

EXT. MAIN ROAD DAY

A black tinted car lays on the side of the road in a bus lane. JESSY (21), short and husky, stands next to it in a black tinted costume. He puts his phone into his pocket and looks back. He sees the 121 bus approaching.

JESSY
It’s time boys.

Jessy taps the boot. He and two other black males cover the faces with black masks and enter the car.

The car skids round and stops in front of the 121 bus. Jessy, KNOX (18), big and tall and GRIPZ (22) fat and lofty jump out of the car. They run towards the front of the bus.

Jessy, the leader, whisk out a gun at the front doors of the double decker bus. The frightened bus driver freezes in his seat.

JESSY
Open up. Open up. Now!
INT. BUS -- LOWER DECK -- DAY

The scared bus driver, shaking in terror, stupidity opens the doors. Passengers on the lower deck kick down the second doors. They flow out in numbers like caged animals until Jessy waves his gun around.

JESSY
Anyone who tries to escape, dies.

FADE OUT

END OF PART ONE

PART TWO

FADE IN:

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY

The black male, JONES (21), grabs his gun and points it at the people seated at the upper deck. People howl and scream at the sight of it.

Jason sits shocked, as do his friends.

JASON
Shit, he’s got a gun.

REGGIE
Fuck. I’m getting out of here.

Reggie gets up, but Jason pulls him down.

JASON
No No No. Wait man. He’ll kill you.

JONES
If you cooperate, no one will get hurt. Empty your pockets, wallets and any other shit which is worth money. Any problems, I will shoot you.

KEVIN
I new we should have taken the tube.

Michael, Jason and Reggie stare at him. As the rest of the students and people listen in silence.
INT. BUS -- LOWER DECK -- DAY

Jessy collects money of the scared passengers, unloading wallets, phones and jewelery in a plastic bag.

The bus driver is ordered to drive, with a gun pointed to his head by Gripz. He turns the bus past the black tinted car and carries on down the main road which seems clear of traffic.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY

Jason sits looking out the window.

   JASON
   Damn. The bus is moving.

The bus takes a turn.

   REGGIE
   This isn’t the way we usually go.
   We need to get out of here.

   KEVIN
   And how are we gonna do that.

   REGGIE
   I don’t know. Ain’t it you who does physics.

   KEVIN
   Just cos I do physics doesn’t mean
   I know how to brake out of a damn hostage situation.

   JASON
   Both of you calm the flip down.
   He’ll hear us.

Jones approaches the back slowly, as he ravages through people’s belongings.

He reaches the back. He taps Jack’s shoulder.

   JONES
   All of you empty your pockets.

They all empty their pockets and hand over their stuff except Reggie.

(CONTINUED)
JONES
(to Reggie)
Hey you. Empty your pockets.

REGGIE
I ain’t got anything.

JONES
Don’t make me check you. Cos if I do and find something I will shoot you.

JASON
Shit Reggie man. Just give him your stuff.

REGGIE
No.

Candice turns to the back. Her face filled with uneasiness.

Jones steps up to Reggie pointing the gun directly at his chest. Reggie stands up. Jones instinctively SHOOTS Reggie once in the chest.

Jason’s eyes crumble, Kevin falls back and Michael covers his eyes. The rest scream.

INT. BUS -- LOWER DECK -- DAY

The gun shots are heard. Jessy twist his neck.

JESSY
What the fuck was that.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY

Jason, in a PITFULL of rage, jumps on Jones. They struggle all over the back. Reggie lays in his seat with his neck back. Kevin and Jack are frozen in shock.

INT. BUS -- LOWER DECK -- DAY

Meanwhile, the bus driver catches Gripz unaware. He pushes his bus door into Gripz who falls forward. Jessy sees the bus driver trying to escape, turns, and shoots him twice.
EXT. MAIN ROAD DAY
The bus swings in disorder, heading into a corner shop.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY
People run down stairs in a panic. Jason wrestles Jones to the ground and the gun flies away. He punches Jones twice in the side of the head.

INT. BUS -- LOWER DECK -- DAY
Jessy runs to the drivers seat and tries to turn the steering wheel.

EXT. MAIN ROAD DAY
The bus twist, but too much. It slides and lands ferociously on the ground. Glass smashes, cars dip out the way. Silence.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY
The bus is flipped on its side. Jason is stuck at the back. Bodies lie everywhere. It’s dusty and unclear. Jason tries to make out where he is.

    JASON
Reggie, Kevin, Michael, Anyone.

    JASON(V.O)
Get up Jason. Move those long legs of yours. You can do it. There’s no time.

Stays silent. Jason tries to move but he is stuck.

    JASON
Shit.

    JASON(V.O)
Don’t fail me now legs. Not when I need you most.

Jason coughs out a load of blood. A large cut is revealed down the side of his face.

    KEVIN
Is anybody there.

(CONTINUED)
JASON
Is that you Kev.

KEVIN
Yeah. I can’t move.

JASON
Me to. I can’t see anything.

EXT. MAIN ROAD DAY
Just beside the bus the petrol is flooding out.

INT. BUS -- UPPER DECK -- DAY
Jason tries rustle around but he moves only a couple inches.

JASON(V.O)
Damn. It looks over. I can’t move.
I can’t save anyone.

JASON
Can you move.

Kevin tries to get up but he screams an goes back down.

KEVIN
No. My legs are finished.

JASON
What about Reggie and Michael.

KEVIN
I can’t see anything.

We hear different coughs in the background. Some scream in anguish.

GIRLS VOICE
Get me out of here please.

Kevin looks around and finds Reggie. Lifeless.

KEVIN
Shit.

JASON
What?

(CONTINUED)
KEVIN
I think Reggie is dead.

Jason hangs his head. A tear drops down his eyes.

JASON (V.O)
There’s something in life which is funny and unfair. That’s our destiny.

EXT. MAIN ROAD DAY

The flooded petrol catches fire. It slowly snakes up towards bus. Then.....

BANG

The bus erupts in flames. Thick black smoke fills the polluted air.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY WARD -- DAY

Jason is strapped onto a hospital bed.

POV: JASON BLINKS IN AND OUT OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Doctor SMITH and two nurses stand over him rushing him into a room.

SMITH
Stay awake Jason. Come on don’t give up on us.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY WARD -- ROOM -- DAY

Smith and the nurses roll him into the vacant room and connect him to the medical equipment.

POV: JASON WATCHES SMITH TRY TO KEEP HIM ALIVE

Smith stands over him and takes out a needle. They unroll Jason’s sleave and then Smith injects him.

But Jason is falling and finally his eyes close.

FADES TO BLACK

MAN’S VOICE
Wake up. Jason wake up.
Jason blinks twice and wakes up. Surrounding him is his family. MARY (44), JAMES (23), MICHAEL (26) and ANTHONY (27).

Mary weeps in her chair. She is big, with light skin. James also sits close just staring at Jason. He looks like an older version of Jason with longer arms and legs.

Michael and Anthony stand clutching their pockets. Michael in traditional Islam clothing and Anthony wearing a long dark coat with his hand under his mouth.

Silence engulfs the room.

Jason manages to pick himself up. He steps of the bed in his hospital wear.

JASON
Don’t worry I’m fine.

They don’t respond. They carry on staring forward. Jason turns and sees himself still in the hospital bed in a deep coma.

JASON
Am I dead.

MAN’S VOICE
Not quite.

Jason spins around and scans the room. In the corner is a man in a shadow. His face can’t be seen at the moment.

JASON
Where am I?

MAN’S VOICE
Doesn’t really matter where you are. What matters is you’re still alive.

JASON
Who are you?

The man steps out of the shadow. Jason recognizes him straight away.

JASON
It can’t be........... Dad?
DAD
Yes son.

JASON
But your dead. You died when I was six months old. None of this is real, you are just apart of my imagination. I’m dreaming.

DAD
Maybe you are but I’m not here to discuss why I’m here but how to get you out of here.

Jason looks at himself in a coma.

JASON
Why can’t I wake up.

DAD
You’re in a deep coma. And you have been in it for ten months.

JASON
Never thought I would get to speak to you. Well, I’m not really speaking to you. But I do miss you even though I never got to meet you.

DAD
I do miss you. And it hurts that I never was there to see you grow up. But it was my time. You can’t change destiny. But this isn’t your time.

JASON
I’m stuck here, how do I get out?

DAD
You need to pick yourself up. Your life is more important than you think. Many lives depend on you.

JASON
Lives? What lives?

DAD
The talking is over. It’s time to wake up to your destiny.

Suddenly different sounds begin echoing and mumbling.

(CONTINUED)
JAMES
I think he’s waking up. Call a doctor.

Michael races out the room and brings in Doctor Smith.

DAD
It’s time.

Jason walks back and gets back into his bed.

SMITH
Come on Jason. Wake up.

As Jason lays back down, then his eyes open.

SMITH
You’re in the hospital Jason. You have been in a coma for a year since the accident. How are you feeling.

Jason slowly rises like a crumpled old man.

JASON
I’m fine. When can I get out of here?

SMITH
We need to do more test first.

JASON
I feel fine.

SMITH
Just relax. Save your energy. I will be back later.

Doctor Smith picks up his clip board and leaves the room. The nurse checks his pulse and heart as the rest gather round him.

MARY
Jason.

JASON
Mum.

MICHAEL
Are you OK. Do you need anything.
JASON
How about some chicken. Kentucky fried chicken.

They all smile. Michael nods and leaves.

ANTHONY
Jason Mason, finally awake boy.
Shit. Thought you were gonna die.

Jason smiles.

JASON
Too strong for that.

Pause.

JASON
Who else survived?

Mary, Anthony and James look at each other.

JASON
Can’t of been only me?

James paces himself.

JAMES
No one died in the crash.

JASON
What?

JAMES
Everyone somehow survived.

JASON
Call Reggie. Tell him to come, bring the whole gang.

MARY
Jason, you can worry about all of that later, but first you need to get better.

JASON
(trying to move)
I wanna see them.

MARY
OK. James will sought something out
OK. Just rest. Please.

Jason stops and calms down.
His eyes slowly start to drowse.

MARY
Call the doctor, he’s falling asleep.

James jumps up and runs out the room.

Slowly Jason closes his eyes and drifts off.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY WARD -- HALLWAY -- DAY

Jason stands, he wears dark blue jeans and a white hoodie. Beside him is his mother. They both wait patiently.

MARY
How you feeling.

JASON
I’m fine.

MARY
It’s been almost a year since you walked properly, are you sure you don’t need some walking sticks or something.

JASON
I’m fine mum.

MARY
Good. Michael is going to pick us up after the doctor comes. Are you hungry, do you want a chocolate or something?

JASON
Yeah a chocolate.

MARY
OK, I will be right back. If the doctor comes, call me on my mobile.

Jason nods as his mother walks down the white corridor and turns a corner.

JASON(V.O)
I hate hospitals. They killed my cousin, don’t trust them. I hate the smell, I hate the design. Where is this damn doctor?

Doctor Smith finally arrives holding a stack of papers.

(CONTINUED)
SMITH
Sorry I kept you waiting.

JASON
That’s OK.

Smith tussles through his papers until he finds Jason’s reports.

SMITH
Jason. OK. We ran some test whilst you were in a coma.

JASON
Is there something wrong?

SMITH
Whilst we were checking you we found something, something in your blood. We don’t know where it came from.

JASON
Like what?

Smith takes a deep breath. He stares at the ground for a little moment before raising his head to look Jason right in the eye.

SMITH
There is something in your blood which killing you slowly.

Jason’s eyes suddenly become smaller. His heart starts pounding against his chest.

JASON
What? I thought I was fine.

SMITH
I know you made a quick recovery but in the sample of blood we took we found that something is eating away at your cells. But at the same time it is quickening your regenerative capabilities, its quite remarkable.

JASON
I don’t understand.

(CONTINUED)
SMITH
Basically you’re dying but your body is becoming abnormally more resilient to all types of trauma.

JASON
How much time?

SMITH
A month.
(pause)
I advice you to tell your family. I know this must be extremely difficult but they will help you get through this. You’re not alone.

Jason stares distraughtly in shock.

JASON
I will tell them.

SMITH
If you need anything I will be here.

Jason nods disconsolately. Doctor Smith walks away into the deep white corridor.

JASON(V.O)
I can’t tell them. It will be too much. Hope dashed away.

Mary arrives back with a bar of chocolate in her hand.

MARY
Was that the Doctor?

JASON
Yes.

MARY
What did he say?

Jason pauses and looks to the ceiling.

MARY
What did he say?

JASON
He said I have made a full recovery. He said he has seen nothing like it.

(Continued)
MARY
Oh my God. That’s great news. Why do you look so sad?

JASON
I’m not. Just a bit shocked.

MARY
No need to be. Michael just called. He is waiting for us down stairs. It’s time to go home.

Jason releases the fake smile which resembles a sickening grin staring at the thick white walls in a trance.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

It’s cold and wintry. The wind flutters through the air.

INT. MICHAEL’S CAR -- NIGHT

As Michael drives through the treacherous conditions, Jason sits in the back. Glaring outside the window.

JASON(V.O)
You look at things differently when you know you are gonna die. What did my dad mean, was it all just a dream? It’s not fair. Why me? I’m a sensible person. Before I go I need answers.

Jason takes out his mobile phone and rings a number.

JASON(V.O)
How did everyone survive?

The phone rings, a women picks up.

JASON
Shanice.

SHANICE(V.O)
Hello. Who is this?

JASON
Jason.

SHANICE(V.O)
Jason. Oh God, your awake.

(CONTINUED)
JASON
It’s so nice to hear your voice.

SHANICE(V.O)
You to.

JASON
Have you spoke to Jack, Reggie or Kevin. I can’t get through to them.

SHANICE(V.O)
I haven’t seen them since the crash.

JASON
What. It’s been a year. Where did they all go?

SHANICE(V.O)
I don’t know. I tried to get hold of them when I found out everyone survived, but they disappeared.

JASON
I think we should meet.

SHANICE(V.O)
I have moved on Jase. I’ve put you guys behind me. Believe me it was hard.

JASON
But we are still friends. I still care for you.

SHANICE(V.O)
I’m sorry Jase. That part of my life is over. Good bye.

Shanice hangs up.

JASON
Shanice. Shanice.

Jason’s face tenses up and he dashes his phone to the car floor.

JASON
Something is going on.

MICHAEL
Calm down. Your friends are still out there, you will find them. But (MORE)

(CONTINUED)
MICHAEL (cont’d)
today we celebrate you getting well init.

JASON
Yeah, OK.

JASON(V.O)
Michael always talks sense. All I can do is wait. I will get to the bottom of this.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM -- NIGHT

It’s dark but a little light sparkles from the corner of the room. It’s Shanice, sat at a table looking so much different. Darker hair, darker makeup and a cigar dangling from her finger tips.

She holds a phone in her hands.

SHANICE
(into phone)
He called me.......He’s woken up......I told him nothing.......what do you want me to do with him.......OK, your sending him now.......no no I haven’t got a problem.......yes sir.

She puts the phone down and puffs out circles of smoke.

FADE OUT

END OF PART TWO

PART THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

The cold wind brushes against Jason’s cheeks as he gets out of Michael’s car.

Mary also gets out, as does Michael and they all approach a big bricked three story council flat.

Michael notices something wrong with Jason, so he stops him just before they go in.

(CONTINUED)
MICHAEL
What’s wrong?

JASON
I’m fine, just tired.

MICHAEL
No. I know when there is something wrong with you.

JASON
It’s been a hard time. I’m just getting used to it all.

MICHAEL
If there are any problems. I’m here for you.

JASON
Thanks.

INT. COUNCIL FLAT -- STAIRS -- NIGHT
Jason walks behind Mary and Michael, up the stairs. His head drags down. His hands stuffed in his pockets.

They reach the top. Mary takes out her key and unlocks the door. They enter the pitch black house one by one, Jason coming last.

VOICES
SURPRISE.

The lights blaze open. Jason is surrounded by running children, balloons and happy people. They wave their hands as a astounded Jason walks through the corridor to the front room.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- FRONT ROOM -- NIGHT
As Jason enters he finds a great big banner along the wall saying "WELCOME BACK". All the seats are taken, mostly by elderly people.

Jason can hardly move. It’s too cramp. Loud African music screams in the background.

Two kids dance in the middle of the front room. The atmosphere is full of happiness and relief.

(CONTINUED)
But Jason’s face is totally the opposite. He looks glum and disinterested. His eyes almost drop of his face. A seat is vacated so he sits down, by the dinner table.

    JASON(V.O)
    Everyone, so happy and overjoyed.
    Munching food, singing lyrics.

SUZY (23) taps Jason on the shoulder. Jason turns around quickly.

    SUZY
    Sorry, did I spook you?

    JASON
    No. Of course not.

    SUZY
    Are you OK?

    JASON
    I’m fine.

    SUZY
    You don’t look it....

    JASON
    What’s with the twenty questions.
    I’ve told you I’m fine.

Suzy turns and heads into the barrage of people in the corridor.

    JASON(V.O)
    Finally she’s gone. Maybe I was a bit too harsh. She is my cousin.
    She was just checking if I was OK.

Jason watches as Michael keeps things in order. He picks up used cans of drink, directs the children to go in the bedroom and changes the TV channel.

    JASON(V.O)
    I need answers, now. Like a black whole in my head. Where is everyone?

Suddenly the house phone starts ringing. Jason is immediately attracted to it. It rings and rings then rings again. Each tone colliding with is ear.

Michael picks it up.

(CONTINUED)
JASON (V.O)
I wonder who that is. Could be the answers, or another relative
offering their congratulations. This things is eating away at me.

MICHAEL
It for you Jason.

Jason springs up straight away. He takes the phone from Michael.

JASON
(into phone)
Hello...... I can’t here you......you need to speak up.....hold on for a second.

Jason skips through the standing people and into the balcony.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- BALCONY -- NIGHT

Jason hops in. Already their are two black older males talking to each other.

JASON
Can you guys give me a minute.

They accept and leave the balcony.

JASON
Hello.

A deep soaring voice escapes from the phone.

JACK (V.O)
Hello Jason.

JASON
Who’s this?

JACK (V.O)
Jack.

Jason pauses with a confused face.

JASON
Stop playing tricks. Who is this?

(CONTINUED)
JACK (V.O)
There is no more time Jase. There
coming for you. They’re gonna
kill your family just to make sure
they get you.

JASON
Whoever this is, stop playing this
sick game. Jack doesn’t sound
anything like that. If you’ve done
anything to him, I swear.....

JACK (V.O)
Listen. Stop being stubborn Jase.
It’s hard to believe, I know. A lot
of things happened whilst you were
asleep. You know something is not
right. How did we all survive Jase.
The explosion, we all should be
dead, but we’re not. Someone did
something to us. If you want your
family to live you have to listen
to me.

JASON
How can I trust you? You can be
anyone.

JACK
I know you Jase. You lot used to
call me tight lipped cos’ I hardly
spoke. Me, you, Kevin and Reggie.
We were all good friends.

JASON
Jack.

JACK
There’s no more time. Get your
family out of there. They’re
coming, I can smell them.

JASON
Where are you?

JACK
Doesn’t matter. Get them out to a
safe place. Then we can meet.

JASON
I’ll call the police.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
No. No, they can’t be trusted. Keep your eyes open. Notice anything dodgy in anyone, you will need to kill them.

JASON
What? Kill them.

JACK
Look. We’re dealing with someone who can shape shift. It can be anyone in your house. So get everyone out, if anybody looks dodgy you have to kill them. Be sure though, and remember they ain’t who they say they are. Can you do that Jase?

JASON
I......I think I can.

Suddenly a large fist clatters Jason’s neck. He falls lifeless onto the balcony floor. Michael stands above him. He takes the phone.

MICHAEL
(onto the phone)
It’s over Canine. He’s mine. Another one lost cos’ you’re too scared to come and face me.

Michael looks around the balcony into the open darkness.

MICHAEL
After this I will be free. But you will still be running. They’ll never stop.

JACK
Son of a bitch. If you touch him...

MICHAEL
What, doggy. Your gonna kill me. Come on. You couldn’t even stop me from killing your family, how are you gonna stop me now. Take this advice, run. Run and keep running and get as far away from here as possible. Cos that’s what you are, a runner, a coward.

Michael dashes the phone off the edge.
EXT. PARK -- NIGHT

Outside the balcony is an open park where in the corner, hidden and obscure is a dark figure. Hood over his head so the face can’t be shown. His hands are thick full of hair, his nails sharp and long.

The figure growls and dashes a phone to the ground. He stamps on it using his wide, hairy and unkept foot.

He then scuttles off like a rat on all fours into the dark night.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- BALCONY -- NIGHT

Michael leaves the balcony holding Jason.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- FRONT ROOM -- NIGHT

Everyone watches as Michael carries in Jason past the front room, into the corridor.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

Mary walks out of the Kitchen and notices Michael carrying Jason.

MARY
(worried)
What’s wrong with? Is he OK?

MICHAEL
He’s fine, just tired. He fell asleep on the balcony.

MARY
Are you sure? Maybe we should call a doctor.

MICHAEL
NO. I mean no. He just needs to rest. Just get everyone out the house. He needs some silence and peace.

MARY
OK.

Michael turns and takes Jason to his MUM’S room.
INT. NABUKA HOME -- ROOM -- NIGHT

Michael lays him on the king sized bed. He crawls up close to his ear.

MICHAEL
I don’t know you. Maybe your a good guy. You see they told me you would be the hardest to get, don’t know why. But also if I got you they would let me go.

Michael gets closer and smells him.

MICHAEL
You taste different. Your not like the rest. You see your lucky. You can, or would have lived a normal life. But I have to live knowing I will never be able to be me again.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

Mary waves away the last few guest as they leave through her front door. The music is gone, and the floor is littered with rubbish litter.

Just outside the front door is a black cupboard. Mary notices something sticking out. She goes closer and sees its a finger.

MARY
Oh my God.

Mary opens the cupboard and a person looking exactly like Michael falls out. His eyes pitch black and his body empty of life.

Mary lets out a huge SCREAM.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- ROOM -- NIGHT

Michael’s head turns straight away.

MICHAEL
Looks like I may have a problem. Don’t worry, I’ll be back, Don’t go anywhere.

Michael lifts himself off the bed and exits the bedroom.
INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

Stood in front of the front door is James and Mary stunned.

    JAMES
    I can’t get a pulse

    MICHAEL
    It’s cos’ he’s dead.

Mary and James turn and see Michael stood with his arms folded.

    JAMES
    Not possible.

    MICHAEL
    Anything is possible in this world.

    MARY
    Michael?

Michael changes - shape shifts into something new. It wears all black, like a shadow. A hood drapes his darken blackness. A face seems not to be there.

    SHADOW
    They nicknamed me Shadow, and that’s what I’d like to be called.

Suddenly Jason comes torpedoing from the room and gores SHADOW into the corridor wall. Both shadow and Jason lie on the floor.

Shadow spins up and grabs Jason off the floor. He chokes him, Jason gasp for air. He then tosses him into the kitchen. Jason falls hard onto the floor.

James then attacks Shadow, swinging punches but Shadow catches his arm. Then punches his chest, sending him outside of the front door.

Mary cries beside Michael. Shadow looks at her, then walks into the kitchen.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- KITCHEN -- NIGHT

It’s a complete mess of a kitchen. Plates, cups, knives and forks everywhere.

Shadow picks Jason up.

(CONTINUED)
SHADOW
I don’t know why they warned me about you. Your pathetic. This all you have to offer.

JASON
Please.

SHADOW
Don’t beg. Makes you look more pathetic. Have some dignity.

Shadow releases his right arm back, holding Jason with his left.

SHADOW
Your going to sleep.

He then punches his black fist right through Jason’s chest.

He then releases Jason onto the ground.

Shadows left hand then becomes engulfed in blackness.

SHADOW
Don’t worry, your families next.

He releases a blaze of darkness into the gas boiler. Fire bursts out everywhere.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

A mysterious hooded person scuttles into the corridor. He picks up James, Mary and Michael and carries them down the stairs outside.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

As CANINE drops them to the ground, his hood comes off. He resembles a werewolf, but hairier and scarier. His eyes are dark, his mouth is wide. His teeth are monstrous and his back is hunched.

He quickly puts his hood back on before Mary can notice.

MARY
What about my son?

CANINE
Don’t worry I’m going back for him.
INT. NABUKA HOME -- KITCHEN -- NIGHT

Shadow picks Jason up and puts him on his back.

Suddenly a dark figure stands behind Shadow. Shadow turns.

SHADOW
I think your too late doggy.

CANINE
It’s never too late to kill you.

SHADOW
Oh really.

Canine glances at Jason.

SHADOW
How long have you been waiting to get your revenge. I killed your whole family.

Canine runs and gores Shadow. He immediately drops Jason to the Kitchen floor. Canine and Shadow fly through the kitchen window down into the concrete.

Jason wakes up. Fire surrounds him.

JASON
Mum.

Jason walks into the corridor and searches for his mum.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

Mary looks up at the flat as other residents scramble out.

MARY
Jason.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

Jason struggles through the corridor before dropping on the ground.
EXT. PARK -- NIGHT

Canine and Shadow lie on the ground next to each other.

Canine wakes up. He scrambles onto his feet. He checks Shadow but nothing is there. Just his dark clothing.

Then he turns and sees the burning building lit on fire.

BOOM.

The flat explodes, windows smash and black smoke rises.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

Mary looks up and we see the flat in her eyes on fire.

INT. NABUKA HOME -- CORRIDOR -- NIGHT

Fire is everywhere. Jason is in the middle. Eyes closed, his clothing burnt to the core.

Standing above him is Canine. He lifts him up them scrambles past the fire into the balcony and over into some grass.

He lands perfectly.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

Fire fighters and medics arrive on the scene. James is taken away into an ambulance. Mary stands over Michael’s body, frozen in one spot. Her eyes swell up with water. Her heart thumping like train tracks.

EXT. PARK -- NIGHT

Canine plants Jason slowly on the grass. He looks on worried and regretful.

As Canine bows his head, Jason coughs out smoke and wakes up. Canine’s monstrous face widens to show a smile.

CANINE

Jason.

Jason eyes stretches open and he sits up. But he jumps up when he sees Canine.

(CONTINUED)
CANINE
It’s OK. It’s me Jack.

JASON
It can’t be.

CANINE
Remember me, on the phone. I’m so sorry I left you in there.

JASON
Jack. Where’s my family?

CANINE
They’re fine. Being taken to the hospital.

JASON
What about Michael.
(shouts)
Where is he?

CANINE
He’s dead.

Jason drops to his knees.

JASON
This is my thought. He came for me.

CANINE
You did all you could.

JASON
No, I made things worse.

CANINE
Go back, your family needs you.

EXT. URBAN ROAD -- NIGHT

James gets strapped up to hospital beds, with oxygen mask over his face.

A firefighter comes from the council flat and shakes his head at Mary. She erupts in tears and screams out.

JASON(V.O)
I can’t go back. All I will bring is danger. They are safer without me.
Firefighters take Mary away from the scene. Michael’s body is covered up.

  JASON(V.O)
  I need answers. I need to find where everyone is. No more running.

Mary gets into the back of the ambulance.

  JASON(V.O)
  Whoever done this will be brought to Justice.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM -- NIGHT

Shanice sits staring in thought, cutting her black nails.

  JASON(V.O)
  So much has changed. They won’t get away with this. My dad was right, my time was not yet up.

EXT. PARK -- NIGHT

Jason looks up at Canine.

  JASON
  Where is Shadow?

  CANINE
  He will kill you.

  JASON
  (shouts)
  I can’t die. Not yet.

  CANINE
  They will want you to go after them, so they can catch you.

  JASON
  I don’t care. I will find him. And all the people who helped him. And kill them all.

Jason grits his teeth and clenches his face in real hatred.

FADE TO BLACK

END OF SHOW