"QUIET"

by

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INT. KRILLEN FAMILY HOME, CHICAGO – MORNING

A scan of the living room shows a modest and clean home, with many pictures of a very happy family.

The sounds of "SPONGE BOB SQUARE PANTS" and someone cooking.

The tour continues into the kitchen.

JILL KRILLEN (34) is at the stove, her hair pulled back in a ponytail with dark smudges on her face.

Jill is dressed in an dirty old t-shirt, jeans and work boots.

Jill is scrambling some eggs to complete the breakfast banquet.

    ERIC (O.S.)
    Is it my birthday?

ERIC KRILLEN (34) wearing a robe walks into the kitchen.

    JILL
    Everyday, Baby

    ERIC
    Hey, Hottie, don't you look sexy?

    JILL
    Don't I. -- Here ya go Big Boy.

Jill hands Eric a plate of bacon with a wink.

    ERIC
    Thanks.

Eric takes the plate and a kiss. Then makes a scrunched face.

    JILL
    Come and get it!

    ERIC
    Oh! Smells like you worked all night.

    JILL
    All the more reason for us to take a shower.

    ERIC
    Does my baby need some lovin'?

    JILL
    I always need some, Big Boy.

RHYS (8) and CAITLIN (6) come running into the kitchen in their Pjs.
ERIC
I think we need to finish this conversation later.

RHYS
Mornin' Dad.

ERIC
Mornin' big man.

Caitlin gives Eric a big hug.

CAITLIN
Mornin' Daddy!

ERIC
Good morning my perfect little angel. When did you two get up?

RHYS
Mom woke us with the smell.

ERIC
The smell?

RHYS
Bacon!

ERIC
Oh, that smell.

JILL
Stop it! I don't smell that bad.

ERIC
I'm just kidding. So, did you finish the second piece of the set?

JILL
Around four o'clock. Then I finished the third piece,

ERIC
That's fantastic! The whole set is done?

JILL
Yep.

ERIC
Can I see them before I leave for work?

RHYS
I want to see them too.
CAITLIN
Me too!

JILL
Okay, but you have to get ready for school first.

CAITLIN
Mash browns peas!

JILL
Here you go, sweetie.

Jill puts some hash browns on Caitlin's plate.

INT. MASTER BATHROOM, CHICAGO -- MORNING

Jill is in the shower, water spraying in her face as she rinses her hair.

Eric slowly grabs her neck and starts to rub her shoulders.

Eric is rubbing soap on Jill's back.

A knock at the door, Jill and Eric jump.

Caitlin walks in quickly.

CAITLIN
Mommy! I gotta go pee-pee.

Eric grabs Jill, they muffle a giggle.

JILL
Okay baby, ... Caitlin honey, why didn't you use the other bathroom?

CAITLIN
'Cause Daddy, I think he's in there making stinky.

Eric tickles Jill.

JILL
Stop it.

Jill slaps his hand.

CAITLIN
All done.

JILL
Okay sweetie, don't...

Caitlin flushes the toilet.
Jill screams.

JILL (CONT'D)
...flush the toilet.

CAITLIN
Sorry.

ERIC
She's gone.

Eric and Jill kiss sensuously.

INT. JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO -- MORNING
The garage doors are wide open.
Jill dressed in sweats with her hair down, is standing next to three wrought iron sculptures.
Each piece is connected to the other.

JILL
Ready?
Rhys and Caitlin dressed in their private school uniforms, nod their heads.
Eric in a suit stands behind them.

ERIC
We're ready.
Jill reaches behind and turns a knob.
There's a little hiss of air.
Jill lifts a big old fashion switch.
Lights come on.

CAITLIN
Wow!
Jill turns another knob.
All three pieces come to life.
Spinning wheels and pendulums.
An artistic sculpture with clock-like movement.
Rhys and Caitlin jump up and down clapping their hands.
ERIC
That's fantastic sweetheart! It's really great. - Is it mainly air powered?

JILL
Yep. Except for the lights.

Jill turns it off.

CAITLIN
I watch more! Peas!

RHYS
Yeah! Please.

ERIC
Sorry guys. I have to get you to school. Say good-bye to Mommy.

Rhys gives Jill a big hug.

RHYS
I love it Mom. It's really cool.

Caitlin gives Jill a hug.

CAITLIN
Me too! It's coooool!

ERIC
I also think it's "coooool". Really. You did a great job. It's fun to watch.

JILL
Thank you all, very much. It means a lot to me.

ERIC
Okay monsters go ahead and get in the car.

Rhys and Caitlin leave.

RHYS
Bye Mom. Love you.

CAITLIN
Bye bye. Love you.

JILL
Love you, both.

ERIC
And I love my super sexy artist.
Eric grabs Jill and pulls her close.

    JILL
    Whoa! Down boy! Don't you have to leave.

    ERIC
    Yes, but I don't want to.

    JILL
    I'll see you this afternoon. I may or may not be up by then.

    ERIC
    My baby is so tired. Go get some sleep. - Bye. Love you.

Eric starts to walk out.

    JILL
    Love you too. Bye.

EXT. KRILLEN FAMILY HOME, CHICAGO -- AFTERNOON

A car pulls up and parks on the street.

Eric, Rhys and Caitlin exit the car laughing.

They go into the house carrying school bags and groceries.

Another car slowly creeps to a stop Across the street.

JOSEPH (43) seated in the drivers seat and WERNER (25), stare at the house.

Eric and kids can be seen in the kitchen at the back of the house through the front window.

Joseph is holding a picture of an Eric look-a-like.

    JOSEPH
    I don't know. You sure?

    WERNER
    My eyes don't lie. We found him.

Werner gets out of the passenger seat.

Werner opens the trunk to reveal that it is specially fitted for an arsenal of weapons.

Grabbing a missile launcher.

Werner puts it on his shoulder he fires it at the front window.
The missile enters the front window.
The back of the house blows upward and outward.
The car drives away calmly.

INT. JILL'S CAR - EARLY EVENING

Jill is talking on her cell phone.

JILL
(happy)
I know! I know! He said he would buy this set and commission me for another.
(beat)
He's going to put this one in the front lobby of his office building.
(beat)
I know! This is totally wild! I can't wait to tell Eric and the kids.

Jill turns the corner off the main street and sees smoke.

JILL (CONT'D)
Whoa, that's a lot of smoke!
(beat)
Yeah, there must be a fire around here. Oh man, I hope they didn't block off my street again.
(beat)
Okay. - Great! - Yeah, I'll talk to you tomorrow. Bye. - I will. - You do the same.

Jill hangs up her phone.

Jill turns toward her street and sees a police car blocking the intersection.

JILL (CONT'D)
Great, I knew it. They always block my street.

When she gets closer she sees the fire trucks are by her house.

JILL (CONT'D)
Oh my God! NO! PLEASE NO!

Jill leaps out of her car and runs toward her house.

EXT. BURNING HOME -- EVENING

The fire is out but there is still smoke everywhere.
A young FIREMAN sees Jill coming toward the house.

The Fireman tries to stop her.

   FIREMAN
   Hey!  Wait!  You can't come over here!

   JILL
   My house!  That's my house!

Jill stiff arms the Fireman, then runs past

   FIREMAN
   Whoa!  Hey!  Lady stop!

   JILL
   Where are my kids!?  My husband!?  Where are they!?

   FIREMAN
   Captain!  Over here Captain!

The CAPTAIN is talking on a wireless unit, turns and stops Jill.

   JILL
   Where's my family?

   CAPTAIN
   Slow down. - Ma'am, what's your name?

The Captain is holding her back as she is frantically looking around.

   JILL
   J-Jill-Jill Krillen!  Let me go!

   CAPTAIN
   Oh, Mrs. Krillen I'm....

   JILL
   Where's my family?!

   CAPTAIN
   Mrs. Krillen, let's talk over here.  Okay?

The Captain tries to move Jill away from the scene.

Jill sees a black body bag and breaks away from the Captain.

   JILL
   OH MY GOD!  NO!  NO!  GOD NO!

   CAPTAIN
   Mrs. Krillen, Wait!  I need...
She runs straight to the Coroner's truck.

The Captain follows.

Seeing three body bags she drops to her knees with her arms out and passes out, falling face first. (Dark)

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

DOCTOR Jessica WILLIS stands next to Jill's bed.

Two plain clothed policemen are at the foot of the bed.

Jill is asleep.

    DOCTOR WILLIS
    Jill can you hear me? Jill?

Jill slowly opens her eyes.

    DOCTOR WILLIS (CONT'D)
    Jill, I'm Dr. Willis.

    JILL
    What's going on?

    DOCTOR WILLIS
    There's been an accident and...

    DETECTIVE #1
    Doctor, if I may? I'm Detective Harris, and this is Detective Edwards. We're with Bomb and Arson. Mrs. Krillen we need to talk to you about...

    DETECTIVE #2
    First, Mrs. Krillen, we are very sorry for your loss...

Jill stares blankly at her door, as the color drains from her face.

    DOCTOR WILLIS
    Jill before they start. How are you feeling?

    JILL
    What? How do I...

Jill leans over the other side of the bed and throws up.

The Doctor hands Jill a box a tissues, pushes the nurses button and checks her forehead.
DOCTOR WILLIS
(to the Detectives)
You're going to have to leave. Come back later. She needs rest.

JILL
No, I need to know what happened.

DETECTIVE #2
There was an explosion in or around the kitchen.

DETECTIVE #1
We found metal fragments the kind used in welding tanks in the basement, where we believe it started. We also found welding tanks in the garage that match.

JILL
My welding tanks? I use them for my art work. I make sculptures.
(beat)
Oh my god! My welding tanks! I had some welding tanks in the basement. I got a really good deal on a double order but I didn't have room in the garage for them.
(beat)
Oh my god, I killed my babies!

DOCTOR WILLIS
Okay, okay! Jill! Look at me! Jill, look at me!

DETECTIVE #2
Mrs. Krillen, we didn't say that.

Jill's MOTHER, (60) rushes into the room, scared and confused.

MOTHER
Jill! Honey!

JILL
Mom! - I killed my babies!

A look of horror on her mother's face.

MOTHER
What?

Jill buries her face in her hands.

Her Mother holds Jill, they both cry heavily.
DOCTOR WILLIS
I'm sorry but you two have to leave.
She can't talk to you right now.

Doctor Willis opens the door for the Detectives.

JILL
My babies!

DETECTIVE #1
Let's go Edwards.

The detectives walk out into the hall and close the door.

INT. HOSPITAL HALL - NIGHT

DETECTIVE #2
What do you think?

DETECTIVE #1
Well, there are no signs of foul play. It looks like maybe one of the welding tanks had a leak, and something ignited it.

DETECTIVE #2
Like what?

DETECTIVE #1
Come on, how about the clothes dryer's gas pilot light. The one tank blows, the other blows, and the natural gas line blows, or the leak seeps up the stairs into the kitchen. Dad doesn't smell it and lights the stove. Remember the neighbors all heard multiple explosions. So one set off the others.

DETECTIVE #2
That's messed up, really shitty luck.

DETECTIVE #1
An accident in the worst way possible.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Doctor Willis and Jill's Mother move to the corner of the room.

Jill lies in bed crying.
MOTHER
Doctor, can I take her home?

DOCTOR WILLIS
Not tonight, I gave her a strong sedative, plus, I think she should stay for a few days. I'm afraid. We need to stabilize her.

MOTHER
What do you mean?

DOCTOR WILLIS
I'm putting her on a suicide watch.

MOTHER
Wait a minute Doctor. That can't be. Not my Jill.

DOCTOR WILLIS
She just lost her husband, her son, her daughter and she blames herself.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI - NIGHT

VICTOR Goffenski is a large, sharply dressed man of Eastern European descent is sitting behind a desk.

He closes his laptop and stares at Joseph and Werner standing in front of him.

VICTOR
Joseph, I was just watching the news about a horrible accident.

WERNER
Yeah, it was perfect. Nothing left to point at us.

JOSEPH
Shut up Vern. Mr. Goffenski, I know it wasn't quiet, but he never had a chance to get away this time.

WERNER
It was my idea! I saw him at the grocery store with his kids. So we followed him home and I blew him up.

JOSEPH
I started to call you, but then the house blew up.
VICTOR
As I was saying Joseph, I was just watching the news about a horrible accident and how the grieving wife and mother is taking the blame. But the police are saying it was an accident. So the widow is not going to be charged...

WERNER
See what I mean? We are clean and clear. We're fucking good!

JOSEPH
Shut up Vern!

VICTOR
Do you remember why we were after Gary Rembowski?

JOSEPH
Yeah. Gary and his wife, what's her name? I remember, Gloria. They used to work here. She saw Vern with the dead body of an old friend of yours. You told me to make her quiet. But, she must of told Gary, because, he blames you and said he would find a way to bring you down. Something about files on a CD.

VICTOR
Yes, her name "WAS" Gloria. She "WAS" a nice girl.

JOSEPH
Holy shit! You mean we killed the wrong man?

Victor stands quickly, making Joseph and Werner flinch.

VICTOR
(yelling)
Yes, you stupid fucking morons! You killed the wrong man and his kids! How the hell can you be so stupid! You know Gary! How can you kill the wrong guy! Do your fucking eyes work?! - Now, find Gary and kill him! But, this time, you better make sure first.

JOSEPH
Yes sir.

WERNER
Yes sir.
VICTOR
And don't forget I want the CD with my files on it.
(beat)
One more thing, Joseph, next time your piece of shit monkey speaks to me, cut his tongue out. Now, get the fuck out, you goddamn idiots!

Joseph and Werner leave the office.

Victor opens his laptop.

The screen shows a news article with a picture of the Krillen family.

INT. JILL'S MOTHER'S HOME - CHICAGO - MORNING

Jill wearing a robe and looking as if she had not slept in weeks, is sitting at her mother's kitchen table.

Her mother fully dressed is sitting at the table with her.

MOTHER
I was thinking that maybe you and I could go downtown and do a little shopping. You know fresh air, bargains and shoe sales.
(beat)
Sweetie, it's been weeks now since you've been out of that robe.

Jill stares quietly at her coffee

MOTHER (CONT'D)
How about a movie? We can do that instead.
(pause)
Jill, you need to talk about this. You can't just shut the world out. If you don't want to talk to me, how about Dr. Green? He really helped me when your father passed.

JILL
(sarcastically)
Really?

MOTHER
Yes, he did.

JILL
You killed Dad?
MOTHER
Stop it. You didn't kill them either.

JILL
(outburst)
Yes! I did! They were my tanks!
My tanks that blew up! Can't you
see that! I killed them!

Jill's mother holds her as they both cry.

MOTHER
Now, now. That's enough. I see
that you feel that you did it. But,
it was an accident. Just like the
millions killed in car accidents on
our highways every year. - Horrible
things happen.

Jill gives her mother a strange look.

Jill shakes her head, while she wipes her eyes and blows her
nose.

JILL
(distant)
Before Kate went back to Seattle,
she told me she had room in her studio
for my unfinished works and tools.
So, I think I'll pack up my stuff
and bring it out to her.

MOTHER
Seattle? Why go all the way out
there? Can't you stay here and work?
We can find a place for your
sculptures.

JILL
I'm not gonna start sculpting again.
Not now, not ever again. I'm just
bringing the shit to her. She can
use it, sell it or burn it. I don't
care! I never want to see any of it
again.

MOTHER
Really? All your tools and unfinished
pieces?

JILL
Why? Do you want them?

MOTHER
That's not what I mean.
(MORE)
MOTHER (CONT'D)
Honey, I just don't want you to leave or quit making art. It's always been such a large part of your life, ever since you first played with clay. You are so talented. You can't just let that go.

JILL
I can. What I can't do is stay here. - I'm sorry.

MOTHER
We can work through this.

JILL
I have to go. The police said I could leave and my lawyer has all of Kate's info. I'll come back if the cops want me.

MOTHER
Please stay with me.

JILL
I can't mom. Sorry. I'm leaving for Seattle tomorrow.

EXT. THE ALLEY OF JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO - EARLY AFTERNOON

Aerial shot of what is left of Jill's house, the back yard, garage and Jill's car with U-Haul trailer in the alley.

Drop down to the alley to view the inside of the trailer which is almost full of iron rods, boxes, tools and welding equipment.

INT. THE ALLEY OF JILL'S GARAGE / STUDIO - EARLY AFTERNOON

In the garage covered in dirt and sweat Jill is on the floor leaning against her work table, chin to her chest, weeping over a small ornate wrought iron picture frame.

Over her shoulder to view her once happy family dressed in snow suits and posing in the back yard.

Jill takes the picture out of the frame, stands up and begins to smash the frame against the work table, then hurls it at the wall.

Turning she stops and looks out the window where her house and family once were.
EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

The reflection of a sign reading "Des Moines' Motor Inn"; is seen in the outside of Jill's motel window.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

Slowly panning the empty room except for a suitcase on the bed and clothes on the floor.

Soft music coming from the bathroom.

Entering the bathroom scanning the wall to the window.

A sign is seen that reads "TRUST FATE" (TRUST is on top of FATE) from the church across the road.

There is a radio plugged in at the edge of the tub.

Jill is laying in a full tub, completely dressed.

Jill is staring at the ceiling.

Jill slowly lifts her leg out of the water.

Jill moves her foot next to the radio and knocks it into the tub.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

There are a few cars spread out, Jill's SUV and trailer are in front of her room. The room to the right of Jill's has the curtains open to reveal a man watching TV. A couple other rooms have lights on.

There is a flash and a SCREAM from Jill's room and all the rooms go dark along with the parking lot lights.

The only light left is from a distant street light.

INT. MOTEL BATHROOM - DES MOINES, IOWA - NIGHT

The room is black except for the sign "TRUST FATE". Panicked voices (O.S.) yelling and complaining.

           JILL

            FUCK FATE!
EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - DES MOINES, IOWA - MORNING

In the distance the sign from church "TRUST IN GOD, YOUR FATE IS WITH HIM".

Jill is putting her bag in the SUV when the motel manager walks up.

MOTEL MANAGER
Once again ma'am, I'm really sorry about last night. I don't know how we blew all the breakers at once. It's the oddest thing. Well, please accept a coupon for a free nights stay, the next time you stay with us.

Jill takes the coupon without a word and gets in her car and drives away.

Jill sees the manager in the rear view mirror shrugging his shoulders and talking to someone off to the side.

INT. DRUG STORE - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Jill has two large bottles of sleeping pills in her hand.

Joseph and Werner walk in.

Jill pays no attention.

Werner sees Jill and motions to Joseph.

WERNER
Hey, Joseph check her out, huh?

JOSEPH
What? Her? You need you eyes checked. She looks strung out.

WERNER
Maybe a little, but I bet she's still a good time for the right stuff. I got the stuff she wants.

JOSEPH
We don't have time for that. He's gotta be in this shitty little town.

WERNER
For what I want to do, I got time.

Joseph is looking out the window, between the words "OMAHA'S #1 DRUG STORE" (shown backwards).
Werner is looking at postcards.

Jill walks to the counter.

WERNER (CONT'D)
Who the fuck would want to vacation in this shit hole?

Joseph, while staring at the parking lot, sees Gary Rembowski's reflection in the glass.

GARY (35) (Eric look-a-like) is looking at children's cold medicines.

Gary's daughter FRANNIE (10) walks away from Gary, moving toward the candy section by the postcards.

JOSEPH
PSST! Vern.

Joseph points down the aisle at Gary.

GARY
Sweetheart, do you think Russ would like Cherry, Grape or New Honey flavor?

Gary looks up from the boxes to the front of the store and sees Joseph looking at him.

GARY (CONT'D)
Frannie! Come here! Quickly!

Joseph starts to move toward Gary.

GARY (CONT'D)
FRANNIE RUN!

Frannie turns and faces Werner.

Werner grabs Frannie.

Frannie screams.

WERNER
Holy shit! You got 'em! And I got you, little girl.

As Frannie tries to get away, Werner puts his hand over her mouth.

WERNER (CONT'D)
You and me are gonna have some fun.

A metal display tree appears, and smashes into the side of Werner's face at full force driving him to the floor screaming.
Joseph turns to see Werner struggling on the ground, and Jill is holding a display stand.

Jill turns to face Joseph.

Joseph pulls out his gun and fires at Jill.

The bullet grazes Jill's hair moving it like a gust of wind.

Jill doesn't flinch nor does she move, she just stands there waiting for the next shot to be on target.

Before Joseph can pull the trigger for the second time Gary knocks Joseph into some shelves.

GARY
COME ON BABY! LETS GO!

Jill just stares at Gary.

Gary moves to Frannie and grabs her hand lifting her from the floor.

Jill thinks she sees "Eric" helping Frannie to her feet.
She runs out the door yelling after them.

JILL
ERIC! WAIT!

EXT. DRUG STORE PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Gary and Frannie make it to their mini-van, where RUSSELL (8) just woke up from a nap and looks scared.

Gary unlocks the van.

RUSSELL
What's wrong?

GARY
Get in the car Frannie!

JILL
Eric! Wait!

Gary starts the mini-van and pulls out.

Jill runs back to her SUV with trailer and tries to follow.

Gary turns right out of the parking lot into the flow of heavy traffic.

Jill tries to follow but has trouble with the trailer and stops traffic in all lanes.
INT. DRUG STORE - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Joseph gets up off the floor, looks around for video cameras and the girl behind the counter. Finding neither he puts his gun away.

JOSEPH
Hey Vern, we gotta get out of here.
The cashier must have called the cops by now.

Blood pouring out between Werner's fingers as he presses both hands against his face.

WERNER
(screaming)
What the fuck Joe! What the fuck!
I can't see! I need a doctor!

JOSEPH
Okay. Okay, let me think. All right, give me your gun and wallet.

WERNER
What?

JOSEPH
Gimme your gun and where is your wallet?

WERNER
My back pocket. Why do you want my gun. You gotta get me to a hospital, Joe.

Joseph leans Werner forward and takes his gun and wallet.

Joseph looks around again at the empty store, then points the gun at Werner's head.

Joseph takes a deep breath.

JOSEPH
Shit.

Joseph puts Werner's gun in his belt.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
They'll be here soon, so listen up. You were here with that crazy bitch who hit you, not me. Make up her name and play stupid. Let them fix you and I'll pick you up tonight.
WERNER
We gotta kill that bitch!

JOSEPH
Keep your mouth shut and I'll pick you up later. I'm gonna get her now.

Joseph leaves the store.

EXT. DRUG STORE PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Joseph walks to the car, as a small crowd starts to gather by the drug store.

Joseph opens his trunk and secures the guns.

Joseph starts the car and drives away just as the police and an ambulance arrive.

Joseph dials his cell phone, puts it on speaker, while scanning the road.

JOSEPH
Hey Boss, it's Joseph. I'm just calling to give you a heads up.

VICTOR (V.O.)
What is it now?

JOSEPH
Well, we found "him", but some crazy bitch took Vern out and...

VICTOR (V.O.)
What the hell are you telling me?

JOSEPH
We lost him, just for the time being. I will find him. He's here. I'll get him.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Is the idiot still alive?

JOSEPH
Yes, he's on his way to the hospital. I think he's might lose an eye.

VICTOR (V.O.)
It won't matter because if he talks, he'll lose a lot more.
JOSEPH
I know boss. He won't, he'll be fine. I'm gonna pick him up later.

VICTOR (V.O.)
I meant what I said. He talks, you both lose.

JOSEPH
I understand. I'll take care of it.

The line goes dead, Joseph turns off his phone and puts it in his pocket.

Still driving down same road Joseph spots Jill's trailer in the middle of a motel parking lot.

Joseph sees Gary pointing a gun at Jill.

Joseph slows down and stops across the street.

Gary is pointing to the road and Jill is swinging her arms around.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Get a load of this shit, Vern! This is unbelievable! What do you think Vern? Do ya think he's got the balls to shoot her? No!? I don't think so either. Boy, it's nice and quiet without your big-ass mouth going all the time, Vern. I guess I'll just watch this play out.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - AFTERNOON

Gary is still pointing a gun at Jill.

The kids are in the car screaming in terror.

GARY
I said back off and leave us alone!

JILL
You don't understand! I thought you were someone else.

FRANNIE
Daddy! She saved me! She saved us!

GARY
And I saved her! We're even! Now go!
Russell, still crying, has moved to the front seat with Frannie.

Russell sneezes spraying blood and snot on Frannie's arm and his nose continues to bleed.

FRANNIE
   Oh my god! Russ! That is so gross!
   Dad!

Jill and Gary both look at the mess.
Jill grabs a small tissue pack out of her pocket.
Jill opens the van door, gives Frannie some tissues and begins to wipe Russell's nose.

JILL
   He needs ice.

GARY
   Frannie get some ice from the ice machine.

Frannie runs off for ice. Gary puts the gun in his belt.

GARY (CONT'D)
   Why did you help us? I'm sure they want to kill you too, now.

Jill just shrugs her shoulders.

GARY (CONT'D)
   Well, thank you for stepping in.

Frannie returns with her hands filled of ice.

FRANNIE
   Here!

Gary takes out his handkerchief and grabs the ice.

GARY
   Frannie, here take the key, go and get our day bag from the room. Hurry! We have to go!

FRANNIE
   We just got here!

GARY
   Sweetie, they just found us.

FRANNIE
   Yeah, but you and her just took 'em out.
GARY
That's not going to stop them. It
might not even slow them down. We
have to get out of here now.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- AFTERNOON

Joseph watches Frannie run into the room.

Gary stands next to Jill facing Russell. Both with their
backs to the road and Joseph.

JOSEPH
That looks like my cue. Now that
that idiot, Vern, isn't here to screw
it up.

Joseph gets out of his car and opens the trunk.

Grabs a 9mm with a silencer, then covers it with a paper
bag.

As he closes the trunk and steps to the street.

An ambulance flies by beeping its horn at Joseph, making him
leap back.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Son of bitch, VERN!

Hearing the siren and horn Jill and Gary look to the street
and see Joseph with his hand inside a bag.

As he stares at Gary and Jill, Joseph steps into traffic.

A car strikes Joseph, knocking him back into his car with
enough force to send his gun and bag flying underneath the
car parked in front of his car.

The car skids to a stop.

Joseph gets to his feet and yells at the car.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
What the fuck! You stupid fuck!
(beat)
Go! Just go, before I kill you!

The car speeds off.

Joseph sees Frannie get in the van with their bag.

Jill gets in her SUV and Gary follows her out the back alley
of the motel.
JOSEPH (CONT'D)
SHIT!  SHIT!  SHIT!

Joseph gets on his hands and knees trying to get his gun from under the car.

After retrieving the gun, Joseph climbs back into his car only to discover that he must have dropped his keys.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
DAMN IT!  SHIT!  FUCK!  DAMN IT!

EXT. HIGHWAY 29 OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING
Gary pulls up next to Jill and motions for her to pull over at the next diner.

Jill nods yes.

INT. ROADSIDE DINER OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING
As they enter the diner Gary leads Russell to the rest room and Frannie grabs Jill's hand.

FRANNE
Can you please take me to the bathroom?  I gotta go bad.

Jill just stares at her.

FRANNE (CONT'D)
Come on.  You need to look if anybody is in there.

Frannie drags Jill to the lady's room.

Jill goes in before Frannie.

INT. ROADSIDE DINER OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY EVENING
Gary and Russell are sitting in a booth.

Jill is following Frannie.

Frannie sits.

GARY
Will you join us?
Jill sits next to Frannie.

The waitress comes over.

    WAITRESS
    Hello there. My name is Nora. How are we today?

Gary looks up and smiles.

    WAITRESS (CONT'D)
    Would the little ones like a kids menu?

    FRANNIE
    No, we're starving!

    WAITRESS
    Okay then, that will be four large grownup menus, and I will be right back with four grownup waters.

The waitress passes out the menus and walks away.

    FRANNIE
    Thank you!

    GARY
    Yes! Thank you.

    FRANNIE
    Whoa! I want to get one of everything!

    GARY
    Frannie, remember what we talked about?

    FRANNIE
    I know, I know, I'm just so hungry.

    GARY
    Frannie, just order a regular meal. Russell?

    RUSSELL
    I'm not hungry, Daddy.

    GARY
    You have to eat something, Buddy.

The waitress returns with the water.

    WAITRESS
    Ok, four tall waters. Are we ready to order?
GARY
What do you think, Russell? Grilled cheese with fries? You like grilled cheese.

RUSSELL
Ok.

WAITRESS
Drinks?

GARY
Water. We'll just have water.

FRANNIE
Um? I think the western burger with cheese. Does it come with fries?

WAITRESS
You bet Darling. Sir?

GARY
Um, nothing for me. Thanks

WAITRESS
And you ma'am?

JILL
We will have three western burgers with cheese, a grilled cheese and four orders of fries.

GARY
(to the waitress)
Would you excuse us for just a second?

The waitress walks away

Gary looks at Jill as she looks down at the table.

GARY (CONT'D)
I don't want a western burger.

Jill is still looking down

JILL
I do. And Frannie does. If you don't want yours don't eat it, save it for later.

GARY
I'm a little short on dough.

Jill looks up at Gary.

JILL
My treat.
GARY
Are you sure?

Jill nods

Gary stares at Jill for a moment

GARY (CONT'D)
Well, thanks.

The waitress returns

WAITRESS
Ready kids?

GARY
Yes. Three western burgers with cheese, a grilled cheese and four orders of fries.

JILL
Some extra napkins, please.

GARY
Thank you.

WAITRESS
You're welcome Hon.

The waitress walks away.

Frannie and Russell are busy drawing on their placemats. Jill is staring at the table and Gary is looking around the room.

GARY
I'm sorry we pulled you into this mess. I really want to thank you for stepping in like that.

Jill looks up

JILL
It's not like I had a choice.

GARY
I'm sorry, this so awkward my name is Gary, this little man is Russell and of course you've met Frannie.

Jill smiles at the kids

JILL
My name is Jill.

GARY
Very pleased to meet you, Jill.
Gary extends his hand to Jill.
Jill takes Gary's hand.
Russell starts coughing.

GARY (CONT'D)
Oh, right your medicine.

Gary digs in his pockets.

JILL
(to Gary)
Is he okay?

FRANNIE
He's just got a bad cold.

Gary reveals three boxes of cold medicine.

GARY
Here you go, Buddy. Cherry, grape or honey flavored?

RUSSELL
Cherry.

GARY
All right, they're chewable. But, drink lots of water.

JILL
Well?

GARY
What? -- oh, yeah. I guess I owe you an explanation. Where to start, those--they...

FRANNIE
They want to get us cause my Dad knows they killed my Mom! And...

Russell starts crying loudly

GARY
Frannie! That's enough! Come on Russ. Don't do that.

The waitress arrives with the food and starts to pass the plates out.

WAITRESS
Here we go folks. - Oh, honey, are you okay little man? Your nose is bleeding.
Gary grabs some napkins and puts them under Russell's nose

WAITRESS (CONT'D)
I'll get ya a cold rag, and some more napkins

The waitress leaves.

GARY
Thank you. -- Frannie, -- Frannie!
Look at me. Please don't say things that hurt Russell.

FRANNIE
I'm sorry Russ.

Frannie starts to cry.

GARY
Come on guys just eat.
(beat)
I'm sorry, Jill. This has been very hard on them.
(beat)
The two men in the drug store are Joseph and Werner. They work for Victor Goffenski. My wife and I used to work for Victor too. We were his accountants. One night about a month ago, Gloria was working late. When she come home she was scared and crying. I asked her what happened. She told me she saw Werner kill someone. I asked her if anyone saw her, but she didn't know. I told her to never speak of this to anyone.

FRANNIE
(crying)
They killed her anyway!

GARY
Frannie! That is enough! It was a car accident. Anyway, I was very upset, and I thought it was their fault so I went to see Victor. I told him that I have a backup set of his financial records on a CD and I would give them to the cops, if he didn't confess to having my wife killed.

Gary pauses for moment looking at the table.

The waitress starts collecting the dirty dishes.
WAITRESS
So you kids want some desert?

JILL
Ah, yeah, I think so.

FRANNIE
All right! Ice cream!

WAITRESS
All we've got is chocolate.

FRANNIE
I love chocolate.

RUSSELL
Ice cream!

JILL
Four ice creams, please.

WAITRESS
Coming right up.

The waitress leaves.

Gary looks at his watch.

GARY
I think we need to do some more miles tonight.

JILL
Which way are you heading?

GARY
Well, we were hoping to hide out in Iowa, I paid for a week in advance for our room. But now we can't stay there. That was the last of our money. I maxed out my credit cards. Actually, they were in pretty bad shape before this. The real problem is someone reported my debit card was stolen. I guess it's not too hard to find out what my mother's maiden name is. I called to fix it but they want me to come in to the bank and prove that I'm me. So I guess now, we'll head to LA, I have family there. - Oh well, I guess we'll sleep in the van tonight.

Jill looks at the kids and then Gary.
JILL
I'm going to stay on I29 heading north to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. If you want to follow, I'll pay for your room tonight. Tomorrow, you go to LA and I'll go to Seattle.

GARY
Wow, only if you let me pay you back. Deal?

JILL
Fine.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - NIGHT
Jill is standing in front of her room, Gary and the kids in front of the one next to it.

GARY
Thanks again Jill. Will we see you before you leave in the morning?

JILL
How about breakfast at nine o'clock?

Gary nods, then opens his motel room door and enters with Russell.

Frannie stops and watches Jill go into her room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALL - OMAHA, NEBRASKA - NIGHT
Joseph stops in front of room 369B, then looks around and enters.

Werner is laying in bed asleep, with half his head bandaged. His right eye and ear are completely covered.

JOSEPH
Hey, Vern. Wake up Vern. Vern!

Werner opens his eye. Very well medicated.

WERNER
Hey Joe.

JOSEPH
How you feelin'?
WERNER
I lost my eye, Joe. They said they couldn't save it.

JOSEPH
Sorry Vern.

WERNER
Actually, the doctors did save it in a jar, and said I could have it.

JOSEPH
What?

WERNER
Yeah, in a jar. Sick fucks.

JOSEPH
That's pretty messed up.

WERNER
That bitch also ripped my right ear in two.

JOSEPH
No shit?

WERNER
They had to stitch it back together.

Joseph looks around at the door and then his watch.

JOSEPH
What did you tell the cops?

WERNER
Nothing.

JOSEPH
Vern, what did you tell them?

WERNER
I told 'em that I was on my way to California from Chicago, and I stopped in that drug store for some stuff and I was looking at the postcards, when some girl screamed. When I looked up to see what happening I got nailed by the display stand and robbed.

JOSEPH
Did they ask about me?

WERNER
No, why would they?

(MORE)
WERNER (CONT'D)
I told them I was traveling alone.
But then they wanted to know where I
parked my car and blah, blah, blah.

JOSEPH
What did you say?

WERNER
I said it was a blue four door, in
the parking lot. I think they want
to I.D. me. Then I moaned in pain
and they left me alone.
(beat)
The firm that owns the drug store is
paying for everything. They must
think I'm gonna sue them.

JOSEPH
Where are your clothes? We need to
get out of here.

WERNER
Joe, I was in a shit load of pain
before they shot me up with whatever
they gave me, and I have this button
to push for more happy juice. I
think. I'll stay for awhile.

JOSEPH
No. We have to go. I think they're
heading north.

WERNER
You go. I'll stay.

JOSEPH
You heard me! Lets go. We'll take
the I.V. drip with us and I'll get
you some more pain killers. I gotta
call Goffenski, and we better be on
the road when I do.

WERNER
Fuck him.

JOSEPH
Get up and get dressed or I'll put a
bullet in your head! Either way,
I'm walking out of here in two
minutes.
INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - LATE NIGHT

Jill is sitting at the end of her bed wearing shorts and a tee shirt.
She is holding the picture of her family from earlier.
She had been crying.
There is a knock at the door.
Jill looks at the clock. (2:10 am)

FRANNIE (O.S.)
Jill?
Jill stares at the door for a moment, then opens it.
Frannie dressed in her Pjs comes in without asking.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Good. You're up.
Frannie flops on the bed.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Were you crying?

JILL
Why are you still up?

FRANNIE
I asked you first.

JILL
I'm fine. Where is your Dad and brother?

FRANNIE
Sleeping. Dad gave Russell adult cold medicine so he's out.

JILL
What's wrong with him?

FRANNIE
I don't know. Dad said he has a cold.

JILL
Does he have a fever?

FRANNIE
I think so. I gave him a kiss on the forehead, like the way my Mom used to, and it was real warm and slimy.
JILL
I think your Dad needs to take him to the doctor.

FRANNIE
Are you running away from your husband? I saw your wedding ring. I've seen it on TV, it happens all the time. Does he hit you?
(beat)
Are you running from the cops?
(beat)
I know! You robbed a bank, that's why you've got lots of cash. It's okay, we won't tell on you.

JILL
How much sugar did you have?

FRANNIE
Don't you think this is messed up? I mean one minute you're on your way to Seattle, and then the next minute you're with us. I think you're nice. Quiet, but nice.

JILL
Have you ever tried being quiet?

FRANNIE
Oh my God! You're funny. Not! I know. Let's see what's on TV.

Frannie jumps off the bed and turns the TV on, and begins flipping through the channels.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Let's see, hum, no, no, what the...

Frannie clicks on an adult channel.

JILL
Change it right now!

Frannie changes the channel.

FRANNIE
What was that? I mean what were all of them doing?

JILL
Ask your Dad.

Frannie stops and looks at the floor.
FRANNIE
Dad is a little hard to talk to lately. Ever since he saw that family on the News, we've been moving. Last night Dad said he thinks we can go back in a week or so. But then those two guys showed up in the store. Now we go to LA.

JILL
What family?

FRANNIE
You know the one that blew up, like a month ago. It was really creepy cause the guy looked like my dad. Freaky huh!

Jill looking at the picture again and then the clock.

JILL
It's three o'clock. We should get some sleep.

FRANNIE
I don't sleep much anymore.

Frannie turns the TV off, then walks to the door.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Why don't you like me?

JILL
What makes you think that I don't like you?

FRANNIE
Because! You won't look at me when I talk to you.

Frannie opens the door.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Goodbye.

Frannie leaves and shuts the door behind her.

JILL
(to herself)
But, I do like you.

A minute passes as Jill sits in tortured thought.

Jill jumps with the sound of someone pounding on her door.

FRANNIE (O.S.)
Jill! Jill! He's gone!
Jill opens the door.

Frannie storms in enraged.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Dad is gone! He left us! I went in there and he's gone!

JILL
Where's Russell?

FRANNIE
Still sleeping!

JILL
What are you talking about?

FRANNIE
He just left us with you!

Frannie is waving notes in her hands.

JILL
But--

FRANNIE
Notes. He left notes. One for you.

Jill takes the note.

(Overview) The notes are short and written in haste. Frannie reads it aloud.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Frannie my sweet angel, I have to go. I have to try and talk to them, ask them to stop. If I don't they won't. Stay with Jill, and take care of Russell. I'll be back as soon as I can. I love you sweetie, Daddy.

JILL
(softly)
"Stay with Jill"?

Jill opens hers.

GARY (V.O.)
Jill, please forgive me for what I am asking for. But, I have to stop this or they will kill my children. Please protect them until I return. I know you're a good person. I swear to God I will pay you back for everything! I will be back soon. - Gary
Jill begins to shake her head over and over again.

JILL
No, no, no,---no, I can't! You don't understand. I can't. You're not safe with me. No,--- no, I can't.

Frannie starts to cry.

FRANNIE
I'm scared!

Jill finds her phone.

JILL
What's his phone number?

FRANNIE
Ah, 555-ah-8373

Jill dials, it rings, rings and rings.

JILL
He's not answering. Damn it.

Frannie is crying heavier, then moves to Jill.

Jill looks at her.

Frannie holds out her arms and Jill takes her in hers.

They both cry.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR - NORTH ON HWY I29 IA/NE BORDER - JUST BEFORE DAWN

Joseph is on the phone while driving.

Werner is in the passenger seat.

JOSEPH
Yeah okay.
(beat)
Sure all right.
(beat)
So, he really wants to meet with us?
(beat)
Yes sir, we're actually on our way there right now.
(beat)
Right. I'll call you back. After.

Joseph closes his phone and places it in his pocket.
WERNER
So?

JOSEPH
I can't believe it. The little piece of shit wants to talk to us.

WERNER
No shit?

JOSEPH
Yeah. He told Victor that he was sorry and we wants to give us the disc. He promises to never talk about us. Ever.

WERNER
Where?

JOSEPH
Some diner supposed to be right off this highway. About 20 miles or so.

EXT. ROADSIDE DINER PARKING LOT OUTSIDE OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA - EARLY MORNING

Gary is standing at the back of his van holding a CD case in his left hand.

He's watching Joseph's car pull up.

The parking lot is starting to fill up with the morning breakfast rush.

Joseph's car stops by Gary's van and they get out, both resting their arms the top of their door.

JOSEPH
Hi there, Gary. Been waiting long?

GARY
No, not really.

JOSEPH
It's been a really long day, Gary, so why don't you jump in the back seat and we'll talk.

Werner takes an exaggerated one eyed look around.

GARY
There's nothing to talk about.

Gary holds up the CD case
GARY (CONT'D)
I talked to Victor. We have an understanding now. I will never talk about him or anyone else.

WERNER
So, where are the kids? In the car sleeping?

GARY
No, they're somewhere safe.

WERNER
Where? Don't tell me, you left them in some motel room. All alone at night.

JOSEPH
Shut up. Come on Gary just get in the car.

WERNER
It can't be too hard to find two little kids all alone in motel somewhere north of here.

JOSEPH
Vern! Shut up!

GARY
Leave my kids out of this! Victor wants the disc, so here it is.

Gary throws the disc on the hood of Joseph's car and pulls his gun from his belt.

Joseph and Werner watched the disc hit the car.

Then look up at Gary holding a gun on them.

JOSEPH
Shit. - I forgot you had a gun.

WERNER
You knew he had a gun?

JOSEPH
For Christ sake Vern! Shut the fuck up!

GARY
Leave us alone!

JOSEPH
Gary, we came to talk.
GARY
Bull shit! I know how you, "talk". I gave you the disc. Now, I'm gonna get in my car and go.

JOSEPH
Okay,--fine.

WERNER
What?

JOSEPH
Take care Gary.

WERNER
What are you doing?

Gary slowly steps backwards to his car door.

JOSEPH
Gary. Did you make any copies of the disc?

GARY
No. I swear. I already told Victor. No copies.

Gary slips into his van and pulls out.

Werner draws his gun and points it at Gary's van.

Joseph draws his gun and points it at Werner.

JOSEPH
Put it away you dumb fuck!

WERNER
We can't just let him go!

JOSEPH
I'm not letting him go. I'm letting him think I am. Now, put the gun away and get in the car.

They both put their guns away.

Joseph retrieves the disc from the hood.

WERNER
How could you forget he had a gun?

(pause)

Wait a minute. How did you know he'd have a gun?
JOSEPH
I saw him waving it at that crazy chick, the one who went SAMMY SOSA on your head.

They get into the car.
They pull out slowly, northbound.

WERNER
You saw that psycho bitch!?

JOSEPH
Yeah.--wait a minute. I think they drove away together.

WERNER
You mean they're together? That makes sense. They were in the store together. That's why she hit me.

JOSEPH
So, I guess he didn't leave the kids alone.

WERNER
Oh, man! It didn't take Gary long to find a new girl.

JOSEPH
Looks that way.

WERNER
Oh well. We're gonna kill 'em all.

JOSEPH
Yes, we will.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Jill is sitting on the bed across from Frannie and Russell.

FRANNNIE
What are we going to do? We need to find my Dad.

JILL
I heard you the first ten times. All right now, we're going to eat and think.

RUSSELL
I'm not hungry.

Jill leans over to touch Russell's forehead.
JILL
You're burning up. We need to get you to a doctor. I don't have any of your dad's information.

FRANNIE
Information?

JILL
Russell's social security number, insurance policy number, and birth date. I don't even know your last name.

FRANNIE
My Dad kept all that stuff in a book.

JILL
What book?

FRANNIE
That book.

Frannie points to a day planner on the dresser.

JILL
Now, we need a phone book. Look around for a phone book.

RUSSELL
What's a phone book?

JILL
It's okay, just lay down. I'll find one.

FRANNIE
So, you're gonna take Russ to the doctor and I'll wait here for my Dad.

JILL
No. We stay together.

FRANNIE
But, what if Dad comes back?

JILL
We will leave him a note.

FRANNIE
What if the bad guys get the note?

JILL
Then they get a note and not you.

(MORE)
JILL (CONT'D)
I'm just going to leave him my cell number. When your Dad calls, we'll be able to recognize his number. Right?

Jill finds a phone book in a drawer.

FRANNIE
Then we tell him where we are!

INT. GARY'S CAR - I-29 NORTHBOUND - AFTERNOON
Gary can still see Joseph's car in the far distance.
A sign for "PINKY'S", a strip club, in two more miles.
Gary pulls into the strip club parking lot, parks and goes in.
The music is loud, there are two girls dancing and a few customers spread out.
Gary finds a table for two and sits.
A waitress wearing a bikini comes over with a menu.
She offers Gary the menu, but he declines, she leans in to hear his order.
She smiles and leaves.
Gary looks at his watch, 2:30pm.
Gary watches the dancers.
The waitress returns with a club sandwich and a beer. Gary gives her a twenty dollar bill, she makes change, then Gary gives her a tip.
Gary takes a drink, grabs the change off the table and walks to the front door.
Gary opens the door for a peek at the parking lot. He spots Joseph's car.
Gary closes the door and moves to the pay phone, quickly looks around then drops in some coins and dials 911.

GARY
(Acting scared)
They're trying to kill me! There are these two men following me.
(MORE)
GARY (CONT'D)
They have guns and one of them is wearing a white mask. They tried to run me off the road.
(beat)
I ran into "Pinky's" on I-29 to use the phone. They followed me here! They're sitting in a brown four door in the parking lot. They want to kill me. Oh, God I'm so scared!

Gary looks around again.

No one is watching him.

GARY (CONT'D)
Oh, my name? My name is Steve - oh, no!...

Gary hangs up the phone and smiles then very calmly returns to his seat, begins eating his sandwich and watches the girls.

EXT. PINKY'S PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Joseph and Werner are parked and watching the front door.

WERNER
No, I'm serious, if you put down like two hundred grand on a seven hundred grand house with the current interest rates you would only pay like less than three grand a month.

JOSEPH
"Why would I?", Is what I asked. Not, why would anyone want to? What the hell would I do with a house? I'm never home. That's why what's-her-face left me.

WERNER
It's an investment. The rates are going to go up and you can make a big profit.

JOSEPH
So, you're liking the pain killers huh?

WERNER
They're pretty good. I could really go for a drink. I think maybe, I will go inside and have one or two.
A pair of uniformed police officers slowly appear by Joseph's car.

One by the driver's side door and the other by the passenger's door.

\[ \text{JOSEPH} \]
No need to. There he is.

Gary walks out of the club and to his van.

A state police car hurriedly stops in front of Joseph's car.

An Officer jumps out with gun in hand and the other Officers make themselves known.

Werner jumps.

\[ \text{WERNER} \]
Holy Fuck!

\[ \text{JOSEPH} \]
Shit!

\[ \text{POLICE OFFICER} \]
(forcefully)
Put your hands on the dash! Both of you put your hands on the dash! Where I can see them! Now!

\[ \text{WERNER} \]
Where the fuck did they come from?

\[ \text{JOSEPH} \]
Shut up.

With his gun on Joseph the Officer opens the car door.

\[ \text{POLICE OFFICER} \]
Slowly step out of the vehicle. Keep your hands where I can see them.

\[ \text{JOSEPH} \]
Officer, what seems to be the problem?

The other officer opens the passenger door.

\[ \text{POLICE OFFICER} \]
Get out and put your hands on top of the car. You in the bandages, get out slowly. Then put your hands on the car.

\[ \text{JOSEPH} \]
Yes sir, I have a gun and a permit to carry it. I'm a licensed investigator. So is my partner.
POLICE OFFICER
Don't move.

The Officer removes Joseph's gun.
The other Officer removes Werner's.
The State Trooper keeps his gun drawn.

JOSEPH
My license, ID and permit are in my wallet.

Joseph slowly removes both of their wallets and hands them to the officer.

WERNER
There's my wallet. You said it was stolen.

JOSEPH
(to the officer)
My partner was in a motorcycle accident last week and is well medicated.

POLICE OFFICER
Shoudn't he be home resting.

JOSEPH
Yes, but I need to keep an eye on him.

The Officer looks at the wallets.

POLICE OFFICER
This isn't Illinois. These mean nothing here.

JOSEPH
I know, sir, we are on a case and we followed him out here. We were going to call for help if he didn't come out soon.

The Sheriff's voice on the Officer's radio.

SHERIFF (V.O.)
Dale.

POLICE OFFICER
Yes, Sheriff.

SHERIFF (V.O.)
I just talked to Big Suzie and she said she ain't had no scared men in (MORE)
SHERIFF (V.O.) (CONT'D) here today. And there ain't strangers in here.

POLICE OFFICER Thank you, Sheriff.

(beat)
(to Joseph)
Okay, why are you here?

JOSEPH We were hired by an insurance company to investigate a possible arson case. I really can't tell you more than that. Sorry.

POLICE OFFICER You followed him here?

JOSEPH Yes, sir. He went in there and we were out here waiting. We're just tailing him.

POLICE OFFICER Well it seems, that he made you. We got a 911 call from inside Pinky's, stating that two men in a brown four door were waiting in the parking lot and were trying to kill him.

JOSEPH Damn it. Now what are we going to do? He knows we're on to him.

(beat)
I'm so sorry Officer. It seems that he pulled one on all of us.

POLICE OFFICER Sheriff. It's Dale.

SHERIFF (V.O.)

Go ahead, Dale.

POLICE OFFICER I think our 911 caller was a prankster.

SHERIFF (V.O.) Looks that way, huh.

The Officer hands back Joseph's wallet and gun.

POLICE OFFICER Why don't you give me his licence number, make and model.

(MORE)
POLICE OFFICER (CONT'D)
Then I'll go get this little phone prankster. Okay?

JOSEPH
I understand that you want him now too. But, I will lose my job, if we don't catch him. Please let us track him down.

POLICE OFFICER
I understand. You boys take care. Okay?

JOSEPH
Thank you. You too.

POLICE OFFICER
Which way you headin' now?

JOSEPH
I'm not sure. I think, we'll get something to eat and figure it out.

Joseph gestures to the club.

POLICE OFFICER
You best put your guns in the trunk beforehand.

JOSEPH
Yes, of course.

Joseph and Werner walk to the trunk.
Joseph slowly opens the trunk.
The Police Officer watches them put their guns away.
They start walking to the strip club.
All the police cars drive away.

WERNER
Damn! That little fuck.

JOSEPH
He got us good.

WERNER
He got you. You were driving.
EXT. CLINIC WAITING ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- AFTERNOON

Jill is trying to fill out the paperwork while Russell lays in her lap, Jill strokes his head.

Frannie is reading an issue of "Boys Life".

NURSE #1
Mrs. Krillen?

JILL
Yes.

Jill moves Russell so she can stand, then moves to the counter.

NURSE #1
Are you finished with the forms?

JILL
Well, I'm having trouble with his past illnesses. I don't see the children as much as I would like.

NURSE #1
Just tell us what you can.

Frannie looks up, puts the magazine down and gets up, moves toward Jill.

FRANNIE
Auntie Jill.

JILL
Yes?

Jill bends down, Frannie whispers in her ear.

JILL (CONT'D)
(to the nurse)
Could you tell us where the ladies room is?

NURSE #1
Of course. Out this door turn left go past the elevators and its on the right.

FRANNIE
Thank you.

Frannie leaves

NURSE #1
Well, it seems that we are having some trouble with the insurance card.
JILL
I don't know what is what with their insurance. Gary, their father, my brother-in-law left these with me. I thought they were still good.

NURSE #1
Oh. No we had to call and check...

JILL
Would it be all right if I just paid cash? I just want my little Rhys to be better.

NURSE #1
Rhys?

JILL
Russ. I said Russ. Didn't I? I need to go and check on Frannie.

Jill exits quickly.

Jill is shaking and on the edge of another breakdown.
Frannie appears.

FRANNIE
Jill, want's wrong?

JILL
I can't do this.

FRANNIE
You have to. Please. We need you.

JILL
Go sit with Russ.

Jill walks away and Frannie returns to the waiting room.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI -- AFTERNOON
Victor is sitting at his desk talking on the phone.

VICTOR
No, I understand, I don't want ex-employees trying to use our insurance.
(beat)
Right--right. I see.
(beat)
I don't think we need the police.
(beat)
Yeah, that's good.
(MORE)
VICTOR (CONT'D)
Just as long as he can't use it. Okay, thanks again. Okay, goodbye.

Victor hangs up the phone.

VICTOR (CONT'D)
Stupid shit.

Victor picks up and dials the phone.

Victor listens to the ringing and then voice mail.

JOSEPH (V.O.)
Leave a message at the beep.

Victor dials again.

INT. PINKY'S STRIP CLUB -- AFTERNOON
Joseph and Werner are sitting at a table with two empty plates and four empty beer bottles.

Both are staring at the girls.

The music is too loud for Joseph to hear his phone ringing at first, then he jumps when he hears it.

Werner motions to the waitress for two more beers.

Joseph looks at the caller ID and answers his phone while getting up and quickly moving to the front door.

JOSEPH
Hello!

VICTOR (V.O.)
What the hell are you doing?! I called you three times!

JOSEPH
I'm sorry! It's a little loud in here. Hold on a second.

Joseph exits

EXT. PINKY'S PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON
Joseph is standing outside the club door.

VICTOR (V.O.)
What the hell are you doing? And where are you?
JOSEPH
We stopped to get some lunch.

VICTOR (V.O.)
It's four o'clock in the afternoon!
You lost him again, didn't you?

JOSEPH
Yes sir.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Well, I know where he is. He's in Sioux Falls at the doctor with his kids.

JOSEPH
What? He can't be. He was just here. Oh, wait a minute. It's that crazy bitch, who hit Vern. She's got the kids. He must be on his way there. Do you have the name and address of the doctor?

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- LATE AFTERNOON

Gary returns to the motel.
The kid's bags are still there but no kids.
He sees the note on the bed.
Jill's cell number "CALL ME, JILL".
He dials the number on his cell phone and hangs up before it rings.
Gary drops on the bed.
Gary extends his arms and hits the pillow.

GARY
Shit! What am I going to do?
Gary stares at the ceiling.
Gary closes his eyes.
Gary falls asleep.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - NIGHT
Jill drives into the parking lot from the back.
Jill spots Joseph's car pulling into the lot with Joseph and Werner in it.

Gary's car is parked in front of their room.
Joseph parks with a clear view of Gary's room.
Jill dials Gary's cell phone. It rings.
Frannie and Russell are asleep in the back seat.

      GARY (V.O.)
      (waking)
      Hello--lo?

      JILL
      (softly)
      Gary. It's Jill I'm...

      GARY (V.O.)
      I'm sorry, just let me explain!

      JILL
      Gary! We don't have time for that right now! Those guys are parked outside your room.

      GARY (V.O.)
      Shit! Where are my kids?

      JILL
      With me. Sleeping.

      GARY (V.O.)
      Then just go. Take them somewhere safe and I'll meet you later.

      JILL
      Where?

      GARY (V.O.)
      Take the kids to Rapid City. I'll meet you at City Hall.

      JILL
      Why City Hall?

      GARY (V.O.)
      Because, they have to have one, right? And it can't be too hard to find.

      JILL
      We need to call the cops!

      GARY
      I did that already.
Joseph and Werner get out of the car and leave their doors open.

JILL
GARY! GET OUT NOW! THEY'RE COMING.

Joseph and Werner slowly walk to the trunk and open it.

JILL (CONT'D)
They're getting stuff from the trunk! GET OUT! NOW!

Jill's yelling awakens Frannie and Russell just in time to see Werner take out a missile launcher from the trunk.

Werner puts the missile launcher on his right shoulder (the side that is bandaged).

A look of horror on Frannie's face as she watches Werner.

FRANNIE
Oh no! He's gonna do it again!
Just like before. Dad was right.
It was him. He blew up that house.

JILL
Gary! Gary? Can you hear me? You gotta get out! Now!

Jill closes her phone.

Joseph looks at Werner and shakes his head.

JOSEPH
Put it back, you moron, you can't even see the sight. Take the shotgun and maybe you can hit something.

WERNER
Fuck you, prick! What room is he in Mr. Prick?

Werner puts the missile launcher back and takes out the sawed off shotgun.

Joseph takes the 9mm with silencer.

JOSEPH
I don't know. You stay off to the side and I'll knock on the door.

WERNER
Whatever, lets go.

Joseph and Werner close the trunk and start moving toward the motel.
Gary bursts out of his room with his gun.
He fires at Joseph and Werner, hitting their windshield.
Joseph and Werner seek shelter behind their open car doors.

FRANNIE
DADDY! NO! LOOK OUT!

Joseph turns and faces Frannie leaning out of the SUV's window.
Jill pulls her in and closes the window.
Gary jumps into his van.
Joseph stands and returns fire, taking out Gary's side mirror.
Gary drives away.
Werner gets up and shoots out the motel window.

JOSEPH
FOR CHRIST SAKE! VERN!

Joseph and Werner get back in their car.
Joseph looks at Frannie and Russell screaming in Jill's SUV.
Joseph locks eyes with Jill, then lips "you're all next".
Joseph drives off after Gary.
Frannie is holding Russell as they cry in terror.
Jill tries to comfort them.

JILL
It's okay! It's okay! Listen!
Your Dad is going to be fine. He is just leading them away from us.
We're going to meet him in Rapid City. But first we need to get our stuff. Okay Frannie? Russell did you hear me? We need to go now.

Jill pulls up to their room.
Frannie gets out, still crying.

JILL (CONT'D)
Frannie we have to go before the cops get here. Let's just get our bags and go! Hurry!

Jill runs into her room.
Frannie comes back with a bag.
Jill exits her room, bag in hand.

JILL (CONT'D)
Get in.

Sirens in the distance are getting closer.
Jill drives out the way she came in.

EXT. HIGHWAY - I29 NORTHBOUND -- NIGHT
Gary's speedometer is showing 85 mph, when he looks in the rear view mirror to see Joseph and Werner coming up fast.

Werner is reloading his shotgun.

JOSEPH
There he is. I'll kill that bean counting fuck.

WERNER
And then we kill that bitch and those kids.

Joseph and Werner get even closer.

WERNER (CONT'D)
Get right up next to him. I'm going to blow his head clean off.

Gary is switching from one lane to the other.

JOSEPH
God damn it! Shoot that little prick.

Werner leans out his window

WERNER
Can you try and drive straight.

JOSEPH
Shut-up and shoot!

Werner fires and Gary's back window explodes.
Gary almost loses control of his van.
Gary regains control and slows down.
Joseph starts to pull up next to Gary.
Gary holding the gun with his right hand crosses over his left and fires out the window.
The bullet bounces off the hood and hits the front windshield. Joseph falls back a couple of feet.

Gary with his gun in his hand, while trying to keep the van straight is startled by his cell phone ringing.

Gary pulls the trigger shooting the front passenger floor board.

Gary's tire explodes.

Gary's van digs in and pulls off to the right then off the road into a dip and then flips into a tree.

Joseph stops, gets out and looks.

Joseph views the shape of a body on the steering wheel.

    JOSEPH (CONT'D)
    Well, that's it!

    WERNER
    You sure?

    JOSEPH
    Yeah. I saw him in there. If he ain't dead, he will be soon.

Flames and an explosion.

Joseph hears a cell phone ringing.

Joseph follows the ringing.

Finding the phone, Joseph picks it up, it stops ringing and puts it in his pocket.

Gary lays motionless and unnoticed in a ditch.

    WERNER
    What is it?

    JOSEPH
    I think it's Gary's phone.

Joseph gets back into the car.

    WERNER
    All right, let's catch up to that bitch. I want to take out her eyes.

    JOSEPH
    Let's just get out of here.

Joseph makes a U-turn across traffic. Going south.
WERNER
Where you going?

JOSEPH
Why do think Gary went north?

EXT. HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- CONTINUOUS

Road sign - Mitchell 30 miles.

Jill is on the phone, Frannie is in the front seat and Russell is in the middle of the back seat.

JILL
(calmly)
He's not answering.

Jill looks at Frannie and then Russell

JILL (CONT'D)
Your Dad is going to meet us, okay? We have to make a quick stop for gas and then straight to Rapid City.
(just to Frannie)
Your brother is really frightened. When we stop, maybe you could sit with him so he can sleep.

FRANNE
Sure.
(pause)
Jill?

JILL
Yes?

FRANNE
Aren't you scared?

JILL
I'm beyond scared.

EXT. - I29 SOUTHBOUND -- CONTINUOUS

Joseph is on the phone with Victor and Werner is playing with a big knife.

JOSEPH
Yeah. He was laying on the steering wheel.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Do you know where the kids are?
JOSEPH
Well, we went by the motel to see if they were still there. But they were gone.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Did you ask the manager?

JOSEPH
No, there were cops all over the place.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Why?

Joseph looks at Werner.

Werner shrugs.

JOSEPH
Gary came out shooting.

VICTOR (V.O.)
You think the cops got the kids?

JOSEPH
No, they would have still been there when we went by.

VICTOR (V.O.)
Now, what are you going to do?

JOSEPH
I'm gonna check the truck stops and stuff. We'll find 'em.

VICTOR (V.O.)
You better.

The phone goes dead.

JOSEPH
Okay, asshole. You can lick my left nut, you jag-off. And say hi to your mom for me.

Joseph puts his phone away.

WERNER
I would laugh my ass off if he didn't really hang up the phone. You'd be so dead.

JOSEPH
Give me some of your pain killers. My head's pounding.
WERNER
Fuck you! Your head is pounding.
You can "lick MY left nut"!

EXT. TRUCK STOP ON HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- EARLY MORNING

A train passes on the other side of the road from the rest stop.

INT. JILL'S CAR TRUCK STOP ON HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- EARLY MORNING

Jill wakes up sitting in the car.

Jill looks at Frannie and Russell. They are sleeping in the back seat.

Frannie wakes.

FRANNIE
Jill.

JILL
Yeah.

FRANNIE
I gotta go.

Frannie climbs over into the front seat.

JILL
Me, too.

FRANNIE
Where are we?

JILL
Stamford. A little more than half way. I had to stop. I couldn't keep my eyes open. Russell,- Russell...

FRANNIE
RUSS!

Russell jumps.

JILL
Frannie. That's not funny. Russell we have to go to the bathroom and you need to take your medicine.
FRANNIE
And we all need to eat. And coffee.

JILL
Yes coffee. Wait, you don't drink coffee. Do you?

RUSSELL
No she doesn't drink coffee.

JILL
Russell, you speak!

Russell smiles.

JILL (CONT'D)
And you smile. So you feel better?

RUSSELL
Yes.

JILL
Are you hungry?

RUSSELL
Yes, very.

JILL
Alright, how about that place?

Jill points to the truck stop diner.

RUSSELL
Okay.

FRANNIE
I really gotta go!

Jill starts the car and drives over to the diner.
She parks, they get out and go in.

INT. TRUCK STOP DINER ON HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- MORNING
Jill is sitting across from Frannie in a booth.
Their table is filled with dirty plates.

JILL
Frannie, before Russell gets back, I need to know what you meant yesterday. You said "NOT AGAIN" when that guy pulled that thing out of his trunk.
FRANNIE
A missile launcher.

JILL
You know what a missile launcher is?

FRANNIE
Yeah, Dad said they've got some at work. And those guys sell them for Victor.

JILL
Then you said he blew up a house. What house?

FRANNIE
I don't know. But Dad saw some picture of a guy and his kids on TV and he freaked out, big time.

JILL
You mean they used a missile launcher to blow up a house.

FRANNIE
That's what Dad said. Crazy huh.

Jill pulls out the picture and shows it to Frannie.

JILL
Is this the family?

FRANNIE
Whoa! That's it! You know them?

Jill stares at Frannie.
Frannie puts her hands to her mouth.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Oh my God! Oh my god! I'm so sorry. Oh god, I'm sorry. I didn't know.

Frannie gets up and goes to Jill.
They embrace, and cry.
Russell comes and sits.

RUSSELL
Daddy called? Is he ok?

FRANNIE
No. Not yet.
RUSSELL
Why are you two crying? He's not coming back?

FRANNIE
Not now, I'll tell you later.

JILL
We need to go.

FRANNIE
Are you okay?--- you know, to drive?

JILL
(sternly)
I told your Dad, that I would get you to Rapid City. Wait by the door. I'll pay the bill and we'll go.

RUSSELL
Are you mad at us?

FRANNIE
Russ, we really should go.

Frannie moves Russell to the door.

Jill turns to them.

JILL
Russell!

Russell turns to Jill.

JILL (CONT'D)
I'm not mad at you or your sister.

Russell nods.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Jill walks in with dinner.

Frannie and Russell are watching a rerun of "MYTHBUSTERS". The "AIR CYLINDER ROCKETS" episode.

FRANNIE
Did he call?

JILL
No. No calls.

Jill moves the table over to the kids and passes out the food.
FRANNIE
Maybe we should go back and see if Dad is waiting for us.

JILL
I just came from there. There's nobody there.

FRANNIE
He could be inside.

JILL
It's all closed up and no cars in the lot.

FRANNIE
But, he's looking for us!

JILL
When your Dad knows it's safe, he will call us and then we will meet.

FRANNIE
Can I call him?

Jill passes Frannie her cell phone.

Jill takes the note pad and pen from next to the hotel phone and starts drawing.

Frannie dials, it goes into voice mail.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
Daddy!...

Russell turns to Frannie with excitement.

FRANNIE (CONT'D)
...Where are you? We're worried. We're at the Holiday Inn, in Rapid City, please call us. I love you Daddy.

RUSSELL
Me too!

Frannie gives Jill back her phone.

FRANNIE
Can't we go by again?

JILL
Let's eat first.

Jill puts down the note pad to reveal a drawing of a set of air powered guns and a list of parts.
INT. MOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Werner is laying on one of the beds watching porn.
Joseph is in the bathroom.
Gary's cell phone rings.

WERNER
Hey Joe, Gary's phone is ringing again.

JOSEPH (O.S.)
Is it the same number?

WERNER
Yeah. You want me to answer it?

Joseph walks out of the bathroom.

JOSEPH
No, I want to know who I'm talking to, first.

WERNER
So, that means they don't know he's dead yet.
(gasping)
Holy shit Joe. What the fuck did you do in there.

JOSEPH
Shut up. I don't smell anything.

Werner waves his hand in front of his nose.

WERNER
Come on! I still have a nose. Light a match.

JOSEPH
You're such a pussy.

WERNER
Fuck you. There are matches right there in the ash tray.

JOSEPH
Fine.

Joseph picks up the pack of "Holiday Inn" matches and strikes one.
Joseph waves it out.
WERNER
Thank you, asshole.

JOSEPH
I think I'll check with Steve and see if he's got the name for the number yet.

Joseph grabs his cell phone and dials.

He gets Steve's voice mail.

WERNER
Why do they always try to put in a plot with these movies. What's wrong with just fucking?

Werner changes the channel to the "MYTHBUSTERS". The same episode.

JOSEPH
Hey Steve, this is Joe. I really need that info. Call me when you get it.

WERNER
I need some food, booze and drugs.

JOSEPH
You know antibiotics don't work with alcohol.

WERNER
Bullshit! It just gets you higher.

Werner switches back to the porn channel.

JOSEPH
What do you want to eat?

WERNER
I'll have some of that.

JOSEPH
See, you're already high.

WERNER
How about steak?

JOSEPH
Steak sounds good. There's gotta be a dozen steak joints around here.

WERNER
With a bar.
JOSEPH
Of course. Let's go.

Werner gets up with a noticeable bulge in his pants, and heads towards the bathroom.

WERNER
Give me a couple of minutes. I gotta do something.

JOSEPH
You fucking perv.

WERNER
What?

JOSEPH
I'll be out in the car, so I can't hear you.

INT. JILL'S CAR, THE PARKING LOT OF CITY HALL -- NIGHT

Jill, Frannie and Russell are sitting in the SUV looking around.

JILL
Let's go back and get some sleep.

RUSSELL
I want my Dad.

JILL
I know, Russ.

FRANIEE
He's probably leading the bad guys to Canada.

JILL
I'm sure he's doing what he needs to do.

RUSSELL
But he's not answering his phone.

JILL
It's probably dead.

A look of terror on Frannie and Russell's faces

RUSSELL
What!? 
JILL  
His phone. I think we have his charger.

FRANIE  
That's right, it's in our bag. But he has a car charger too.

RUSSELL  
Maybe it's broken.

JILL  
Could be. You can ask him when you see him. We're gonna go and get some sleep.

On the way back to the motel Jill spots a "Running's Farm and Fleet" (hardware store).

INT. HOTEL ROOM - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Joseph is on his back, sound asleep, next to him a nude woman is also sleeping.

Empty beer and Tequila bottles all over.

Werner and another nude woman are asleep in the other bed.

Joseph's cell phone rings.

Joseph gets up disoriented then finds his phone on the table.

Werner wakes startled and confused, grabs his gun.

The girls don't move.

JOSEPH  
Yeah?
(beat)
Oh! Hey, Steve, what's up?
(beat)
Okay good
(beat)
Let me get some paper

Joseph walks over between the beds, grabs the motel stationary and pen.

Werner puts his gun away.

Joseph goes back to the table and sits.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
Yeah, yeah, go ahead shoot.
Joseph tries to write down everything he is told.

"Eric Krillen 4089 N. Menard Ave. Chicago IL. 60630 (312) 555-3420."

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
What? -- You mean this information is useless. Why?
(beat)
He's dead?
(beat)
His house blew up?
(beat)
Holy shit!
(beat)
Really, the wife. That's crazy.

Joseph writes down "Jillian Krillen" on the paper and crosses out the other info.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
But you guys never charged her?
(beat)
No. I don't know her. This cell number popped up on a case I'm working on.
(beat)
Really! Rapid City -- yesterday -- great thanks.

Joseph writes "Holiday Inn Express Rapid City".

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Yeah, yeah, I don't know you, whatever, I got it. Later.

Joseph hangs up his phone.

The reflection of Werner in the mirror as he is trying to mount his girl doggie style.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Hey asshole! We don't have time for that.

WERNER
What?

JOSEPH
We gotta go, now!

WERNER
What's the rush?

JOSEPH
I found her.
WERNER

Cool!

Werner points to Joseph's girl.

WERNER (CONT'D)

Do that one first.

JOSEPH

Alright. But this one is on you.

WERNER

What? -- Fine. I'll pay. -- just shut up. I'm trying to concentrate.

EXT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- MORNING

Jill lifts the overhang door of a empty 20' x 20' storage unit.

Jill puts the trailer into the unit.

JILL

All right you two. Who wants to help me unload this stuff?

Frannie and Russell just stare at her.

JILL (CONT'D)

Let me rephrase that. Who wants a Ninetendo 3DS?

FRANNIE

I do!

RUSSELL

I do!

FRANNIE

I said it first!

RUSSELL

So what! I want to help.

JILL

Great? We'll unload, then we'll go to the Rushmore Mall for lunch, and buy some new clothes and a couple of 3DS's.

RUSSELL

And games?

JILL

Of course. You have to have games.
EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA -- LATE MORNING

Joseph and Werner are getting into their car.
The working girls are walking to their cars.
Joseph and Werner drive away.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- MORNING

WERNER
All I'm saying is, you could have helped me.

JOSEPH
You had what's her name to help you.

WERNER
Didn't you hear her scream?

JOSEPH
I figured you two were going at it. Plus I was busy.

WERNER
When I took off the bandage, she screamed and then blew chunks.

JOSEPH
You could have had the other one. I would have traded.

WERNER
I tried but she wanted more money.

JOSEPH
Why didn't you just pay her?

WERNER
Fuck that. She's a whore not a nurse.

JOSEPH
Steve told me who Gary's bitch is.

WERNER
Really!

JOSEPH
Jillian Krillen, she's 34 years old and she used to live in Chicago but some "ASSHOLE" blew up her house along with her family.
WERNER
Really? Someone blew up her house?
Holy shit! Someone is copying me.

JOSEPH
No, dumb-ass

WERNER
What?
(beat)
Whoa! You're telling me, that psycho bitch who took my eye out is the same one who lived in the last house we blew up?

JOSEPH
You blew up.

WERNER
That's right I did.

JOSEPH
You killed her whole family.

WERNER
Yep. And now I'm gonna kill her.

JOSEPH
What I want to know is, how did she know we did it and that we would be in that drug store, when we didn't even know.

WERNER
Someone must of told her.

JOSEPH
Who?

WERNER
I don't know. Maybe Victor?

JOSEPH
No way. He's got too much to lose.

WERNER
Maybe we should ask her.

JOSEPH
Yeah. Steve said, she used her bank card to get a room at the Holiday Inn Express in Rapid City.

WERNER
Where's that?
JOSEPH
About 350 miles west from here.

WERNER
You think she's still with the brats?

JOSEPH
Yep. I'll bet their waiting for Gary.

WERNER
Ha,ha, dumb fucks. Gary ain't comin'.

JOSEPH
But we are.

WERNER
Yeah baby! Lets get those little shits.
   (pause)
Don't you have to call your master, and tell him the news?

JOSEPH
I did already. He said clean up this mess or...

WERNER
He'll clean us up.

JOSEPH
Actually, this is our last chance. But, this time he means it. We're dead if we don't fix this.

WERNER
He always says that.

JOSEPH
This time he didn't yell.

WERNER
Oh, fuck.

JOSEPH
Yep.

EXT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- LATE MORNING

Jill, Frannie and Russell are just about done unloading the welding tanks, tools and other things that Jill needs from the trailer.
Frannie is laughing at Russell, while they carry boxes out of the trailer.

Jill is setting up her equipment.

RUSSELL
Wait! I know! Say knock, knock

FRANNIE
Knock, knock

RUSSELL
Who's there?

FRANNIE
Dummy

RUSSELL
Dummy who?

FRANNIE
You dummy.

RUSSELL
Wait! That's not the way it goes.

FRANNIE
Yes it is, dummy.

RUSSELL
No! It isn't! Jill, tell her that's wrong.

JILL
It's not nice to call your brother a dummy. Frannie can you bring me that bag?

FRANNIE
Which bag?

JILL
That tan one over there.

RUSSELL
Are we almost done?

JILL
Almost.

FRANNIE
Why don't you just take the car to a mechanic? Like everyone else does.

RUSSELL
Dad says do it yourself and save money. Right?
JILL
That's right Russ. I like to do it myself, my way.

Jill looks around.

JILL (CONT'D)
I think it's time for lunch. Let's go get washed up in our room and then go to the mall.

FRANNE
Finally. The mall.

INT. RUSHMORE MALL - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- AFTERNOON

Jill and kids, their hands filled with clothing and "Gamestop" bags as they exit the mall.

JILL
All right, let's see. Next, we drop off this stuff at the room, then we stop at the hardware store, then...

FRANNE
We check for Dad.

JILL
You bet.

FRANNE
Thank you for all this stuff.

RUSSELL
Yeah, thanks a lot. It's really great. -- I hope Dad won't get mad.

JILL
Why?

RUSSELL
Dad doesn't like video games. He thinks they're way too violent.

JILL
I'm sure it will be okay. We'll just ask when we see him.

INT. FARM AND FLEET - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- AFTERNOON

Jill is pushing a cart filled with flex tubing, valves, compressed air cylinders, switches and thin steel pipes.
Frannie and Russell are playing with their new games while following Jill.

Jill stops by the metal spikes.

Jill selects a few dozen small round pointed high carbon spikes.

FRANNIE
How is this stuff gonna fix your car?

JILL
By making it safer.

FRANNIE
Safer? What do you mean?

JILL
Just safer.

FRANNIE
You think they're coming back, don't you. My Dad won't let them.

JILL
I'm just making it safer.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR HIGHWAY - I90 WESTBOUND -- AFTERNOON

Joseph and Werner are driving to Rapid City.

Werner is trying to clean his 9mm automatic, but he keeps scratching his bandage.

JOSEPH
Just leave it alone.

WERNER
I can't. It itches. I think I need the inner bandage changed. You know the one inside the eye socket.

JOSEPH
That's nasty. They really put stuff inside there?

WERNER
Yeah, they packed it with antibacterial cream and something else I don't remember.
JOSEPH
We'll be home tomorrow and you can
go to a real city doctor. Hey, maybe
you can get a glass eye.

WERNER
Maybe, I should take one of your
eyes.

JOSEPH
(laughing)
Finish cleaning your gun, tough guy.

WERNER
It's not funny! Asshole.

INT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
AFTERNOON

Frannie and Russell are sitting on the ground out side of
the storage unit, playing their games.

Jill is inside setting up her welding equipment.

Russell gets up and walks over to Jill.

RUSSELL
Do you need help?

JILL
Actually, yes. Can you hold this
for a minute?

Jill hands Russell a cut piece of pipe.

Russell holds the pipe while Jill threads it.

After threading the pipe she screws on a "T" section and
then another pipe.

RUSSELL
If they come back, that means my Dad
is not coming back, right?

JILL
Russ, honey, your Dad is coming back.

RUSSELL
But, you think those guys are coming
back too.

JILL
Yes, I think so.
RUSSELL
How?

JILL
I'm not sure, but they always seem to know where we are. Don't worry we'll be ready, if they do come.

RUSSELL
What are you making?

JILL
If I tell you, will you keep it a secret?

RUSSELL
Okay.

JILL
You know what this is right?

Jill holds up a paint ball gun.

RUSSELL
Yeah. It's a paint ball gun. My friend Kevin, his brother has one.

Jill holds up the pipe.

JILL
Well, this is gonna be a real big one.

RUSSELL
Jill?

JILL
Yes, Russ.

RUSSELL
Frannie said, that those two guys killed your family. Is that true?

JILL
Yes.

RUSSELL
My Dad thinks they killed my Mom. But the Police said it was just a car accident.

JILL
I think your Dad was probably right.

RUSSELL
But why?
JILL
I don't know. You'll have to ask him. --- Now, we have a lot to do.

Russell starts to cry.

Jill kneels down and holds him.

JILL (CONT'D)
I'm going to make them pay for this. You hear me?

Russell nods.

JILL (CONT'D)
Go on and play by your sister. I'll call you when I need your help. Okay?

Russell walks over by Frannie and sits down.

Jill starts taking the paint ball gun apart.

INT. JOSEPH'S CAR - HIGHWAY I90 WESTBOUND -- AFTERNOON

A road sign reads "Holiday Inn Express next exit".

WERNER
You gonna ask what room they're in?

JOSEPH
No. I don't want anyone to see us here. Especially you. You stand out and scare people.

WERNER
We can call the front desk and ask for her room.

JOSEPH
You moron, they won't tell us the room number. They'll just connect us to her room and I don't want her to know we're here.

WERNER
So, we just keep an eye out for her.

JOSEPH
(joking)
Yeah, just one.

WERNER
What? Oh, fuck you.
JOSEPH
You said it Popeye.

INT. RAPID CITY STORAGE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
AFTERNOON

Some quick cuts as Jill builds her gun car.

Jill is cutting a hole through the bottom of the rear driver's side door of her SUV.

She fits the pipe in the hole.

She mounts the tanks in the back of the SUV.

Control valves being mounted into the center console.

Flex tubing connected to the valves.

EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA --
EVENING

Joseph's car is parked next to a large group of bushes, making it hard to see when entering the parking lot.

Jill and the kids enter the parking lot and unknowingly drive right past Joseph's car.

Joseph is stretched out in the front seat and Werner is laying in the back both are sound asleep.

RUSSELL
That was really good pizza.

FRANNNIE
Yeah. Can we eat the rest for breakfast?

JILL
Sure. So, you know this hotel has a pool?

RUSSELL
Really? That's so cool!

FRANNNIE
Um. We can't.

RUSSELL
What?

FRANNNIE
We don't have swimsuits.
JILL
We can fix that.

RUSSELL
Yes!

Jill does a three point turn.

As she goes back the way she came in, only Jill sees Joseph's car, the bullet holes, and Joseph sleeping.

She drives off to the mall.

INT. POOL SIDE - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

The pool is half full with families and two lifeguards.

Frannie and Russell are in their new swimsuits. Jill is in the same clothes as before.

JILL
Everything will be fine. Just stay together and stay in the lifeguard's view. I'll be back in about an hour. Don't talk to anyone.

RUSSELL
Jill.

JILL
Yes?

RUSSELL
You are coming back, right?

JILL
Yes. I will.

They hug.

Jill picks up her bag causing some black paper and a pair of scissors to fall out.

Jill grabs her stuff, looks around and leaves.

EXT. HOLIDAY INN PARKING LOT - RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA -- EVENING

Two very loud "Harley Davidsons" drive into the parking lot.

Joseph and Werner jump from their slumber at the sound of the bikes.
JOSEPH
Holy shit!

WERNER
Were you sleeping?

JOSEPH
I was just resting my eyes.

WERNER
Bull shit. You don't rest your eyes on a stake out. She probably came and went, while you were sleeping.

JOSEPH
We didn't miss her and I wasn't sleeping.

WERNER
You were fucking sleeping. I'm starving and I really need to take a piss.

Werner opens the car and gets out.

JOSEPH
Hurry back. I gotta go too.

WERNER
Fuck you Rip Vanwinkle. I'll get back when I'm back.

JOSEPH
Listen shithead hurry the...

Jill drives by making sure not to look at Joseph and Werner.

Joseph spots Jill and the silhouettes of the kids in the back seat as she drives by.

WERNER
Holy shit. That was her wasn't it?

Werner gets back in the car.

Joseph starts the car and follows her discreetly.

Jill watches them in her rear view mirror.

Jill drives calmly in traffic.

Joseph keeps his distance.
INT. JOSEPH'S CAR -- EVENING

WERNER
Where is it?--- Ah, here it is. That'll work.

JOSEPH
What the hell are you doing?

WERNER
I gotta go, man. I found a juice bottle.

JOSEPH
You better not piss in my car.

WERNER
Just keep it straight, and I'll keep it straight.

JOSEPH
Asshole.

Jill turns off the main street to a deserted side street. Joseph needs to change lanes and turn quickly. Werner falls to the side.

WERNER
Jesus Christ Joe! I can't break the flow.

JOSEPH
You asshole I can smell it.

WERNER
Learn how to drive.

JOSEPH
Cap it off. Now! We're gonna take her out! Get ready.

WERNER
You jerk-off. You made me piss myself.

JOSEPH
I'm gonna pull up next to her. Put one in her ear.

WERNER
No. Drive her off the road. I want to mess her up.
JOSEPH
Let's just get on with it. I want
to go home and get my car cleaned.
Shoot her in the head.

Jill watches as they came up closer.

Jill turns two knobs opening the air valves.

The gauges swing to read full.

Joseph punches the gas and tries to get next to Jill.

Jill sees them in the side mirror coming up.

Werner pulls his gun and readies his shot.

Joseph comes up and Werner aims at Jill.

Jill patiently waits with her finger on the first three of
nine switches on the center board.

Werner sees the silhouettes of the kids and changes his aim.

Werner fires right in the back window.

Jill's back side window explodes.

Jill mistakenly flips all three switches.

Three air cannons fire at once from the side of Jill's car.

Carbon steel spikes rip through Joseph's front tire.

Multiple holes appear in Joseph's front passengers door.

Spikes tear Joseph's shin and calf apart.

Multiple holes appear in Joseph's back passengers door.

The spikes miss Werner and stick in the other door.

Joseph loses control of his car, smashing into Jill's car.

Jill hits back to avoid a parked car.

Joseph's car pushes Jill's car up the curb.

Joseph hits the parked car.

Jill pops the curb and hits a tree, striking her head against
the steering wheel.

Nothing is moving.

Across the street a sign reads "RAPID CITY MAYORS OFFICE 300
6TH STREET".
Jill touches her broken and bloody nose.

Werner appears with fresh blood dripping from his bandages and a gun to Jill's head.

WERNER
Get out of the car you crazy fucking bitch! What the hell did you do to Joe? I said get out!

Jill leans forward on the steering wheel.

WERNER (CONT'D)
You killed Joe! You, you bitch. Look what you did to me.

JILL
You killed my babies.

WERNER
What? -- Oh, that's right. I blew 'em up. Now get out we're gonna have some fun.

Werner grabs the door handle.

Werner opens the door.

Jill leans back with a modified air gun and fires.

The spike takes the gun and a finger from Werner.

Werner screams and falls backward to the ground.

Jill steps out of the SUV, while reloading another spike into her air gun.

JILL
You took my family from me.

WERNER
And you took my eye, my ear and my hand. Look what you did to me.

JILL
You killed them for nothing. The wrong family. They died for nothing.

Jill points the air gun at Werner.

WERNER
Wait! Wait. It wasn't me. It was Joe. Joe killed your kids! Not me. Stop! Look what you did.

JILL
An artist must finish her work.
Jill fires a spike that goes into Werner's left eye and out the back of his head, burying itself in the ground.

Jill drops her gun and turns to walk away, but stops.

JOSEPH
He was a lying sack of shit.

Joseph covered in blood is holding himself up with the car door.

Joseph is trying to keep his gun level on Jill.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
He killed your family before I even knew. I never had a chance to stop him.

JILL
What about Gary's wife?

JOSEPH
Gloria. Yeah, she was a good kid. A good kid with a big mouth.

JILL
So you killed her?

JOSEPH
Yep. Gary too. Now it looks like I gotta go back and take out their kids.

JILL
You killed Gloria and Gary?

JOSEPH
What are you fucking deaf? I just told you I did.

JILL
Gary?

JOSEPH
Yes!

GARY (O.S.)
Guess again.

Joseph tries to turn around.

Gary, looking like road kill, stabs Joseph in the throat with a piece of metal.

Joseph fires his gun as he falls against his car.
The shot sparks off the curb underneath Jill's SUV igniting a fuel leak in the leaves.

Jill rushes to Gary.

    JILL
    We really have to go.

Jill grabs Gary they hobble a few feet.

Jill's SUV explodes multiple times.

Jill and Gary get thrown to the ground.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING POOL SIDE - LOS ANGELES -- AFTERNOON

Two months later.

Gary is watching Frannie and Russell play in the pool.

Gary starts opening a brown paper package.

Inside is an ornately carved wooden box with wrought iron fittings.

On the top of the box it says "IN LOVING MEMORY OF GLORIA".

With tears in his eyes, Gary opens the box to reveal a picture of Jill, Gary, Frannie and Russell, all together in front of the Grand Canyon. The picture is in a beautiful wrought iron frame.

INT. THE OFFICE OF VICTOR GOFFENSKI - CHICAGO -- EVENING

Victor is at his desk with a brown paper package.

He opens the package. Inside is an ornately carved wooden box with wrought iron fittings.

On the top of the box it says "IN LOVING MEMORY OF ERIC, RHYS, CAITLIN and GLORIA".

Victor looks puzzled.

He opens it.

A blast of very high pressured air.

Five spikes carrying brain matter, blood and hair strike the wall behind Victor digging in deeply.

Victor drops with a thud.
Inside the box, there are five little pipes sticking out with a small air cylinder.

The box starts to smoke and hiss.

Seconds later the box explodes.

INT. KATE AND JILL'S STUDIO - SEATTLE -- AFTERNOON

The view of the studio shows Jill's work area and work table.

On the table is the picture of her family in a new wrought iron frame.

Jill is sitting on a window seat watching the rain. On her lap, rests her laptop.

A news article from Chicago Tribune. The letters to the words "TRUST FATE" are highlighted.

INSERT - WEB PAGE

"The Remains of a Ukrainian Shipping Tycoon were Found with an Amputated head. The Evidence has given the Police no leads."

Jill moves to the next article. The letters to the words "TRUST FATE JILL HELP" are highlighted.

INSERT - WEB PAGE (CONT'D)

"Another Three Residential Unsolved abductions Since Thursday." - "Families Are Terrified. Everyone is asked to keep a watchful eye out" "The city of Jasper's Interim Lieutenant Lawrence Halaska in an Emotional Last Plea for help to find the missing children. "Anyone with information..."

Jill closes her web browser and opens a file in her design program.

A 3D picture of a very deadly new air gun, mini-van and body armor.

THE END.