

Ransom Payback

by  
Simon K. Parker

Copyright 2017  
Simonkyleparker@hotmail.co.uk

INT. STRIP MALL - CLOTHES STORE - DAY

LAURA, (28) stands at the counter with LOTTIE, (30). Laura is watching her chosen clothes been carefully folded and placed into paper bags.

The young girl CASHIER, (18) gestures to the screen that shows a grand total of \$550 to be paid.

Laura hands the cashier a credit card.

The cashier swipes it, but it's declined.

Lottie turns away, putting her back to Laura.

CASHIER

I'm so sorry ma'am.

Laura takes the card back from the cashier and hands her another.

The cashier swipes it but this credit card too is declined.

CASHIER (CONT'D)

I'm really sorry about this,  
sometimes the computers here act  
real funny.

Laura swallows hard, Laura's face beaming red.

Laura selects a third credit card, this one gold.

The cashier reluctantly takes this third credit card and swipes. This one is accepted, the payment goes through.

The cashier hands Laurie her bags and receipt.

INT. STRIP MALL - CAFE - DAY

Laura and Lottie sit at a two seater glass topped table together, enjoying coffee and cakes.

Laura watches a young family, husband, wife two young children.

Lottie watches Laura.

LOTTIE

Such intense people watching.

Laura switches to another young couple, the wife pushing a stroller out in front of her.

LAURA  
Makes me so annoyed.

LOTTIE  
No, the word you're looking for  
is jealous

Laura keep searching through the crowds of people, hunting for young couples with children, stares at them hard for a few seconds.

LAURA  
I'd be such a great mom.

LOTTIE  
No doubt.

Lottie takes a bite out of one of the cakes and sips at her coffee.

Laura stands out from the table, picks up all of her shopping bags and walks away.

Lottie almost spits her coffee out.

LOTTIE (CONT'D)  
Where are you going, you haven't  
even touched yours yet.

Laura doesn't stop, heads inside another store

INT. STRIP MALL - SHOE STORE - DAY

Lottie sits and watches as Laura models a new pair of high heel shoes.

Laura is smiling again claps her hands together.

LAURA  
I love them I'll take them.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - LAURA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Laura has her arms filled with several high end shopping bags, throws herself down onto the bed.

Laura looks up at the ceiling, getting her breath back, a huge happy smile.

Laura lifts herself up, one after another Laura empties out the bags, spilling the different clothes out across the bed.

Laura grabs hold of a dress still with its price tag on.  
Laura strips down and puts it on.

ETHAN, 35, tall and handsome enters the room smoking a  
cigarette.

ETHAN  
What the fuck?

LAURA  
When did you get back?

Ethan gestures to the bags, exasperated.

ETHAN  
What is this shit?

LAURA  
Do you have to smoke in here,  
it's disgusting.

ETHAN  
Shut up, answer me.

LAURA  
You knew where I was going today.

ETHAN  
Laura, what are you doing?

LAURA  
What's it look like?

ETHAN  
I told you not to do this  
anymore.

LAURA  
What?

ETHAN  
This shit.

LAURA  
You're the one who told me to buy  
something for tonight.

Ethan comes over to Laura, Ethan checks the price tag for  
the dress she's got one.

ETHAN  
Jesus Christ, Laura.

LAURA  
What?

ETHAN  
This is my money.

LAURA  
Like you don't have enough.

ETHAN  
I don't.

LAURA  
Oh, so you're broke this month?

ETHAN  
I'm trying to build something  
here.

LAURA  
Please, don't even try that on  
me, stop.

ETHAN  
Take it off.

Ethan takes hold of Laura.

LAURA  
Get off me.

ETHAN  
You're taking this all back.

Ethan wrestles with Laura, trying to rip the dress from  
her.

LAURA  
Don't touch me.

Ethan slaps Laura across the face.

Laura falls to the bed.

ETHAN  
Don't push me.

Ethan's jacket opens, he has a gun tucked into his belt.

Laura closes her eyes, fighting to stop herself from  
crying.

Ethan takes the dress off Laura, pulls it up over her head.

LAURA  
Get out.

ETHAN

Things have got to change, I'm not going to lose everything that I've built because you're greedy.

LAURA

This is your world, I just wanted what everyone else already has, nothing more.

ETHAN

No more. Things have got to be different.

LAURA

No shit.

ETHAN

Look at me.

LAURA

No, get out.

Ethan gives up, he exits the room.

Laura slowly opens her eyes, she can no longer hold back the tears come streaming down her face.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Ethan looks up at the ceiling and frowns. Music plays, the room is filled with people and everyone has a drink in hand

Lottie and STEVEN, (35) move over towards Ethan.

STEVEN

I want to say thanks again.

Steven offers out his hand, Ethan takes it and shakes.

ETHAN

If our wives are going to be friends we might as well get along too.

LOTTIE

So where is she?

ETHAN

I don't know.

LOTTIE

Do you want me to go and get her.

ETHAN

No, I want you to enjoy yourselves.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Laura moves close to the mirror and inspects the side of her face where Ethan had struck her. A red mark has been left.

Laura shakes her head, determined.

Laura has her make up at the ready, Laura first covers up the mark.

Laura puts the foundation all over her face. The door opens behind her, Ethan comes in and grabs a hold of her and stops Laura from finishing.

ETHAN

Enough, I don't want you plastering with this shit like you always do.

LAURA

Leave me alone.

ETHAN

Come downstairs.

LAURA

Why should I?

ETHAN

I'm telling you, you're not hiding up here.

LAURA

Are you done?

Ethan knocks her make-up down to the floor, he kicks and stamps on it.

ETHAN

I'm sick of you looking like a fucking clown.

Laura spins around and shoves both hands into Ethan's chest.

LAURA

Get out.

ETHAN

Five minutes.

LAURA

Or what, are you going to hit me again?

ETHAN

Get your head together.

LAURA

I'm fine.

ETHAN

Downstairs.

LAURA

Go.

ETHAN

People are waiting for you.

LAURA

OK.

Ethan snarls angry, Ethan grabs a hand around Laura's throat and squeezes.

ETHAN

Bitch, how easy it would be.

Laura's face turns pale white fear fills her eyes. Laura tries to answer Ethan back but she can't speak.

Ethan let's go exits slams the door shut behind him.

Laura gasps, fighting to get her breath back.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Laura grabs a hold of Lottie by the arm and pulls her into a quite corner.

LAURA

I need to talk to you.

LOTTIE

What are you doing?

LAURA

I'm leaving him.

LOTTIE

What?



LAURA  
I've got to go.

LOTTIE  
Go where?

LAURA  
I don't know yet.

LOTTIE  
This is real isn't it?

LAURA  
I'm asking you to help me.

LOTTIE  
You two are great together.

LAURA  
You're insane.

LOTTIE  
No, but I think you might be?

LAURA  
Why?

LOTTIE  
You're really going to walk away  
from all this?

LAURA  
It's not me anymore.

LOTTIE  
What's not?

LAURA  
This, all this I hate it?

LOTTIE  
But you love each other.

LAURA  
Do we?

Laura grabs a hold of Lottie again by the arm and tries to pull her away with her, Lottie resists.

LOTTIE  
Laura can you just stop?

LAURA  
Are You going to help me?

LOTTIE

No.

LAURA

Fine, then I'll do everything myself.

LOTTIE

You've got it so easy here.

LAURA

I'm leaving.

LOTTIE

You know Ethan isn't going to let you.

LAURA

He's not going to be able stop me.

LOTTIE

Are you so sure about that?

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - LAURA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Laura opens up a suitcase, lays it out across the bed and fills it with clothes not bothering to fold them, in a hurry.

Lottie stands in the doorway, watching Laura.

LOTTIE

You can't do this.

LAURA

Yes I can, and I am.

LOTTIE

Laura come on just think it over.

LAURA

There's nothing to think about.

LOTTIE

Of course there is.

Laura keeps filling the suitcase up.

Lottie comes over to Laura.

LAURA

I've made my mind up.

Lottie tries to take the suitcase from Laura

LOTTIE

I'm not going to let you do this.

Laura frowns, confused.

LAURA

What are you doing?

LOTTIE

I'm not letting you do this.

LAURA

It's not up to you.

LOTTIE

You'll thank me later, believe me.

LAURA

No, I'm going.

Laura and Lottie wrestle over the suitcase.

LOTTIE

You're not going anywhere, why don't you ever just stop and think?

LAURA

Why do you care so much?

LOTTIE

This is my life too.

LAURA

What?

LOTTIE

The only reason Ethan does any kind of business with my husband, is because Ethan thinks I'm your only friend.

LAURA

Thanks.

LOTTIE

You leave and you lose, I lose, everyone loses.

LAURA

Well it's my life.

LOTTIE

I'm not losing everything I've built up.

LAURA

Get off me.

LOTTIE

Ethan is so rich why are you walking away from all of this?

LAURA

He's not what you think he is, he lies so much.

Lottie is able to get the suitcase from Laura, Lottie unzips it and empties the clothes out onto the floor before throwing to the other side of the room.

INT. MAN'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Ethan sits in a chair with a glass of whiskey in hand. The party continues around him.

Ethan checks the time on his phone, lets out a long deep breath. Ethan's eyes flick up towards the ceiling.

INT. MAN'S HOUSE - GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lottie jabs a finger into Laura's chest.

LOTTIE

I'm not going to let you do this to yourself.

Laura slaps Lottie hand out of the way.

LAURA

So we were never friends?

LOTTIE

I'm doing this for you.

LAURA

I really am on my own aren't I?

LOTTIE

Only if you wanna be.

LAURA

Get out of my way.

LOTTIE

I'm not going to let you go.

LAURA

It's my life not yours.

Laura tries to move past her but Lottie gets in the way.

LOTTIE

If you leave like this, it's not going to end well for you.

LAURA

We're not even friends right?

LOTTIE

I didn't mean it like that.

LAURA

Get out of my way.

LOTTIE

No.

Laura shoves Lottie to the floor and.

INT. LAURA'S CAR - NIGHT

In, out deep breathes Laura tries to get her breathing under control. A tight hold of the steering wheel she's speeding.

With her phone on the front passenger seat next to her a list of different motels with their phone number and address.

Laura looks over at it and scrolls through the page.

At a set of traffic lights they turn red. Laura looks up and sees it with a panic stricken gasp she slams on the breaks bringing her car to a sudden stop.

The light stays red a few more slow deliberate deep breaths.

Laura is still fighting to get her breathing under control.

Laura closes her eyes and begins to steady herself when suddenly her front passenger door is ripped open.

Laura screams.

Two masked MEN grab a hold of her and take her out from the car.

Kicking, screaming and throwing her arms wildly around Laura tries to get herself free but it's no good they're too strong for her.

They carry Laura out of her car and bring her over to a van parked behind her and throw Laura inside.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - FLASHBACK

A party is in full swing, young beautiful people, drinking, smoking and doing drugs. Loud music booms as Laura, already drunk, dressed in a tight black dress moves through the crowd.

Sebastian sits on a couch with two, skinny GIRLS on either side of him. Doing drugs with them.

Laura walks past, she locks eyes with Sebastian. He stares at her, blows her a kiss.

Laura keeps walking, doesn't stop.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Laura's head slams against the cold hard floor the two masked men climb into the back with her and very quickly and expertly get to work.

Laura's wrists and ankles are tied and her mouth gagged bringing her cries for help to silence.

One of the masked men removes his ski-mask, SEBASTIAN, 33, dark hair and bloodshot eyes he smiles at Laura.

SEBASTIAN

Do you remember me?

Laura's words are muffled.

LAURA

No.

SEBASTIAN

Yes you do.

LAURA

I can't breathe.

SEBASTIAN

Look at me.

LAURA

I am.

SEBASTIAN

Say my name.

LAURA

I don't know who you are.

Sebastian grabs Laura's face and digs his fingers in, hard.

SEBASTIAN

Try harder.

LAURA

You're hurting me.

SEBASTIAN

Look at me! You know me!

LAURA

Get off me, now!

Sebastian breaks out into a fit of laughter.

SEBASTIAN

If I wanted, I could have you. No problem.

LAURA

You don't know me, just like I don't know you.

SEBASTIAN

A girl like you, I could do whatever I wanted, whenever I liked.

He spits into Laura's face.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

The second masked man climbs out and slams the door shut behind him.

Sebastian reaches out and moves some of Laura's hair from in front of her face.

SEBASTIAN

You're very pretty.

LAURA

And you're ugly.

SEBASTIAN

It's the eyes that set you apart.

Laura tries to answer back but Sebastian shoves the gag deeper inside her mouth, makes it impossible.

Laura begins to cry. Sebastian leans forwards and delicately kisses her forehead.

Laura tries to wriggle and fight her way out of the ropes, around her ankles and wrists.

Sebastian holds her down, uses his full weight.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Stop it.

Laura's shoulders drop and she becomes still.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You don't need to be afraid of me, not yet anyway. I'll explain everything. Although you might already know everything.

(Laura shakes her head vigorously)

Don't lie to me, OK. That's the one bit of advice I'm going to give you that's the most important.

The vans engines comes on and they begin to move.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Everything is going to be just fine.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Alone with very little light, Laura wriggles her arms and legs trying to break free and slip out of the binds that have her tied up.

The ropes burn, it hurts too much.

Laura tries to push the gag out of her mouth with her tongue. Almost choking she has to give up on this too.

On her back Laura rolls over onto her front. With her knees and forehead she tries to push herself up.

Her words muffled and desperate.



With all her strength Laura tries to rise and stand up. But it's no good.

Laura collapses back down to the floor in a heap and floods of tears.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - FLASHBACK

Laura sits on the edge of the bathtub, a pregnancy test in his hand.

Laura's hunched over, tears streaming down her face.

The bathroom door slowly open and Ethan peers in at her, but he doesn't enter.

ETHAN

You want another one to be sure.

Laura drops the pregnancy stick into the bathtub before lifting up three empty test boxes.

LAURA

No, I'm think I'm as sure as I'm ever going to be.

ETHAN

You already know what I'm going to say, don't you?

LAURA

No, I never thought this would happen to me.

ETHAN

Well nothing has happened, yet.

Laura's smiling.

LAURA

Are you kidding me, this is real.

ETHAN

We're not having children.

LAURA

Babies happen all the time you know?

Ethan gestures to her face.

ETHAN

Why are you being like this, don't be stupid.

LAURA

You refuse to pull out, how's that for stupid?

ETHAN

Don't you dare be happy about this.

LAURA

You're more scared than I am.

Ethan crosses his arms in front of his chest, shakes his head, determined.

ETHAN

You can't do this.

LAURA

We're both responsible.

ETHAN

You can't keep it.

LAURA

I can't?

ETHAN

I won't let you go through with it.

LAURA

And what if I really did?

ETHAN

I'm having no part of it. You get rid of it.

LAURA

You haven't even thought about this, you being a dad?

ETHAN

Don't do this to yourself Laura, just fix the mistake.

LAURA

Isn't that what people in love do, start a family?

ETHAN

You'll lose everything.

Laura drops her head, can't look at Ethan.

LAURA

I don't know what I want anymore.

ETHAN

Everything you have now, you're only going to get to keep it if you're smart.

LAURA

I just want what everyone else has.

ETHAN

I've got too many enemies to bring a child into this world.

Laura stands up from the bathtub, wipes her tears away with the back of her hand. Laura stares at Ethan, angry.

LAURA

What is it that you want from me?

ETHAN

Sorry?

LAURA

What am I to you?

ETHAN

I'm not going to argue.

LAURA

I'm not trying to.

ETHAN

You know what you've got to do so just do it.

LAURA

I don't know if I can.

ETHAN

It's happening, if you want it to or not.

Laura storms out of the bathroom, stoves her way past Ethan. Laura slams her shoulder into his.

INT. VAN - DAY

Out of breath, Laura's exhausted and drenched in sweat the tears keep coming.

INT. DIRTY BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

A dirty, dark room. A passed out prostitute is on the bed, drugs on the side table next to her. Heroin.

Ethan and Sebastian stand over the top of her. Sebastian smiles and kneels down next to her.

Sebastian moves her hair out from in front of her face, touching her, lovingly.

Ethan puts his hands in his pockets, swallows hard, nervous.

ETHAN

You don't have to listen to me.

SEBASTIAN

I know.

ETHAN

You need to calm all of this down.

SEBASTIAN

I can't.

ETHAN

You're doing too much, spreading yourself too thin.

SEBASTIAN

No, I'm only going to keep growing.

ETHAN

Think.

SEBASTIAN

I want a whole army of girls like her.

ETHAN

An army, look at her?

Sebastian isn't listening.

SEBASTIAN

And I'll never even know her name, it's perfect.

ETHAN

But she knows yours.

Sebastian stands back up, turns to face Ethan.

SEBASTIAN

She paid me to bring her to this country, and worked everyday for me.

ETHAN

Great.

SEBASTIAN

And she's just one.

ETHAN

And look how she turned out.

SEBASTIAN

I don't know how you can be upset when everything is going this well for me?

ETHAN

Well, I am.

Sebastian gestures to his smile.

SEBASTIAN

The better off I am, the better off you are.

INT. VAN - DAY

Sebastian kicks out at Laura's legs forcing her to shuffle backwards all the way over to the back wall.

Sebastian stands over her, raises his foot up and kicks hard against the wall just above her head.

A large bang echoes out.

Laura yells out scared but the gag muffles her.

SEBASTIAN

Look around you.

LAURA

Stop it.

SEBASTIAN

Look at me.

LAURA

Why do you keep asking me that?

SEBASTIAN

Recognise.

LAURA

What?

SEBASTIAN

I can kill you whenever I want to.

LAURA

I know.

SEBASTIAN

Help me.

LAURA

You're insane.

SEBASTIAN

There's nothing else you can do.

LAURA

Just let me go.

SEBASTIAN

Look where you are. Go on.

Laura keeps her eyes locked on him, unblinking.

Tears stream down Laura's face.

Laura tries to talk, but again the gag makes her words hard to hear.

LAURA

I just want to go back home.

SEBASTIAN

Your home is mine now. You've got nothing to go back to.

Laura is still crying, starts coughing.

LAURA

Take this off. Please.

SEBASTIAN

The more upset you make yourself, the harder you're making it for yourself.

LAURA

I can't help you like this.

SEBASTIAN

You're not even trying.

LAURA

Take it off.

SEBASTIAN

You think it's hard to breathe now, how do you think you're going to be after I slit your throat?

LAURA

I can't help you then, you've messed up.

SEBASTIAN

You're different from other girls I say that much.

LAURA

Messed up bad.

SEBASTIAN

How's that?

LAURA

I've never taken anything from you.

SEBASTIAN

I didn't say that you had.

LAURA

I've done nothing wrong to you.

SEBASTIAN

OK.

LAURA

I don't know where your money is, I've got nothing to give you.

SEBASTIAN

You're wrong.

LAURA

Nothing. I'm the worst person you could have picked up.

SEBASTIAN

You better hope you're wrong about that.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Lent back against the wall Laura is concentrating on getting her breathing settled.

Laura stands up, with hesitant footsteps she approaches the vans back doors.

With a bang the back doors open up and light comes pouring in.

The second masked man climbs in with a packet of sandwiches and a bottle of water in his hands.

He heads over towards Laura, places the water and the sandwiches down in front of her.

He turns to head back out, Laura grunts at him.

LAURA

I want to see your face.

The second masked man points down at the sandwiches and water by her feet.

He mimes that she needs to eat and drink it.

Laura stamps down on the sandwiches, crushing, smashing and destroying them.

With her bound together hands Laura grabs hold of the water bottle unscrews its lid and pours it all out onto the floor in front of him.

Throws the empty bottle at his face. The second masked man dodges out of the way, just missing.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Show your face, coward.

He just stares at Laura.

Laura breaks down crying again the second masked man takes out a second bottle of water and places it down in front of her.

Laura sees it but ignores it.

LAURA (CONT'D)

You don't even know what you're doing.

He takes off the lid for her.



LAURA (CONT'D)  
This is such a bad joke and  
nobody is laughing.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Laura stands up, Sebastian approaches. Laura points at the  
gag.

LAURA  
Take it off.

Sebastian gently removes it.

SEBASTIAN  
Anything else?

LAURA  
I need to go to the bathroom.

SEBASTIAN  
No.

Laura crosses her legs, looking uncomfortable.

LAURA  
I have to.

SEBASTIAN  
Not on your own you're not.

LAURA  
You're not watching me.

SEBASTIAN  
You don't get to make demands.

LAURA  
There's no way.

SEBASTIAN  
It's either a bathroom break now  
or I get you a bucket to use.

LAURA  
I'm not an animal.

SEBASTIAN  
So, what do you think about it  
now?

LAURA

You can't treat me like this.

SEBASTIAN

I own you now, I can do whatever  
I like.

LAURA

Then why ask me anything?

Sebastian eyes Laura up coldly.

SEBASTIAN

You're an asset, a bargaining  
chip.

LAURA

And what does that make you?

Sebastian stands up and stares down at Laura, lets out a  
long deep breath.

INT. PUBLIC BATHROOM - DAY

Laura's hands are free but her ankles are still tied  
together with her jeans down she's using the toilet.

A long and satisfying toilet break.

Alone in the cubical there's a knock on the door.

LAURA

Leave me alone, I've already told  
you I'm not letting you watch.

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
Why aren't you done yet?

LAURA

I don't even want you listening.

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
You're asking me to trust you.

Finally Laura stops urinating.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

(O.S)  
Finished now?

LAURA

What if I just stayed in here?

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
Fine.

LAURA

What if I screamed?

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
Go for it.

LAURA

Someone would come.

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
You really think so?

LAURA

Someone would call the police.

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
I doubt it.

LAURA

What if I just stopped doing what  
you said?

SEBASTIAN

(O.S)  
You already know the answer to  
that.

Laura rises up from the toilet after wiping herself clean.

Laura quickly pulls up her underwear and her jeans.

Opens up the cubical door and shuffles as quickly as she  
can past Sebastian. With her ankles still tied together  
it's hard for her to move.

Sebastian quickly ties her hands back together.

LAURA

You're not even going to let me  
wash my hands.

Sebastian shoves Laura in the back.

Sebastian again nudges Laura, hard in the back with his  
knee. Shoving Laura over towards the row of sinks.

INT. VAN - DAY

The engine is off and they're still. Sebastian keeps a close eye on Laura.

The back doors open and the second masked man climbs inside with a trash bag slung over his shoulder.

He dumps it down in front of Laura and exits again.

Sebastian opens up the trash bag, inside is a dull looking grey jumpsuit.

Sebastian shows it off to Laura.

Laura eyes Sebastian up, confused.

Sebastian pulls out a gun and points it at her head.

Sebastian jabs the gun into Laura's face. Bashes is hard against her forehead and chin.

With his left hand Sebastian reaches out and rips at Laura's clothes forcing her to take it off.

Tears roll down Laura's face.

LAURA  
Just let me go.

SEBASTIAN  
No. Now put it on.

LAURA  
Why?

SEBASTIAN  
Or I'll kill you.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Laura is alone and dressed in her new bland jumpsuit.

Laura tries to lift herself up from the floor, but with her tied up wrists and ankles she can't.

Sweaty and emotional Laura gives up.

The back doors open and Sebastian climbs in. They're slammed shut behind him.

Sebastian holds out a plate, a freshly cooked breakfast and

a cup of coffee in a to-go cup in either hand.

Sebastian places them down in front of Laura.

LAURA

I didn't say that I was hungry.

Sebastian takes off Laura's gag.

SEBASTIAN

Eat.

LAURA

What is it that you want from me?

SEBASTIAN

For you just to do as you're told.

LAURA

What is it that you think I'm going to be able to do?

SEBASTIAN

You already know.

LAURA

I don't though. I just wanted to go, that's all.

SEBASTIAN

Your husband stole from me, I want it back. All of it.

Sebastian still holds out the food and drink, Laura takes it.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Sebastian sits in front of Laura, Sebastian has her phone in his hand, he opens up the page with the long list of motel rooms.

Sebastian shows her the screen and scrolls through it for her.

LAURA

That's my phone.

SEBASTIAN

Focus and tell me which one is it?

LAURA  
Which one is what?

SEBASTIAN  
He sent you away all on your own.

LAURA  
No he didn't.

Sebastian waves out a dismissive hand at Laura.

SEBASTIAN  
He must have known you weren't  
able to look after yourself.

LAURA  
I didn't tell him that I was  
leaving.

Sebastian hits the phone against the side of Laura's head.

SEBASTIAN  
Point, show me which one it is.

LAURA  
There isn't one.

SEBASTIAN  
Where were you supposed to meet  
him?

Laura grimaces from the blow.

LAURA  
What is it that you want me to  
say, you're clearly not  
interested in the truth.

SEBASTIAN  
Help me and you're free.

LAURA  
I can't help you.

SEBASTIAN  
Look at you. You can't last here.

LAURA  
Don't you think I already know  
that.

SEBASTIAN  
You don't have it in you. It's  
pathetic.

LAURA  
Ethan didn't tell me to go  
anywhere, I was leaving him.

SEBASTIAN  
Bullshit.

LAURA  
Once I found a place to stay I  
was going to call Ethan and tell  
him that it's over between us.

SEBASTIAN  
That's a lie.

LAURA  
But I'm here instead.

SEBASTIAN  
Call him.

LAURA  
And tell him what?

SEBASTIAN  
Pick a motel, tell him you're  
there. Tell him to meet you.

LAURA  
That's your idea?

SEBASTIAN  
Do it.

LAURA  
He won't do it.

Sebastian stands up, he walks around behind Laura.

Sebastian delivers a hard kick to the back of Laura's head.

Laura's face slams down against the floor knocking a tooth  
out, blood sprays out and pools underneath her, she's out  
cold.

Sebastian pockets her phone and exits the van.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

The Second man in the ski mask climbs into the back of the  
van.

He takes off the mask. NOAH, 29, handsome with short cut hair.

Laura shuts her eyes.

NOAH

It's OK you can look at me.

LAURA

No.

NOAH

Do you want something for your tooth?

Laura slowly opens her eyes.

LAURA

To have it back in my mouth, can you do that?

NOAH

No.

LAURA

I've aged ten years since been here.

NOAH

I'm sorry you're going through this.

LAURA

I want to go home, but I don't even have one anymore.

NOAH

No?

LAURA

I've got nothing.

Noah reaches into his pocket and takes out her mobile phone.

NOAH

If you help us you can go.

LAURA

He's not listened to a single thing I've said.

NOAH

Why are you protecting him? Tell him that you need him.



LAURA

I was going to end it, end the marriage. Do you know that?

NOAH

This can end if you want it to.

LAURA

Don't you dare hit me as well.

NOAH

I wouldn't.

LAURA

You're just like him.

NOAH

I'm not.

Noah moves behind Laura and Laura filches.

Noah undoes Laura's hands and frees her wrists.

Noah forces Laura's phone into her hand.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Call him and tell him where you are.

LAURA

Seriously?

NOAH

Tell him what's been happening, he needs to know.

LAURA

You can't find him can you?

NOAH

Please.

LAURA

That's why I'm still here.

NOAH

Do it.

LAURA

If you find him you'll kill me won't you?

NOAH

Tell him where you are, let him know.

LAURA  
I picked the worst time to  
runaway didn't I?

NOAH  
He must be worried about you.

LAURA  
You don't know him too well do  
you?

Laura first uses the phone to see her reflection. She  
inspects her mouth.

NOAH  
Teeth can be fixed, replaced.

LAURA  
I can't believe this is happening  
to me.

NOAH  
You're still alive aren't you?

LAURA  
Why can't you just let me go?

NOAH  
Help us and you can walk out of  
here all on your own.

LAURA  
Us?

NOAH  
Call him.

LAURA  
You're a psychopath too?

NOAH  
No.

Laura finds Ethan's number and calls him it goes straight  
to voice mail.

LAURA  
You see.

NOAH  
OK.

LAURA  
I knew it.

NOAH

Go on, say something.

As the voice mail is activated, Laura hangs up.

LAURA

No?

NOAH

You need to find out where he is.

LAURA

Do it yourself.

NOAH

I'm trying to help you.

LAURA

Is that a joke?

NOAH

No.

LAURA

Are you trying to be funny right now?

NOAH

Your time is running out.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - DAY

Noah has a wet cloth in his hand. Noah wipes the dry blood clean from around Laura's mouth. Cleaning her up.

LAURA

What makes you think he'll even tell me where he is?

Noah points to the wedding ring on Laura's finger.

NOAH

You wanted to spend the rest of your life with him.

LAURA

I wanted a family.

NOAH

Yeah?

LAURA

I wanted to find someone to spend  
the rest of my life with.

NOAH

Sounds nice.

LAURA

It's what everyone else has.

NOAH

Most people are miserable.

LAURA

After meeting you I'm not  
surprised.

NOAH

You wanted to leave him.

LAURA

Yes.

Noah pulls out a tablet device, a GPS map showing their  
current location.

NOAH

Just help us.

LAURA

What do you want me to do with  
that?

NOAH

Put in an address.

LAURA

You literally haven't got a clue  
have you?

NOAH

Lets find him together.

LAURA

No.

NOAH

Where do you think?

LAURA

A guess?

NOAH

Yes, take a guess.

LAURA

You kidnaped me to make guesses?

NOAH

You're still married to him.

LAURA

And?

NOAH

Doesn't that mean you know him better than anyone else?

LAURA

From day one, he never once let his guard down around me.

NOAH

So you're not going to help?

LAURA

With him I was trapped, I'm trapped here. I can't help anyone.

Noah picks up the binds that were wrapped around Laura's ankles and wrists.

NOAH

I don't want to have to put these back on you.

LAURA

Then don't.

Noah drops the binds to the floor.

NOAH

Just stay where you are.

LAURA

Fine.

NOAH

I can't ask any nicer than that.

LAURA

I never love him by the way.

NOAH

OK.

LAURA

I just wanted you to know that. I was just so desperate to be like everyone else, I should never had said 'I Do.'

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Sebastian drags Laura out of the back of a van and towards another waiting one, it's almost identical.

Laura shuffles forwards before stumbling to the floor.

Sebastian tries to hold Laura up but she's too heavy.

LAURA

Tell me where you're taking me.

SEBASTIAN

Get up.

LAURA

Tell me.

SEBASTIAN

This isn't a game.

Laura tries to get up but falls back down again.

LAURA

I won't move until I know.

SEBASTIAN

Get up.

LAURA

Just tell me.

Sebastian points at the second van.

SEBASTIAN

It's right there.

Sebastian tries to drag her up but Laura resists. Noah steps forwards, he undoes the binds around her ankles.

As Noah undoes them Laura has her legs free.

Sebastian again reaches down to lift her up, this time she lets him.

Sebastian takes her over towards the second van. Laura lashes out, slamming both fists into his stomach.

Laura knocks the wind out of Sebastian.

Sebastian doubles over, gasping for breath.

Laura makes a run for it.

Sebastian looks across at Noah.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)  
Get her, kill her if you have to.

INT. APARTMENT - BATHROOM - FLASHBACK

The sound of a trains horn bleeds in through the window.

Laura's in bed with Ethan, her eyes snaps open. Laura reaches over and wakes him up.

LAURA  
I want to go home.

Ethan slowly wakes up, another train horn fills the bedroom.

Ethan reaches over to the bedside table, gets himself a cigarette and lights it up, smoking.

ETHAN  
If you're struggling have a glass of wine.

LAURA  
No.

ETHAN  
Go on.

LAURA  
I don't want wine. I just want to sleep.

ETHAN  
So waking me up is going to help you do that how?

LAURA  
If I had my own bed I'd be fine.

ETHAN  
Quit complaining.

LAURA

We're spending more and more time  
out here and I don't like it.

Another train horn.

ETHAN

I prefer this one.

LAURA

And that, I've had enough of it.  
(Points at the  
cigarette)  
And that.

ETHAN

What?

LAURA

The noise was bad enough but now  
it's going to stink in here.

ETHAN

Are you finished?

LAURA

I want to go. I'm supposed to  
sleep in here and you're smoking.  
How many times do I have to ask  
you to stop before you'll  
actually do it?

ETHAN

You know, you're really starting  
to get on my nerves.

Laura goes to take the cigarette out of Ethan's mouth but  
he knocks her hand away.

Ethan stubs it out, lays back down.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

We're not going anywhere.

LAURA

This shouldn't be so hard.

ETHAN

I've got too much to get through  
in the morning, I don't need this  
fucking shit right now.

Laura gets out of bed.



LAURA

I could get on one of those  
trains and leave?

Ethan closes his eyes.

ETHAN

Come back to bed.

Laura turns her back on him, storms out of the room.

LAURA

I can't breathe in here.

ETHAN

Then you shouldn't have woken me  
up.

LAURA

You should never have dragged me  
here.

ETHAN

You're leaving?

LAURA

Do you even care?

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Laura is out of breath, drenched in sweat. Her arms and  
legs pumping as hard as they can, sprinting, struggling but  
Laura refuses to stop.

Noah is right on Laura's heels, chasing after her.

Noah finds the pace much easier to keep.

Laura turns off the road, a sharp turn and comes down into  
an alley.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Noah catches up to her, wrapping his arms around Laura.  
Noah pulls Laura to a sudden stop.

Laura screams out for help.

Noah puts his hands around her mouth, muffling Laura's  
cries.

Noah drags Laura back the way they came.

Laura stamps down on his foot.

Laura tries to throw her head back, a reverse head butt trying to connect her head against Noah's.

Noah holds onto Laura tighter.

NOAH

Stop it!

LAURA

Let me go!

Laura kicks out at Noah, throwing her legs out wildly. With his arms still wrapped around her, Noah squeezes as tight as he can, squeezes the air out of her, squeezing the fight out of her.

NOAH

You can't get away from me.

LAURA

Let me go!

NOAH

It's over Laura, I've got you.

LAURA

Don't do this!

NOAH

You can't get out of this by running.

Noah releases his grip a little.

LAURA

I hate you!

NOAH

I'm not the one who did this to you.

Laura has tears rolling down her face.

LAURA

I hate you the most!

NOAH

Why?

LAURA

You could have let me go!

NOAH

And why would I do that?

Laura lowers her head, doesn't have an answer.

INT. SECOND VAN - DAY

Sebastian has a knee to the back of Laura's neck. Noah watches on from outside as Sebastian keeps Laura pinned down to the floor.

Sebastian has his whole weight pressed down, he again ties up her ankles, pulling the binds as tight as he can.

It's the same with Laura's wrists. Sebastian pulls them so tight that the ropes begin cutting into her skin.

Sebastian rolls Laura over. Still sitting on Laura, Sebastian pulls out a gun and holds it in front of Laura's face.

SEBASTIAN

Why would you have pulled a stunt like that?

Laura stares right back at him. Laura doesn't even blink.

Sebastian rolls Laura back onto her stomach. He puts the gag back in her mouth and pulls as hard as he can. Overly tight.

Laura's choking, she can't breath.

Sebastian keeps pulling, finally tying it at the back of her head.

Sebastian climbs off of Laura, leaving Laura gasping for air her whole body shaking.

Sebastian jumps down out of the van.

Noah waits for Sebastian to leave out of sight.

Laura is choking, still fighting and failing to get in air.

With her hands bound so tightly there's nothing she can do.

Scratching at her face Laura tries to get the gag out of her mouth, can't do it.

Laura's not breathing at all.

Noah moves over to her. Noah grabs onto the gag and loosens it, taking it off.

Noah rolls Laura onto her side and finally she can breathe again. He keeps her on her side.

NOAH

It's OK.

Coughing and spitting Laura regains her breathing. Laura looks up at Noah.

LAURA

Why do you care, you're the one who brought me back here.

NOAH

You would already be dead if I didn't.

LAURA

Yeah?

NOAH

I don't want to see you die.

LAURA

No?

NOAH

I want to see you survive this.

INT. SECOND VAN - FRONT SEATS - DAY

In the front of the van Sebastian sits at the wheel with Noah in the front passenger seat beside him.

Sebastian searches through a couple of radio stations before he turns it off, disinterested.

SEBASTIAN

She talks to you more than she does with me.

NOAH

She's a trophy wife.

SEBASTIAN

Don't believe a fucking thing that comes out of her mouth.

NOAH

She's not saying anything though.

SEBASTIAN

Keep talking to her.

NOAH

OK.

SEBASTIAN

No matter what I have to do, I'm getting my fucking money back.

NOAH

She told me that she hated me.

SEBASTIAN

Well make her like you then, get me something.

NOAH

I'll try.

SEBASTIAN

She knows more than she's saying.

NOAH

If you say so.

SEBASTIAN

I've always known when people are lying to me and she's full of shit.

NOAH

I'm just not so sure.

SEBASTIAN

I won't be able to bargain with damaged goods but if she doesn't start giving me something soon I'll start pulling her fucking teeth right out of her head.

NOAH

Maybe you should try a nicer way with her?

SEBASTIAN

Why, without a doubt I'm killing this bitch at the end of all of this anyway.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Sebastian and Noah drag Laura out of the back of the van, only to load her into the back of another.

Sebastian shoves Laura inside, moves around to the driver seat, while Noah gets into the back with her.

INT. THIRD VAN - DAY

Laura and Noah bounce around in the back as the van comes to a stop.

LAURA  
Don't touch me, stay away from me.

NOAH  
Fine, but I don't know where we're going either.

LAURA  
No?

NOAH  
So don't ask.

LAURA  
What kind of kidnapping is this?

NOAH  
Just sit still.

LAURA  
Aren't you going to take me to some kind of safe house.

NOAH  
Is that what you want?

LAURA  
I'm tired and hungry. And I don't care how it sounds but I want a shower.

The back door is ripped open, Sebastian signals for Laura to get out.

NOAH  
Come on.

LAURA  
No.

Sebastian pulls out his gun and takes aim.

SEBASTIAN  
You come out now or I'll shoot your kneecaps out and drag you.

EXT. LOTTIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Laura, with her hands shaking rings the door bell to a modest looking townhouse.

Laura has Noah with her, Sebastian watches on from the van, parked out front.

Lottie answers the door in her dressing gown, looks down at Laura, sad.

LOTTIE

Oh Laura, I'm so sorry.

LAURA

Hi.

LOTTIE

I've been so worried for you.

LAURA

So people know what's happened to me?

LOTTIE

Yes.

LAURA

Everyone's talking about me?

LOTTIE

Yeah.

LAURA

Do you know where he is?

LOTTIE

No.

LAURA

Does anybody?

LOTTIE

You shouldn't have brought them here.

LAURA

I'm sorry we fought with each other.

LOTTIE

I'm sorry about what's happened to you but I don't want to get involved.

Laura shows her that she's missing a tooth, inside her badly bruised mouth.

LAURA

Look at what they've done to me.

Lottie turns her attention onto Noah, gestures to Laura.

LOTTIE

I don't know where is he.

LAURA

He can't have just disappeared into thin air.

Lottie keeps her eyes locked on Noah, ignoring Laura.

LOTTIE

I don't even know her that well.

LAURA

What?

LOTTIE

I can't help her.

LAURA

So we were never friends were we?

LOTTIE

She's wasting your time bringing you here.

LAURA

Lottie!

Still Lottie ignores Laura.

LOTTIE

I had to be nice to her, my husband worked for hers. And that's it.

Lottie goes to close the door but Laura thrust out a hand stopping her.

LAURA

You're a god damn liar.

LOTTIE

Go away Laura.

LAURA

How can you say this.



LOTTIE  
Please.

LAURA  
What's wrong with you, help me!

LOTTIE  
(to Laura)  
I can't help you and I wouldn't  
even want to if I could.

LAURA  
Have you always hated me?

LOTTIE  
Don't drag me into this Laura.

LAURA  
I've got no one else.

LOTTIE  
This is your problem, not mine.

LAURA  
After everything I've done for  
you.

LOTTIE  
You and Ethan have both had this  
coming to you. Taking everyone's  
money so you could live better  
than everyone else. Well time's  
up. Give them what they want.

Lottie slams the door in her face.

Laura walks away.

A moment passes. Sebastian attacks and kicks the door in.

INT. LOTTIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Sebastian has a fist full of Lottie's hair as he drags her  
along the floor behind him. Lottie's screaming, kicking out  
her legs.

Sebastian throws Lottie down to the floor with a bang.

SEBASTIAN  
Where's Ethan?!

Sebastian kicks Lottie in the ribs, knocks the air out of  
her.

Lottie fights to get the air back into her lungs.

Lottie rolls over onto her back and looks up at Sebastian.  
She's a wreck, tears streaming down her face.

LOTTIE  
Please, how could I know?

SEBASTIAN  
Why won't you just help her? You  
tell me and she's free.

LOTTIE  
I don't even like that bitch.

SEBASTIAN  
You'll say anything, everyone  
lies to me.

LOTTIE  
Do whatever you want to her.

SEBASTIAN  
Yeah?

LOTTIE  
I don't care. Kill her.

SEBASTIAN  
Big words.

LOTTIE  
I don't know where he is.

SEBASTIAN  
Then why did she come here?

LOTTIE  
I don't know. I never liked her.

SEBASTIAN  
Liar.

LOTTIE  
No one does. If it wasn't for  
Ethan no one would ever even talk  
to her.

Sebastian pulls out his gun and takes aim.

Lottie holds her hands in front of her face, trying to  
protect herself.

Sebastian unloads, shooting her in the chest and face. He  
spits down at her.

SEBASTIAN  
No more lies.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - FLASHBACK

Ethan bare cheated and dressed only in a pair of long shorts sits up at the table, eating a basic looking microwaveable meal with a plastic fork.

JAMES, (30) and ALEX, (27) dressed in expensive clothes and each with a gold necklace on enter.

James heads for the fridge and removes a bottle of milk, gulps right from the bottle.

Alex sits down at the table with Ethan. Alex gives Ethan a roll of money, tied together with an elastic band.

ALEX  
You want to make this kind of money?

ETHAN  
Of course.

ALEX  
We can get you work if you want it.

Ethan nods, reaches out and takes the money roll.

INT. THIRD VAN - DAY

Laura is on the floor of another van. Smaller and dirtier than the others. Noah stands over her, it's a rocky bumpy ride.

Laura looks Noah up and down.

LAURA  
You dress like you're poor.

NOAH  
Is that supposed to hurt my feelings?

LAURA  
I'm just wondering why you're doing this?

NOAH  
Yeah?

LAURA

Why are you working for him, when it doesn't look like he pays you that well.

NOAH

Money is the only reason I do this and the only reason why I'm here right now.

LAURA

Kidnaping helpless women?

NOAH

This is a first for me.

LAURA

Yeah?

NOAH

I normally just drive.

LAURA

Serious?

NOAH

I've got two older brothers, they both work for him.

LAURA

They got your involved?

NOAH

Yeah.

LAURA

Why do you stay when you know what he is?

NOAH

He pays me well, I just don't waste it on clothes or shiny jewelry.

LAURA

How can you stomach it?

NOAH

Listen, all I have to do is turn up and keep my mouth shut.

LAURA

But he's evil.

NOAH  
So is your husband.

LAURA  
But I left him.

NOAH  
Still married him though.

LAURA  
Where are your brothers now?

NOAH  
They're both in prison.

LAURA  
Doesn't that scare you?

NOAH  
They're both going to be there  
for a very long time.

LAURA  
I bet you can't wait to join  
them?

CUT TO:

INT. THIRD VAN - DAY

Laura finishes off her food, ravished. Laura almost licks her plate clean, burps.

Noah with his arms crossed in front of his chest. Noah leans back against the wall, watching Laura on the other side of the van, he laughs.

LAURA  
Do you honestly have to watch me  
every second?

He nods.

NOAH  
Do you want some more, didn't  
think you'd like it that much.

Laura places the plate down in front of her.

LAURA  
I can't survive like this.

NOAH  
I'll get you more food.

LAURA

Don't expect me to be grateful.

NOAH

That's fine, you don't have to be.

LAURA

I won't be.

NOAH

I know if I was in your shoes, I wouldn't be too happy either.

LAURA

You must know, what you're doing here you're only going to end up like your brothers.

NOAH

And why do you care?

LAURA

Is that really what you want?

NOAH

Those two, they might be my big brothers but they were never smart, prison is a good place for them.

LAURA

That's messed up.

NOAH

It could be a lot worse.

LAURA

How?

NOAH

It's good that they're both alive.

LAURA

It's so sad though.

NOAH

It would be worse, I mean my parents are both gone.

LAURA

LAURA (CONT'D)

Yeah, mine too.

NOAH

I left school when I was thirteen and started living on my own when I was fourteen.

LAURA

I was still playing with dolls at that age.

NOAH

My brothers tried to help me out, but like I said neither of them are very smart.

LAURA

Wow.

NOAH

I find it easier to visit them in prison than I would do having to visit their graves.

LAURA

But don't you see?

NOAH

See what?

LAURA

It's going to be the same for you, prison or dead, they are your only choices.

NOAH

So what do you want from me, this is the only life I've ever known.

LAURA

It doesn't have to be.

NOAH

Am I proud of it no, but it could be a whole lot worse.

LAURA

You think?

NOAH

I'm not living on the streets, I don't beg and I don't owe a single thing to nobody.

LAURA

But look at what you're doing.

NOAH

I know where my money comes from  
and I know what I do to earn it.

LAURA

Haven't you ever hoped for more?

NOAH

You don't even know me.

LAURA

No, but I'm beginning too. You  
want people to think you're bad  
but you're not.

Noah walks over and takes the plate from Laura, they share  
a moment. A shared glance as they smile at each other.

INT. MESSAGE ROOM - DAY

Ethan lays face down on a masseuse table whilst two topless  
GIRLS massage his shoulders and legs

INT. THIRD VAN - DAY

Laura and Noah are on the floor, facing each other.

Noah reaches into his pocket and removes a candy bar. Noah  
takes off the wrapper, snaps it in half and shares it with  
Laura.

Both eating.

NOAH

I'm sorry if I scared you, when  
you first saw me.

LAURA

Well I'm not scared anymore.

NOAH

I should have taken the ski mask  
off and said something to you.

LAURA

Maybe.

NOAH

I'm not even sure why I didn't.  
Maybe I was scared too.



Laura's taken aback.

LAURA  
What?

NOAH  
You're my first.

LAURA  
I am?

NOAH  
It's my responsibility to look  
after you.

LAURA  
Is that what he told you?

NOAH  
I've never had to look after  
anyone before.

LAURA  
I like seeing this. A bit of the  
real you. It's nice.

NOAH  
OK.

LAURA  
I knew you weren't so bad.

NOAH  
You're a lot different to how I  
thought you'd be too.

LAURA  
Thanks.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

The back doors of the van open, Sebastian gestures for  
Laura to come out, Noah takes hold of both of her arms.

LAURA  
Not another change.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S CAR - DAY

Sebastian is on the backseat with Laura. Laura stares at  
the back of Noah's head, he's sitting up front with Albert.

The car pulls up and parks in front of a seemingly high end massage and muscle therapy clinic its frontage gives it the appearance of appearing professional.

Sebastian points it out to her.

SEBASTIAN

You know what this is don't you?

LAURA

You know I do.

SEBASTIAN

But say it, I want to hear you.

Laura shakes her head, defeated.

Sebastian reaches over and grabs her by the throat, he squeezes then releases choking Laura just for a moment.

LAURA

That hurts!

SEBASTIAN

Say it.

LAURA

It's prostitutes.

SEBASTIAN

Less than four hours ago your husband, forgetting his vows came here.

LAURA

Just stop.

SEBASTIAN

You know of this place, you know your husband.

LAURA

And?

SEBASTIAN

But you didn't tell me that he would come here?

LAURA

How the fuck would I be able to guess that?

SEBASTIAN

You didn't even try.

LAURA

Would you have believed me even  
if I did.

SEBASTIAN

But you didn't.

LAURA

I thought he would have left the  
country by now.

SEBASTIAN

Really?

LAURA

What is it that you want me to  
say?

SEBASTIAN

The truth.

LAURA

I told you I didn't know where he  
was and I was telling the truth.

SEBASTIAN

You need to start thinking a lot  
harder.

LAURA

I can't.

SEBASTIAN

You can pretend you don't know  
him, but I think you do.

LAURA

You think all kinds of things.

SEBASTIAN

You will find him for me, I do  
believe that.

Laura's crying.

LAURA

I was trying to leave him, but  
the next thing I know I'm here  
with you.

Noah glances over his shoulder.

NOAH

I know this is hard, but you need to think of what other places like this he visits, where he might be now, even if it's embarrassing.

LAURA

I don't know.

Sebastian puts an arm around Laura.

SEBASTIAN

We're getting closer, just keep asking yourself.

LAURA

Asking myself what?

SEBASTIAN

Where might he be now?

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Another party, but the same. Loud music, lots of people, drinking, smoking and taking drugs.

Laura, dressed in another tight black dress sits crossed legged, a glass of wine in hand.

Laura watches Ethan, who's sitting on the opposite end of the room, handing out small bags of drugs in exchange for money.

People crowd around him, the men shake his hand and the girls kiss him, some longer and more over the top than others.

They all hand over large amounts of cash.

Laura stands up and heads over to him.

LAURA

Enough Ethan, everyone is watching you.

Ethan flashes some of the money at Laura.

ETHAN

I'm working.

LAURA

Yeah and there's not a single person here who can't see it.

ETHAN

Why don't you go and get yourself another drink?

LAURA

Take a break Ethan.

ETHAN

What's the matter, what do you want?

Laura tries to push Ethan's hands down but he doesn't let her.

LAURA

Ethan, stop.

ETHAN

Go away Laura, you're putting me in a bad mood.

LAURA

I don't want this.

ETHAN

Go be boring some place else, please.

INT. THIRD VAN - DAY

Laura and Noah are again in the back of the van. Not moving, each with their back against a wall. On opposite ends facing each other.

LAURA

I can see it in your eyes.

NOAH

What's that?

LAURA

You want to ask me something, so just go ahead and ask it.

Noah laughs to himself.

NOAH

Well yeah there is.

LAURA

Go on then.

NOAH

How has someone like you gotten themselves mixed up in all of this?

LAURA

Someone like me?

NOAH

Why did you marry him, was it the money?

Laura laughs at him, frowns.

LAURA

What kind of question is that?

NOAH

It's a pretty normal one I think.

LAURA

Normal?

NOAH

Did you grow up poor?

LAURA

How long have you been thinking to ask me that?

NOAH

Since we first picked you up.

LAURA

Yeah?

NOAH

I've met Ethan, I've seen your house. I've seen your life.

LAURA

A spy?

NOAH

How did Ethan get someone like you.

LAURA

I don't know.

NOAH

How did he convince you to say I do?

LAURA

He asked me.

NOAH

It was that easy?

LAURA

I just wanted to be loved, and he promised me that he would do it.

NOAH

Not the money?

LAURA

I grew up dirt poor if you really have to know.

NOAH

I can't picture it.

LAURA

Try harder.

NOAH

I'm just not getting that vibe from you.

LAURA

Vibe? How old are you?

NOAH

I bet you're over exaggerating.

LAURA

Are you really sure you want to place that bet?

NOAH

I grew up really poor so I'll know if you're lying or not.

LAURA

Really?

NOAH

I know what it's like to go hungry, not having a place to sleep. I bet you don't.

LAURA

Is this a competition?

NOAH

Lets make it one.

Laura points at her mouth.

LAURA

I don't have a home and I'm  
missing a tooth, is that poor  
enough for you?

Noah smiles, amused.

NOAH

Well I had to bring food home  
from the school canteen and bring  
it home in my small sweaty  
pockets.

LAURA

Lucky you.

NOAH

Canned food was a luxury.

LAURA

That's because it is, I still eat  
spaghetti out of a can.

NOAH

Oh don't even joke about that I  
didn't even know there was such a  
thing as dried spaghetti.

LAURA

Me too.

NOAH

Spaghetti that you have to boil,  
I didn't know that was real  
thing.

LAURA

Well when I first saw dried  
spaghetti for the first time I  
thought they were just really  
long brittle toothpicks.

NOAH

No you did not.

LAURA

I did.

NOAH

That's being an idiot, not poor.

LAURA

Ran out of things to say?



NOAH

No.

LAURA

Looks like I'm winning.

NOAH

Winning what?

LAURA

The poor kid competition.

NOAH

You think so?

LAURA

I've got another hundred stories that I could tell you.

NOAH

Do you know how much money Sebastian thinks Ethan owes him?

LAURA

It's a lot. I know that much.

NOAH

I can't wrap my head around it, it's so much. It's fucking crazy.

LAURA

And if you can't get it back from him, if he doesn't have it to give back? What happens then?

NOAH

Honestly?

LAURA

Yes.

NOAH

I think he'll kill you.

LAURA

Really?

NOAH

He doesn't have a problem killing anyone.

LAURA

No?

NOAH

He enjoys it.

Laura breaks down, crying. Noah moves closer to her, puts an arm around her. Comforting.

NOAH (CONT'D)

It's going to be OK.

Laura lifts her head up, Noah smiles down at her. They lock eyes, an intense stare.

Noah leans in and kisses her gently on the lips.

Laura softly pushes him away but Noah goes in and kisses her again. This time, Laura doesn't push him away.

Between them the kissing grows more passionate, and their breathing, heavier.

Noah, moves down to Laura's neck, still kissing. Noah takes off his shirt, before taking off hers.

Noah guides her down to the floor and moves on top of her, still kissing, caressing each others bodies.

Laura and Noah move faster, the passion building. More and more of their clothes are removed. They have sex.

EXT. FARM - DREAM

Laura approaches a farm house surrounded by beautiful rolling green fields.

Laura pushes open a gate and heads towards the front door of the house.

Noah now appears next to her. Laura turns to face Noah and smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. FARM - DREAM

Laura walks away from the farm, glances over her shoulder. Her eyes blurry with tears.

Laura drops her head and continues to walk away, leaving the farm behind her.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - LAURA'S BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Ethan is dressed in a suit and tie. Laura wearing a towel with a second wrapped tightly around her soaking wet hair sits crossed-legged and arms folded on the edge of the bed.

LAURA

I'm not happy Ethan, this right now, I hate my life.

Ethan laughs at her, dismissive.

Ethan steps over to the wardrobe and pulls out some of Laura's clothes, throws them at her. They bounce off hers legs and drop to the floor.

ETHAN

Can't you do this later?

LAURA

Ethan!

ETHAN

I haven't got time for a tantrum now.

LAURA

This is real Ethan, don't push me.

ETHAN

And what if I did Laura, what if I pushed you?

LAURA

You shouldn't want to.

ETHAN

What are you going to do, hurt yourself?

LAURA

Is that what you want?

ETHAN

No, I know you. Just cut the shit and suck it up.

LAURA

Ethan, Fuck you.

Ethan heads over to the dresser he empty out a jewelry box, picks up a fist full of rings, earrings and necklaces, launches them at Laura, pelting her.

ETHAN

Put some on, this is what you  
want isn't, more of this shit?

INT. RETIREMENT HOME - OLIVER'S BEDROOM - FLASHBACK

Laura paces from the window to the bed where OLIVE, 86,  
long grey hair and in an oversized colorful night dress  
lays.

Laura looks around the tiny, stale room.

LAURA

Do you miss it Grandma?

Olive looks across at her, wide eyed and terrified.

OLIVE

I want the television on.

Laura turns to face Olive.

LAURA

Maybe you wouldn't be so bad if  
you were back at the farm?

OLIVE

I want to watch the news. Put the  
television on now.

LAURA

They don't let you have a  
television on in here.

OLIVE

Now.

LAURA

You don't have one.

OLIVE

Then what use are you?

Laura moves over and sits down on the edge of the bed.

LAURA

You're getting so much worse.

OLIVE

Laura.

LAURA

It makes me sick seeing you like  
this.

Laura reaches out a hand to touch Olive on the side of the face, Olive recoils back in fear.

OLIVE  
Don't touch me.

LAURA  
It's OK.

OLIVE  
Put the television on and get out  
of my house.

LAURA  
Do you even remember what the  
farm looks like anymore.

OLIVE  
Go on.

LAURA  
It's nothing like this.

OLIVE  
Go on, go away!

LAURA  
Grandma.

OLIVE  
Stop calling me that! I don't  
know who you are.

Laura lets the tears fall, rolling down her cheeks.

LAURA  
What a mess, is this going to  
happen to me one day too?

OLIVE  
GET OUT!

The door to the room opens behind them, KATIE, 27, short,  
long brown hair and dressed in a nurses uniform comes in.

KATIE  
Is everything OK, it's not good  
for anyone to get your Grandma so  
upset.

LAURA  
It's this place that's upsetting  
her.

Katie walks past Laura and places her hands onto Olive's shoulders, guiding her back down onto the bed.

KATIE

It's OK, try and get some sleep.

Olive lays back and closes her eyes.

LAURA

She's getting worse.

Katie comes over to Laura, takes her by the arm and gently guides her over to the door.

KATIE

She's very ill your grandma, I know how hard this is.

LAURA

You do?

KATIE

Believe me I've gone through something like this myself.

LAURA

Then I want her made better.

KATIE

You really need to be planning for the end.

LAURA

No.

KATIE

She's sick.

LAURA

I won't let her go. I want to take her back to the farm.

KATIE

You don't get to have a say.

LAURA

Yes I do, whilst I have money. I can keep looking after her.

KATIE

You can't take her back.

LAURA

That farm needs someone living there.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S SECOND CAR - DAY

Laura's in the back of another car with Sebastian. Albert's in the drivers seat with Noah sitting next to him. Outside a five star restaurant.

LAURA

We eat here a couple of times a week.

SEBASTIAN

Anything else?

LAURA

The food is always nice.

Sebastian taps Albert on the shoulder. Albert pulls a gun out of the glove box. Together they both exit and head inside the restaurant.

NOAH

(to Laura)

Just stay where you are.

Laura turns to Noah.

LAURA

They both have a gun?

NOAH

Ethan's in there.

Laura shakes her head, frustrated.

LAURA

He won't be in there.

NOAH

No?

LAURA

If he's dumb enough to go and see fucking prostitutes when he should be busy trying to get away I can't see him being so stupid as to come here as if nothing has happened.

NOAH

Maybe he doesn't think anything has happened?

LAURA

What, doesn't know that his own fucking wife has been kidnapped?

NOAH

Well you know him better than I do.

LAURA

And Sebastian knows him better than I do.

NOAH

Kidnapping usually brings family members closer together, but I guess not this time.

LAURA

He doesn't love me, he let me get taken.

NOAH

You think?

LAURA

He let this happen to me, he's not going to pay Sebastian anything, if he could, if he wanted to, he would have already.

NOAH

I don't know about that.

LAURA

He wanted you to find me, he wanted you to take me.

NOAH

Did he know you would leave him?

LAURA

Yes. Noah, I'm getting out of here.

NOAH

Don't say that to me.

LAURA

Ethan isn't going to give Sebastian what he wants.

NOAH

You don't know that yet.

LAURA

(Laura nods)

And you said it yourself if he doesn't get it he's going to kill me.



NOAH

Yes.

LAURA

I don't want to die. Not like this.

NOAH

I'm sorry.

LAURA

I'm not going to get rescued.

NOAH

No.

LAURA

I have to get myself out of this.

NOAH

Sounds perfect.

LAURA

I'm sick of being a prisoner, no more.

NOAH

Sebastian only wants his money back.

LAURA

He's not going to get it.

NOAH

When he finds Ethan he will.

LAURA

I don't want to die Noah. I've got to go.

NOAH

Let them find him then.

LAURA

He's not going to.

NOAH

No?

LAURA

Sebastian isn't smart enough to find him.

NOAH

How can you be so sure?

LAURA

Ethan has been stealing from him  
for years.

NOAH

For years?

LAURA

Ethan took what he wanted and now  
he's gone.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - ETHAN'S OFFICE - FLASHBACK

Sebastian, with both hands grabs Ethan at the neck and  
slams him against the wall behind him.

SEBASTIAN

Do you have any idea how  
replaceable you are?!

ETHAN

I wouldn't do anything to hurt  
you.

Sebastian tightens his grip, Ethan's face turns bright but  
he doesn't do anything to stop him.

SEBASTIAN

You're smart, yeah?  
(Ethan nods)  
Then why do I keep hearing  
things?

Sebastian releases his hold and Ethan gasps.

ETHAN

I don't know, I like what I do.

SEBASTIAN

Just add up the numbers, what  
could be simpler?

ETHAN

You right.

SEBASTIAN

You shouldn't be interesting  
yourself in anything else.

ETHAN

I haven't done anything, I swear.

SEBASTIAN

Around me, everyone is a liar.

ETHAN

I'm good at what I do.

SEBASTIAN

Let's keep it that way.

INT. FOURTH VAN - DAY

Sebastian has a hand gripped around the back of Laura's neck, he throws her into the back of another van.

Sebastian climbs in after her.

Noah goes to follow on but Sebastian pushes him back keeping him out, slamming the doors shut behind him.

Sebastian kicks out at Laura's legs.

SEBASTIAN

You were supposed to be my bait.

LAURA

Don't touch me like that.

SEBASTIAN

He was meant to come out looking for you, but instead he's been running around this whole city begging his old friends and partners for money.

LAURA

You've scared him.

SEBASTIAN

I've already put the word out, nobody is giving him shit.

Laura looks up at him as he towers over her.

LAURA

If I could help you, I would.

Sebastian kicks out at Laura's legs, hard.

SEBASTIAN

Don't you lie.

LAURA

You're insane.

SEBASTIAN

You've given me nothing, he hasn't come looking for you.

LAURA

I never said he would.

SEBASTIAN

He could get the word to me easy if he wanted to barter for your life but he's done nothing and you don't know where he is, you don't know anything.

LAURA

Because I don't.

SEBASTIAN

Then tell me, why do I still have you?

LAURA

Then let me go.

SEBASTIAN

Why don't I just cut your throat right now and leave you to rot right here.

LAURA

Why would he come out, look at you.

SEBASTIAN

Me?

LAURA

You said it yourself, he's running around begging for money, and he's not getting any because of you.

SEBASTIAN

He should fear me.

LAURA

And he's not going to come anywhere near you. You're not dumb, you must know that.

SEBASTIAN

Then why are you still here?

LAURA

I don't have a choice.

SEBASTIAN

What use are you to me?

LAURA

In here, I'm no use at all.

SEBASTIAN

Right.

LAURA

How does he even know that I'm still alive?

SEBASTIAN

He knows.

LAURA

How? I just keep going from one van to another.

SEBASTIAN

OK.

LAURA

I don't even know where I am.

SEBASTIAN

Good.

LAURA

Nobody has seen me since you first picked me up.

Sebastian moves away from her, opens up the vans doors.

Noah is still outside, peers in at them.

SEBASTIAN

This is what you want?

Laura looks out at Noah.

LAURA

Yes.

(back to Sebastian)

Otherwise I can't help you, and you'll never find him.

INT. FOURTH VAN - DAY

Noah and Laura, alone and back together. Laura's still on the floor, rubbing her leg where Sebastian had kicked her.

Noah stands over her with a camera taking pictures.

LAURA

Do you really have to do that  
right now?

NOAH

Well according to Sebastian this  
was your idea.

LAURA

Recently I've been doing nothing  
but dreaming of moving onto my  
grandma's farm.

NOAH

Then do it.

LAURA

She now lives in a nice  
retirement home, she doesn't even  
remember who I am anymore.

NOAH

That sucks.

LAURA

I stopped thinking for myself and  
I became obsessed with money and  
soon after that, what people  
thought of me.

NOAH

You lost who you were?

LAURA

I built up an image, looking back  
on it now I was just ugly.

NOAH

You're not ugly.

LAURA

I can't go back to that.

Noah takes one last picture of Laura. Noah turns the camera  
around and shows her the image on screen.

NOAH

So what do you think?

LAURA

I like it.

NOAH

You still want to get out of  
here?

Laura gets up and moves over to the doors. Laura pulls down on the handles.

Can't get it to open, it's locked from the outside Laura tugs down on the handles over and over whilst staring at Noah.

LAURA

I've been trying to get out of here from the beginning.

NOAH

I know.

LAURA

But I've either been locked in, or had someone watching me.

NOAH

Do you still think you can find him?

LAURA

I know I can.

Noah takes out his phone, gives it to Laura.

NOAH

Lets see you do it.

Laura beings dialing, but before she can finish, the back doors to the van open up and Sebastian climbs into the back with them.

Sebastian grabs the camera from Noah, throws it down to the floor, stamping on it and breaking it into pieces.

Sebastian comes over to Laura, she manages to hide the phone underneath her without Sebastian seeing it.

Sebastian slaps Laura hard across the face.

SEBASTIAN

Enough.

LAURA

Hey!

SEBASTIAN

He took from me that I'm never going to get back so I'm going to take from him what he's never going to get back.

Sebastian grabs at the back of Laura's neck and slams her head onto the floor of the van busting her nose.

Sebastian reaches into the back of his jeans and pulls out a gun. Sebastian points it at her.

LAURA  
Get off of me!

SEBASTIAN  
Shut up!

Noah eyes fill up with panic.

NOAH  
You don't have to hurt her.

SEBASTIAN  
Lets see if your dead body can  
flush him out.

Laura screams.

LAURA  
I can get your money.

NOAH  
Listen to her.

LAURA  
Kill me now and you'll get  
nothing.

NOAH  
Sebastian please.

LAURA  
Isn't your money what you want  
isn't it why you've gone through  
all of this?

SEBASTIAN  
You're lying.

LAURA  
No, we have shared bank accounts,  
hidden one, secret ones.

NOAH  
I believe her.

LAURA  
Ones only we know about. I can  
get access to them, I can get you  
something.



NOAH

She's right.

LAURA

Even if it's not everything, it's better than nothing.

SEBASTIAN

You're just saying what you think I want to hear.

NOAH

You've got to calm down.

SEBASTIAN

She just doesn't want to die.

LAURA

Of course I don't want to die, but I can get you money.

SEBASTIAN

I don't believe you.

LAURA

Fine then let me show you, what else have you got to lose?

Noah steps forwards, his voice shaking, scared.

NOAH

I really do believe her Sebastian.

SEBASTIAN

I don't remember asking you a god damn thing.

NOAH

I've spent the most time with her.

SEBASTIAN

Because I ordered it.

NOAH

I'm the one who's been watching her, speaking to her.

SEBASTIAN

And?

NOAH

She's telling the truth.

SEBASTIAN

She'll say anything, look at her.

NOAH

I have been.

SEBASTIAN

All she's done is lie.

NOAH

No.

LAURA

I can get you some money at least.

NOAH

Let her do it.

LAURA

It's out there, just waiting for you to take it.

SEBASTIAN

That's if Ethan hasn't already taken it out for himself.

LAURA

But if he hasn't, I can empty out every last penny myself, and you can have it all.

NOAH

That has to be better than killer her here.

LAURA

If Ethan's running around the city, like you said he is, that means he's too scared to touch it.

NOAH

You see, she knows what she's talking about.

LAURA

I'll get it and I'll give it to you.

NOAH

Sounds good to me.

LAURA

Otherwise we would have gone through all of this and got nothing at the end of it.

SEBASTIAN

So why are you only telling me about this now?

LAURA

Be honest.

SEBASTIAN

I always am honest.

LAURA

If you were me, and you were in my situation, would you own up to being able to give you anything.

SEBASTIAN

Yes.

LAURA

The first thing you did to me was kick me in the head.

SEBASTIAN

You should have just given me what I wanted.

LAURA

I hate you, but if it stops you from killing me I'll give you whatever I can.

Sebastian puts his gun away, he turns to Noah and laughs, excited.

SEBASTIAN

You see that, it's the one thing I've always loved about putting guns to someone's head, it always offers them such clarity, brings them to a beautifully sharp realization.

Noah helps Laura to sit up.

Laura still manages to keep Noah's phone hidden underneath her.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Sebastian gently guides Laura to another car, vehicle changed again.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S THIRD CAR - DAY

Sebastian sits in the back with Laura, with Noah in the front with Albert.

Noah keeps a close eye on them through the rear view mirror, staring, furious.

Sebastian puts an arm around Laura, she flinches.

LAURA

Can you please not touch me.

SEBASTIAN

Oh come on, are we not friends now?

LAURA

No.

SEBASTIAN

No matter, just don't let me down now.

Sebastian puts a hand under Laura's chin, inspects her damaged and hurt face more closely.

NOAH

(Sebastian)  
What is it?

SEBASTIAN

What?

NOAH

Why do you keep touching her face?

Sebastian ignores him.

SEBASTIAN

I can't have you walking around looking like this. But don't be stupid now, do what I say and you'll get to walk away from all of this.

LAURA

That's all I want.

INT. CORNER STORE - DAY

Noah and Laura stand side by side each perusing a vast array of different makeup and beauty products.

NOAH  
Is any of what you told him for real?

LAURA  
Which part?

NOAH  
Well is there any money?

LAURA  
Yeah but, it's just savings.

NOAH  
Not much.

LAURA  
Well, more than your average married couple I guess.

NOAH  
You think it could be enough, to make Sebastian happy?

LAURA  
I doubt it, but I had to say something, didn't I?

Laura glances over her shoulder and looks at the exit behind them.

NOAH  
I guess so.

LAURA  
You told me once, if I tried to run you would have to kill me.

NOAH  
I remember.

LAURA  
What if I tried to run now?

NOAH  
Don't.

LAURA  
What would you do?

NOAH

I would have to let you go.

LAURA

Really?

NOAH

But Sebastian would kill me for it, and he would find you soon afterwards.

LAURA

So not a great plan, is what you're telling me?

Laura and Noah share a moment between each other, and a smile.

NOAH

No, not really.

LAURA

I don't suppose you've got a better one?

NOAH

No, but I wish I did.

Laura comes back to the makeup, grabs lots of different items and gives some of them for Noah to carry.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S THIRD CAR - DAY

Laura's on the backseat, she applies the makeup but only has a small circular hand held mirror to see herself in.

Hard to see what's she's doing, covering up her cuts and bruises.

The car pulls up outside of a bank.

LAURA

I'm not ready yet.

SEBASTIAN

Go on.

Noah turns around and looks back at them.

NOAH

(To Sebastian)

Do you want me to go in with her?

SEBASTIAN

No.

NOAH

Are you sure?

SEBASTIAN

You're fine where you are.

NOAH

I don't mind.

SEBASTIAN

I'll tell you if I want you to do something.

NOAH

That's fine by me.

Laura strikes a model style pose for Noah.

LAURA

How do I look?

NOAH

Great, if only I still had my camera.

Noah and Laura share a glance and a smile.

Sebastian opens her door for her and shoves her out.

SEBASTIAN

Come on this was your idea remember.

LAURA

I know.

SEBASTIAN

So quit wasting time.

CUT TO:

INT. SEBASTIAN'S THIRD CAR - DAY

Laura walks away from another bank, climbs back into the car Laura pulls out no more than a couple hundred dollars, gives it to Sebastian.

Sebastian takes it and adds it to a small bundle of cash already in his hand.

LAURA  
Better than nothing.

SEBASTIAN  
Are you sure about that?

LAURA  
It's more than you had an hour ago.

SEBASTIAN  
This is it this is what you want me to spare your life for?

LAURA  
Yes.

SEBASTIAN  
You don't think very much of yourself do you?

LAURA  
I was so sure that he had more, what a fraud. We're both such frauds.

Sebastian kicks the back of Noah's chair.

NOAH  
Lets go.

The car pulls off.

Sebastian reaches down by his feet, brings up the gag and puts it around Laura's mouth.

Laura's breathes heavy, emotional, she stares hard at the back of Noah's head with tears rolling down her face.

Noah doesn't flinch, her eyes don't blink.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Sebastian stays inside the car, parked up on the river bank.

Laura is still gaged with her wrists tied together, she's being lead down to the water by Noah.

Noah leads Laura out of view of the car, behind some trees.

CUT TO:



EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Noah quickly untied Laura's hands, removes the gag.

NOAH  
You've still got it haven't you?

LAURA  
Yeah.

NOAH  
You didn't really think I'd throw  
you in the river did you?

Laura reaches into her pocket and pulls out Noah's phone.

LAURA  
I thought it was over, why are  
you helping me.

NOAH  
You said you saw something in me,  
that I wasn't like the others I  
want you to be right.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S THIRD CAR - DAY

Sebastian is looking down towards the river.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Noah has a tight hold onto the back of Laura's arm. Noah continues to pull Laura out of view and away from the car.

Laura has Noah's phone in her hand and is dialing a number in quickly. It rings.

With a shaking hand Laura holds it to her hear, her mouth is already dry.

The ringing stops, the phone answered.

LAURA  
Guess who.

ETHAN  
(O.S)  
Wow.

LAURA  
Where are you?

Ethan lets out a gentle laugh on the other end.

ETHAN

(O.S)

I've been waiting for this, I  
just knew you were still alive.

LAURA

Yeah?

ETHAN

(O.S)

You're much more of a fighter  
than you would ever give yourself  
credit for.

LAURA

You need to come to me right now.

ETHAN

(O.S)

I can't. I'm dead if I do, we  
both know that much.

LAURA

I've been gone for days now, are  
you not even going to ask how I  
am?

ETHAN

(O.S)

You were leaving me weren't you?

LAURA

Have you not thought about me,  
even once?

ETHAN

(O.S)

I've been pretty busy myself.

LAURA

Oh yeah?

ETHAN

(O.S)

Staying alive when so many people  
want you dead isn't easy.

LAURA

Is that all you've got to say to  
me?

ETHAN

(O.S)

I cried for you.

LAURA

When?

ETHAN

(O.S)

When you first left, because I  
knew I would never see you again.

LAURA

I'm not going to be alive for  
much longer if you don't come and  
get me.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Stop it, you know I can't.

LAURA

Jesus Christ Ethan, you caused  
all of this, do I mean nothing to  
you.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Be honest, you saw this coming?

LAURA

So that's it?

ETHAN

(O.S)

You know as much as I do that I  
can't pay.

LAURA

Can't you even try?

ETHAN

(O.S)

If it was for my own life I  
couldn't pay it.

LAURA

You're poor?

ETHAN

(O.S)

The money has gone. It doesn't  
exist anymore. I'm sorry Laura.

LAURA

So fuck me right?

ETHAN

(O.S)

We had some good times didn't we?

LAURA

You're scum.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Maybe, but I'm still alive and  
I'm going to keep it that way.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S THIRD CAR - DAY

Sebastian checks his watch, he reaches over and takes the keys out of the engine turning it off.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Noah glances nervously over his shoulder.

Laura paces up and down along the water, still on Noah's phone.

LAURA

Where are you going to go?

ETHAN

(O.S)

Does it really matter if I tell  
you.

LAURA

Yes.

ETHAN

(O.S)

The lesson here is Laura, never  
count on anyone.

Laura looks across at Noah and smiles.

LAURA

You're wrong about that.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Doubt it.

LAURA

There's still good people in the  
world, you're just not one of  
them.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Don't act like a victim in all of this, you loved the life I gave you, and you knew where all of that money came from.

LAURA

I'm that person anymore.

ETHAN

(O.S)

No?

LAURA

I've changed, but you never will. You're a coward.

ETHAN

(O.S)

You're the one who married me.

LAURA

I see you for what you really are now.

ETHAN

(O.S)

You never thought, just a dumb pretty face.

LAURA

Really?

ETHAN

(O.S)

Despite all the things that were going on, you never paid any attention.

Noah hurries across to Laura, Noah grabs her Laura the arm, whispers in her ear.

NOAH

Just stay here alright, don't move.

LAURA

Where are you going?

NOAH

I'll be back. Trust me.

Laura lowers the phone from her ear and watches as Noah jogs purposely away.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Noah climbs up a steep part of the bank, keeps himself low down to the grass.

Noah sees the car in the near distance, sees Sebastian inside.

Noah watches Sebastian for a moment before creeping back down the bank.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Laura's still on Noah's phone, Laura watches as Noah once again returns to her, hisses in her ear.

NOAH

You've got to find out where he is and you've got to do it now.

LAURA

Tell me where you are?

ETHAN

(O.S)

It's not happening.

LAURA

Not even for old times sake?

ETHAN

(O.S)

They haven't killed you yet so just keep doing what you're doing and maybe you'll surprise me and end up surviving this just yet.

The sound of a trains horn is heard faintly whilst Ethan has been talking.

Laura's eyes narrow she heard it too.

LAURA

You've lied to me so much, so how about a little bit of truth.

ETHAN

(O.S)

What do you want to know?

Noah keeps glancing back behind him over towards where the car is beyond the trees.

Noah comes back to Laura.

NOAH

If you can't find him now we're both fucked.

LAURA

Wait.

NOAH

If you really don't want to die find out where he is now.

Laura pushes Noah back, a hand into his chest. Laura waves Noah off, dismissive.

Ethan clears his throat.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Are you still there?

LAURA

You're still smoking aren't you?

ETHAN

(O.S)

Really?

LAURA

You promised to quit but you're still doing it, stressed?

ETHAN

(O.S)

Yeah, you'd be right about that.

LAURA

It's obvious.

ETHAN

(O.S)

Who wouldn't be stressed.

LAURA

Go on now, I want to hear you do it.

ETHAN  
(O.S)  
Why?

LAURA  
I knew you'd never quit.

ETHAN  
It's hard.

LAURA  
I just want one last I told you  
so.

We can hear Ethan now rummage through his pockets. Ethan sparks up a lighter and opens up a window and begins smoking.

The trains horn sounds out again for a second time and with the window now open Laura can hear it much more clearly through the phone. Laura checks the time.

Laura turns to Noah, holds out his phone for him to take.

LAURA (CONT'D)  
I know where he is.

NOAH  
You do?

Laura takes Noah by the hand and they both break off into a sprint.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Laura and Noah are out of breath, sprinting hand in hand, running along the river bank, keeping themselves low and trying to stay out of sight.

Sebastian comes stumbling down the grass in front of them, hurrying over towards the water, seeing Sebastian Noah and Laura come to a stop.

Sebastian comes to a stop in front of them. Sebastian pulls out his gun.

Sebastian takes aim at Noah.

Laura puts up her hands, surrendering.

Sebastian squares up to Noah.



SEBASTIAN  
What the fuck Noah?

NOAH  
I'm sorry. I can't kill her.

SEBASTIAN  
You kill her now, or that's the  
end of you.

NOAH  
I can't.

Sebastian turns his gun around, spins it in his hand offers  
it handle first to Noah.

NOAH (CONT'D)  
No.

SEBASTIAN  
Do it, or die.

NOAH  
You could just let us go.

SEBASTIAN  
Shoot this bitch.

NOAH  
Never.

Noah snatches the gun from Sebastian. With his left hand  
Noah takes a hold of Laura's.

Noah backs away from Sebastian.

SEBASTIAN  
Stop. Stay.

Noah shakes his head.

LAURA  
(To Sebastian)  
I know where he is.

SEBASTIAN  
Shut up.

LAURA  
There's an apartment he uses.

SEBASTIAN  
I said enough.

LAURA

You'd get no sleep there, nothing  
but trains.

SEBASTIAN

Trains?

LAURA

You know what I'm talking about  
don't you?

Sebastian's eyes get big.

Sebastian throws himself at Noah, tackles him to the  
ground. Sebastian sits on top of him, punches him in the  
face and knocks the gun out of Noah's hand.

Sebastian goes to pick it up but before he can Laura kicks  
the gun away from them and into the river.

LAURA (CONT'D)

You'll be the one who lets Ethan  
go if you do nothing now!

Sebastian looks down at Noah and punches him again, several  
hard blows to his face and head, splitting his lips and  
breaking his nose.

Noah is half unconscious, beaten into a daze.

Laura attacks Sebastian, tries to wrestle him off from  
Noah.

Sebastian wraps his hands around Noah's throat and begins  
to squeeze the life out of him.

Laura screams, using all her strength she's able to pull  
Sebastian off from Noah.

Sebastian gets up, glances down at Noah. Cut up, bruised  
and barely breathing. Sebastian turns to Laura.

SEBASTIAN

You'll never be safe in this  
city.

INT. FOURTH VAN - FRONT SEATS - DAY

As the sun begins to go down Noah, his face a swollen mess  
drives along the wide open highway nothing in front of them  
and the city behind.

Laura opens her mouth to say something but thinks better of it. She shuffles herself closer to him and rests her head against Noah's shoulder.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Ethan sits at the open window smoking. Sebastian slowly approaches him a knife in his right hand.

Ethan looks over at him, tears rolling down his face he can't help but laugh.

Ethan continues to smoke, Sebastian continues to move over towards him. He holds the knife up high, ready to attack.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Laura and Noah holding hands walk away from the parked car and head towards a farm house as the sun sets behind them.

**FADE TO BLACK**

**THE END**