

STORAGE

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FADE IN:

EXT. BUSY CITY - DAY

We see tall buildings and skyscrapers with the sun reflecting off of them. Sidewalks are crowded with a sea of PEOPLE who push by each other while talking or looking at their cell phones.

Cars sit in traffic jams honking their horns.

INT. BUSY OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

We see rows and rows of cubicles with OFFICE WORKERS standing and sitting down. Other office workers talk loudly over one another while on their office phones.

We see office workers walking through the alley between the cubicles with stacks of paper in their hands, almost bumping into other office workers who are not paying attention.

INT. BUSY OFFICE - NOEL'S CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

NOEL is a tall, skinny male with a faded haircut and high hairline in his mid-40s. He sits in his cubicle, trying to ignore the madness.

Noel perspires heavily.

Noel with his eyes closed bouncing his leg underneath his desk while he hums. He takes deep breaths in and out.

The office workers look like blurs moving quickly past Noel's desk.

KNOCK KNOCK

The knock startles Noel. He sits up, grasping his chest, trying to catch his breath.

NOEL

Damn it!

Standing over the top of his cubicle is Noel's boss ERIC, a mid-20s tall, athletic male with jet-black hair and a strong jawline.

ERIC

Hey buddy... You, okay?

Noel, sweaty with his hair a mess, frantically shakes his head yes at Eric.

Eric leans against Noel's cubicle with a look of concern.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Are you sure? You know we can't
have another episode like last
time.

INT. BUSY OFFICE - NOEL'S CUBICLE - DAY (FLASHBACK - SIX
MONTHS EARLIER)

Noel stands on the desk with his shirt sloppily untucked and
half a bottle of whiskey in his hand. He yells at other CO-
WORKERS.

NOEL

We're all just a bunch of rats!
None of this matters... Don't you
get it!? From the moment you're
born, you begin to die! If we
walked away right now, this whole
system would fail!

Noel sees JESSICA, a tall attractive blond who records Noel
with her phone. Noel points at Jessica.

NOEL (CONT'D)

And Jessica...

Jessica becomes nervous.

NOEL (CONT'D)

You never called... And that hurt.

JESSICA

You were so drunk you peed in my
bed after sex...

The co-workers laugh while they record Noel on their cell
phones.

NOEL

Ah! Yes... That makes sense.
Anyway!

Eric comes rushing in. He tries to get Noel down from the top
of his desk. Noel pushes Eric's hand away.

NOEL (CONT'D)

No... Stop. Let me finish.

INT. BUSY OFFICE - NOEL'S CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

Noel, with a tight-lipped smile, nods his head at Eric.

NOEL

I do... I do remember that.

ERIC

Too bad Jessica left... Huh? She was something nice to look at, am I right!? HAHA... Alright, I'm out. Let me know if you need anything.

Eric points and winks at Noel. He turns and walks away from Noel's cubicle. Noel watches Eric walk away.

Noel reaches for the bottom drawer of his desk and opens it. He sees a bottle of whiskey hiding underneath a stack of papers. Noel pulls the bottle of whiskey out of the bottom drawer and opens it. He turns the bottle upwards and begins to chug it.

All the noise in the office stops, and all the office workers stop what they're doing. The office workers stare at Noel while he drinks.

Noel, mid-chug, hears the room growing quiet. Noel slowly lowers the bottle and looks around the office. He spins around in his chair. Noel sees everyone in the office staring at him. Through the crowd, Noel sees Eric stomping toward him.

EXT. SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Noel holds a small box of office supplies on the sidewalk. Noel looks the building up and down. Noel looks around and sees a trashcan. He walks over to the trashcan and places the box on it.

Noel lights a cigarette as he walks away from the trash can.

INT. DIVE BAR - CONTINUOUS

A dimly lit bar sits nearly empty, with a thick smokey haze hanging in the air. Four BARFLIES sit at the bar with half-empty glasses. The BARTENDER, a big rough biker-looking guy wipes the bar down and combines half-empty bottles.

The door opens, and a blast of light irrupts into the bar. The barflies sitting at the bar guard their eyes against the brightness. Noel steps through the door, smoking a cigarette. The door closes behind him.

The bar returns to a dark, dim cellar.

INT. BAR - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Noel approaches the bar and takes a seat on a barstool. Noel motions toward the bartender. The bartender sees Noel motion for a drink. He walks over to Noel.

BARTENDER

What can I get for ya?

NOEL

Whiskey, please.

BARTENDER

You wanna start a tab?

The bartender pours Noel a shot. Noel drinks the shot of whiskey while nodding his head yes. Noel places the empty shot glass on the bar.

NOEL

Yes, please. Another.

The bartender pours Noel a shot. Noel takes the shot. He raises his glass. The barflies ignore Noel. Noel drinks his shot of whiskey.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar is now a little busier with more patrons. The bar is filled with the low hum of people talking and music.

INT. BAR - KARAOKE STAGE - CONTINUOUS

Noel stands on stage, holding a microphone in one hand and beer in the other. Noel's shirt is entirely untucked while he sings with all his heart "Total of the Eclipse of the Heart by Bonnie Tyler."

NOEL

Once upon a time, I was falling in
love, but now I'm only falling
apart!

INT. BAR - POOL TABLE - CONTINUOUS

A GROUP OF PEOPLE stand around the pool table. Noel breaks a rack of balls on the pool table.

Two solids go into side and corner pockets. Noel is confident, strutting with his chest poked out but wobbly.

NOEL

Uh-oh... He's on fire.

A big TOUGH GUY twice as big as Noel stands on the other end of the pool table, gripping his pool stick in anger.

TOUGH GUY

Will you just shut up and shoot?

Noel leans over the pool table with his stick on his thumb. He readies for the next shot.

NOEL

You mean... Like this?

Noel softly hits the cue ball. The cue ball backspins as it barely kisses the nine ball. The nine ball hangs on the edge of the pocket. The cue ball spins in place as the nine ball drops in.

The tough guy becomes furious and grabs the stack of money on the pool table's corner.

TOUGH GUY

Fuck that! You're not gonna hustle me!

Noel stands up. He raises the pool stick like a bat.

NOEL

Drop the money, you nut-less bull before I crack your head open like a watermelon!

The tough guy walks around the pool table toward Noel.

TOUGH GUY

What the fuck did you say to me?

Noel grips the pool stick tightly.

NOEL

I didn't stutter! You shouldn't have taken the beat if you can't handle losing!

The tough guy and Noel charge toward each other, but before they can clash, people watching jump in between them to break it up. The bartender gets in the middle of the tough guy and Noel.

BARTENDER

Break it up! You both can leave if
you don't stop!

Noel relaxes and takes a step back. He lowers the pool stick.

The tough guy walks backward with his hands raised and throws money on the pool table. Noel watches the tough guy walk away and throw half the money on the pool table.

The crowd dissipates away from the pool table. The bartender and Noel are now face to face. The bartender puts his index finger in Noel's chest.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)

One more time and you're gone.
Also, I'm gonna need you to pay on
your tab--

NOEL

--Yeah, I got ya.

INT. BAR - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The bar was nearly empty, with only a few barflies hanging around. Noel sits at the bar, depressed, staring into nothingness, quiet, deep in thought. A couple of empty glasses sit around him while a cigarette burns out between his finger. Noel feels the burn of the cigarette. Noel puts out the cigarette and shakes off the sting.

The bartender walks over to him.

BARTENDER

Hey, man... Time to settle up.

Noel raises his hands in surrender. He reaches for his wallet and pulls it out. Noel opens the wallet. He pulls out a couple of twenties. Next, Noel pulls out a credit card. He hands it to the bartender.

The bartender takes the credit card and walks to the opposite end of the bar. He swipes the credit card. Noel slowly stands up from the barstool; he walks toward the door. Noel reaches for the door and begins to exit.

The bartender gets a rejected alert on the credit card machine. The bartender turns around to see Noel is no longer sitting on the barstool. The bartender sees Noel trying to leave.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)

Hey! Get him!

The tough guy grabs Noel on the back of the collar before Noel can take off. Then, the tough guy jerks Noel back inside the bar. Again, Noel is yanked back into the bar.

The tough guy holds Noel by the back of the collar. Then, finally, the tough guy pushes Noel through the bar.

EXT. BACK ALLEY OF BAR - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Noel is shoved against a brick wall. He hits the back of his head on the brick wall. Noel grabs the back of his head. He looks up and sees the tough guy and two other LARGE MEN.

Noel takes a big swing at the tough guy but misses.

The tough guy sees Noel's punch coming and steps to the side. The tough guy delivers an uppercut to Noel's solar plexus.

Noel gasp for air and drops to the ground. The three men beat and stomp Noel.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LECTURE HALL - DAY

On a bright sunny day at an ivy league college with lush green hedges and perfectly cut grass, students hurriedly walk in between classes.

We see a set of double doors.

Brianna, a naturally beautiful average-height female in her early 20s with long brown hair and no makeup, walks through the double doors. She moves in a hurry carrying books in a weighed-down backpack with a water bottle attached to it.

Brianna walks in between people. She feels her cell phone in her back pocket ringing. Brianna pulls out her cell phone. She sees her MOM's name; she answers it.

BRIANNA

Hey, Mom.

MOM (O.C.)

Hello, Bri, my love. How's school?

Brianna continues to walk around and in between people while she talks to her mom.

BRIANNA

It's good. Heading to the library.

MOM (O.C.)

That's good, sweetie. Remember to
take your afternoon meds,
sweetheart.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

With the cell phone to her ear, Brianna approaches the
library doors. She opens the door and walks in.

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks through the halls of the library on her cell
phone.

BRIANNA

Yes, Mother. I'm taking them now.
(said in a whisper)

MOM (O.C.)

Good, and you are sleeping okay?

BRIANNA

Mom, yes, okay. Now, I gotta go...
Love you.
(said in a whisper)

Brianna hangs up the phone. She places it back into her back
pocket. Next, Brianna takes one of her backpack straps off
her shoulder and swings it around; She unzips the front of
her backpack.

Brianna pulls out a bottle of pills, opens the bottle, and
takes two pills. Next, Brianna takes a drink from her water
bottle... Finally, Brianna puts a peppermint in her mouth and
walks into the library.

Brianna walks up to an empty table and places her backpack in
a chair next to her. Brianna sits in the chair next to her
bag. She pulls out a textbook from her pack.

While Brianna reads a textbook, the color leaves her face as
she becomes pale and clammy while getting hot flashes. She
fans herself in an attempt to cool herself down.

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - BRIANNA'S POV - CONTINUOUS

We see other students in the library sitting at tables
reading, swaying back and forth, leaving traces, and the room
is spinning.

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

With beads of sweat on her forehead Brianna tries to gain her composure by controlling her breathing. She takes slow concentrated breaths.

A MALE STUDENT walks up to Brianna.

MALE STUDENT

You okay?

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - BRIANNA'S POV - CONTINUOUS

We see the male student, but he's out of focus while swaying back and forth.

INT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Brianna slowly stands up from the table. She stumbles but catches herself. Brianna takes a couple steps away from the table and collapses.

Everyone rushes to Brianna's aid.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - DAY

Noel lies in a hospital bed wearing an oxygen mask, I.V.s, and heart monitors. Noel slowly opens his eyes. He looks around the hospital room. Noel sees a white curtain and the machines he's hooked up to. Noel removes the oxygen mask.

Noel's face is swollen and bruised, with a patch over his eye and stitches in his lip. He softly touches his face. Noel feels his face. A tear falls from Noel's uncovered eye.

The curtain separating Noel's hospital bed and the patient beside him abruptly opens, revealing his ex-wife LAURA, a tall blond in her early 40s wearing a business suit with heels. Brianna lies in a hospital bed behind Laura.

Noel is surprised by the sudden abruptness of the curtain opening.

NOEL

AH! What the hell... Laura, Bri...
What are y'all doing here?

LAURA

Noel? My god... Your face.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Brianna lays in her bed, angry, with her arms crossed.

BRIANNA
Don't call me Bri.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel nervously waves at Brianna.

NOEL
Hey, sweetie... How's school?

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Brianna rolls over and lies on her side.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel lowers his chin. He fights back the tears. Laura now stands beside Noel's bed; she lifts Noel's chin up with her index finger. Laura looks at Noel's face, and her eyes fill with tears. Laura wipes her eyes.

LAURA
How long are you going to keep
doing this?

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Brianna lies on her side in anger. She listens to her mom console Noel. Finally, Brianna rolls over on her back. She looks up at the ceiling.

BRIANNA
Well, let's see... He's been doing
it my whole life, so I'll say
forever!

LAURA
Bri, don't talk to your father that
way.

Brianna mocks Laura.

BRIANNA
He's not my father. You know...
Maybe, if you weren't so soft on
him, maybe he would get help...
(MORE)

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
Why would he stop if he can
continue to get away with it!?

Laura turns around to face Brianna. Brianna sees the anger and hurt on her mom's face. She sinks into the bed where she sulks.

LAURA
Young lady, you have no place to
talk... You carry a water bottle
full of vodka... Not taking your
pills or taking too many!

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel tries to look around Laura. He struggles to see Brianna in her hospital bed.

NOEL
That's how it starts love.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Laura and Brianna look at Noel with bewilderment.

LAURA
Shut up!

BRIANNA
Shut up!

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel raises his hand in surrender. He lowers his hands.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Laura looks back at Brianna in anger. Brianna looks away from Laura.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Laura now standing between the two beds looking at Brianna and Noel. Brianna looks away as she avoids eye contact with both of her parents. Noel avoids eye contact as well nervously fidgets with his fingers.

LAURA
Both of you look at me now.

Brianna and Noel look at Laura.

LAURA (CONT'D)
You're both going to rehab. I can't
lose any more sleep wondering if my
daughter and best friend, are dead.

Brianna and Noel look at each other with concern. They both
look at Laura.

NOEL
No.

BRIANNA
No.

Laura takes a deep breath.

LAURA
You two are selfish assholes.

NOEL
I've been fine for months. I can
get back on track. I did it once. I
can do it again--

BRIANNA
--And I can stop any time I want.

LAURA
Outstanding... You both sound
ridiculous.

Laura turns away from Brianna and Noel's bed. She walks away
from their beds. Noel and Brianna watch Laura walk away.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel looks over at Brianna. He smiles at Brianna.

NOEL
I think we upset her a little
bit...

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - BRIANNA'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Brianna rolls away from Noel and faces the opposite
direction.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NOEL'S BED - CONTINUOUS

Noel sees Brianna turn away from him. He presses the bed button on his side rail. The bed slowly lowers while Noel stares up at the ceiling.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY

In a therapist's office painted robin egg blue with bookcases lining the walls stocked with medical books. A big window overlooks the city.

Noel is wears a pair of black framed sunglasses sitting in a big comfy chair in front of his therapist JUNE; a mid-50s free spirit with long dark brown hair and bracelets covering her wrist.

The sunglasses helps cover up the damage left on Noel's face. Only a few bruises and a healing busted lip remain. June stares at Noel's face. Noel and June sit in silence while June studies Noel's face.

JUNE

So... Why the glasses?

Noel taps the outside glass.

NOEL

A little bit of damage to the eye.

June nods her head slowly.

JUNE

So... I've gotta ask. Do you feel like hurting yourself or anyone else?

Noel chuckles nervously. Noel leans forward while placing his elbows on his knees. He fidgets a bit.

NOEL

Umm... The blow to the head might have caused an issue.

Noel lowers his head while choking back tears.

JUNE

You still need to answer my question, Noel...

Noel raises his head up to look at June. He pauses while he thinks of an answer.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Look, Noel... I can see you thinking of the answer I want to hear... I worry about you, Noel; I don't want you to have another episode like last time.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT(FLASHBACK - SIX MONTHS EARLIER)

Noel is restrained to the hospital bed as he fight off three large male NURSES who tried to sedate him. Noel rocks violently back and forth, crying from the hospital bed.

Two nurses hold Noel down while the third draws a liquid from a vial with a syringe. Noel thrashes around, screaming at the top of his lungs.

NOEL

JUST LET ME DIE!!! PLEASE!! STOP!!

The third nurse plunges the syringe into Noel's IV bag.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Noel is crying as he thinks of the last incident. He wipes his eyes. Noel regains his composure, fixes his shirt, and dries his face.

NOEL

Yeah... No, I don't want that either. But I don't know what to do anymore. You know? I feel like I've tried it all, the pills, the therapy... Sobriety. And, for some reason, I end up back in the same place.

June leans forward in her chair.

JUNE

Noel?

Noel laughs off the question.

NOEL

No, no... Not today.

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

Brianna sits on her bed with her laptop open. She looks at treatment centers and addiction specialists.

Brianna closes her laptop in frustration. She lays back on her bed... Finally, Brianna sets up and looks at her closet. Brianna gets up off her bed. She walks over to the closet and opens the doors.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - BRIANNA'S BEDROOM CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

The door of the closet opens. Brianna walks into her closet and turns on the light. Brianna walks to the back of her closet. She stands on her tippy toes and reaches for the top of the closet. At the top of the closet, Brianna's hand feels and searches around. Finally, her hands slip under a stack of folded clothes.

Brianna pulls out a bottle of liquor from the top of the closet. She holds the bottle in her hands, staring at it. Brianna slowly places one of her hands on the top of the bottle. She begins to turn the top of the bottle but stops halfway.

Brianna reaches for the top of the closet again. She pulls down a bottle of Xanax. Brianna holds the liquor bottle in one hand and the bottle of Xanax in the other.

Brianna stares at them both. She turns around and leaves the closet with the liquor and pill bottles in hand.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - BRIANNA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks out of the closet with both bottles in hand.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks into the bathroom and lifts the toilet seat. She opens the liquor bottle, pours it down the toilet, and places the empty bottle in the trash. Brianna takes the top off of the Xanax bottle and pours it down the toilet. She flushes the toilet.

Brianna places the bottles into the trashcan and walks out of the bathroom.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks out of the bathroom. She sees Laura standing outside of the bathroom, waiting for Brianna. Brianna stops and looks at Laura.

Laura looks at Brianna with tears in her eyes.

Brianna and Laura hug.

INT. NOEL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

We see a studio apartment with a mattress on the floor, and a love seat against the wall a laptop sits on a small kitchen table. The table sits in the middle of a half kitchen half dining room.

Noel, sits at the kitchen table smoking a cigarette in front of a half-empty liquor bottle, and a laptop. He googles the most accessible, least painful way to die on his computer.

Noel scrolls through countless YouTube videos and news articles about suicide. He clicks on a few videos. The video doesn't play.

YouTube has taken down the videos.

Noel continues to scroll through Google. A pop-up Ad pops up. Noel tries to exit the video but hits play. Noel tries to stop the Ad.

VIDEO AD (V.O.)
Tired of feeling tired or like
there's no hope?

Noel stops and watches the Ad.

CUT TO:

The Ad on the laptop. The Ad shows a HAPPY COUPLE watching their KIDS running around, smiling, and playing in the park while a SAD WOMAN sits on a park bench watching.

A SAD MAN frowning and unhappy sits at the end of a dining table surrounded by his FAMILY, who carry on lively conversations. The sad man and woman stand in the middle of a busy sidewalk with PEOPLE speeding by them in a blur as they standstill.

VIDEO AD (V.O.)
Well, now there's a place to help
put an end to your woes.

The sun sets behind a building to reveal a clinic. The sad man and woman see the building appear. The two smile at each other. They walk hand in hand towards the building.

CUT TO:

Noel watching the Ad.

VIDEO AD (V.O.)

At the final spot, located in Washington state. We offer a variety of different ways to help end your suffering. For more information, please call 1-855-555-5600.

Noel slowly closes the laptop. He reaches over and grabs the bottle of liquor. Noel pours himself a drink.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

Below the bottom of the stairs Laura with her purse in hand. She stands in the foyer.

LAURA

Bri, let's go!

BRIANNA

I'm right here; calm down. The grocery store isn't going anywhere.

Brianna walks down the stairs and stands next to Laura in the foyer.

I/E. LAURA'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Laura opens the front door. Laura and Brianna see Noel standing at the front door, ready to knock. Brianna becomes instantly frustrated when she sees Noel. Noel stands on the opposite side of the door, prepared to knock.

LAURA

Noel?--

BRIANNA

-- What do you want?

Noel drops his hand. He smiles a nervous smile.

NOEL

Nice to see you, too, Bri.

Brianna rolls her eyes and huffs.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Can I come in?

Laura opens the door all the.

BRIANNA

NO!--

LAURA

--Yes.

Brianna is shocked. She looks at Laura with her mouth a gape. Brianna turns away from the front door and walks back up the stairs.

Noel walks through the front door. Laura closes the front door behind Noel.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Laura walks over to the bottom of the stairs with Noel standing behind her.

LAURA

Stop right there, young lady.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - TOP OF THE STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Before Brianna can get to her room, she stops and turns around. Brianna takes a deep breath and walks back down the stairs.

INT. LAURA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The living room has fancy décor, leather couches, and a big flat screen hanging on the wall. Laura and Brianna sit on the leather couch. Brianna sits in the corner of the sofa shut off with her arms crossed, looking in the opposite direction of Noel. Laura watches Noel pace back and forth.

Noel stands in front of Laura and Brianna, pacing back and forth and rubbing his hand together. He stops pacing. Noel faces Laura and Brianna.

NOEL

So... There's a treatment center in Washington state that specializes in experimental treats like micro-dosing and so on--

LAURA

-- Washington state, why there?

MARTY, the mid-50s below average height male with salt and pepper hair wearing tennis shorts and a polo, walks past the living room. He stops when he sees everyone sitting around and talking. Marty looks at Noel.

MARTY
Hey Noel. Surprised to see you
here.

Noel smiles sarcastically at Marty.

NOEL
Nice to see you too, Marty.

Marty smiles back at Noel.

MARTY
Babe. I'll be back soon. Love you.
Love you, Bri.

Marty walks towards the front door. He exits the house.

LAURA
Love you.

BRIANNA
Love you, Dad!

Noel looks at Brianna. Brianna looks at Noel.

Noel starts pacing again.

NOEL
Anyways... If there's one thing
I've learned from the five rehabs
is that you have to remove yourself
from your environment... Also, it'd
be a good opportunity for me and
Bri to work on our relationship.

Brianna is surprised. She quickly sits up.

BRIANNA
Absolutely not!

Laura places her hand on Brianna's knee.

LAURA
Now hold Bri, that's not a bad
idea.

Brianna looks at Laura with shock and confusion. She stands up from the couch.

BRIANNA

That's not a bad idea? Do you
remember why I stopped going with
him on the weekends?

CUT TO:

EXT. LAURA'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY(FLASHBACK)

A beat-up 1992 Ford sits in front of Laura's house. The car
pulls away, revealing a 6yr old Brianna standing in the
driveway holding a red balloon.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAYGROUND - SWING SET - DAY(FLASHBACK)

A 8yr old Brianna slowly swings on a swing set during a
bright sunny day on a playground filled with kids running and
playing. She watches a younger Noel sitting on a park bench,
crying.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - PARK BENCH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sits on a park bench, sobbing and crying into his lap.
He looks up and sees Brianna watching from across the park on
the swing set. Noel tries to dry his eyes. He forces a smile
and waves at Brianna.

CUT TO:

INT. NOEL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT(FLASHBACK)

12yr old Brianna sits with her backpack on. She sits on the
loveseat in Noel's apartment. Brianna holds a red balloon.
She sees Noel seated at the small kitchen table smoking a
cigarette and drinking vodka.

INT. NOEL'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN TABLE - CONTINUOUS

Noel sits at a small kitchen table smoking a cigarette and
drinking vodka while Brianna sits behind him on the loveseat.

CUT TO:

INT. BRIANNA MOMS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Brianna stands in front of Noel and Laura. Laura sits on the couch. Noel sits in a recliner.

BRIANNA

I'm not going with him. I can do it cold turkey in my room.

NOEL

It hardly ever works. You're ten times more likely to use it again.

BRIANNA

Yeah, well, I'm not you. And I didn't ask you.

Brianna exits the living room.

The sound of footsteps going up the stairs echoes through the house. Laura and Noel sit, listening to Brianna storm off.

NOEL

God. When did she get so mean?

LAURA

What did you expect, Noel? I understand you battle with the addiction and the constant depression, but to her, you're just a dad who wasn't there. And, now, you want to take her on a road trip?

Noel shrugs.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Her issue makes it hard for her to understand.

NOEL

Yeah, I get that. Just talk to her for me... Please. This would be really good for us.

LAURA

I'll do my best, but I make no promises.

EXT. BRIANNA MOMS HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Brianna and Laura stand beside each other. They watch Noel place their luggage into his car.

BRIANNA

I can't believe you're gonna make me go with him.

LAURA

It won't be that bad, Bri... He's your father; he loves you.

BRIANNA

Don't remind me.

LAURA

Look, I'm sending you my card, and you call me soon as things get out of hand...

Noel struggles to close the trunk. Brianna and Laura watch Noel fight with the trunk. Noel finally manages to shut the trunk.

The trunk pops open as Noel walks away.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Actually, on second thought, just call me every night.

Noel walk over to Brianna and Laura. Noel rubs his hands together in excitement.

NOEL

Are we ready, kids!?

Brianna turns away from Noel. She burrows herself into Laura's arms. Laura wraps her arms around Brianna and gives her a hug.

NOEL (CONT'D)

I'll give you two a second.

Noel turns away from Brianna and Laura. He walks over to his car. He closes the trunk. The trunk latches. Noel leans against the side of the vehicle. He watches Brianna and Laura say their goodbyes.

Laura pulls away from Brianna. She looks at Brianna. Brianna looks up at Laura with teary eyes.

LAURA

You'll be fine. This will be good for you.

BRIANNA

Famous last words.

Brianna walks over to Noel's car. Noel opens the passenger side car door for Brianna. Brianna gets in the car.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

I can get my own door, thank you.

Brianna closes the passenger side car door. Noel turns to Laura and waves goodbye. Laura waves back at Noel.

LAURA

Good luck.

NOEL

Let the healing begin!

Noel walks around to the driver's side. He opens the driver-side door and gets inside.

EXT. BRIANNA MOMS HOUSE DRIVEWAY - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel closes the driver's side door. Brianna stares out the passenger side window at Laura. Noel starts the car. He places the car in drive.

The car pulls away.

Brianna watches the house till it's no longer visible.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel sits behind the wheel with sunglasses on driving the car. He looks over at Brianna sitting in the passenger seat.

Brianna looks out the passenger window watching everything pass her by.

NOEL

I'm glad you came. It really means a lot to me.

Brianna continues to look out her window.

BRIANNA

I didn't do it for you. I just don't want to be like you.

Noel forces a smile while he continues to drive.

NOEL

Well, this is gonna be fun.

EXT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel dances and sings along to the radio while he drives.

Brianna continues to ignore Noel while she looks out her window. Noel gives a playful poke into Brianna's shoulders while he's dancing.

Brianna gives Noel a dirty look. She looks back out her window.

NOEL
Are you hungry?

Noel's car pulls off the interstate.

INT. WAFFLE HOUSE - NIGHT

Music from the jukebox drowns out the mummings of whispers from the customers scattered throughout the waffle house.

Noel and Brianna sit in a booth by a window that looks out at Noel's car.

Brianna with her phone lying on the table in front of her next to a tall chocolate milkshake with whip cream and a cherry on top. Brianna scrolls on her phone while the milkshake melts.

Noel smokes a cigarette with a cup of coffee. He sits across from Brianna. He watches her scroll through her phone.

NOEL
Are you going to drink that?

BRIANNA
I didn't order it.

NOEL
What... I thought you loved
chocolate milkshakes.

BRIANNA
Not since I was a kid. Plus, I'm
lactose intolerant.

NOEL
What, when? Well, if you don't want
it, I'll take it.

Noel slides the milkshake towards him and takes a big drink. Brianna watches Noel take a big gulp of the milkshake.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Delicious. "I drink your milkshake!
I drank it up! If I had a straw, it
would go all the way across the
table... into your milkshake, and
drink it up! I drank your
milkshake!"

Brianna looks at Noel with confusion and embarrassment. She looks around the waffle house to see if other people are watching.

Noel laughs at his own joke. He looks around the waffle house. Noel's laughter slowly subsides.

NOEL (CONT'D)

There will be blood... It's one of
Paul Thomas Anderson's finest, no
one?

Brianna looks back down at her phone. Noel looks out the window.

A WAITRESS approaches their table while carrying two plates of food. The waitress places one plate with egg whites, wheat toast, and turkey bacon in front of Brianna. The waitress places the second plate loaded with bacon, sunny-up eggs, and hash browns smothered and covered in front of Noel.

Brianna sees Noel's plate. She gags at the sight of it. Noel sees Brianna's plate of food.

NOEL (CONT'D)

You may have just ordered the
healthiest waffle house meal known
to man. I didn't even realize they
had turkey bacon.

BRIANNA

Between the food and drugs, I find
it hard to believe you're still
alive.

Noel talks with a mouth full of food.

NOEL

That makes two of us.

Brianna picks up her fork. She stops before it touches her plate. A sudden rush of anxiety comes over Brianna.

Everything Brianna hears becomes intense and louder. We hear the music from the jukebox, forks dragging against the dishes, the mummer of people talking, and the cooks cooking in the kitchen all at once.

Brianna becomes sweaty and shaky as she hyperventilates. Brianna drops her fork. She covers her ears with her hands.

Noel looks up from his plate. He sees Brianna with her head down and covering her ears.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Bri?

Brianna keeps her head down. She continues to keep her head down but shakes her head no.

NOEL (CONT'D)

What is it, Bri? Talk to me.

BRIANNA

Just shut up!!

Brianna slams her hands on the table.

Everyone in the restaurant stares at Brianna.

Brianna is red-faced with tears on her cheeks. She stands up from the booth and rushes out of the restaurant.

Noel watches Brianna rush out of the restaurant. He watches Brianna through the window. Noel sees Brianna get into his car. Noel continues to sit and eat his food.

EXT. WAFFLE HOUSE - NOEL'S CAR - NIGHT

Noel approaches his car and gets in. He shuts the door behind him.

Brianna lays down in the passenger seat with a blanket over her head. Noel sits beside Brianna in the driver's seat. Noel lays the driver's seat back. He lies next to Brianna... He stares up at the ceiling of the car.

Brianna and Noel sit in silence.

NOEL

You okay?

BRIANNA

Yeah.

NOEL

I remember... You were about five or so when You had your first episode. It scared me half to death. I held you for hours.

Brianna slowly pulls the blanket down off of her head off of her right eye. She sees Noel talking while he looks up at the car's roof.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Your mom thought I was trying to spoil you, because the episodes became more frequent. She thought you were doing it for attention.

Brianna pulls the blanket back over her head.

BRIANNA

Can we please go to the hotel?

Noel looks over at Brianna. He sees Brianna with the blanket over her head. Noel places his seat upright and buckles his seatbelt. He starts the car.

INT. HOTEL - NOEL'S ROOM - NIGHT

In a plain-looking hotel room sit two small beds in front of a small flat screen on a small dresser and a sink with a fridge in the corner of the room.

Noel stands in front of one of the small beds with his suitcase on top of it. Noel unzips his suitcase. He lays the top of the suitcase on the bed.

Noel pulls out a bottle of liquor. He opens the bottle and takes a drink; he chugs it. Noel swallows. He pulls the bottle away from his lips and closes it. Noel places the bottle down.

Noel pulls out a bottle of pills. He opens the bottle of pills, pours one into his hand, and tosses it in his mouth. He chases the pill with liquor.

INT. HOTEL - BRIANNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Brianna lies on one of the small beds talking on the phone with Laura.

BRIANNA

Hey, Mom.

INT. BRIANNA MOMS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Laura sits on the couch in her living talking to Brianna.

LAURA

Hello, love. How's it going?

INTERCUT BRIANNA AND LAURA TALKING ON THE PHONE.

BRIANNA

It's going. We just got to the hotel.

LAURA

That's nice. How's your room?

BRIANNA

We're living off his budget, so you can imagine how nice it is.

LAURA

Oh. Well, I'm sure he's doing his best.

BRIANNA

Yeah. He hasn't been too bad. His music could be better... I haven't even seen him drink.

LAURA

That's good. Maybe he's taking this seriously for once.

STAY WITH BRIANNA

BRIANNA

Maybe.

INT. HOTEL - NOEL'S ROOM - DAY

Brianna stands over Noel's bed.

Noel lies sideways on his stomach in the bed with his head hanging halfway off. An empty bottle of liquor lay on the floor next to the bed.

Brianna pushes and shakes the bed. She does it again and again. Noel doesn't budge or move a muscle.

BRIANNA

Hey! Wake Up!

Brianna jumps up and down on the bed.

Noel bounces up and down on the bed but continues to sleep.

Brianna sits on the other bed staring at the wall while Noel sleeps.

Noel's eyes begin to slowly open. He sees Brianna sitting on the other bed. Noel rolls over on his back. He lies on his back, looking at the ceiling.

Brianna sees Noel waking up.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Hope you're nice and rested... Can we go now?

Noel sits up and sits on the edge of the bed. He stands up from the bed and walks over to his suitcase.

Noel picks up the suitcase. He places it on the bed and opens it. Noel pulls out another bottle of liquor. He opens it and begins to drink.

Brianna watches Noel chug a bottle of booze.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

So. I'm driving?

Noel wipes the dribble from his chin and looks over at Brianna.

NOEL

Correct.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel's car moves through the backroads of Arkansa.

Brianna is behind the wheel.

Noel lies across the backseat propped up against the car door with a liquor bottle tucked between him and the seat.

Brianna sees Noel in the rearview mirror, unsure if Noel's awake or not. She looks at the road and back into the rearview mirror.

NOEL

I'm awake. Keep your eyes on the road.

BRIANNA

What am I supposed to say if we get pulled over?

NOEL

Don't get pulled over. Easy as that.

Brianna nods her head.

BRIANNA

Is this why you brought me. So I can be your driver?

NOEL

Can we not right now?

BRIANNA

You're right. We'll just wait till your sober to talk.

NOEL

God, you sound like your mother.

BRIANNA

Better than sounding like you. It surprises me my mom put up with you this long.

NOEL

Your mom is no saint, my dear.

Noel takes his sunglasses off and stares at Brianna through the rearview mirror.

BRIANNA

Okay, well, we're done talking about my mom--

NOEL

-- She abandoned me in my biggest time of need. Moving another man into my home!--

BRIANNA

--I said, shut up!

The car swerves into a gas station diner parking lot. Noel is thrown around the backseat. He slams against the back of the front seat.

Brianna slams on the brakes. She places the car in park and unbuckles her seat belt.

EXT. GAS STATION DINER PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

The driver-side door opens up, and out flies Brianna. She slams the car door. Brianna walks around the back of the car.

Noel stumbles out of the vehicle.

NOEL

Hey!

Brianna walks away from the car but stops immediately. She doesn't turn around.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Who do you think was with me... Who do you think wanted the party to continue? And then left me in the hole she dug.

Noel steps closer to Brianna.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Now get in the car so we can go.

Brianna turns around.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Please. And thank you.

Brianna walks towards Noel. She stops in front of Noel.

Noel sees Brianna standing in front of him.

Brianna punches Noel in the nose. Noel's head whips back as he grabs his nose in pain. He slowly drops down to his knees in front of Brianna, holding his nose with his head tilted back.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Fuck! Damn it, Bri! Fuck that hurt!

Brianna stands over top of Noel, looking down at him.

BRIANNA

I told you... Stop talking about my mom. She stopped... She got help. You can't keep using the same old bullshit.

Brianna turns away from Noel. She walks away. Brianna walks into a gas station diner.

Noel watches Brianna enter the gas station diner. He struggles to stand to his feet.

NOEL
Son of bitch, that hurt. Nice
punch. That's a girl!

INT. GAS STATION DINER - CONTINUOUS

Noel enters the gas station diner with a tissue shoved in his nose. He sees Brianna sitting at the countertop watching the COOK while she swivels back and forth in a swivel counter stool.

Brianna watches the cook work while she swivels back and forth.

Noel moves through the gas station diner towards the countertop. He sits next to Brianna.

NOEL
I deserved that.

BRIANNA
Maybe.

NOEL
Where'd you learn how to punch like
that?

BRIANNA
Marty. He got tired of me coming
home crying. So he got me lessons.

NOEL
Surprise your mom allowed that. She
was always against violence.

A WAITRESS approaches Noel from behind the counter.

WAITRESS
What can I get for ya?

Noel picks up the menu and reads over it. He puts it down and looks up at the waitress.

NOEL
Coffee, please.

The waitress turns and walks away.

NOEL (CONT'D)
Sorry, for what I said. My tongue
gets a bit loose when I'm drinking.

BRIANNA

That's no excuse. But, thank you
for apologizing.

Noel sits and waits for Brianna to apologize.

The waitress drops off a cup of coffee and a milkshake in
front of Brianna and Noel. She turns and walks away.

Noel still waits.

Brianna takes a drink of her milkshake.

NOEL

Are you, Gonna--

BRIANNA

--No.

NOEL

Gotcha.

Noel takes a sip of his coffee.

EXT. GAS STATION DINER PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR

Brianna and Noel exit the diner. They walk towards Noel's
car.

Noel approaches the trunk of his car and opens it. He reaches
into the trunk of his car and opens his suitcase. We see it
in Noel's suitcase. We see alcohol, a bag of weed, a small
white bag of coke, and bottles of pills.

Brianna walks behind Noel. She looks into the trunk and sees
Noel rummaging around in his suitcase. She sees the
collection of drugs and alcohol.

Brianna stops.

BRIANNA

What the actual fuck, you've had me
driving a street pharmacy across
the states line this whole time!?

Noel takes his hands out of his suitcase. He turns and faces
Brianna.

NOEL

You don't understand. The D.T.s are
enough to kill me.

BRIANNA

Then how are you going to survive
detox? You can't get clean strung
out.

NOEL

They've got medicine.

BRIANNA

You are ridiculous.

Brianna bumps Noel away from the trunk with the side of her
hip.

Noel stumbles away from the trunk of the car.

Brianna grabs Noel's suitcase and yanks it from the trunk.
She walks towards the main highway with Noel's suitcase in
hand.

Noel follows behind Brianna at a briskly pace.

NOEL

Bri! Honey, where are you going
with that!?

Brianna ignores Noel. She winds up with the suitcase and
chucks onto the main highway.

Before the suitcase can hit the ground, a semi-truck runs
through the suitcase. The semi-truck never slows down or
stops.

The suitcase explodes on impact. Liquor bottles, clothes,
powder, pills, and weed explode fly in all different
directions.

Noel stops dead in his tracks as he watches his suitcase
explode.

Brianna turns around and walks back to the car. She walks
past Noel.

NOEL (CONT'D)

My medicine was in there.

Brianna stops and looks back at Noel.

BRIANNA

Drugs aren't medicine.

Brianna opens the driver-side door.

Noel turns around. He sees Brianna holding the driver's side door open.

NOEL

No. My actual medicine. If I don't have that, I'll lose my mind and possibly have a psychotic break.

Brianna looks at Noel.

INT. PHARMACY - DAY

Noel and Brianna sit in a pharmacy waiting room underneath a clock that ticks loudly above them.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - NIGHT

Brianna drives along the back roads with the sun setting ahead of her.

Noel is stretched out across the backseat, smoking a cigarette. He pulls out a pill bottle and opens it; he pours two pills into his hand. Noel tosses the pills into his mouth and follows it up with a drink of water.

Noel crosses his arms and goes to sleep.

EXT. WALMART PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR - DAY

Brianna opens the rear passenger door. Noel falls backward out of the rear passenger door... He catches himself with the seatbelt. Noel, still half asleep, pulls himself back up into the car. He steps out of the car and begins to stretch.

Brianna walks away from Noel and the car. She heads towards Walmart. Noel follows behind her.

INT. WALMART - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Noel walks through the men's clothes, grabbing shirts and underwear. Brianna walks behind him.

Noel uses a self-checkout. Brianna stands behind Noel with her arms crossed.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel with both hands on the wheel while he drives the back roads.

Brianna lays down in the back seat asleep.

Noel looks in the rearview mirror. He sees Brianna asleep in the backseat. Noel reaches into a small pocket above the pocket of his pants.

Noel pulls out a small ball of white powder tied tight.

EXT. GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR - DAY (FLASHBACK - A FEW HOURS EARLIER)

We see Noel's right hand cupping a small ball of white powder in a baggie tied tight on the trunk frame. Noel quickly puts the small baggie in his pocket as Brianna storms towards the road with his bag.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel opens the small baggie while he handles the steering wheel with his knees. He dips his pinky into the baggie and pulls out a little on his fingernail. Noel snorts the white powder. Noel ties the bag up and puts it back in his pocket. He continues to drive.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - NIGHT

Brianna sleeps in the back seat. Her eyes begin to flutter as she opens them. Finally, Brianna sits up in the back seat, stretching her arms out.

Noel drives with his eyes wide open. He looks like he hasn't blinked in hours.

BRIANNA

How long have you been driving?

Noel is surprised by Brianna being awake. He jumps and the car slightly swerves. Noel regains control of the vehicle. He blinks and catches his breath.

Brianna leans forward in between the front seats.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

You are okay... Do you want me to drive?

Noel nods his head yes with a grin.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Brianna drives the car while Noel sleeps in the backseat.

Noel is curled up in the backseat sleeping. Then, finally, his eyes begin to open. Noel sits up in the back seat and stretches.

Noel looks out the backseat window of the car. He sees flat fields for miles with the sun shining bright. Noel looks at Brianna's phone's GPS sitting on the dashboard. He squints his eyes to see it better.

NOEL

Where are we?

Brianna looks in the rearview mirror. She sees Noel waking up from his sleep.

BRIANNA

Morning sleepy head. Umm, somewhere in Nebraska. I think. I've been following the GPS so I might have zoned out a few mile back.

NOEL

How long was I out?

BRIANNA

About twelve hours.

NOEL

Twelve? Holy crap. Well, find me a gas station and let me grab a cup of coffee. I'll drive for a while.

Noel's car turns off the road into a gas station. The car parks next to a gas pump.

INT. GAS STATION - DAY

Noel stirs his coffee as he walks through the gas station observing the snack aisle.

Brianna exits a bathroom door with the toilet flushing behind her as the door shuts.

Brianna walks over and stands beside Noel in the snack aisle.

Noel grabs a couple bags of chips.

Brianna sees the drink cooler and walks over to the drinks. She opens the cooler and grabs water.

The STORE CLERK is a young 19yr old kid. They sit behind the counter, oblivious to the store, swiping on their phone.

Noel and Brianna approach the counter. They wait patiently while watching the store clerk scroll through their phone.

The store clerk blows a bubble with their bubble gum. The bubble pops, and the clerk smacks and chews his gum.

Noel does a fake cough to get the store clerk's attention.

NOEL

cough

The store clerk looks up from their phone. The store clerk see Brianna and Noel waiting on the other side of the counter.

Noel gives a slight wave. Brianna stares at the clerk.

The store clerk slowly stands up from their chair. The store clerk begins scanning Noel and Brianna's items while looking at them with a blank expression.

EXT. GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Noel walk away from the store towards the car carrying their bought items.

NOEL

Scary to think that's our future.

BRIANNA

Please. Any generation is better than your generation, it gave us debt and climate change.

Brianna and Noel arrive at the car.

Noel opens the driver-side door.

NOEL

Touché.

Noel and Brianna get into the car.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel sits in the driver's seat, driving.

Brianna sits in the rear passenger seat, reading a book. She closes the book and watches the passing trees.

BRIANNA

Why drive, why not fly us there?

Noel looks in the rearview mirror and sees Brianna still looking out the window. He looks back at the road. Noel shrugs.

NOEL

I have always wanted to travel cross-country. I've always loved Hunter S. Thompson, he made the idea seem so romantic. The way he would describe it. Driving across America chasing the dying American dream with a suitcase full of drugs. I thought what the hell lets go out with one last bang.

BRIANNA

Before rehab, do you know how hard the withdraws are going to be? You'll be lucky to survive those alone.

NOEL

It'll be challenging. But, I'm glad we're doing this. I've definitely enjoyed the time we've shared so far. It's been very peaceful.

Noel and Brianna both chuckle.

BRIANNA

Silence helps me clear my head. Sorry for not saying much. It's been different being sober.

Noel looks in the rearview mirror and sees Brianna. He looks back at the road.

NOEL

It can be.

BRIANNA

How many times have is this for you?

Noel winces at the question.

NOEL

Well, tried and succeeded are two different things. I've tried numerous times but I've only succeeded three or four times.

(MORE)

NOEL (CONT'D)

Till I relapse. Rehabs? This one will be my fifth one. And, last one. Hopefully. Just promise me you'll never do meth.

Brianna sits up in the back seat, surprised by Noel's admission.

BRIANNA

Meth!?!... No. No, I'm good on that. That explains a lot actually.

NOEL

Yeah. Not my finest moment. It takes a creative brain like ours and feeds off it. It makes you feel like your king, like you could do anything, create anything. But it lies. Instead, it dissolves that creative part of your brain and leaves you riddled with whatever issues you had before you got on it. With no functioning coping mechanism.

Brianna leans on the back of the front seat with her arms underneath her chin. She listens to Noel.

BRIANNA

Why don't you ever call or see me?

Silence fills the car.

Noel ponders the question and drives the vehicle.

Brianna sees Noel thinking the question over silently. Brianna sits back. She places her feet on the seat and lays across the backseat. Brianna looks out the opposite rear window.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Whatever. You don't have to answer. I just thought we were having a moment. My bad.--

NOEL

-- I'm a coward... Okay? You scare me to death. All I've done is fail you. So, I stay away. That's why I took this opportunity, now finally have something in common.

BRIANNA

Being addicts, that's what you
wanna bond over?

NOEL

I mean, no. I guess I've never
really thought about it. It's just
how your grandfather was with me.
The only time we talked is when
we'd drink. Other times, he'd lie
in bed crying.

BRIANNA

Oh, so, a family history? Nice.

NOEL

Something like that. Your grandpa
could be a mean son of bitch. I
liked him better when he was
crying.

Brianna looks at Noel.

Noel and Brianna ride in silence.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - NIGHT

Brianna sits in the front seat, driving. Noel sleeps in the
back seat.

Brianna sees a sign for a hotel five miles ahead. Noel's car
pulls into the parking lot.

EXT. HOTEL - NOEL'S CAR - NIGHT

Brianna exits the hotel lobby office. She walks up to the car
and knocks on the rear window.

Noel lifts his head from the backseat and sees Brianna
motioning him out of the vehicle.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Noel sleeps on top of the covers in one bed with his clothes
on.

In the other bed, Brianna sleeps with covers pulled over her
head. The clock sitting on the nightstand between the two
beds reads *11:23AM*.

Noel's snoring echoes through the room.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The clock on the nightstand reads *2:43PM*.

Noel and Brianna are still asleep in their beds in different positions.

Noel's eyes begin slowly open as he stretches and yawns. He sits up on the bed and looks around the room. Noel looks at the clock sitting on the nightstand between the two beds. He sees *2:43PM*.

NOEL

Bri. Wake up.

Brianna throws the covers off of her. She sits up with her hair covering her face.

BRIANNA

What?

NOEL

We slept eighteen hours.

BRIANNA

Oh. I thought it was something terrible.

Brianna lays back down and pulls the cover back over her head. Noel watches Brianna pull the covers over her head.

NOEL

I'll call the facilities and have them change our intake... I'll tell them we ran into car trouble.

Brianna puts her hand through the top of the covers and gives Noel a thumbs up. She pulls her hand back through the top of the covers.

Noel grabs his phone off of the nightstand. He stands up and exits the room.

EXT. RESTRUANT - NIGHT

Noel and Brianna sit in a booth with a window.

INT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Brianna laughs at Noel as he reenacts a baseball hitting him in the eyes.

NOEL

I turn around, and all of a sudden,
smash! Baseball right to the eye.

BRIANNA

Did Uncle Garrett get in trouble?

NOEL

Naw. It was an accident. But, I was
a little bit meaner to him for a
couple weeks, put him in a couple
more sharpshooters.

BRIANNA

I don't know what that is. But, it
sounds awful.

NOEL

Just the move of one the greatest
wrestling moves of all time.

BRIANNA

Yeah, that does nothing to help me.

NOEL

Bret Heart?

BRIANNA

Okay.

NOEL

That is the best there is. That was
the best there was. Best there ever
will be.

BRIANNA

He thinks very highly of himself.

NOEL

He did. But, he wasn't lying.

The WAITER approaches the table and drops off the check. The
waiter walks away.

Noel grabs the bill. He looks the tab over and looks up.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Get a drink with me.

Brianna was surprised by the question. She begins to ponder
over the thought of drinking with Noel.

BRIANNA

No. I'm not getting drunk with you. We're not drinking buddies. I wanna get sober. I don't want to do this for the rest of my life.--

NOEL

--And you will get sober. Just not tonight. Come on. I missed having a drink with you on your twenty-first birthday, and who knows, you might like drinking with me.

Brianna tried to ignore the question.

With his hands clasped, Noel begs Brianna to drink with him.

Brianna looks at Noel.

BRIANNA

Fine. Just one.

Noel claps with excitement. He motions for the waiter.

INT. RESTRUANT - NIGHT

Brianna and Noel sit at the table, laughing and taking drinks in between stories. They both sit with three or four drinks in front of them.

NOEL

See. I knew, I'd like you to do more when you were drinking.

BRIANNA

Hey!

NOEL

Come on. You know you can be a bit much.

Brianna nods her head in agreement.

BRIANNA

Yeah. I try. It's just hard sometimes. Not being able to filter out what you should or shouldn't say, it just comes out. Drinking slows everything down... Makes it manageable.

Noel looks remorseful of his statement while wiping the condensation off of his beer.

NOEL

My bad. Sometimes a joke sounds
funnier in my head.

BRIANNA

Don't go soft on me now, old timer.

NOEL

Oh. So, you're an ageist now? I see
how it is. I guess I'll blame
everyone for not getting my way and
not working a real job while living
with my parents forever. Boohoo!

Noel uses both of his hands to mimic crying. He takes a drink
of his beer.

Brianna mocks Noel with a "yeah, okay" smirk.

BRIANNA

Back in my day, we didn't discuss
feelings over beer and worked at
age five while walking uphill to
work. Barefooted. Both ways.
Boom... ER

Noel almost spits out his beer from laughter. He covers his
nose.

Brianna mimics an old person drinking a beer.

INT. MOTEL 6 - DAY

The sun shines through the blinds onto Noel as he sleeps.

Brianna sleeps in the other bed next to Noel.

The clock on the nightstand in between the beds begins to
sound an alarm. Noel rolls over. He reaches for the clock and
turns it off.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel props his head up with his hand while he drives. He
wears dark sunglasses. In the back seat, Brianna sleeps with
black sunglasses curled up with her jacket pulled over her.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - NIGHT

Brianna sits in the driver's seat, driving. Noel sleeps in
the backseat of the car.

INT. DAYS INN - NIGHT

Noel unpacks his travel bag on his bed. Brianna lays down on the other bed. She closes her eyes.

BRIANNA
How much longer?

NOEL
Not long, maybe another eighteen hours.

BRIANNA
You really had to take the back way.

NOEL
I hate the interstate. It's dangerous. People have no consideration for others.

Noel sits on the bed next to his bag and bathroom bag. He stares inside his bathroom bag. Noel looks over at Brianna.

Brianna opens her eyes and turns her head, and looks at Noel. She sees Noel and wants to ask her something.

BRIANNA
What?

Noel starts to ask a question but stops. He starts again and then stops. Brianna becomes frustrated with Noel's indecision to ask the question.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
Oh my god! Please just ask me.

NOEL
Do you wanna do mushrooms with me?

Brianna quickly sits up. She looks at Noel with uncertainty and curiosity.

BRIANNA
Where did you get the shrooms?

NOEL
Well. I, put them in my shower bag. Luckily, it wasn't in my suitcase when you chucked it.

BRIANNA

Wait. So, you're just now opening your shower bag, ew, Is that what that smell is?

NOEL

I rough it. I don't like deodorant. It has Cooper and other harmful shit in there. And the water, we won't have it if we keep using it.

BRIANNA

Really? Wow. Okay, If I do shrooms with you, with you go take a shower? You nasty bastard.

NOEL

Yes. And that's not all.

BRIANNA

Oh yeah, whats next you're gonna tell me you don't wipe your ass?

NOEL

Ew.

EXT. NOEL'S CAR - BACKROAD - NIGHT

Noel's car drives on a dark back road. The headlights are the only light on the road.

The dashboard lights glow below Brianna and Noel's faces. Brianna brimming with excitement and singing along with the radio.

Noel drives with a smile that stretches ear to ear.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Off in the distance, the lights from the fairgrounds illuminate the dark night sky. Orange-glowing energy radiates around the fairgrounds.

Noel's car nears the fairgrounds parking lot.

Noel points out the fairgrounds to Brianna. Brianna sees the fairgrounds and begins to smile, a big smile brimming with excitement.

Noel's car turns into the fairgrounds parking lot.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - NIGHT

Brianna and Noel walk cautiously through the entrance of the fairgrounds. Brianna and Noel smiling and giggling, walk with their eyes fixated on the overhead lights.

Brianna holds onto Noel's arm as she see the rides, the lights, and crowd moving through the fairgrounds. They both stand in the middle of the fairgrounds.

Noel unable to move, he stares at the lights strung up above his head.

Brianna sees the tilt a whirl. She points out the tilt-a-whirl and lets go of Noel's arm. Brianna runs towards the tilt-a-whirl. She leaves Noel behind.

Noel continues to stare at the lights hanging overhead.

Brianna stops and turns around. She sees Noel standing still, staring at the lights. Brianna runs back to Noel. She grabs him by the hand and pulls him towards the ride.

Brianna and Noel run towards the tilt a whirl.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - TILT-A-WHIRL - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Noel ride the tilt-a-whirl. The lights streaked across the sky as they went around in circles. Brianna and Noel both laugh as the ride whips them around.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Noel walk the fairground observing the energy of the lights. Brianna and Noel, see a shiny hazy glow around everyone they see.

Brianna sees a giant pirate ship swinging back and forth. She runs towards the ride while pulling Noel along behind her.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - PIRATE SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Noel ride in the back of the giant pirate ship. The ship swings back and forth while Noel and Brianna hold their hand up in joy.

Brianna and Noel laugh as the ship sails upward, putting it at full tilt and making it look like they are about to fall out.

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS - CAROUSEL - CONTINUOUS

The carouse slowly goes round and round. Noel hugs the pole while it goes up and down in a soothing motion.

Brianna sits a few horsebacks from Noel. She leans backward with her eyes closed, while her hair flows like water behind her.

NOEL

Now this is more my speed.

EXT. FERRIS WHEEL - CONTINUOUS

Brianna sits on one side of the bucket. She looks out over the fairgrounds, hypnotized by the lights. Noel sits on the opposite side of Brianna with his arms stretched out. His head leaned back, watching the star dance and twinkle.

Noel brings his head forward. He sees Brianna fixated on the lights. Noel sees a quick flash of Brianna, nine years old.

9yr old Brianna giggles and points out far-off objects from atop the Ferris wheel.

Noel stares at 9yr old Brianna. 9yr old Brianna fades. Noel sees Brianna at her current age.

Noel smiles with tears in his eyes. Brianna sees Noel smiling warmly with tears in his eyes.

BRIANNA

You okay?

Noel snaps out of his trance. He dries his eyes. Noel looks out over the fairgrounds.

NOEL

Yeah. I'm fine. The shrooms... you know?

BRIANNA

Yeah.

Brianna carefully and slowly moves to Noel's side of the bucket. She sits next to Noel and leans on him.

Noel lifts his arm and embraces Brianna. He wraps his arm around Brianna. Brianna rests her head on his shoulder. Noel rests his head on top of Brianna's head.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

I'm glad I came.

NOEL
Me too, sweetheart.

Noel gives Brianna a kiss on top of her head.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Noel sits in the driver's seat driving. Brianna in the passenger seat. Both sing at full volume with the radio off-key while missing most of the words.

The song fades out. Noel reaches over and turns the radio off.

NOEL
So, I was thinking.

BRIANNA
Uh-oh. Easy now.

NOEL
Thank you. What do you say we have one last drink?

BRIANNA
Sure. Why not? I won't have many but, I'll have one with you.

NOEL
That's all I ask.

Noel's car pulls into a gas station.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

The car pulls up to a gas pump.

EXT. GAS STATION - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel opens the car door and steps out.

NOEL
I'll be right back.

Noel closes the car door.

BRIANNA
Okay.

Brianna sits in the passenger seat, scrolling through her phone. She becomes bored and puts her phone down. Brianna looks around. She watches everyone go about their day.

Noel's phone sits in the holder on the dash.

The phone begins to ring. Brianna looks at the phone. She sees a number. The phone hangs up. The exact same number calls back.

Brianna hesitates to answer the phone. The phone stops ringing.

For a few moments, the phone doesn't ring. Then the phone suddenly rings again with the same number as before. Brianna takes the phone out of the holder. She answers the phone.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Hello?

OPERATOR (O.C.)

Hello. Is Noel there?

BRIANNA

Not at the moment. We'll be there in the morning if this concerns our bed reservations. Unfortunately, we ran into some traffic.

OPERATOR (O.C.)

Beds? No mama. I must have the wrong number.

BRIANNA

Wait. What hospital are you with? That way, I can let him know.

OPERATOR (O.C.)

I'm with The Final Spot.

BRIANNA

That doesn't sound like rehab at all.

OPERATOR (O.C.)

No mama. Were an assisted suicide center.

Brianna is stunned as the news hits her. She stares off into the distance with the phone still to her ear.

OPERATOR (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Hello. Hello?

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Noel walks out of the gas station. He walks towards his car.

EXT. GAS STATION - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel approaches the driver's side door. He opens it and sees it inside. Noel sees an empty car. In a slight panic, Noel stands up and looks around the gas station for Brianna.

Noel sees people walking in and out of the gas station, people pumping gas, and eighteen-wheelers pulling out.

Noel looks across the parking lot and sees Brianna sitting on a picnic table. He walks across the parking lot towards the picnic table.

Noel slowly approaches Brianna from behind. Brianna continues to sit on the picnic table. She doesn't acknowledge

NOEL

Scared me. I thought you'd become a new member of the underground sex trade... Did you pump the gas by any chance?

Brianna continues to look forward. She continues not to acknowledge Noel.

Noel tries to get a look at Brianna's face. He walks around the picnic table. Noel now stands in front of Brianna.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Bri. You, okay?

BRIANNA

I'm glad you find my being kidnapped hilarious.

NOEL

Well, of course not. I was joking.

BRIANNA

Is that all I am to you? A joke.

Brianna stands up from the picnic table and walks away from Noel. Noel begins to follow her. He reaches for Brianna's arm.

Brianna pulls her arm away from Noel and whips around.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Don't fucking touch me.

Noel looks at Brianna with confusion and hurt. Brianna holds up Noel's phone. Noel sees Brianna with his phone.

Noel slowly begins to realize why she's mad about. The confusion fades, and his regret begins to set in.

Noel places his hands on his hips and looks away.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

You missed a call. They called back, so I figured it must be important.

NOEL

Bri--

BRIANNA

-- Don't call me that. Only my friends call me that. A suicide clinic, really? After all of this. And, you were gonna end it? I thought... I finally had a dad.

NOEL

Brianna, it's not like that. You don't understand.

BRIANNA

Oh. It's not!? Please, enlighten me.

NOEL

I wasn't going to go through with it. Okay. Because, of these moments we've had. Those moments were not lies.

BRIANNA

It was all based on a lie. You didn't have the balls to bring yourself. So you made me do it. Your own daughter.

NOEL

I won't deny that. But, look, I'll cancel the appointment. Get us into a treatment center and do this together.

BRIANNA

Yeah, whatever. Let's go.

Brianna turns away from Noel. She walks back to the car. Noel follows Brianna from a distance.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Noel sits in the driver's seat, driving. Brianna sits in the back seat on the passenger side, looking out the window.

Noel watches Brianna in the rearview mirror.

EXT. HOTEL/BAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel's car pulls into a hotel with a bar attached at the end of it.

EXT. HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks briskly in front of Noel. She carries her suitcase. Noel strolls behind Brianna.

Brianna gets to her room and opens her door. She enters the room and slams the door behind her. From Noel's hotel room, Noel watches Brianna enter her room.

INT. HOTEL - NOEL'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Noel sits on the edge of his bed. He listens his voicemails.

LAURA (O.C.)

A suicide clinic!? You've got to be kidding me!

Noel hangs up his phone. He tosses the phone on the bed behind him.

EXT. HOTEL - BRIANNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Noel stands outside Brianna's room, knocking on the door. He's cleaned up with decent clothes on.

NOEL

Bri? Do you still want to get that last drink? I'm headed over there... See ya.

INT. HOTEL - BRIANNA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brianna sits in a chair next to the window with the blinds drawn tight. She listens to Noel knocking on the door. Brianna barely peeks out of the blinds.

Brianna sees Noel cleaned up and ready to go out for a drink. She lets the blind go.

The knocking stops.

Brianna looks out the window again. She sees Noel walking away from her room and lets go of the blinds.

EXT. HOTEL - BRIANNA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Noel walks away from Brianna's room. He walks towards the bar on the other end of the hotel.

INT. HOTEL - BRIANNA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brianna stands up. She begins to pace, but she stops.

BRIANNA

Fuck it.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NIGHT

A lively, dimly lit country bar with country music playing in the background. Construction workers enjoy a few drinks while groups of people celebrate an occasion. Farmers enter the establishment wearing boots, wranglers, and broken-in old beer hats.

In a dark corner of the bar, Noel sits drinking a beer by himself. He observes the bar while he takes sips. Noel sulks while the music plays in the background.

The party across the bar is rowdy and loud with laughter. Noel stares at the party across the bar. The SERVER walks up to Noel's corner booth.

Noel's concentration breaks away from the party. He looks up at the server.

SERVER

Another?

NOEL

Please.

The server walks away from Noel. Noel, sees a COUPLE with drinks in their hands standing on stage singing karaoke.

INT. HOTEL BAR - DOOR - CONTINUOUS

The bar door opens.

Through the doors, in walks Brianna with her hair done. She wears a modest amount of make-up with a flirty outfit.

Brianna floats through the bar. All the men and women in the bar turn to watch Brianna walk through the bar.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sees Brianna enter the bar. He sees her strut through the bar while never looking his way. Noel notices all the men and women looking at her.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna approaches the bar. A COUNTRY HIPSTER BARTENDER approaches Brianna from the other side of the bar.

BARTENDER#2

What can I get for you?

BRIANNA

Beer, please.

BARTENDER#2

You got it.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel stands up from his corner booth. He walks over to the bar where Brianna stands. Noel makes his way through the crowd.

Noel sees a GROUP OF GUYS at the opposite end of the bar whispering to one another while they look at Brianna.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel approaches Brianna from behind and stands next to her.

Brianna doesn't acknowledge Noel.

NOEL

Hey.

BRIANNA

No.

NOEL

Can we just talk for a second?

BRIANNA

No. I'm going to rehab tomorrow,
and I wanna enjoy my last drink in
peace.

Noel continues to stand next to Brianna. He tries to speak, but the words won't come out. Brianna looks away from Noel. She watches him stand next to her in the mirror behind the bar from out of the side of her eye.

NOEL

Fair enough.

Noel turns away from Brianna. He walks back through the crowd to his dark corner booth. Brianna now facing forward. She watches the mirror's reflection.

Brianna sees Noel walking back to his corner booth in the reflection.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sits down in the corner booth.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna motions for the bartender. The bartender walks over to Brianna.

BRIANNA

Shot, please.

BARTENDER#2

You got it.

The bartender pours Brianna a shot. Brianna takes the shot and drinks it.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

In the group of guys at the opposite end of the bar. A young, tall, dark, and handsome rancher named LEX whispers to the other guys. They all causally watch Brianna take her shot.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna looks over her left shoulder at Lex and the group of guys at the opposite end of the bar. Brianna locks eyes with Lex.

Brianna quickly looks away.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lex surrounded by his friends locks eyes with Brianna.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna breaks eye contact. She looks away and takes a drink of her beer.

BRIANNA

Fuck.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sips his beer from his corner booth while he watches Lex stare at Brianna.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lex walks down the bar towards Brianna.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna sees Lex approaching out of the corner of her eye. Lex causally leans on the bar with his left elbow. He takes a drink of his beer and puts it down.

LEX

How are ya? I'm Lex

Lex extends his hand towards Brianna. Brianna takes Lex's hand and politely gives a single shake. Brianna pulls her hand back, as does Lex.

BRIANNA

Hate to break it to you, man. But you're not my type.

Lex is speechless but curious.

LEX

Are you sure? I'm pretty good-looking.

BRIANNA

Oh. How modest of you. Though, I won't deny that. But you're missing a nice pair.

LEX

Hey now. I've always been a fan of dress up.

BRIANNA

Oh. Well. consider me in.

Brianna raises her beer. Lex raises his beer. Their beers just barely tap. Brianna and Lex take a drink of their beers.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel watches Brianna, and Lex's interaction from his dark corner booth while he nurses his two beer that sit in front of him.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Lex finish their beers.

LEX

So, what brings you to these parts?

BRIANNA

Just passing through. Were on our way to Washington St.

LEX

You said "Were on our way" way. Are you traveling with a friend or something?

BRIANNA

You see that tall, wiry guy watching me in the far corner booth?

Lex looks across the bar. He sees Noel sitting in the corner booth.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sees Lex looking in his direction.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lex raises his beer at Noel. Lex looks back at Brianna. They both laugh.

LEX

Who is that, your bodyguard or something?

BRIANNA

God no. I'd be in trouble if that was the case. My dad... We were on a little road trip. Look man, you don't have to waste time with me. I'm sure there are plenty of girls in here you could pull here.

LEX

Girls, I could pull here?

Lex blushes.

Brianna laughs when she sees Lex become embarrassed.

BRIANNA

I'm just trying to check pissing my dad off my bucket list before he's gone.

LEX

Hell, I'd love to help out. I love pissin parents off.

BRIANNA

Well then, welcome aboard.

Brianna motions to the bartender.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Two shots, good sir!

The bartender sets out two shot glasses in front of Brianna and Lex. The bartender pours whiskey into the shot glasses.

Brianna and Lex grab the shot glasses. They both take their shots, quickly toss them back, and drink them. Brianna and Lex slam their shot glasses down on the bar.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
I'm gonna miss that burn.

LEX
Woo!

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel stands up from his corner booth. He walks over to Brianna and Lex by the bar.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel walks up to Brianna and Lex from behind.

Brianna sees Noel in the mirror that hangs behind the bar. Brianna continues to face forward.

Lex sees Noel coming from over his right shoulder. He looks at Brianna and sees she's not happy. Lex stands up straight with his beer in his hand.

Noel stands on the opposite side of Brianna and Lex. He leans against the bar. Noel stares at Brianna till she pays him attention.

Brianna ignores Noel, till She finally gives in and turns around with frustration.

Lex leans against the bar pretending not to pay attention, as he watches the patrons in the bar.

BRIANNA
I said, go away.

NOEL
What, are you doing?

BRIANNA
Having a drink with my new friend
Lex here.

NOEL
I see.

BRIANNA
Go... So I can enjoy myself.

NOEL
Bri?

BRIANNA

...

LEX

Hey man. I don't think she wants you around.

NOEL

Fuck off.

LEX

Excuse me?

NOEL

You heard me.

Lex places his beer down on the bar. He steps around Brianna. Lex now stands next to her.

Brianna turns around while reaching out her hands. She places her hand on Lex's chest. Brianna stops Lex from going any further.

Lex stops in his tracks. He looks down at Brianna's hand. He looks up and sees Brianna slowly shaking her no.

Noel never moves away from the bar. He watches Brianna stop Lex.

Brianna turns and looks at Noel. She sees Noel staring Lex down. He never takes his eyes off Lex.

BRIANNA

Noel. Go.

Noel stands up and walks away from the bar. He stares Lex down as he walks away. Noel fades into the crowd as he walks back to his corner booth.

Lex watches Noel walk back to his corner booth.

Brianna turns around. She now faces the mirror over the bar.

LEX

What's his deal?

BRIANNA

That's a long story. But hey, does your group have any girls coming?

LEX

A couple of the guy's girlfriends. But they're not like that.

BRIANNA

I asked if they were any girl, not
if I could fuck them. I don't see
you getting on the dance with me.

LEX

Oh... Okay. Got ya. Well ma'am, I
will ask you not to be judgmental
because I am a dancing fool.

Lex does a funny salsa dance move away from the leading
towards the dance floor.

Brianna does her own funny salsa dance move while following
Lex to the dance floor.

INT. HOTEL BAR - DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

The dance floor is a tiny little square space in front of a
small stage that holds a table with a laptop on top of it and
a karaoke machine at the end of the table. The DJ is an older
lady with silver hair and a cigarette hanging out of her
mouth.

Lex's dance moves are in rhythm but silly as he struts around
the dance floor. Brianna dances and bounces around Lex,
laughing, bumping him with her hip.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel holding a half-empty beer in his hand. He struggles to
see Brianna on the dance floor through the crowd surrounding
her.

INT. HOTEL BAR - DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Lex's group of friends and their girlfriends join the two on
the dance floor. The group of friends surrounds Brianna and
Lex on the dance floor.

Lex and Brianna dance around with the group of friends.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - NIGHT

Brianna hangs out with Lex and his group of friends. She
talks to a group of girls.

They all laugh and sip their beer.

INT. HOTEL BAR - DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT

Brianna and the group of girls dance around the dance floor while laughing and having a good time.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - NIGHT

Noel sits with an empty beer. He watches Lex and his group of friends. He sees Brianna dancing on the dance floor through the crowds.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - NIGHT

Brianna and Lex sit at the bar talking while his group of friends have their own conversation. Brianna and Lex laugh together.

Lex places his beer on the bar and stands up from his bar stool. He walks away from Brianna.

Brianna watches Lex walk away. She sees Noel watching Lex pass by in his corner booth.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sees Lex walk by him on his way to the bathroom. Noel sees Brianna watching him from across the bar.

Noel stands up and follows behind Lex.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna watches Noel stand up from his booth and follow Lex.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lex enters the dimly lit bathroom with flickering lights overhead. He walks up to a urinal and unzips his pants. Lex faces forward while he uses the bathroom.

The bathroom door opens and closes.

Noel enters the bathroom. He walks behind Lex. Noel approaches the urinal a few feet from Lex's urinal. Noel looks over at Lex.

Lex gives a slight look over his shoulder. He sees Noel walk over to the urinal. Lex looks at Noel.

They both stare at each other without saying anything.

Lex finishes using the bathroom. He zips up his pants, then flushes the urinal. Lex walks out, with out washing his hands.

Noel sees Lex exit the bathroom without washing his hands.

NOEL

Ew. What a monster.

INT. HOTEL BAR - CONTINUOUS

The door opens.

Noel exits the bathroom while drying his hands with paper towels. He sees Brianna from across the bar, surrounded by people. Noel walks past his corner booth towards the bar.

Noel approaches the bar. He waves at the hipster bartender.

The hipster bartender walks up to Noel.

BARTENDER#2

What can I get for you?

NOEL

Beer, please.

BARTENDER#2

You got it.

The hipster bartender walks away from Noel.

Noel sees Lex whispering in Brianna's ear. He sees them both laughing together.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

BRIDGET, a short cute blond who tans taps Brianna on the shoulder.

Brianna leans down where she can hear Bridget.

BRIDGET

Come on, you're my bathroom buddy.

Bridget grabs Brianna by the hand. She pulls Brianna away from Lex and the group.

BRIANNA

Wait. What? Why?

Brianna is pulled by her hand towards the bathroom. She looks back at Lex.

Lex laughs as he watches. He takes a drink of his beer.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel sees Brianna being led into the bathroom by Bridget. He looks back at Lex across the bar. Noel sees Lex laughing with his friends.

INT. HOTEL BAR - WOMENS BATHROOM - NIGHT

Brianna stands against the wall next to the bathroom door.

Bridget uses the middle bathroom stall. Underneath the bathroom stall door, her feet are perched with her pants around them.

BRIDGET

Thanks for coming with me.

BRIANNA

No problem. This is a first.

BRIDGET

What, you've never gone to the bathroom with one of your girlfriends?

BRIANNA

I don't go out much. Mostly just drink at home.

The sound of the toilet flushing echoes through the bathroom.

INT. HOTEL BAR - NOEL'S CORNER BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Noel sips his beer. He hears giggling over his shoulder. He turns around. Noel sees Brianna and Bridget exiting the bathroom together, laughing.

Brianna and Bridget playful bump into each other while giggling.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna and Bridget walk over to Lex. Bridget gives Brianna a tight drunken hug around her neck.

Brianna laughed while being pulled down by Bridget. She looks to Lex for help. Lex shrugs and drinks his beer.

LEX

You're on your own now.

Bridget lets go of Brianna. She turns to Lex with her finger pointed.

BRIDGET

She's a good egg.

LEX

Well. You got her seal of approval.

Bridget walks away from Lex and Brianna. Lex and Brianna see her fade into the group.

LEX (CONT'D)

Hey, we're gonna smoke. You in?

BRIANNA

Does a bear shit in the woods?

LEX

Nice! Let's go.

Brianna and Lex begin to walk away from the group. She looks back at the group and sees no one else is following them. Brianna looks back at Lex.

Lex leads Brianna toward the exit door. Brianna reaches out and taps Lex on the shoulder. They're both feet away from the door.

Lex turns around and faces Brianna.

BRIANNA

What about your friends, are they coming?

LEX

Yeah. They're gonna catch up.

BRIANNA

Oh. Okay.

Lex exits the bar. Brianna shrugs and follows behind Lex.

EXT. HOTEL BAR - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Lex and Brianna exit the hotel bar.

Lex and Brianna both walk in between the cars and trucks as the bar's neon lights glows behind them.

Lex approaches his truck's driver's side. He opens the driver-side door and reaches inside.

Brianna walks around him. She stands between the cab and the bed of the truck. Brianna leans against Lex's truck.

Lex places the joint in his mouth and lights it.

Brianna sees the flame of the lighter touch the tip of the joint. Lex takes a hit. He passes the joint to Brianna.

Brianna takes the joint. She takes a drag off the joint and holds in the smoke. Brianna releases the smoke and begins to cough really hard.

Lex laughs at Brianna as she passes the joint back to him.

LEX

Easy now. It's some of that
homegrown.

BRIANNA

My goodness. Nice.

Lex and Brianna pass the joint back and forth.

Lex walks to the back of the truck. He lets the tailgate down and sits on the tailgate.

Brianna follows closely behind Lex. She sits on the tailgate next to Lex, where they continue to pass the joint back and forth.

Lex looks at Brianna.

Brianna reaches for the joint and sees Lex staring at her. She takes the joint from Lex.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Why are you looking at me like
that, and where are your friends?

Brianna takes a drag.

Lex slides across the tailgate. He moves closer to Brianna.

Brianna, still hitting slides away from Lex.

Lex, crosses his arms. He gives a frustrated chuckle.

Brianna passes the joint to Lex.

Lex takes the joint from Brianna. He takes a puff from the joint.

LEX
Are you still playing this whole
lesbian thing?

BRIANNA
I'm not playing anything. It's who
I am.

Lex stands up on to his feet. He turns towards Brianna with his shoulder squared, ready to lunge. Lex towers over Brianna.

Brianna sees Lex towering over her, ready to lunge. Instead, she jumps off the tailgate. She tries to run. Lex quickly reaches out and grabs her arm. He stops Brianna in her tracks.

Lex jerks Brianna by the arms.

Brianna swings around with her other hand. She punches Lex square in the nose.

Lex's head whips back. He let go of Brianna's arms. Lex grabs his nose. Lex sees the blood from his nose on his hands. He smacks Brianna with an open-hand slap. Lex hits Brianna along the jaw and ear.

The slap stuns Brianna. Brianna's bell is rung. She becomes dizzy while hearing a slight buzzing sound in her ear.

Lex pulls Brianna into a bear hug. He wraps both arms around Brianna. Lex tosses Brianna in the bed of the truck. Brianna flops onto the bed of the truck.

Lex climbs over top of Brianna while unbuckling his pants. Brianna tries to fight off Lex. She punches upward while trying to crawl away. Lex grabs both of Brianna's arms. He pins her arms down.

THUD!

Lex lands on top of Brianna. He moans in pain and grabs the back of his head.

Brianna looks over Lex's shoulder. She sees Noel standing over Lex with a baseball bat.

Noel stands with the bat at the ready waiting to swing again.

Brianna pushes Lex off of her. She slides off the bed of the truck.

Noel reaches for Brianna's hand.

Brianna takes Noel's hand. Noel helps Brianna off the bed of the truck. Brianna lands in Noel's arm.

While holding the bat, Noel wraps his other arm around Brianna.

NOEL

Come on, we gotta get out of here.

Noel and Brianna walk away from Lex's truck. Noel and Brianna walk towards the front of the bar.

The neon lights of the bar light the parking lot.

From out of nowhere, Lex comes up from behind and punches Noel in the back of the head.

Noel drops the bat while grabbing the back of his head. He falls on the ground.

Lex, with a stiff backhand, hits Brianna.

Brianna falls beside Noel.

Lex stands over Noel and proceeds to kick Noel in the gut. He stomps on Noel's ribs.

Noel lying in the fetal position, gasp for breath as he guards his head.

Lex delivers more kicks.

Noel catches his leg. He wraps around Lex's leg.

Brianna jumps onto Lex's back. She wraps her arms around Lex's neck.

Lex struggles to unclench Brianna's headlock. He tries to shake Brianna off.

Brianna holds on for dear life. Noel bites Lex on the ankle.

LEX

Get off of me!

Lex gives one good whip and tosses Brianna off him.

Brianna flies off of Lex and hits the ground. She rolls to her feet.

Lex punches Noel in the back of the head.

Noel stops biting Lex's ankle. He's on his back, looking up at Lex.

Lex puts his knee into Noel's chest. He wraps his hands around Noel's neck.

Lex straddles Noel. Noel's arm was pinned beside him. Lex punches Noel in the face. Noel sees blackness and flashes of light as each punch lands. Lex holds his fist up. Noel sees Lex's fist raised above the head.

DING!

Noel sees a bat swinging above his head. It connects with Lex's Jaw. Noel sees Lex's jaw break and dislocate.

Lex rolls off of Noel, holding his jaw with both hands muttering screams of pain. He tries to spit out his teeth. The teeth slowly fall out of Lex's head.

Noel sees Brianna stepping over him with the bat raised over her head. He sees Brianna give the bat a forceful swing downward with all of her might.

Brianna stands over Lex. She raises the bat above her head. Brianna brings the bat down.

THUD! THUD! THUD!

Noel wraps his arm around Brianna while stopping the bat mid swing. His face is bloody and swollen.

NOEL

Come on. We gotta go.

Brianna drops the bat beside Lex's body.

Noel leads Brianna by the hand pulling Brianna off of Lex.

Brianna is pulled away from Lex's body.

Noel is holding his ribs with his other hand. He searches for his car keys with his other. He looks across the parking lot and sees his car.

NOEL (CONT'D)

There.

Noel and Brianna rush for Noel's car. They arrive at Noel's car.

Noel opens the passenger car door. He sits Brianna in the passenger seat. Noel closes the door.

Noel runs around the back of the vehicle. He opens the driver's side door. He gets in the car and closes the door. Noel goes to start the vehicle but realizes he doesn't have the keys.

Noel feels around his pants pockets for the keys.

NOEL (CONT'D)
Wait, where are the keys? Fuck. Did you have them?

Brianna in a daze. She only hears a faint hum while she stares off into the distance.

Noel shakes Brianna. Brianna snaps out of a trance.

BRIANNA
They're in my purse.

NOEL
Where is that?

Noel looks around the car. He looks in the front seat and behind the passenger seat. Noel looks at Brianna.

NOEL (CONT'D)
Bri, where is your purse?

Brianna looks at Noel.

BRIANNA
It's in the bar.

Brianna points to the bar. Noel looks back towards the bar.

NOEL
Fuck.

Noel opens the driver-side door. He steps out of the car and closes the door behind him.

At a hurried pace, Noel quickly walks towards the bar. Noel opens the bar door and enters.

INT. HOTEL BAR - DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Noel walks through the hotel bar door. Bridget holding a drink in one hand, sees Noel enter through the door.

Drunken Bridget does her best to make her way over to Noel. She stumbles.

Noel sees Bridget walking towards him. He tries to avoid eye contact as he attempts to walk by Bridget.

BRIDGET

Hey! Have you seen Bri and Lex?

Noel stops. He acts like he can't hear Bridget.

NOEL

Who!? Oh. Yeah, he went home already. Bri isn't feeling well, so she sent me in to get her purse. Do you know where that's at?

Bridget stomps her feet in frustration.

BRIDGET

Damn it, Lex. My brother is so stupid, he always does this to me.

Bridget takes a drink of her drink.

Noel anxiously waits for Bridget to answer. Bridget continues to take a long drink out of her straw.

NOEL

Bridget!? The purse!

Bridget points toward the end of the bar.

Noel follows her finger. He sees her pointing toward the end of the bar. Noel quickly walks away from Bridget.

Bridget exits the bar. The door closes behind her.

INT. HOTEL BAR - OPPOSITE END OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel approaches the end of the bar. He sees Brianna's purse and grabs it. Noel opens the purse and pulls out the car keys. He places the purse under his arm. Noel turns and heads for the hotel bar door.

EXT. HOTEL BAR - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Bridget takes a slight left out of the bar towards the parking lot. She walks in front of a row of trucks. Bridget sees Lex's truck.

BRIDGET

I thought he left.

Bridget approaches Lex's truck. She steps in between Lex's passenger side and another truck. Bridget sees Lex lying on the ground.

EXT. HOTEL BAR - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Noel exits the bar. He takes a slight right. Noel runs towards his car. He stops in his tracks when he hears Bridget discover Lex's body.

BRIDGET
AHHH!!! LEX!!

Noel looks over his shoulder toward the screams. He sees Bridget standing in front of Lex's body across the parking lot.

Noel turns and runs for his car.

EXT. HOTEL BAR - PARKING LOT - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Noel opens the driver's side door. He gets in the car and shuts the door behind him. Noel places the keys in the ignition and starts the car.

Noel places the car in reverse.

The vehicle quickly drives in reverse while whipping around to face forward.

Noel looks in the rearview mirror. He sees Bridget running back into the bar, crying. Noel places the car in drive.

The car peels off. The car drives through the parking lot.

INT. HOTEL BAR - BAR - CONTINUOUS

Bridget approaches the bar, still crying with mascara running down her cheeks.

The bartender sees Bridget in distress. He rushes over to the bar.

BARTENDER#2
Bridget, what's wrong are you okay?

Bridget struggles to get the words out through her sobbing and sniffing.

BRIDGET

Call the cops. That bitch and her
dad jumped Lex in the parking lot.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Noel is focused on the road as he drives at a high rate of speed.

Brianna lays her head against the passenger side window. She stares a thousand-mile stare.

Noel and Bridget ride in silence.

The only sound in the car is the hum of the road.

Out of the darkness, police headlights and blue light appear behind them. The lights and siren quickly catch up with Noel's car.

The cop car is now directly behind Noel's car. Noel looks down at his speedometer. He sees the speedometer twenty miles over the speed limit.

NOEL

Shit.

Noel's speed decreases as he places his blinker on. Noel pulls the car over, with the cop car pulling in closely behind Noel. Noel puts the vehicle in park. He watches the cop car in the rearview mirror.

Brianna sits quietly in the passenger seat.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Bri, whatever happens don't say a word.

Brianna slowly turns towards Noel. She looks at Noel with tears in her eyes. Brianna's lip quivered.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Bri. Come on sweetheart, hold it together. That had to be done. He was gonna kill us.

Brianna turns away from Noel. She looks in the passenger side mirror and sees the cop car. Brianna wipes her tears.

Noel sees the COP exiting the car. He sees the cop walking up from behind the vehicle.

The cop knocks on the driver's side window.

Noel lets the driver-side window down. The cop leans down and looks into the car.

COP
License and registration.

NOEL
Yes sir.

Noel leans over. He opens the glove box. Noel grabs his registration and closes the glove box. He pulls out his license. Noel hands his license and registration to the cop.

NOEL (CONT'D)
Why did you pull me over?

COP
Got you going seventy in a fifty-five.

The cop grabs Noel's information and stands up. He begins looking over Noel's license and registration.

COP (CONT'D)
Why were you going so fast? Have you been drinking tonight, sir?

NOEL
No sir.

The cop bends down. He looks in Noel's car. The cop shines his flash in the car. He shines it on Brianna.

Noel squints his eyes. Brianna continues looking out the passenger side window. The cop looks at Noel. Noel smiles at the cop.

The cop stands back up.

COP
Stay right here. I'll be back in a sec.

The cop walks away from Noel's car.

Noel watches the cop walk back to the cop car in the side mirror.

Brianna and Noel sit silently in the car. Noel's knuckles turn white he grips the steering wheel so tight.

The cop car's door opens. The cop exits the vehicle and begins walking towards Noel's car.

Noel hears the cop's footsteps. He watches the cop walk towards his car in the side mirror.

The cop stops by the driver's side door. He bends down and hands Noel his license and registration.

Noel reaches out and takes the license and registration.

COP (CONT'D)

Slow down, sir and have a good night.

The cop stands up back up. He walks back to his cop car. Noel leans his head out of the driver-side window.

NOEL

Yes sir. Thank you. Sorry!

Noel starts the car. As the cop returns to his vehicle, DISPATCH comes over the cop's radio.

DISPATCH (O.C.)

Officers be on the lookout for a male in his mid forties traveling with a female in her twenties. Last seen headed west. Believed to be dangerous.

The cop stops in his tracks. He places his ear closer to his shoulder. The cop turns and quickly rushes to Noels' driver-side door with his pistol drawn.

Noel sees the cop with his weapon drawn in the side mirror. He places the car in park and raises his hand up. Noel looks at Brianna.

NOEL

Bri. Bri, look at me.

Brianna sees Noel holding his hands up with tears in his eyes.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Don't say a word. Not a word.

Brianna shakes her head yes.

COP

Keep your hands where I can see them!

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Noel sits in a room with a single exit and a two-way mirror opposite. He sits in a chair at a table in the center of the room with a single light hanging over his head.

Noel smokes a cigarette.

A heavy-set male DETECTIVE holding a folder enters through the only door in the room. He walks around Noel. The detective sits in the empty chair directly across from Noel.

Noel sees the detective sit down in front of him.

The detective opens the folder and slides it across the table.

Noel doesn't bother to look down at the folder. Instead, he continues looking at the detective.

DETECTIVE

We know it was you and your daughter--

NOEL

--Nope. Just me. My daughter had nothing to do with this. She's a victim.

DETECTIVE

Not according to his sister. Your daughter was seen leaving with Lex of her own free will, so what you guys got con going where you lure men outside and jump them?

NOEL

Hardly. That guy was attacking my daughter--

DETECTIVE

--Doubtful. Lex is an outstanding citizen of this town.

Noel puts his cigarette out in the ashtray. He smiles at the detective.

The detective leans on the table with both elbows.

NOEL

Oh, I'm sure he was. Let me guess, star quarterback?

The detective becomes frustrated with Noel.

DETECTIVE

That quarterback was my best friend.

Noel laughs at the detective. He covers his mouth. Noels lowers his hand from his mouth.

NOEL

I'm sorry. It's just. It really is a small fucking world, after all.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - BRIANNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Brianna paces back and forth.

The door opens. DETECTIVE #2 enters the room.

DETECTIVE #2

You're free to go.

Brianna stops pacing. She looks at the detective with confusion.

BRIANNA

What?

DETECTIVE #2

Yep. Your dad told us everything.

BRIANNA

Oh, thank god. So, you guys know he was attacking me, right. My dad was stopping him. You know that?

DETECTIVE #2

No ma'am.

BRIANNA

What, then why?

DETECTIVE #2

You're dad admitted to everything. Said you had nothing to do with it. You're lucky he's still alive, or this would be a different story.

Brianna become even more confused.

BRIANNA

Wait, what?

Detective #2 holds the door open, waiting for Brianna to exit.

Brianna passes Detective #2 on the way out.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)
I need my phone.

DETECTIVE#2
You can pick it up when you leave.

INT. POLICE STATION - JAIL CELL - NIGHT

Noel sits on a bench against the wall in a jail cell.

COP #2 opens the jail door. The cop sees Noel sitting on the bench.

COP #2
Noel! Let's go. You're out of here!

Noel's head perks up. He rises up off the bench and exits the jail cell.

INT. POLICE STATION - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Noel walks into the lobby of the police station. He sees Brianna waiting for him.

Brianna sees Noel enter the lobby of the police station.

Brianna slowly walks up to Noel. She hesitates for a second, but then hugs Noel's neck. Brianna quietly sobs into Noel's shoulder.

Noel hugs her back. He raises her head, and looks into her eyes. Noel sees Brianna's teary eyes.

NOEL
Hey. Come on. Stop that. I'll
start, and nobody wants to see
that.

Brianna wipes away tears and laughs at Noel. They both let go of each other.

Brianna trying not to get emotional fights back more tears.

NOEL (CONT'D)
How the hell did you get me out of
there?

BRIANNA

I called for a bit of help.

Noel sees Laura walk up from behind Brianna. Laura places her hand on Brianna's shoulder.

LAURA

Hello, my love.

Laura kisses Brianna on the forehead. She sees Noel with dried blood on his clothes and bruises on his face.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Noel. You look good.

Noel gives Laura a chuckle. He leans in and gives Laura a hug. Laura leans in and hugs Noel back. They let go of each other.

NOEL

Thanks. I appreciate you bailing me out.

LAURA

It wasn't all me. Marty sends his regards.

NOEL

That was nice of him.

BRIANNA

They said he was alive but in a coma.

Noel places his index finger over his lips. He drops his hand by his side.

NOEL

We'll talk at the hotel.

All three of them turn and leave the police station.

INT. A LUXURY HOTEL - DAY

In a plush hotel room overlooking the city, they all sit silently.

Noel stands in front of the enormous pain glass window overlooking the town. He nervously chews on his fingernails.

Brianna sits behind Noel in an armchair. Her hands clasped together and her elbows resting on her knees.

Laura paces between the bar and the TV.

Noel turns and faces Brianna and Laura. Laura and Brianna look at Noel in anticipation.

NOEL

I gotta go threw with it. I
wouldn't survive a day in prison.

LAURA

I mean, is that really the only
option?

NOEL

Are you going pay for my lawyer? I
have no job. I have no money.
Everything was put into this trip.
I was ready to DIE! If we go to
court they will destroy us.

LAURA

No need to yell.

Noel turns back to the window and stares out over the city.

Brianna watches Noel.

BRIANNA

Why don't we just tell them the
truth? He attacked me, plus I'm a
lesbian. I did not want that dude.

NOEL

First, think of where were at.
Second, people saw you with him all
night and me mean mugging from
across the bar. Third, you
willingly went outside with him.

BRIANNA

Oh, it's my fault because he can't
handle himself around females.

NOEL

I'm not saying that, but that's not
how it's gonna be told from a
witness standpoint.

Noel turns away from the window. He now faces Brianna.

Brianna sits back in the chair, frustrated. She crosses her
arms.

NOEL (CONT'D)

All I know is I'm not going to prison. Nor, will I let you go Bri. We have nothing to be sorry for. He would have done worse if I didn't show up when I did.

Noel steps closer to Brianna. He kneels next to Brianna's chair and places his hand on the arm of the chair. Brianna, with her arms crossed, reluctantly looks at Noel.

NOEL (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Every moment I've spent with you, has made me the happiest guy in the world.

BRIANNA

I'm sorry.--

NOEL

--Do not be sorry.

Brianna lunges from her chair. She wraps her arms around Noel's neck.

Noel wobbles backward, but catches himself. He hugs Brianna back. In a loving embrace, they hold each other with tears falling down their cheeks.

Noel pulls away from Brianna. He looks and sees Brianna's face wet from her tears. Noel brushes Brianna's hair to the side.

NOEL (CONT'D)

I love you.

BRIANNA

I love you.

Laura watching from across the room wipes her eyes.

LAURA

Not to ruin this moment. But, won't we get in trouble for taking you? Seeing how you're up for assault and attempted murder.

Noel kisses Brianna on top of the head. He stands up and stands in between Laura and Brianna.

NOEL

Well, that's the thing. You won't be. You guys will fly back tonight. That way, you won't have to lie.

Brianna stands up from the chair in frustration.

Noel and Laura turn around. They both see Brianna standing next to the chair.

BRIANNA

No! We've come this far together,
and I wanna be there to say
goodbye. So, don't bother trying to
change my mind. Cause I won't.

Noel smiles.

NOEL

I wouldn't dare.

Noel turns and looks at Laura.

NOEL (CONT'D)

New plan. You lie to the police for
us, so she goes with me, and Marty
has a private jet waiting for her
at the airport when it's all done.

Brianna raises her hand to ask a question.

Laura sees Brianna raise her hand.

Noel sees Laura looking at something. He turns around to see Brianna with her hand raised.

BRIANNA

Umm. I'm still going to rehab. If
anything, I need it more now than
ever.

NOEL

Yeah, that makes sense.

INT. NOEL'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Bright sunny day, we see Noel's car travels down the road covered with plush green forestry.

Noel sits behind the steering wheel while Brianna leans across from the passenger side, her head lies on Noel's shoulder.

EXT. THE FINAL SPOT - PARKING LOT - DAY

Noel's car pulls into parking that sits in front of a three-story building with well-kept landscaping. Noel's car parks in a parking spot.

The car is placed in parked and shut off.

Noel, and Brianna both exit the vehicle at the same time.

The car doors shut behind them. Noel, and Brianna stand beside Noel's car looking at the building.

BRIANNA

It's nice. Kind of a mixture
between rehab and heaven.

Noel, and Brianna walk towards the entrance.

Brianna sees Noel's hand extending her the car keys. She takes the car keys from Noel's hand.

NOEL

I know it's not much... But if you
take care of her, she'll get
anywhere you need to go.

BRIANNA

Of course, it's a girl name. Such a
typical guy thing to do.

Brianna grab the keys. She holds them tightly.

BRIANNA (CONT'D)

Thank you.

Brianna extends both her arms. She leans in and wraps them around Noel's neck.

Noel embraces Brianna. He hugs her back. They hug for a moment. Noel with tears in his eyes, he slowly pulls Brianna away.

NOEL

Come on, love. Let's not drag this
out.

Brianna shakes her head yes. Noel and Brianna turn towards the entrance.

They both enter the building.

INT. THE FINAL SPOT - FRONT DESK - DAY

Noel holds the door open for Brianna as she walks through. Noel follows closely behind her as the door closes behind him.

They both walk towards the front desk.

Noel sees the NURSE smiling as he approaches the desk. Brianna stands behind Noel. The nurse sees Noel and Brianna approaching the desk.

NURSE

Hello. How are we today?

NOEL

Good. Just checking-in.

Brianna observes the facilities. She sees a large open floor plan with spiral staircases on the outer edges of the lobby.

The walls are painted in a neutral grey color.

Brianna sees PATIENTS of all ages through a large window overlooking the grounds. The patients in hospital gowns walking together while chitchatting.

Brianna sees a wall near the entrance dedicated to the FOUNDER of the final spot. She nears the memorial and reads the final spot's founder's testimony.

The memorial reads:

"To end ones suffering is to care for your fellow man, whether through treatment or death. Those who fail to see are those who fail to accept death; we are deciders of our fate... In life and in death."

Noel from the front desk looks over his shoulder. He sees Brianna reading the memorial. Noel walks over to where Brianna stands.

NOEL (CONT'D)

Hey. Rooms this way.

Brianna breaks her concentration. The nurse leads Noel and Brianna down a fancy hotel-like hallway with gold light fixtures.

The nurse stops at the door. The nurse opens the door.

Noel sees the nurse open the door. Brianna looks over Noel's shoulder. She sees the door slowly opening.

INT. THE FINAL SPOT - PRIVATE ROOMS - CONTINUOUS

Noel and Brianna see a room with a single window, the sun beaming through it. The sun's rays land on a low-lying incline bed before the window.

The bed has a monitor hanging over it.

Next to the bed is a chair for loved ones to sit on and hold their loved ones hands. The sunlight gives a heavenly peacefulness as gentle waves play in the background.

Noel enters the room first. He sits on the bed.

Brianna walks behind Noel. She stands off to the side next to the chair. Brianna watches Noel sit on the bed. She sees Noel and looks out the window.

Noel sees a beautiful lush green yard with trees in full bloom. He looks up. Noel sees Brianna tearfully watching him sit on the bed.

The nurse walks behind Noel. The nurse works the monitor above the bed.

NURSE

Alright, sir. Go ahead and lay back. Relax. The doctor will be in shortly.

Noel and Brianna see the nurse exit the room. Brianna sits down in the chair next to the bed. Noel watches Brianna sit down. They both sit in silence for a moment.

NOEL

Not sure, if I'm supposed to say something prolific... Or important.

With tears in her eyes, Brianna chuckles while she shakes her head no. She wipes the tears from her eyes.

Noel chuckles with Brianna. He reaches for Brianna's hand. Noel holds Brianna's hand.

The door opens. Noel and Brianna watch the door open.

A DOCTOR in a white lab coat enters the room with the nurse following close behind. The doctor stands at the foot of the bed. He sees Noel and Brianna saying their tearful goodbye.

The doctor wears a comfortable smile.

DOCTOR

Hello. How is everyone?

The doctor and nurse give an uncomfortable laugh.

Noel and Brianna exchange glances of confusion. They both look back to the doctor.

The doctor's and nurse's laughter fade. The doctor still wearing an odd smile.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

So, we're gonna set you up with an IV and inject some diazepam to help you relax.

As the doctor goes over the producer Noel looks at Brianna, he sees Brianna listening intently to the doctor. Noel stares at Brianna with soft loving eyes.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Sound good?

Brianna looks away from the doctor. She sees Noel looking at her and smiles.

Noel sees Brianna smiling at him. He turns his attention to the doctor.

NOEL

Yep. Wonderful.

Noel lays back on the bed. His head lays toward the window.

The nurse walks past Noel towards the window. The nurse cracks the window behind Noel's head.

While lying down Noel looks behind him. He sees the nurse cracking the window.

NOEL (CONT'D)

What's that for?

Brianna sitting in the chair next to Noel, looks towards the window.

NURSE

That's so the soul can move freely.

Noel looks up at the ceiling. He turns and looks at Brianna.

Brianna watches Noel. She sees him look at her.

Noel and Brianna both smile at the same time.

Still holding Noel's hand, Brianna places the back of his hand on her cheek. She kisses Noel's hand and then puts it back against her cheek.

Noel lays on the bed staring at the ceiling, taking deep breaths. Then, with the nurse and doctor on one side and Brianna on the other holding his hand, Noel slowly closes his eyes.

The doctor then inserts a syringe into the IV bag above Noel's bed.

Noel instantly becomes relaxed as his body softens. Noel smiles a big smile and looks at Brianna. Noel sees Brianna softly crying.

Brianna smiles at Noel with tears in her eyes.

NOEL

It's gonna be okay.

The doctor inserts another syringe into Noel's IV bag.

Noel's breathing skips as he inhales his last breath. Noel stops breathing.

Brianna presses Noel's hand tight against her cheek.

The doctor and nurse watch from above.

DOCTOR

We'll give you a moment.

The doctor and nurse both exit the room. The nurse closes the door behind her.

Brianna burst into tears. She places her head on Noel's chest. She lets go of Noel's hand and grips his shirt.

Brianna sits up and dries her face while quietly sobbing. Brianna looks out the window behind Noel's head.

A bright red cardinal lands on the window's ledge behind Noel's head. Brianna sees the cardinal sitting on the shelf of the window. She smiles. The Cardinal flies away.

EXT. THE FINAL SPOT - ENTRANCE - DAY

Brianna exits through the double doors carrying a golden urn with Noel's ashes.

EXT. THE FINAL SPOT - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna walks across the parking lot with the urn in hand. She walks up to Noel's car. Brianna gets in the vehicle and shuts the driver-side door behind her.

EXT. THE FINAL SPOT - NOEL'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Brianna sits in the driving seat. She takes the urn and places it in the passenger seat. Brianna grabs the passenger side seatbelt and straps in the urn.

Brianna smiles at the urn.

BRIANNA

Let's ride Dad.

Brianna turns on the car and places it in reverse. The car backs up. Brianna turns the vehicle till it's forward. She puts the car in drive, and the car pulls away.

The car drives off into the sunset.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. THE FINAL SPOT - RECEPTIONIST DESK - DAY

The nurse behind the desk checks in the new patients.

NURSE

The doctor will see you now.

The nurse motions towards the left.

The patient looks to the left.

We reveal Brianna in glasses and a doctor's lab coat with a stethoscope around her neck.

BRIANNA

Let's get you taken care of.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.