

SCAR TISSUE

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Droplets of blood are falling in a sink.

The bathroom is small and bare. The blood belongs to a young woman, ALEXA, who stands in front of the mirror. A small medical kit stands opened next to her. She is in her twenties and spots a scar on the cheek of the right side of her face. Dressed in a white vest and dirty trousers, she is bruised up and bleeding.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Two THUGS are on top of a distressed WOMAN, in the process of ripping her clothes and hitting her.

ALEXA (O.S.)

Stop.

Alexa, looking fresh and unhurt, is standing a few steps away from them.

The two thugs stop and look up.

THUG 1

Fuck you want?

Alexa clenches her fists.

THUG 2

Think she's jealous, think bitch wants her ass ripped wide.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alexa places a small band-aid on a cut on her cheekbone, just above her scar.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Alexa gets hook punched on that exact spot by Thug 2 and falls to the ground. She looks at the Woman who's still down and in shock.

ALEXA

Go.

The Woman stares at Alexa, body trembling.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

Scram!

The Woman snaps out of her shock, gets to the feet just as Thug 1 reaches for her. She manages to pull away from him and starts running. Thug 1 is about to run after her.

THUG 2

Fuck her man, just get over here.

Thug 2 looks at Alexa who's on the ground.

THUG 2 (CONT'D)

This bitch here's way more fun.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alexa lifts her top, revealing a bruised side, and applies ice on it.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Thug 1 kicks her on the side while Alexa is down and Thug 2 does likewise. Alexa lets out a CRY, but rolls away and manages to get to her feet.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alexa touches the inside of her mouth with her tongue, then gulps some alcohol from a bottle, rinses her mouth with it. She spits out blood, saliva and alcohol.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Alexa gets jabbed in the face and moves back.

THUG 1

That's enough foreplay, ain't it
sweetheart?

Thug 1 comes up to her but she kicks him in the groin.

THUG 1 (CONT'D)

Fuck.

Alexa quickly follows up with a flurry of punches and drops him to the ground, but gets punched by Thug 2 in return.

THUG 2

Bitch is feisty, gonna put her on
her back where she belongs.

Thug 2 runs and tackles Alexa to the ground, landing on top of her but Alexa uses the momentum shifts her body and rolls on top of him.

THUG 2 (CONT'D)

Fucking bitch.

Alexa starts punching away at him and dropping elbows till she knocks him the hell out.

She gets off him and stands up and notices Thug 1 getting on his feet, so she walks up to him and as he stands and punches him hard with her right hand, dropping him right down again.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alexa looks at her right fist, her knuckles are all torn and bloodied. She puts a bandage over her knuckles, then looks at the mirror and smiles.

CUT TO:

Alexa enters the living room, hair wet, towel over her body, fresh from a shower and drops food in a small fish ball, that has one goldfish inside.

ALEXA

Have a good night Gina.

Alexa goes into her bedroom, drops her towel and puts on her pyjamas. She gets in bed and as soon as her head hits the pillow, she's out like a light.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

The ALARM goes off.

It RINGS and rings some more.

Alexa, her faced all bruised up, growls, mumbles under her breath, then raises her hand, leans over and stops it.

She places her head on the pillow again, all grouchy and moody.

She turns around so she is flat on the mattress, puts her feet close together, and places a hand between her thighs.

She masturbates to completion, sighs in relief and gets out of bed with renewed vigor.

Alexa puts on classical MUSIC and heads to the kitchen. The kitchen table has two fruit bowls and they are all occupied by peaches.

She takes a green shake from the fridge and drinks it. Then grabs a peach from the table, rubs it on her jumper and bites into it.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Alexa locks her door and walks down the hallway as a woman in her fifties, BRUNA, comes upon the door of the apartment which is next to Alexa's.

Alexa nods at her.

BRUNA
Bad night?

ALEXA
Not really.

BRUNA
Hmm, OK, well, take it easy then.

ALEXA
You too.

INT. DINER - DAY

Alexa is in the storage room, in the back of the diner and puts her apron on over her waitress outfit.

At the front, the door is opened and STAVROS, fifties, the diner's boss, sticks his head through.

STAVROS
Alexa, you're needed out front.

ALEXA
Coming now.

STAVROS
Why's your face like that again?

ALEXA
What? Oh, it's nothing.

Stavros walks in the room and closes the door behind him.

STAVROS

That's what you said last time.

Alexa walks past him and towards the door.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

Wait.

ALEXA

You said I'm needed out front.

STAVROS

No matter what I said, let them wait.

He pulls out a chair.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

Here, sit down.

ALEXA

No.

STAVROS

Just want to have a word with you,
that's all.

Alexa sighs but sits down and Stavros sits on top of some boxes.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

OK, look, OK, what you do in the -
in private, is your business and I
respect that, and you always show
up here and you put good work in.
But - look, I might be the boss,
but I'm always approachable and I
care about my employees.

ALEXA

OK.

STAVROS

Sometimes in life we make dumb,
idiotic choices, and sometime bad
'malakes' enter our lives and we
feel we need to stick with them
cause we always want to think the
best of someone and offer excuses.

Alexa nods once.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

What I really want to say is that you deserve - that - look, don't just let some asshole, idiot, 'arhidi' to beat on you. OK? You are much better than that, and I don't want to hear any bullshit about-

ALEXA

I'm not in an abusive relationship, I swear.

STAVROS

You're not?

ALEXA

No.

STAVROS

So why's your face look like it's used as a boxing bag for?

ALEXA

I - I started competing in MMA.

STAVROS

What?

ALEXA

Mixed martial arts.

STAVROS

Why does a nice girl like you want to do that for?

Alexa shrugs her shoulders.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

And I know, equal rights and all, women can do what men do, but just because men act like damn gorillas, why do the same?

The door opens and NICOLA, another waitress pokes her head in exasperated.

NICOLA

I could fucking use some help out here sometime this damn century?

STAVROS

Right. Lets go. Enough chatting.

CUT TO:

Alexa is clearing away a table.

Nicola is looking at a message on her phone and smiling.

At another table, a young black man, MICKEY, is scrabbling away at a note-pad, lost in the world his words are creating as ink meets paper. He is also listening to music through his earplugs, his body slightly moving back and forth in rhythm, as he is writing away.

Mickey takes a break from the writing and tilts his head up for a breather, and his eyesight lands on Alexa. His head lowers again, only to spring back up and look at her once more, as she is busy carrying dirty plates, glasses and cutlery away.

Mickey watches her walk away mesmerized.

CUT TO:

Alexa notices Mickey raise his hand up and wave at her to come to his table, so she goes to him.

MICKEY

Hey.

ALEXA

Yes?

MICKEY

It's my first time here, was wondering what desserts you got?

Alexa grabs a dessert menu from a neighboring table and hands it to him.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Thanks. Hmm, what would you recommend?

Alexa shrugs her shoulders.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Like, if you was me, what would you get?

ALEXA

Carrot cake.

MICKEY
OK, carrot cake it is.

ALEXA
OK.

MICKEY
Thanks.

CUT TO:

Alexa brings the cake to Mickey's table.

ALEXA
Carrot cake.

MICKEY
Oh nice.

ALEXA
Anything else?

MICKEY
Nah, I'm cool thanks.

Alexa is about to turn around.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
This is a damn fine place to write
in, you know.

Alexa stays put.

ALEXA
OK.

MICKEY
Seriously yo, I've been feeling
really inspired since I've sat
here.

Alexa stays quiet.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Have - have you been working here
long?

ALEXA
Yes.

Mickey pauses, thinks of something to say, doesn't, then puts
his hand out.

MICKEY

I'm Mickey.

Alexa looks at his hand uncertain.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Not gonna bite ya, just wanna know
your name.

Alexa shakes his hand.

ALEXA

Alexa.

MICKEY

Nice to meet ya Alexa.

Alexa looks around. Then at Mickey.

ALEXA

I have to clear a table, hope you
like the cake.

MICKEY

Thanks, I'll let you know if I do
later.

Alexa doesn't respond and Mickey watches as she walks away.

INT. MMA GYM - NIGHT

Alexa, dressed in athletic gear is stretching.

Alexa puts on boxing gloves, and starts hitting the heavy
bag.

Alexa is light sparring with another woman.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa breaks off some dark chocolate and mixes it into a bowl
of hot muesli.

She eats it while listening to Classical MUSIC.

CUT TO:

Alexa is in the living room area, holding on to a peach and
biting it, as she sprinkles some fish food for Gina.

ALEXA

How was your day then? Yeah, mine was same old, same old, too. Apart from this guy who wanted to know my name for some reason.

CUT TO:

Alexa gets in bed.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

DREAM:

Alexa is sleeping.

Next to her a man is sitting down, face in shadow, a knife in his hand.

Alexa keeps sleeping.

INT. APRTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa wakes up with a scream.

She tries to compose herself.

Alexa puts on black jeans, trainers and a black athletic jumper with a hood.

She fills up a backpack with a water bottle, snacks, and a first aid kit, then puts it on her back.

EXT. STREETS - NIGHT

Alexa is walking briskly down the street.

CUT TO:

Alexa stops near a council estate, takes out her bottle of water and takes a sip.

CUT TO:

She's walking again, looking carefully around as she does.

CUT TO:

Alexa goes into an abandoned back alley, next to some bins, makes sure she is alone, lowers her trousers and panties, knees down and urinates.

Alexa is on her feet again, and applies some antibacterial gel to her hands.

CUT TO:

Alexa is walking on a pavement when she hears an ARGUMENT, loud incomprehensible voices from a man and a woman who are yelling at each other.

Alexa takes a corner and sees a man and a woman, TY and PAULA, both skinny and covered in tatoos, down each other's throats.

TY

Just get me the fucking dough
bitch, I know you got some coin on
you.

PAULA

Get your hands off me you a-hole.
Get your own fucking money you bum.

TY

You always fucking taking what I
have. Give me you cunt, I need to
split.

PAULA

I ain't give you shit, fuck face.

Alexa watches on.

Ty slaps Paula.

TY

Fuck you bitch.

ALEXA

Stop.

Ty and Paula turn and look at Alexa.

TY

Who the fuck?

Alexa clenches her fists.

PAULA

Fuck is her problem?

TY

(To Paula)
You know this ho?

PAULA
Nah, she's prob a skunk bitch you
been fucking.

TY
Say what? You talking crazy again.

PAULA
Fuck you, you two timing piece of
shit.

Alexa moves closer to them.

PAULA (CONT'D)
You comes any closer I'm gonna
scratch your eyes out bitch.

ALEXA
I want to help.

PAULA
I don't need your fucking help ho.

TY
Yeah, she don't need no fucking
help.

Paula puts her hand on Ty's crotch.

PAULA
You want a taste of my man's
sausage? Is that it bitch?

Alexa, looking repulsed, shakes her head No.

PAULA (CONT'D)
Get the fuck away or I'll take it
out and stick it up your tiny ass,
split you up in two.

TY
Yeah, and you'll fucking love it,
won't you?

Alexa turns and starts walking away.

PAULA
Yeah, that's right, scam away
little girl.

TY
Get that skinny ass away before I
rip it.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Alexa walks towards her front door as Bruna comes out of her place next door, holding on to her dog, Mafalda.

BRUNA
Still got the insomnia then?

ALEXA
I guess.

BRUNA
Valerian didn't help?

ALEXA
No.

Alexa kneels to pat the dog.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
Where you off to, the park?

BRUNA
We're going to watch the sun rise
up.

INT. DINER - DAY

Alexa hands the bill to Mickey.

MICKEY
Thanks. Alexa wasn't it?

Alexa nods Yes.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Do you remember my name?

Alexa nods No.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
It's alright, it's alright. Won't
hold it against you girl. Some
people are bad with names. Besides,
you way too cute for me to be upset
with you.

Alexa turns to leave.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Wow, wait a minute now.

Alexa turns back.

ALEXA

What?

MICKEY

You know what I was writing today?

ALEXA

No.

MICKEY

New material for my performance poetry, inspired by you. You ever been to see spoken poetry before?

Alexa nods No.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

You're a woman of few words, aren't you?

ALEXA

I better go. I'm working.

MICKEY

Yeah, I need to head back to the dreaded office myself, but listen, come see me perform tonight. When do you get off work?

ALEXA

You asking me out?

MICKEY

Yeah.

ALEXA

No, I can't.

MICKEY

Why not?

Alexa is silent.

Then:

ALEXA

I've got to feed my goldfish.

Mickey's taken back a bit, then bursts out laughing.

MICKEY

You're cute and funny.

Alexa remains serious.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Oh you really mean it? Oh look,
come after you feed the little guy.

ALEXA
It's a girl.

MICKEY
Oh sorry, after you feed the little
girl.

ALEXA
I don't - I don't think-

MICKEY
Give me a chance yo, come on. Look
at it this way, I'll only keep
asking each day till I tire you out
and you say yes anyhow. Might as
well agree now and get it out of
the way.

Alexa walks away as a new Customer sits on a table.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Alright, alright, we play it that
way then.

Alexa keeps walking away.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
(yelling)
Name's Mickey. Bet you knew that
though.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa comes back into her place dressed in her vigilante
gear.

She showers.

Puts classical MUSIC on and falls asleep.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up feeling groggy. She turns around and puts her
hand between her thighs.

CUT TO:

Alexa feeds the goldfish.

INT. DINER - DAY

Nicola is standing by some empty tables and looking at her phone when Alexa walks by holding a plate.

NICOLA
Your boyfriend's here again.

Nicola looks at a table Mickey's sitting in, and Alexa follows suit and looks on. Mickey waves at her.

ALEXA
He's not my boyfriend.

NICOLA
Wouldn't take my order, wants you to go around.

ALEXA
He can wait.

Alexa starts walking away.

NICOLA
I feel it's love.

ALEXA
Shut up Nicola.

NICOLA
(singing)
Nothing more, nothing less, love is the best.

Alexa lowers her face embarrassed.

CUT TO:

Alexa brings Mickey a carrot cake.

MICKEY
Nice.

ALEXA
More coffee?

MICKEY
No, thanks, I'm cool. Could do with a date though. What do you say we catch a film later?

ALEXA
I can't.

MICKEY

It's alright, it's alright. I know you're testing me girl. I'm not gotta stop asking you though.

ALEXA

It's a free country.

MICKEY

That it is, that it is.

Alexa walks off, a smile evident on her lips.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa is in the main area of the diner and is sweeping the floor while Stavros is dipping the mop in a soapy bucket.

Two men with completely shaven heads and tatoos of a rapid dog on their necks, walk into the establishment. They are PETE and DOM.

STAVROS

Sorry gentlemen, we have closed for today.

PETE

We just want to have a quick talk, is all.

DOM

Yeah, just a few minutes of your time, if you don't mind.

Stavros walks to them and Alexa stops sweeping and looks on.

STAVROS

What is it?

PETE

We belong to a new public service group, like the Guardian Angels used to be, you know? We patrol the neighbourhood, make sure that good, law abiding citizens such as yourself are protected.

DOM

That's what we are here to offer you today, protection. This is a dangerous neighbourhood, we'll make sure nobody messes with your business.

STAVROS

Are you hustling me for money?

PETE

What? No, no man, you got us all wrong. This is a genuine service. We will lookout for you for a small monthly payment, and we'll also set aside the fact that you're foreign and maybe shouldn't even be here to begin with.

DOM

Pete?

PETE

Look at him.

STAVROS

I've been living, working and paying tax in this country for 20 years.

DOM

We appreciate that, my friend meant no disrespect. We're all OK, we're all friends here. No one is threatening anyone. We're not saying that if you don't pay your dues to us, you'll find your windows broken and this pace burned to a crisp. No one is saying those terrible thing might happen.

PETE

Nah, no one's saying any of that shit.

Pete and Dom smile at Stavros but it's nowhere near a nice smile.

Alexa grips the wooden body of the broom.

Stavros sighs.

STAVROS

OK.

PETE

There you go.

DOM

That's the right choice to make. We applaud you sir.

Stavros puts his hand in his pocket and takes out a bundle of bills, and hands them to Pete.

STAVROS

Here, take it and go, please.

Pete takes the money and pockets it.

DOM

Thank you, your diner is protected now, you have our word.

PETE

See you in a month's time.

Dom and Pete turn and walk past Alexa who is standing there looking at them and holding her anger back.

Pete and Dom notice her legs first, then their eyes slowly go up and they flinch a bit when they notice the scar on her face.

They walk past her.

DOM

Oh, that must have hurt.

PETE

What a waste man? Fine piece of ass like that.

DOM

I'd still do her.

PETE

I'd do her too, don't get me wrong but from behind only, know what I'm saying?

Alexa watches them as the leave.

DOM (O.S.)

Shut the fuck up Pete. You'd do her any which way and you know it. It beats bashing the bishop which is all you ever do.

PETE (O.S.)

Fuck you on about cockface? I don't - I have loads of sex.

DOM (O.S.)

Sure you do.

PETE (O.S.)
I fucking drown in concha, drown.

Alexa turns and looks disappointingly at Stavros, and he lowers his head and walks back to his mop and bucket.

INT. ROOM - NIGHT

In a dark room, the sound of a switchblade FLIP open is heard, it's blade reflecting a line of light through the thick of the dark.

A figure is in the room, at the far end of it.

The figure and the blade come closer.

MALE VOICE
Have you ever been intimate with a sharp blade girl?

The blade is close now.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up in fear.

CUT TO:

She has a shower.

CUT TO:

Alexa feeds the goldfish.

ALEXA
You have a good day now Gina, you hear? But try not to trash the place while I'm away.

INT. DINER - DAY

Alexa is serving a young couple, VALERIO and PENNY, who can't keep their hands off each other.

ALEXA
Cappuccino, soy milk extra froth.

VALERIO
Love it.

As Alexa puts the cup down she notices Valerio's hand slide across Penny's thigh.

ELEXA
And hot chocolate, cream and
cinnamon.

PENNY
Thank y... ohh.

Penny turns and hits Valerio on the shoulder.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Behave.

VALERIO
Do you really want me to?

PENNY
No.

They burst out laughing, then start kissing.

ALEXA
(low voice)
Let me know if there's...

Alexa walks away as the couple continue making out. Nicola walks past her holding a tray of dirty cups and plates.

NICOLA
What's with Romeo and Julia over
there?

Alexa shrugs her shoulders.

NICOLA (CONT'D)
They're making me nauseated.

Nicola heads for the back and Alexa looks at the table where Mickey usually sits in, which is empty.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa exits the diner holding on to brown bag with some leftover food inside and starts to head off.

Mickey appears on a motorcycle and stops next to Alexa.

MICKEY
Bet you missed me.

ALEXA

I - no, I - have...

MICKEY

It's alright, you don't have to say it. I know the deal. Look, I was running errands all day. But here I am asking you out again.

ALEXA

Why do you want to go out with me?

MICKEY

Cause when I look at you, all else around disappears. For real though.

Mickey puts his hands in his pocket and brings out a small piece of paper which he hands to Alexa.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

That's the address. Drop by if you want, we can go for burgers or something afterwards.

Mickey starts the motorcycle and speeds off.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa looks in her cupboard and finds she only has one dress there.

She puts it on and combs her hair a different style.

Alexa looks at herself in the bathroom mirror and moves side to side, but gets frustrated.

She walks back in the bedroom, takes the dress off and throws it across the room.

She puts on jeans and a jumper, and combs her hair again as she always wears it.

Alexa feeds the goldfish.

ALEXA

Any plans this evening Gina? What, the usual you say, swimming around and looking for trouble?

INT. POETRY CLUB - NIGHT

Alexa, apprehensively and with much unease, enters a small joint. It has a bar at the back and wooden chairs at the front of a tiny stage. On that stage is a woman. LARA, who's sitting on the ground and doing a piece of performance poetry.

LARA

Metallic pipes, rusty, sticky,
surround your cocoon of oil, water
and filth. Roaches scatter around,
omnivorously searching for food,
while you lie on the cold, hard
ground, an overplayed rug doll,
eyes closed, foetal, a pensive
beauty. Your stockings are ripped;
a revelation of pink skin, your
dress is dirty, wrapped loosely on
a bruised body. Your face is
smudged with dried blood; make up
gone wrong. Your hands are full of
cuts, bleeding puddles on the
ground, nourishing a microcosm of
bacteria. Your dreams are hallow,
deep, a free-fall to the abyss your
name betrays. Inside you - fever,
fury, glimpses of fangs, bare and
hostile, a soundtrack of hissing
and biting. No trial, no jury, only
the executioner: No judgment on the
wicked as they scream bloody murder
while the voices of a thousand
burning bodies echo in unison the
silent suffering of the accused,
the accursed - oh the sycophants.
Hidden from the sun, from warmth,
your first sight is red, you trace
your finger on the blood beside
you, resisting the temptation to
taste, to partake in your own
unholy communion. You sign your
name for what one day will adorn
your tombstone: Pretty Damned.

CUT TO:

Alexa is sitting down and sipping some juice.

On the stage comes a burly, bold man, DIMITRIS, who addresses the crowd.

DIMITRIS

Up next, one of our regulars. A
pistol shooting, bolt-speed writer
and a genuine awesome dude to know.
Please put your hands together for
Mickey.

Alexa puts her drink down and starts to clap along with the
audience as Mickey comes on stage.

MICKEY

I heard the lyrics as chaos married
order, as the darkness sparkled, as
the copper turned to gold and the
voice assaulted the sense of the
divine. Filth possessed me, body to
body, blood to blood. Music
swimming through my being, an ocean
of magic, melodies of deep blue
aqua expanding my mind. I learned
God's real name as he dropped his
semen in a flood of light...

As the performance goes on, Alexa's uneasiness goes away and
is replaced for admiration for Mickey's words and the passion
he emits in his performance.

INT. BURGER JOINT - NIGHT

Mickey and Alexa are sitting on stools by the window of a
small fast food shop.

Alexa picks up a burger but hesitates.

MICKEY

What is it?

ALEXA

I never really eat this type of
food.

MICKEY

Oh yeah? What do you usually eat?

ALEXA

Oats and fruit. I love peaches.
They are my favourite.

MICKEY

Give it a go. I swear by these.

Mickey takes a big bite, a bit of sauce runs down his chin.

Alexa giggles.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
What?

Alexa points to his chin.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Oh.

Mickey picks up some tissue.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Yeah, it's tasty but messy.

Mickey wipes his chin.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
How's that?

Alexa nods OK.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
What'd you waiting for?

Alexa takes a bite.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Well?

Alexa finishes chewing and swallows.

She smiles.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Mickey and Alexa are walking on the pavement.

MICKEY
Been doing it, maybe just over a
year now.

ALEXA
You're good.

MICKEY
Thanks, been writing though since
forever.

ALEXA
What made you go into performance?

MICKEY
This girl I was dating introduced
me to it.

ALEXA
Oh.

MICKEY
We broke up like 6 months ago.

Alexa stops walking.

ALEXA
This is me.

MICKEY
Oh cool. Damn, the night went by
too quick. I was talking too much
wasn't I?

Alexa shakes her head No.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Damn you cute.

Alexa blushes, looks away, then slowly looks back at Mickey.

Mickey goes for it and they kiss.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Have yourself a good night Alexa.

ALEXA
You too.

Alexa walks towards the building entrance. Then stops and
turns around.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
Mickey?

MICKEY
Yeah?

ALEXA
Do you want to come up?

MICKEY
Do I want to come up?

ALEXA
Yes.

MICKEY
Absolutely.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Food cramps fall into water.

Alexa is feeding the goldfish as Mickey looks on.

ALEXA
Gina this is Mickey, Mickey meet
Gina.

MICKEY
What's up? How you doing tonight?

ALEXA
She's shy cause she doesn't know
you, otherwise she's a chatter
mouth.

MICKEY
Ha, no need to be shy, I'm a good
dude.

ALEXA
Do you want to watch a film?

MICKEY
Sure.

ALEXA
I'm gonna make some herbal tea, do
you want some?

MICKEY
Do you have booze?

ALEXA
No.

MICKEY
That's cool. Yeah, tea's fine.

ALEXA
Camomile vanilla?

MICKEY
Sure.

CUT TO:

Mickey and Alexa are sitting all cosy-like on the couch watching a film, although Mickey's not really paying much attention to it.

Mickey leans over and kisses Alexa on the side of the face and then her neck but she stays unresponsive, and keeps focusing on the film.

Mickey reluctantly stops.

CUT TO:

Mickey's half asleep when Alexa switches off the TV and stands up.

ALEXA
Should we go to bed?

Mickey stands up rejuvenated.

MICKEY
Hell yeah.

CUT TO:

Alexa is in her pyjamas as she get into bed. Mickey excitedly gets his trousers and top off and gets into bed next to her.

ALEXA
You can keep the lamp on if you want to stay up and write.

MICKEY
Nah, really don't want to do no writing right now.

Mickey leans in and kisses her and she kisses back, but then puts her hand on his chest.

ALEXA
I don't want to do this now.

MICKEY
No?

ALEXA
I'm tired.

Alexa leans back on the pillow and closes her eyes, as Mickey looks on in disbelief. He slowly leans back on his side of the bed and sighs.

MICKEY
How about I give you a nice,
relaxing massage?

ALEXA
No, thanks though.

MICKEY
Don't mention it.

Mickey lies there with his eyes wide open.

Soon though he turns on his side, facing the back of Alexa
and places his body right up to hers, spooning her.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
This is cosy, isn't it?

Alexa turns around to face him, and he places his hand under
her top, then kisses her.

Alexa takes his hand away and pushes him back.

ALEXA
We sleep now.

Mickey turns around upset.

MICKEY
Fine, sure, sleep, why not?

He crosses his arms.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

It is morning and Alexa wakes up to find Mickey putting on
his trousers.

ALEXA
What are you doing?

MICKEY
I better go, got to get to work and
all.

ALEXA
Can't you stay a bit?

MICKEY
Nah, it's better if I go now.

He picks up his t-shirt.

ALEXA

Mickey?

Mickey looks at her.

MICKEY

What?

Alexa takes off her top, and MICKEY's t-shirt falls out of his hands.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

OK, I'm definitely staying.

Mickey jumps on bed and falls on top of Alexa, making her giggle.

He starts kissing her neck but then stops.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I get it, I get it, you one them girls like to get their rocks off in the AM, get all freaky with the sunrise, aren't ya?

He resumes kissing her neck, then kisses her bare torso, stomach and breasts, then neck again. He stops and looks in her eyes with utter desire.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Oh my lord.

ALEXA

What?

MICKEY

I want to eat you out.

Alexa gasps.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Do you want me to?

Alexa hesitates, then slowly nods her head Yes.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Nah, you gotta say it. If you want me to do it, I want to hear you tell me so.

Alexa takes a few seconds.

Then:

ALEXA

I - I want you to eat me out.

Mickey kisses her softly. He then moves on and kisses her neck, the top of her shoulders, her breasts, her bellybutton, and proceeds lower still, and Alexa can't help but let out small soft moans.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Alexa, in her black gear, is briskly walking through a rough looking neighborhood.

She takes a turn and comes upon what appears to be a beat down.

Pete and Dom are beating up a man, JULEK, who is on the ground.

PETE

We warned your ass, didn't we?

Dom kicks him in the ribs.

DOM

This isn't on us, this is your fault.

Pete punches him again and again, but is suddenly pushed hard to the ground by Alexa.

She then turns and faces Dom.

DOM (CONT'D)

Fuck are you doing?

ALEXA

Stop.

DOM

Screw you.

Dom charges towards her but when in range Alexa stops his momentum with a kick to his knee, then follows that with a kick to the face, making him move back in pain.

Pete though grabs Alexa by the neck from the back.

DOM (CONT'D)

Damn it, my fucking nose is bleeding. Hold her tight Pete.

Dom comes towards them.

Alexa though, elbows Pete in the ribs, then throws him over her and on to Dom, knocking him out.

Pete gets up and charges at her but Alexa jabs him twice, then takes him to the ground.

Pete takes a good look at her.

PETE
Hey, I fucking know you.

Alexa starts punching him repeatedly to the face, knocking him unconscious.

She stops punching and grabs her hand in pain.

She gets up and helps Julek to his feet.

JULEK
Thank you.

ALEXA
Can you walk?

JULEK
Yes.

ALEXA
Lets go.

INT. BLOODHOUNDS HEADQUARTERS - DAY

A tall, muscled blonde woman, VALKARIE, is doing chin ups.

She is doing push ups on chairs.

Valkarie is doing a punch and kick combination as a MAN is holding the pads for her.

She spars with the Man. The Man punches her a couple of times in the face but she doesn't even flinch.

Valkarie gets off a combination of punches and kicks and knocks him down.

Another Man in a suit and glasses, VALDAR, approaches her as she takes out her mouth-guard.

VALDAR
That was hot.

He grabs her and they kiss hard.

Pete and Dom enter the place looking rough and beaten up.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
Hell happened to you two?

They stay silent and look at each other.

DOM
We might have a problem.

PETE
We found a genuine enemy boss.
Someone we need to take down and
hard.

VALDAR
You don't say. And who is this
adversary, bold but foolish enough
to challenge us?

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Alexa is busy eating an ice-cream cone.

MICKEY is eating one too. They are sitting together on a
bench in a park.

A bit of ice-cream trickles down her hand and she wipes it
away with some tissue. Mickey notices her knuckles are all
bruised up.

MICKEY
Amateur.

ALEXA
What?

MICKEY
Can't handle your ice cream.

Alexa smiles.

ALEXA
I don't usually eat this?

MICKEY
Crying shame. Been having it since
my mamma would take me to get them
damn shots we had to get as kids.
She'd get me some after for being
brave. I ended up looking forward
to those damn needles just cause I
knew ice-cream was a coming next.

ALEXA

It's a miracle you're not fat.

Mickie laughs, then lifts his tee shirt revealing a six pack underneath.

MICKEY

Miracle ain't far off girl, God's blessed me with gifts.

Alexa smiles slyly.

ALEXA

That's true. Although modesty isn't one of them.

MICKEY

Ha, prob not, prob not.

Mickey points with his hand.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Hey, what the hell?

Alexa looks at what he's pointing at and Mickie, quick as lightning, has some of her ice-cream. Alexa realises what happened and slaps him on the shoulder.

ALEXA

Stop that.

MICKEY

Just fooling around.

He kisses her face.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

So, tell me, What did you look forward to when you were little?

ALEXA

Walks to the park with my grannie to feed the ducks.

MICKEY

Sounds cute. Were you close with your grannie then?

Alexa nods Yes.

ALEXA

She brought me up. My parents died in a car crash when I was three.

MICKEY

Ah shit, sorry to hear that.

ALEXA

My grannie was with me ten years,
then - she died too.

MICKEY

Oh man, fuck.

Alexa looks lost in thought.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Foster homes?

Alexa doesn't reply.

Mickey puts his arm on her.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

It's alright, how about we get more
ice-cream?

ALEXA

No.

MICKEY

No? Come on.

ALEXA

You get some, I don't think God
blessed me with the same gifts.

MICKEY

Half a scoop?

ALEXA

Mickey?

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Detectives MATT STEVENS and IRENA LOPEZ are sitting at their desk stations passing time. Matt is trying to knock a rubber off the table by firing a plastic band at it and Irena is looking at shoes online.

MATT

What are you doing?

IRENA

Shopping.

Matt's shot misses and Irena continue browsing through pages of shoes.

MATT

Ah shit.

IRENA

What about you?

MATT

Practising my aim.

IRENA

Practise makes perfect, or in your case, barely adequate.

MATT

Be nice and I might let you give me a quick HJ at the toilets later, I know you got crazy practise on those.

IRENA

I'd need tweezers to give you a hand job.

Matt smirks.

MATT

Fuck you bitch.

IRENA

Blow me asshole.

Matt's plastic band finds the target this time.

MATT

Yes.

Matt picks up the rubber and the band, while Irena presses enter for a shoe purchase.

IRENA

Sweet.

Matt sits back down.

MATT

Bet your vag is as stretched out as a 45 year old mother of six.

IRENA

Maybe but I know for a fact that my clit is bigger than your johnson.

Matt can't help but let out a laugh.

Detective MASTERS passes by their desk.

MASTERS

Yo Starsky and Hutch, the boss wants you in his office like yesterday, might have a case for your worthless asses.

MATT

Oh yeah?

MASTERS

Yeah.

IRENA

(while looking at monitor)
Cool.

MASTERS

No need to look so eager guys.

Masters walks away.

MASTERS (CONT'D)

I must be the only motherfucker in here dumb enough to still give two shits.

CUT TO:

Matt and Irena are in the office of Chief of Police SEYFRIED.

SEYFRIED

Got something for you two.

He throws an envelope on the edge of his desk, nearest the two detectives side.

SEYFRIED (CONT'D)

There's been increasing reports of violence on the upper south side, as you well know, so-

IRENA

Ah not another 'fuckville' case boss.

SEYFRIED

Yeah, a 'fuckville' case. Two cases actually.

(MORE)

SEYFRIED (CONT'D)

You two have been fucking cruising for ages now, doing the absolute minimum, and unless you shape up and put some effort into your fucking jobs, 'fuckville' is all you gonna get.

MATT

What is it, pimple faced youth robbing convenience stores?

SEYFRIED

There's some sort of extremist group on the rise. There's been reports of increase in hate crime and of extortion and racketeering. I want you to deal with this before it gets any worse.

IRENA

What's the other case?

SEYFRIED

We got reports that some sort of vigilante is out there, battling crime.

IRENA

Killing criminals?

SEYFRIED

No killing, not yet. Reports saying she's female.

IRENA

Female? Good for her.

SEYFRIED

No, not good for anyone. I know you two like others to do your work but the rest of us can't tolerate such behaviour. Go find and arrest her. Go, get the fuck out of here and do some goddamn work for once.

Irena and Matt get to their feet.

IRENA

No need for such hostility boss.

MATT

Yeah, lay off the red meat.

SEYFRIED
Would you get the fuck out already?

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa is doing sit ups on the floor, while Mickey is on the bed writing, although he seems to have written barely a sentence.

Mickey looks up and sees Alexa doing push ups in her small shorts and tank top, her body covered in sweat and he loses concentration.

He goes back to his writing but keeps stealing glances her way.

Alexa finishes her workout and stands by the bed.

ALEXA
How's it going?

MICKEY
I don't think this is the best
place for me to write in.

ALEXA
Why?

Mickey looks at her bellybutton.

MICKEY
Just - just can't concentrate well
I guess.

ALEXA
OK. I'm going to take a shower.

Mickey gets up and grabs her.

MICKEY
Wait.

ALEXA
What is it?

Mickey pulls her to him and starts kissing her. He picks her up and throws her on the bed.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
Oh, I guess the workout isn't over.

MICKEY
Nope.

Mickey gets on top of her and they kiss.

CUT TO:

Mickey and Alexa are naked and holding on to each other in bed.

Mickey starts caressing her face, then kisses her forehead, her nose and her scar.

ALEXA

I was 13 when it happened.

MICKEY

We don't have to talk about it, if you don't want to.

ALEXA

I know, but it's OK. It's - the first time I feel I can. There was a break in at my grannie's home. Three men, they wanted - things, money, jewelry. One of them walked in my room.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

A thirteen year old Alexa is on her bed, knees to her chest and is shaking as a MAN in a mask is standing in front of her. SCREAMING is heard coming from elsewhere in the house, as well as the noise of a struggle.

MASKED MAN

That must be your grannie, correct? She seemed like a nice old lady, she won't be able to help you now. It's just you, me and my pretty little knife here.

The Mask Man takes out a knife and wields it in front of the teenage Alexa.

MASKED MAN (CONT'D)

Have you ever been intimate with a sharp blade girl?

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa continues to tell Mickey the story.

ALEXA

He beat me up and tried to tear my clothes off but I kept struggling so he sliced across my face with the knife, then the two men he was with came into the room and told him they heard sirens. He placed the knife to my throat, kept it there for a few seconds, then took it away and they bolted out of there.

MICKEY

Ah Jesus.

ALEXA

I walked to grannie's room, only to find it covered in red. There was so much blood, I remember the smell even now. Grannie was lying there motionless, her face like some grotesque mask of terror.

Mickey holds Alexa tighter.

MICKEY

Fuck, I'm so sorry Alexa. That's horrible. That's the worst goddamn thing I've ever heard.

ALEXA

Sometimes bad things happen.

MICKEY

Yeah, sometimes they do. And all we can do is pick up the pieces and keep on moving forward.

ALEXA

I guess.

CUT TO:

Alexa is lying in bed next to Mickey but she is wide awake and looking anxious.

She quietly gets out of bed, and proceeds to dress in her 'vigilante' outfit.

She grabs her backpack, and a peach from the table and leaves.

EXT. STREETS - NIGHT

Alexa is standing on a small bridge overlooking the city and the night sky. She takes a deep breath in.

CUT TO:

Alexa walks by a HOMELESS MAN who's holding on to a dog.

HOMELESS MAN
Spare some change please?

Alexa looks through her clothes.

ALEXA
Sorry.

She takes off her back-pack and opens it.

HOMELESS MAN
It's OK. Don't worry.

ALEXA
I have peaches.

Alexa takes out two peaches and hands them over.

ALEXA.
Ah.

She takes out a bottle of water too.

ALEXA
Here.

HOMELESS MAN
Oh God bless you miss. Thank you so much.

CUT TO:

Alexa is in the middle of a fight with a MAN. Blows are exchanged but Alexa is more effective with her strikes. She gets the upper hand and manages to knock the man down.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Mickey wakes up alone in bed. He looks around and rubs his eyes, then runs to the toiler to urinate.

He walks back into the room and finds Alexa standing there, having just come back in.

MICKEY
Where were you?

ALEXA
Went for a walk.

MICKEY
Ah shit, I wasn't snoring, was I?

ALEXA
No. I had a bad dream so I went to
get some air.

MICKEY
Must have been some dream.

ALEXA
Yes.

MICKEY
You can wake me up you know.

ALEXA
OK.

MICKEY
I mean, really, I don't mind, so
wake me next time.

Alexa nods Yes, then goes up to him and they kiss.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
You want me to make us some
breakfast?

Alexa shakes her head No and smiles slyly.

The kissing resumes, but as Alexa's hand grabs hold of
Mickey's hair, her knuckles are all bloodied.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa is sweeping the shop as Nicola dips the mop in the
bucket a few times.

NICOLA
You're doing anything exciting
tonight then?

ALEXA
No, not really. You?

NICOLA

Putting my dancing shoes on and meeting the girls at a club. Why don't you come along?

ALEXA

Oh thanks but I'm quite tired.

NICOLA

You always tired. That Mickey's taking all your energy away.

Stavros enters the room.

STAVROS

I've got this, come on, it's Friday. Put it all down and get out of here already.

Nicola moves back from the mop and bucket immediately.

NICOLA

Yeihhhh.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Alexa crosses the street and passes through a car park. As she reaches the end of it, she finds five MEN waiting for her, two of which are Pete and Dom.

She stops, turns behind her and sees 3 more MEN appear.

Car lights illuminate the space.

ALEXA

What do you want?

VALKARIE (O.S.)

It's not them you should be worried about.

Alexa turns to her front again and sees Valkarie standing there staring at her.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

I challenge you to one on one combat. What do you say?

ALEXA

No.

Valkarie laughs. She sniffs the air.

VALKARIE

It stinks of fear suddenly. Don't worry little girl, it'll be over fast enough.

Valkarie walks up to her and gets into a fighting stance.

Alexa doesn't move. She stares at the tall, strong woman in front of her in silence.

Valkarie attacks Alexa and she moves back, deflecting the heavy blows as best she can.

Her arms ache at the end of the first attack, and an inside leg kick drops her to the ground.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Come on you pussy, fight back.

Alexa stands up and gets into a fighting stance. Valkarie attacks again. The two women go back and forth, exchanging blows but Valkarie gets in the heavier blows and seems too strong.

Valkarie does a combo of punches and kicks and knocks Alexa down again. She gets on top of her, ground and pounds her until Alexa is close to passing out, and stops.

Valkarie stands up and places the end bit of her shoe on Alexa's face.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

That's right, lick my shoe you pathetic little bitch.

Valkarie turns to Pete and Dom.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

So much for our mighty adversary.

She turns her attention back to Alexa, lets go with her leg, leans down, grabs a hold of Alexa's hair and looks at it. She then studies Alexa's face closely.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Hmm, you might be a dirty fucking kike for all we know.

She lets go of the hair and puts her foot on Alexa's chest.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Listen up, these streets belong to the Bloodhounds, you get it?

(MORE)

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

You go up against us again, we fuck
you up but worse.

Valkarie smiles, moves her foot away and signals to the soldiers to split. They all walk off, leaving Alexa on the ground and in pain.

INT. BUILDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bruna walks towards her apartment door and sees Alexa lying by her front door, all bruised and beaten up.

Bruna leans down to her.

BRUNA

Alexa?

Alexa stirs.

BRUNA (CONT'D)

It's OK, it's me Bruna. Can you
stand?

Bruna helps her up, leans her on the wall and opens her own front door. She helps her inside.

INT. BRUNA APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up in Bruna's bed, and sees Bruna asleep on a couch chair next to her.

Alexa tries to move but is in pain.

Bruna opens her eyes.

BRUNA

They got you good, didn't they?

ALEXA

Just one. Tall, strong - and
blonde. I've never been hit like
that before.

BRUNA

Rest up, nose's broken but all else
is OK.

ALEXA

Thank you.

BRUNA

What are neighbors for?

Alexa notices a boxing trophy on the wall.

ALEXA
You boxed?

BRUNA
A long time ago.

Alexa's mobile vibrates on the night stand.

ALEXA
My phone?

BRUNA
Yes.

Bruna picks it up.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
Says Black Dynamite's calling.

Alexa blushes for a second.

ALEXA
Let it be please.

Bruna puts the phone down.

INT. CAR - DAY

Detective Stevens gets into the car holding on to a bag of junk food. In the seat next to his sits detective Lopez.

IRENA
Took forever, I'm fucking starving here.

MATT
So am I but it was super busy.

IRENA
Super busy - you walk like a snail.

MATT
You fucking go next time.

Matt takes out a hotdog and fries and passes them on to his partner, who dives into the food.

IRENA
Hmm, is good.

Matt bites into his hotdog.

MATT

Yep. You have to try their chilly
sauce one day, best thing ever.

IRENA

I don't do spicy.

MATT

That's not what-

IRENA

Matt?

MATT

What?

IRENA

Where's my lemonade?

MATT

Ah shit.

IRENA

Can't believe you fucking forgot.

MATT

Sorry.

IRENA

You gonna go get it?

MATT

Nah, just have some of my soda.

IRENA

Don't want fucking soda.

MATT

Sorry.

Irena shakes her head and they continue eating.

IRENA

Did you read the reports?

MATT

Skipped through em.

IRENA

Typical.

MATT

Blow me.

IRENA
Eat my ass.

Matt gets sauce on his clothes.

MATT
Ah fuck, that's gonna stain.

IRENA
I really dig our vigilante girl.

MATT
Yeah?

IRENA
She's been going around
hospitalising would be rapist-
holes, what's not to like?

MATT
I'm cool with that. We have to
bring her in though.

IRENA
In due time. Let's concentrate on
the extremist shitbags first.

MATT
Alright.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Mickey enters the diner and looks around for Alexa. He only sees Nicola and a Waiter working the floor. Stavros is at the counter watching a football match on a small TV screen.

Mickey walks up to him.

MICKEY
Excuse me Mr. Stavros, is Alexa
around?

STAVROS
Hey Mickey, no she called saying
she was sick. What happened, you
guys have a fight or something?

MICKEY
Sick?

STAVROS
Said she had the flu.

INT. HALLWAY/BUILDING - NIGHT

Mickey knocks on Alexa's door.

No one answers, so he knocks again, harder.

MICKEY

Alexa. Alexa you in girl?

The door of Bruna's apartment opens and Bruna appears with Mafalda the dog.

BRUNA

You Mickey?

MICKEY

Yeah.

Bruna steps out, leaving the door open.

BRUNA

Alexa's in there.

MICKEY

Yeah?

BRUNA

Yeah.

Mickey looks at her and then the door.

BRUNA (CONT'D)

Go on, she wants to talk to you.

Mickey walks towards Bruna's apartment.

BRUNA (CONT'D)

We'll be back in an hour.

Bruna leaves with Mafalda and Mickey walks inside.

INT. BRUNA APARTMENT - NIGHT

Mickey finds Alexa sitting on a couch in her pyjamas. Her nose is messed up and she sports a black eye and a swollen lip.

MICKEY

Oh shit, are you OK?

Alexa nods Yes.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I spoke to Stavros. Must be some
fucked up flu you got there?

ALEXA

Sit down, I want to tell you
something.

MICKEY

What, you joined fight club?

ALEXA

Just sit.

MICKEY

I've been so worried about you.

ALEXA

Sorry.

MICKEY

What the fuck yo?

ALEXA

Please.

MICKEY

Fine.

Mickey sits down.

ALEXA

OK - I - I go out at night and look
for people to help. People that
might be in danger.

MICKEY

What, like a superhero?

ALEXA

No. Just - you know.

MICKEY

I don't know. Do you dress in
tights and wear a mask?

ALEXA

No, no, just comfortable black
clothes and a hoodie.

MICKEY

Like Luke Cage then?

ALEXA

Who?

MICKEY

This is crazy.

ALEXA

Don't make me regret telling you.

Mickey stands up.

MICKEY

Fuck, you serious aren't you?

ALEXA

Yes.

MICKEY

So what happened. Someone jump you when you were playing hero?

ALEXA

A few weeks ago I helped a man who was beaten up by these two thugs. Did a number on them. Turns out they belong to some sort of extremist group. They came after me. This tall, big woman challenged me to a fight, and won.

MICKEY

Jesus.

ALEXA

It's not too bad. I'm OK.

MICKEY

Have you been to the cops yet?

ALEXA

No.

MICKEY

Why not?

ALEXA

I don't want to.

MICKEY

So what you gonna do then? What if they attack you again?

ALEXA

I'll be ready for them next time.

MICKEY

What? You're planning to continue doing this - whatever the hell it is, after what happened?

Alexa stands up too.

ALEXA

Yes.

MICKEY

You can't be putting yourself in this kind of danger.

ALEXA

It's my life Mickey.

MICKEY

I'm not just going to sit by and let you do this.

ALEXA

Leave then.

MICKEY

You serious?

ALEXA

Yes.

MICKEY

Fine.

Mickey walks to the front entrance.

ALEXA

Mickey?

Mickey opens the door.

MICKEY

What?

ALEXA

Nothing.

Mickey leaves.

Alexa lowers her head.

INT. DINER - DAY

Detective Stevens and detective Lopez walk into the diner. They pass by Alexa who's better but still banged up, and make their way towards Stavros who is dipping a mop into a bucket.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

Hi, are you the owner of this place?

STAVROS

I am. What can I do for you?

The two detectives flashes Stavros their badges.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

I'm detective Stevens, this is my partner detective Lopez.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

We're going into establishments around this neighborhood asking owners if they have any information about a new far right group that has emerged recently and has been harassing businesses for protection money.

STAVROS

I know nothing about that.

Alexa looks on, trying to contain her anger.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

Are you sure?

STAVROS

Of course.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Well, if you get approached or if you find out anything that can help us, please get in touch.

She reaches into her coat pocket and hands Stavros a card.

STAVROS

No problem.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

Thank you for your time.

The two detectives turn and walk to the exit but Detective Lopez stops in front of Alexa who's finished clearing a table up.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
That's a really bad shiner you got there.

ALEXA
I slipped in the shower.

Detective Lopez notices Alexa's knuckles.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Sure you did.

She takes out another card and hands it to Alexa.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ (CONT'D)
In case you ever want to chat.

Alexa takes the card and the two detectives exit the diner.

Alexa walks up to Stavros.

ALEXA
Why didn't you tell them?

STAVROS
You think they give a damn about me or this little place? They don't. I would just be in more trouble if I told them. Best to keep one's mouth shut, say nothing and do nothing. It's the only way to keep safe. Trust me on that.

INT. ALEXA APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up alone in bed. She keeps looking to the side of the bed where Mickey would lie in. She reaches for the pillow and hugs it.

CUT TO:

Alexa is in the kitchen, she takes a peach and bites into it.

CUT TO:

She puts on classical MUSIC, feeds her goldfish and works out.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Mickey is sitting on a chair at a work station of the office he works in, and looks to be day-dreaming.

The phone on his desk RINGS, startling him.

He picks up.

MICKEY

(In phone)

Hello.

A woman, SUSIE, the editorial manager, is on the other end of the line.

SUSIE

Have you gone over the pages yet?

MICKEY

Um, almost done.

SUSIE

Come on Michael, you're holding everyone up.

MICKEY

Sorry, finishing them now.

EXT. NIGHT - STREET

A young man, ANDRE, is running down a street as fast as he can and Alexa is running after him.

He takes a turn into a back-ally and climbs over a fence and a few seconds later Alexa climbs the same fence as well.

Andre keeps running but soon glances behind him, sees Alexa and stops.

Alexa stops in front of him.

ANDRE

You're not the bitch I got this from.

ALEXA

No.

ANDRE

What the fuck do you want then?

ALEXA
To give it back.

Andre looks through the bag.

ANDRE
Why, not much in here anyway.

ALEXA
Doesn't matter.

ANDRE
Leave or I'll fuck you up, I'll
fuck you up bad, whore.

Alexa kicks Andre's hand and the bag flies out of his hands and hits the ground. Andre swings a punch at her but she avoids it, then starts punching and kicking Andre and he drops to the ground.

Alexa gets on top of him and continues punching away.

ALEXA
You'll fuck me up?

A woman, MARIA, approaches apprehensively. She picks up the bag and looks on as Alexa keeps hitting Andre.

MARIA
Stop it.

Alexa stops her punch half way and looks at Maria.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Stop it, he's not dangerous anymore
and I have my bag back.

Alexa looks at Andre and sees that he is a bloody mess. She gets off him and walks away.

EXT. FRONT OF BUILDING - DAY

Alexa is sitting on the front steps of her building looking solemn.

Bruna exits the building holding on to Mafalda, who starts licking Alexa's face.

ALEXA
Oh Mafalda, I like you too.

BRUNA
What's you doing sitting here?

ALEXA
Too early to go to work.

BRUNA
Hmm. You manage to talk to him?

ALEXA
He won't return my calls.

BRUNA
You're really fond of this guy,
aren't you?

Alexa nods her head Yes.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
So then stop feeling sorry for
yourself and go get him back.

Alexa looks at Bruna.

ALEXA
I don't think he wants to be with
me and I don't blame him.

BRUNA
Bullshit.

ALEXA
My life - it's complicated. It's a
mess.

BRUNA
Bullshit.

Alexa scowls and looks away.

Bruna pats Mafalda.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
Come on Mafalda, lets go chase some
squirrels and sniff some ass.

INT. BLOODHOUND HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Valdar and Valkarie are in the main office and in the middle
of an intense sex session.

CUT TO:

Valdar wipes his sweaty torso with a towel while Valkarie
adjusts her clothes and picks up a smoothie drink from the
desk.

VALDAR
Fucking needed that.

VALKARIE
Want some of this?

Valdar puts his trousers back on and shakes his head No.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)
Still worried about the deal?
Everything's in place isn't it?

VALDAR
It is. But this is a whole
different level of operation. If
something goes wrong, we'll be
screwed.

VALKARIE
Nothing will go wrong. You'll make
the deal and we'll reach that next
level we've been talking about.

Valdar Smiles, walks over to her and kisses her, then walks out.

Valdar walks through the main area of the Bloodhound's headquarters. A large space that looks like some kind of old storage warehouse. There are boxes all about, and there are couches, television sets, video game machines, as well as some rooms that look more like office space. Valdar stops when he sees a poster of a swastika on the wall.

He rips it off the wall and tears it, then turn to Dom, who's standing near.

VALDAR
Who the fuck put this up?

Everyone stops what they're doing and look at their leader.

DOM
P - Pete did.

VALDAR
Why the fuck did he do that for?

DOM
Um, because - well, he said it'd
give the place some ambiance.

VALDAR
Pete used the word ambiance?

Dom shrugs his shoulders.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
I don't want any Nazi shit in this
place.

DOM
OK. But - how come boss?

Pete enters the area and everyone turns and looks at him.

Pete checks that his trouser's zipper is up.

VALDAR
(to Pete)
You put this up?

PETER
Um, yeah?

Valdar looks around at everyone standing near.

VALDAR
OK, listen up all of you, cause
this is very important. Screw
Nazism. Fuck it real hard and make
sure it's the ass. Tear it up till
it bleeds.

There's REACTION and MURMUR from the Bloodhound members.
Valkarie stands at the entrance of the office and smiles.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
Let me explain to all of you why I
am saying this. I don't care what
their ethos was. I don't care what
they believed in and what they
tried to accomplish. And I'll tell
you why.

They all look at Valdar transfixed.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
Because at the end of the day, when
all was said and done, they got
their asses handed to them but bad,
that's why. They lost, no ifs or
buts about it. That is what it
comes down to. They lost, they were
fucking losers. Why would we look
up to that? Why salute inadequacy,
why admire incompetence? We're made
of different material ladies and
gentlemen.

(MORE)

VALDAR (CONT'D)

We're made of fire and steel and we are not gonna lose. We were born to win and that is what we are going to do. Do you get it? Do you understand?

DOM

Hell yeah.

The crowd of Bloodhounds cheer away.

EXT. POETRY CLUB - NIGHT

Mickey walks out of the joint accompanied by a MAN and a WOMAN. They are all bantering away, but Mickey sees Alexa standing by waiting for him.

The Man and Woman notice that Mickey has stopped walking.

MAN

See you at the next one Mickey.

Mickey glances at them.

MICKEY

Ah, yeah, take care guys.

WOMAN

See you Mickey, good luck.

Mickey and Alexa stare at each other.

MICKEY

How you been?

ALEXA

OK, you?

MICKEY

Alright.

They go silent.

ALEXA

I...

MICKEY

Want to take a walk?

Alexa nods her head Yes.

EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT

Mickey and Alexa are walking together.

MICKEY

So when was the first time you decided to - you know, do what you do at night?

ALEXA

Two years ago. I wasn't sleeping well, I was a mess. I decided to start going for long walks at night. They helped at first but then I hit another wall. Something was missing.

MICKEY

How did the first time go?

CUT TO:

TWO YEARS AGO.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A nervous and excited Alexa, dressed in black sportswear, comes out of her building.

ALEXA (V.O.)

I was scared at first and anxious and - excited, very excited.

CUT TO:

Alexa is walking the streets.

CUT TO:

Alexa stops walking and takes in a few breaths.

CUT TO:

Alexa comes out of a shop holding and biting into a sandwich.

CUT TO:

Alexa is sitting alone on a bench in a park. All is quiet.

ALEXA (V.O.)

But nothing much ever seemed to happen, and I was getting quite frustrated.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa is lying in bed awake.

ALEXA (V.O.)
And still I couldn't sleep.

CUT TO:

INT. PARK - NIGHT

Alexa is walking through a park.

ALEXA (V.O.)
Till one night.

Two HOODED MEN approach her.

HOODED MAN 1
Yo, what'd you doing out here alone
mamasita?

ALEXA (V.O.)
My heart started beating like a
drum.

HOODED MAN 2
He asked you a question bitch. Cat
got your slut tongue or what?

ALEXA
I don't want trouble.

The two men look at each other and start laughing.

ALEXA (V.O.)
I wanted to run away. But a curious
thing happened.

MICKEY (V.O.)
What?

Hooded Man 1 takes out a pocket knife.

ALEXA (V.O.)
A knife appeared in his hand,
similar to the one that scarred me.
And something clicked in my head,
like red light blinding my senses
for a second. As The light
subsided, I felt changed.

Alexa rushes at Hooded Man 1 taking him by surprise, knocking him to the ground and making his knife fly out of his hands.

Alexa gets on top of Hooded Man 1 and is punching away at him, in a berserk manner.

Alexa gets grabbed from behind the neck and gets pulled up by Hooded Man 2.

Hooded Man 1 gets up, and punches Alexa in the stomach.

Alexa lifts her legs up and kicks Hooded Man 1 in the face, then elbows Hooded Man 2 and trips him to the ground.

Alexa continues to fight both men.

ALEXA (V.O.)

I fought them on and on for a while more, beating on them and getting beat on. Bloodied and bruised, we all went our separate ways.

EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT

Alexa is up close to Mickey.

ALEXA

I was exhausted and in so much pain when I got home. I cleaned myself up, took some pain killers and went to bed. When my head touched the pillow I was out like a light. It was the best night sleep I ever had.

MICKEY

Right, right, so going out there protecting people is like therapy to you.

Alexa doesn't answer right away. She turns and looks out at the water.

ALEXA

That's what I told myself at first, and for a long while it's what I believed, but now I see that it's a fucking lie.

She turns back to Mickey.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

I go out there looking for a fight, looking to beat on someone, cause it makes me feel better, makes me much - lighter. That's why I do it. I'm not a hero Mickey, I'm a fucked up, selfish asshole.

Mickey breathes in deep.

MICKEY

Nah, come on, fuck that shit.

Alexa sits on the ground and Mickey goes and sits next to her.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Alexa look at me.

She does.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

It's still a positive thing. No matter why you think you do it, the results are the same. You help good people and you beat up bad people. OK? That's the bottom line here. You do good.

ALEXA

But you were so upset with me.

MICKEY

You kinda took me by surprise, and - I got a bit of a violent past I have been working very hard to distance myself from.

ALEXA

Really?

MICKEY

Yeah, awhile back. I used to run with the wrong crowd, used to raise hell. I didn't like myself back then. So I want all that in the past, you know? More than anything though I hate the fact that you put yourself in harm's way. Hate it big time.

ALEXA

Sorry. It's who I am though.

MICKEY

I know, I know. And I can accept it
- in time. I don't like it but if
it's part of you, then fuck it.
Cause, thing is...

ALEXA

What?

MICKEY

Screw it, straight up: I'm
desperately in love with you.

Alexa doesn't miss a beat.

ALEXA

I am too.

They stare at each other, the rest of the world hidden from
existence.

They kiss.

CUT TO:

EXT. BAKERY - NIGHT

Mickey and Alexa are giddy as they come out of a bakery
holding on to croissants. They take small bites, then kiss
each other.

Across the street, Dom is looking at them incredulously. Next
to him, playing a game on his phone is Pete.

Dom reaches out and taps him on the shoulder.

PETE

What the fuck you want?

DOM

Fucking look.

PETE

I can't, I'm gonna break my record.

DOM

Just look already.

Pete looks up.

PETE

Oh fuck.

They keep looking at Mickey and Alexa as they take a corner and get out of sight.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa has just woken up alone in bed. She's facing down on the mattress, hand between her thighs, when her phone RINGS.

She tries to ignore it and continue what's she's doing but it keeps RINGING.

She stops, and answers it.

ALEXA

What?

MICKEY (O.S.)

Oh did I wake you?

ALEXA

No.

MICKEY (O.S.)

You sound tense.

ALEXA

I - it's fine. Why are you calling?

MICKEY (O.S.)

Open the door.

ALEXA

What?

MICKEY (O.S.)

Open the front door.

CUT TO:

Alexa opens the front door and sees Mickey standing there, in jeans, shirt and tie, and holding a box of peaches.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Morning sunshine. These are for my lovely gal.

Mickey brings the box of peaches to the kitchen and leaves it on the table.

ALEXA

Oh.

MICKEY

I noticed you were running low.

Alexa walks up to him and kisses him and keeps at it. Mickey moves back.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I gotta get to the office, running real late.

ALEXA

Stay for a bit.

She kisses him again.

MICKEY

Oh man. No, I'm out.

ALEXA

But I want you.

Mickey is suddenly deep in thought.

MICKEY

OK, screw it.

Mickey grabs Alexa and they resume kissing.

INT. MMA GYM - DAY

Alexa is punching the speed bag.

EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

Alexa, dressed in her black outfit is sitting at a hilltop looking down at the city lights below.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa finishes serving plates at a table, then looks at the seat Mickey usually sits in, but it is empty.

CUT TO:

Alexa is at the storage room and on the phone. Her call goes into Mickey's answering machine and she hangs up.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa comes out of the diner, checks her phone and looks around for a few seconds, then sighs and walks away.

INT. ALEXA APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa walks into her apartment and gasps at the sight of a bloodied and naked Mickey, lying dead on the floor.

On the wall nearest to him, a message is written in blood: 'Purity is more important than love.'

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Detective Stevens and Detective Lopez are in the police chief's office.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

You wanted us to handle a serious case, didn't you?

SEYFRIED

It's now a homicide. It's not your department anymore.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

We want it.

SEYFRIED

So now you remembered you're detectives.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

Just give us one chance chief, we can do this.

SEYFRIED

You still have the vigilante case.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

I believe they're related.

SEYFRIED

How's that?

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

I don't want to say just yet, it's a hunch, a strong one.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Let us get back out there and do
our jobs. We've got the victim's
girlfriend waiting for us.

SEYFRIED
Fuck it, OK, you got one week, but
you better show me something good.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
OK then.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Won't let you down chief.

The two detectives leave the office and walk back to their
stations where Alexa is sitting, looking lost in thought.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Miss Gold?

Alexa doesn't answer.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Miss Gold?

Alexa looks at the detectives.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Sorry for keeping you waiting.

ALEXA
Can I leave now?

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Yes, but, look, if there's anything
else you wish to tell us, anything
at all, we will listen and we will
not judge.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
You can trust us.

Alexa looks at Detective Lopez, then at detective Stevens.

ALEXA
I want to go.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
OK.

Alexa stands up and Detective Lopez leans close to her.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

We know you're the one playing
Batwoman out there. If you don't
let us help you, you're just going
to end up like your boyfriend.

DETECTIVE STEVENS

Lopez!

Detective Lopez looks at detective Stevens, an 'oops'
expression on her face.

Alexa stays silent, turn around and walks away.

Detective Stevens turns to detective Lopez.

DETECTIVE STEVENS (CONT'D)

Hell was that?

Detective Lopez shrugs her shoulders.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Thought I'd try something.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

A woman in her fifties, AGGELIKI, is finishing making the
sofa bed in the living room, with the help of Stavros. Alexa
is standing nearby.

STAVROS

OK, you all set.

ALEXA

Thank you.

AGGELIKI

Anything you might need, just let
us know.

STAVROS

You can stay here as long as you
want. I'll make sure your place
gets tidied up and all. I know a
guy, he'll do a good job.

ALEXA

OK.

CUT TO:

Alexa is lying awake in bed, looking up at the ceiling.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa brings dishes into the sink area and unloads it. Her movements are slow and robotic.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

Nicola gets into a car that has a group of people inside as Alexa exits the diner.

NICOLA

Alexa, you want to join us?

Alexa shakes her head No and continues walking.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Stavros, Aggeliki and Alexa are sitting at a table together having dinner but Alexa is hardly touching her food.

On a shelf are family pictures of a young man together with Stavros and Aggeliki, and next to that a portrait of the same man, in between candle fire.

STAVROS

You really should try and eat something.

AGGELIKI

Stavros!

STAVROS

What?

AGGELIKI

No need to pressure her.

ALEXA

No, it's OK, I will eat, thank you.

Alexa picks up her spoon and tries some soup.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

It's very nice.

AGGELIKI

Thank you. And please, eat only as much as you want.

STAVROS

My mamma's recipe, that.

AGGELIKI
So you say.

STAVROS
It's true.

AGGELIKI
Not what I heard.

STAVROS
What did you hear?

AGGELIKI
Lets not get into that now.

ALEXA
I think I'm ready to go back
tomorrow.

STAVROS
You sure?

AGGELIKI
See what you've done?

STAVROS
What did I do? I'm just trying to
have my dinner.

ALEXA
No, you have been so helpful and
kind to me, but I think it's time I
go.

AGGELIKI
If it's what you want, know that
you can come back here anytime.

Alexa nods and smiles politely.

They all stay in silence for a bit.

STAVROS
It was my mother's recipe.

Aggeliki sighs.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Detective Stevens and detective Lopez are in one of the
interrogation rooms as DETECTIVE PATTERSON walks in.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON
Whatever angle you're playing at in
the new case, I want in.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
What?

DETECTIVE PATTERSON
Don't play coy with me, not after
all we've been through.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
We're not playing an angle - not
anymore.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON
Hey, come on now, I brought you in
on the last score, you can at least
return the favour.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
This isn't like that, OK. We don't
want to do that anymore.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON
Yeah, right.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
We're serious.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON
What, did you suddenly find God?

Stevens and Lopez look at him without saying another word.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON (CONT'D)
Fine, be like that.

He reaches for the door.

DETECTIVE PATTERSON (CONT'D)
Pretend you're all noble and
righteous now. Whatever helps you
sleep at night.

He slams the door on his way out.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

Alexa walks on the bridge she had visited before, leans on
the edge and looks down.

She stays there, almost frozen in time, looking at the large drop.

HOMELESS MAN (O.S.)
Hey, it's you.

Alexa turns and sees Homeless Man walk up to her.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)
It's a good view this one.

Alexa turns and looks at the view and Homeless Man joins her.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)
I've been hoping you walk by here.
I have something for you.

ALEXA
I don't want anything.

HOMELESS MAN
You won't say that when you see it.

Homeless Man takes out a brown bag from his pocket, unwraps it and reveal a big, juicy peach.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)
When I saw it, it reminded me of
you and I had to - get it for you.

He hands it to her.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)
Well, I better be off then, things
to do, places to be, adventures to
be had.

Homeless Man walks away. Alexa looks at the peach for a while, then lets it drop from her hand and it falls till it splashes on the ground.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa enters her place holding on to a paper bag that has a bottle inside. She looks around the newly cleaned space and takes a big swing from her bottle.

Alexa sits on the ground and continues drinking.

She looks at the place the goldfish used to be but it's empty.

ALEXA

Did they get you too little Gina?

CUT TO:

Alexa rushes into her bedroom, opens her cupboard and takes out her black 'vigilante' clothes.

She throws the clothes in the bathtub, pours from her bottle on top, lights a match and drops it. The clothes light up and she watches as they burn. Alexa turns the shower on and kills the flames, then drinks the rest of the alcohol from the bottle.

Alexa rushes to the toilet bowl and throws up.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up on the ground, next to the toilet bowl. There's dried vomit around her mouth and in her hair.

Bruna is sitting on the edge of the bathtub looking at her.

BRUNA

Wash up and come join me.

CUT TO:

Alexa, hair wet, joins Bruna in the living room and Bruna hands her a hot cup.

ALEXA

What is it?

BRUNA

Herbal tea, it'll do you good,
drink it.

Alexa takes a sip and her face twists in disgust.

ALEXA

It's horrible.

Bruna smiles.

BRUNA

That's when you know it's really
potent.

ALEXA

Why are you here?

BRUNA

You're not breathing properly.
You're holding it all in. Tense and
frigid.

ALEXA

What?

BRUNA

You have to let it all go. All the
rage and hate. All of the ugly.

ALEXA

I don't want to.

BRUNA

I know but you gotta.

ALEXA

What do you want from me?

BRUNA

Right now to drink more tea.

Alexa picks up the cup and slams it to the ground. The cup
and its content decorate the ground.

Alexa stands up.

ALEXA

Fuck you and your stupid tea.

Bruna stands up too.

BRUNA

Is that all you got to say?

ALEXA

(yelling)
Shut the fuck up.

BRUNA

Good, now you're breathing better.

ALEXA

Fuck you.

Alexa falls to the ground and starts SCREAMING. She continues
to do so and then she starts punching the ground repeatedly,
till she gets out of breath.

Bruna walks to her and puts her hand on Alexa's shoulder.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
Leave me alone.

BRUNA
One more thing.

ALEXA
Go away.

BRUNA
Just a hug.

ALEXA
What?

BRUNA
No one has hugged me for a long
time. Will you please do this for
me?

Alexa looks at Bruna incredulously, and Bruna helps her up.
The two women slowly hug.

The hug becomes tight and Alexa starts crying away.

INT. BRUNA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bruna is in the kitchen pouring dog-food in Mafalda's bowl,
the dog is standing by, licking her mouth but displaying
perfect discipline.

BRUNA
OK girl, dig in.

Alexa is sitting by the table, fresh cup of herbal tea in her
hands looking at Gina the goldfish, as it swims in her bowl,
on the table.

ALEXA
Thanks for taking care of Gina for
me.

BRUNA
My pleasure.

Alexa looks at Bruna.

ALEXA
So, what now?

BRUNA

One of two things. You can continue on in a stupor, accepting life's beatings, sleepwalking the rest of your miserable life like a victim, or you can raise your head, look life in the eyes and punch the bitch back.

ALEXA

I - I got nothing left.

BRUNA

Do you really believe so?

ALEXA

Only scars.

BRUNA

We all got those. It's a choice Alexa. If you pick the second one, if you choose to fight back, I'll be here to help you.

INT. BACKSTREET - DAY

Detective Lopez is walking through the graffiti decorated back streets of a community housing block.

She spots a man, PHIL, wearing an old ripped shirt, and dirty old jeans.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Phil, just the man I wanted to see.

Phil sees Lopez and starts to run.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ (CONT'D)

Ah fuck, no. I got fucking heels on Phil, you asshole.

Lopez chases after Phil until she manages to catch up to him and push him onto some trash cans.

She grabs hold of him before he can get up and traps his arm in a lock, making him YELL in pain.

PHIL

You're breaking my arm.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Shut up cry baby.

PHIL
I haven't done nothing.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Why did you run then?

PHIL
What? That's just like reflex man,
hard-wired shit, ya know. I always
run.

Detective Lopez lifts him up and lets go of his arm.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
So if I search you, you'll be
clean?

Phil contemplates the question.

PHIL
Um, ye-ah.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Right, sure. Look, I just want some
info, alright.

PHIL
And here I thought you were looking
for a date.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Cut the attitude. I don't have all
day.

PHIL
What's going to be in it for me?

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
I won't search you.

PHIL
Ah man, this blows.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Fucker, I should just bust you for
ruining my heels.

PHIL
What do you want to know?

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Know anything about a new extremist
gang?

PHIL

Yeah, I got ya, I got ya. They've been making noise lately, barking real loud.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Name?

PHIL

The Bloodhounds.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Where's the lair?

PHIL

No idea.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

For real?

PHIL

Look. I hate them racists motherfuckers. I don't associate with their kind.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

I'm about to put my hands in your pockets, you better give me something.

PHIL

Wait, alright, try Mjolin bar, OK, that's all I've heard.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Mjolin bar?

PHIL

New place, few months old. Down by the pier.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

OK, get the fuck out of here.

Phil leaves and Lopez looks at her feet.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ (CONT'D)

Should have fucking worn my kicks.

INT. BRUNA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa is applying boxing tape to her left wrist and hand. Her right hand's already wrapped.

Bruna is waiting for her, holding punching mitts in her hands.

Mafalda is in the corner, on a rug, watching with interest, like a spectator.

Alexa stands in front of Brunna.

BRUNNA
Tell me about Valkarie. How does she fight?

ALEXA
Strong and fast, comes at you like a bulldog.

BRUNNA
OK, good. All we need to do is get you to dance.

ALEXA
Dance?

BRUNNA
Yep. Get in a stance.

Alexa gets in an orthodox stance.

BRUNNA (CONT'D)
Switch it.

ALEXA
Why?

BRUNNA
I want you to learn to fight equally well as a southpaw.

ALEXA
OK.

Alexa switches stance.

BRUNNA
Jab.

Alexa starts throwing punches.

EXT. MJOLIN BAR - NIGHT

Detective Lopez and Stevens, dressed in black, enter the bar.

They dance for a bit while scouting the place.

Soon they notice a man, JAY, with a tattoo of a rapid dog on his neck.

Detective Lopez makes her way to him and starts to dance with him.

She kisses him, then whispers in his ear.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Lets get out of here.

EXT. MJOLIN BAR - NIGHT

Detective Lopez and Jay reach a car and Jay unlocks it. He turns around and sees Lopez holding a badge.

JAY
Fuck is that?

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
I think it's self explanatory,
isn't it?

JAY
Fuck you, haven't done anything.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Just want some information.

Jay grabs his crotch.

JAY
Suck my domepiece bitch.

Detective Stevens appears next to Lopez.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
I would be nice to her if I were
you.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
This can go one of two ways. The
easy or the hard.

JAY
I have a third way. Fuck both you
pigs.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Seems it's gonna be the hard way.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Good.

Detective Lopez punches Jay on the nose.

INT. BRUNA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa is sitting in a lotus position on the ground and breathing in deep.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Alexa is running in the street.

INT. BRUNA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bruna is working some footwork drills with Alexa.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa falls to her bed exhausted.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alexa is in the bathroom, looking at herself in the mirror. Her scar begins to bleed.

She turns around and sees Valkarie holding on to a knife.

VALKARIE

Turn the other cheek.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Alexa wakes up in fear.

Bruna is sitting across her eating cold pizza.

BRUNA

Oh good, you're up. I've got some
oats cooking. There's hot coffee
too.

Alexa sits up.

ALEXA

Bruna?

BRUNA

What?

ALEXA
I'm - scared.

BRUNA
Good.

ALEXA
Good?

BRUNA
It means it's almost time you went
out there again.

ALEXA
I don't feel ready.

BRUNA
Fear is the catalyst for growth.
Besides, aren't you also angry?"

ALEXA
Very.

INT. SHOP - DAY

Alexa is browsing through clothes.

She picks up a black jumper with a hoodie at the back, turns
it over a few times, then rests it on the body and look at
her self in the mirror.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Stavros is counting the day's take by the counter as Alexa is
mopping the floor.

Stavros finishes counting the money and takes out a pie from
the display counter.

STAVROS
You want the cherry pie?

ALEXA
No thanks.

STAVROS
I guess I'll have to take it then.

ALEXA
You always take all the pies.

Stavros smiles.

STAVROS
Shush, I do not.

CUT TO:

Alexa puts away the mop and bucket in the storage room, grabs her jacket, and walks back to the front. As she reaches the front door, she turns to Stavros.

ALEXA
Stavros.

STAVROS
Yeah.

ALEXA
You have to stop giving money to
the scum that come here asking for
it.

Stavros looks at Alexa.

STAVROS
I - it's safer that way.

ALEXA
No, it's not.

STAVROS
Alexa, you have-

ALEXA
Stop doing it.

They stare at each other.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
I will make it safer. I promise.

Alexa opens the door and leaves.

STAVROS
What does that mean?

INT. BRUNA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alexa, hands wrapped, wearing shorts and tee-shirt, is shadowboxing, while Bruna is nearby supervising her. Alexa's movements are fluid and smooth and her punching crisp.

BRUNA
That's it. Feel the flow, dance.
And if an immovable force comes at
you, side step and hit it from an
angle.

CUT TO:

Bruna puts her hitting pads on.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
Come. I want the four punch combo,
side step, then jab.

Alexa does the move.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
Good.

CUT TO:

A sweaty and out of breath Alexa is sitting with Bruna on the
ground.

BRUNA (CONT'D)
You're ready.

ALEXA
Yeah.

Bruna stands up, opens a drawer and takes out a little
wrapped box.

BRUNA
Got you something.

She hands it to Alexa.

ALEXA
Thanks.

Alexa opens it and looks inside.

ALEXA (CONT'D)
I love it.

Inside the box there is a pair of knuckle-dusters.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Alexa is serving a customer as Pete and Dom enter the place and head to the counter where Stavros is sitting and listening to a football game on the RADIO. As they pass Alexa, Pete gives her a sickly smile.

Pete and Dom stare at Stavros but he continues sitting down listening to the radio.

PETE

Have you got something for us?

Stavros stands up and looks at the two men, then he looks at Alexa, then back at Pete and Dom.

He shakes his head No.

PETE (CONT'D)

Is that right?

DOM

You're making a big mistake.

PETE

You'll fucking pay, one way or another.

Suddenly there's COMMOTION from the radio. Stavros smiles and puts his hand up triumphantly.

PETE (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

STAVROS

Olympiakos just scored.

Pete and Dom look at each other in annoyance.

Alexa walks quickly past them, and walks into the back-room. She grabs a back pack and waits at the entrance of the room, spying on what's happening outside.

She sees Pete and Dom leave the shop, then walks out fast.

She passes Stavros and yells behind her.

ALEXA

Gotta go Stavros, sorry.

STAVROS

Everything OK?

ALEXA

It will be.

A puzzled Stavros looks at Alexa exit the diner.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Alexa follows the two Bloodhound men from a safe distance.

CUT TO:

She watches as they exit a shop and Dom places an envelop in his pocket, and follows them as they start walking again.

CUT TO:

Alexa follows them through a back-alley and sees them walk down steps to the basement of what appears to be an abandoned building.

Alexa opens her back-pack and takes out her vigilante clothes. She takes off her work clothes and changes into black. She then puts on the knuckle-dusters as well.

Alexa walks down the steps to the basement, just as Pete and Dom had done, and comes upon a big metal door.

She KNOCKS on it.

On the eye level, a small window slides open and eyes appear from within.

MAN

Fuck you want?

ALEXA

I want in.

MAN

Why?

ALEXA

I bring gifts.

The window slides back in place.

Alexa waits.

The door swings open and Alexa walks inside.

INT. BLOODHOUND HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Alexa enters into the Bloodhound headquarters.

She sees Peter, Dom, another 8 men and 2 women in a semi circle, all looking at her. Then Valdar and Valkarie join them. Valkarie smiles as she sees Alexa.

VALKARIE

Are you here to be my little sex
slave, you filthy kike?

Alexa looks at Valdar.

ALEXA

Are you the leader here?

VALDAR

I am.

ALEXA

You left a message at my place, I
thought I'd return the favour.

VALDAR

Is that right? What's the message?

Alexa reaches in her backpack and produces a rolled up poster. She unrolls it and it opens up to reveal the words: "Unity in Diversity".

Alexa takes a piece of blue tag and sticks the poster on a nearby wall.

VALDAR (CONT'D)

You're really into sadomasochism,
aren't you girl?

ALEXA

You have no idea.

Valkarie walks forward.

VALKARIE

I'll handle her.

VALDAR

No, let our soldiers have some fun.
Get her.

As soon as the words are uttered, Alexa springs into action, targeting the man that is closest to her, with a knuckle duster punch, making the man YELL in pain, hold his mouth, then spit out blood and teeth. She punches a bloodhound woman and floors her unconscious.

Alexa grabs the man with the broken teeth and pushes him on an oncoming opponent, both of them falling to the ground.

More opponents come at her, and she uses her kicks to keep them at bay, but one of them manages to side-kick her in the gut, dropping her back and to the ground. Alexa jump-flips up from the ground and as an opponent punches at her she changes levels and takes him to the ground. She punches him and rolls off, then scissor-kicks another opponent to the ground, but as she stands up she gets punched in return by a new opponent.

She moves back and tries to find new space and they all go after her. She uses low kicks to defend herself then spin back kicks two opponents to the head, knocking them out.

Another female opponent comes at her, so she punches her in the gut, then jump knees her to the head.

Dom is now upon her, and she defends his blows, then punches him on the jaw and a CRACK sound is heard. Dom goes into a world of pain, and falls to his knees. Pete sees this, turns and runs out of there.

Two remaining opponents attack her and she ducks, bobs and weaves their attacks, knocking one out with a right cross, then knocking the other one with a left hook.

Every one of the Bloodhound soldiers is now either knocked out or in pain and incapacitated. Valdar looks on incredulously, but Valkarie seems to be almost sexually aroused.

Valdar looks at Valkarie.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
She's all yours.

VALKARIE
Yeah she is.

Valkarie walks towards Alexa and stands in front of her.

Alexa takes off her knuckle-dusters and drops them to the ground.

Valkarie nods.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Catch your breath, I want this to be a fair battle. I'll warm up while you rest.

Valkarie starts to perform warm up exercises and to stretch, while Alexa sits on the ground in the lotus position and breathes in deep.

Valkarie proceeds to do a series of combos, building up a light sweat, while Alexa sits there, eyes closed, breathing in slowly.

Valkarie gets into a fighting stance. Alexa opens her eyes, stands up, shakes her limbs loose and gets into a fighting stance as well.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Lets see if you give me a better fight this time.

Alexa crouches down low, her right fist resting on the ground.

The two warriors rush each other, the blows coming thick and fast, and Alexa ends up knocked to the ground, holding her chest in pain.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

Up you go. Get up and get your beating.

Alexa gets up and dusts off her trousers and Valkarie rushes her, and attacks her with a flurry of blows that Alexa tries her best to defend, but a sharp combo of punches and kicks sends her to the ground again.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

You will never be a match for me. But I will do you a favour. I will beat the weakness out of you, then I'll allow you to moister me up before my fuck sessions.

A cut is visible on Alexa's right eyebrow, as she gets to her feet.

Valkarie rushes her again but this time Alexa steps to the side and counters her, then circles out of danger.

Valkarie gets annoyed from getting tagged, and rushes Alexa again with hard swings but Alexa changes levels and takes her to the ground. Alexa punches her twice from above but then gets kicked away by Valkarie.

Valkarie gets to her feet, blood is now running down from her nose.

VALKARIE (CONT'D)

I'm going to fucking rip your head off.

The battle rages on, and the Bloodhound members look on in anticipation.

Valkarie storms at Alexa really enraged, throwing bombs, the first one connects, wobbling Alexa but she manages to stay up, then as the other blows come, Alexa ducks, weaves and side steps, avoiding most of them and managing to counter too.

Valkarie starts to breathe from the mouth and her movement starts slowing down. Alexa goes into attack mode. She puts together one combo after the other that find a home, and finishes off with a jump kick that knocks Valkarie to the ground.

Alexa gets on top of Valkarie and starts punching away at her. A bloodied Valkarie is about to pass out and Alexa manages to control herself and stop.

She stands up and looks at Valkarie.

ALEXA

That's right, this filthy kike just kicked your fucking ass.

She looks around at the confounded Bloodhound members and at a poker faced Valdar, who's standing there looking emotionless.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

You all listen now and listen good. Those streets out there are my streets and I'm always going to be there to protect them from scum like you.

A gun is HEARD being cocked. Alexa looks at Valdar who is aiming the weapon at her.

VALDAR

How can they be your streets when you're dead?

ALEXA

Put the gun away and come find out.

Valdar smiles.

VALDAR
That's not going to happen.

Alexa looks around her.

ALEXA
This scared little man is your
leader?

Valdar laughs.

VALDAR
Do you think I'm the top dog due to
brute strength? It's my
intelligence that makes me the
alpha. Perseverance against all
odds trumps foolish pride.

ALEXA
Coward.

VALDAR
You're going to die now and nothing
you did here today will have any
meaning or bearing.

Valdar's finger starts to pull on the trigger.

A GUNSHOT goes off.

Valdar starts to bleed in his upper chest area. He looks down
at it.

VALDAR (CONT'D)
Oh, fuck off.

He falls dead to the ground.

Detective Lopez is holding on to a smoking gun, next to her
detective Stevens has his gun drawn as well.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
I had that shot.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
You're getting old partner.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Fuck you, I just let you have this
one cause I'm a nice guy.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Old guy.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Bitch.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Asshole.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Slut.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Cock.

Police officers enter the space behind the detectives and start arresting Bloodhound members.

The two detectives walk up to Alexa. They look at all the Bloodhounds all messed up.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Wow, is all this your doing?

Alexa nods Yes.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Damn impressive.

Paramedics enter the building.

DETECTIVE STEVENS
Are you hurt?

Alexa shakes her head No.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
You sure?

Alexa smiles.

The detectives look from her battered face, all the way to her bloodied fist, then to the ground, where droplets of blood start to pool.

FADE OUT.

THE END