

VENISON

by
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INT. LOWER MERION ELEMENTARY, PHILADELPHIA - AFTERNOON

We are close up on DANNY DICKINSON, a bright 11 year old with light brown hair and a concentrated expression that makes him seem older than his peers. Small notebooks are passed down each row and the sound of a teacher's voice comes in. DANNY turns the small notebook over in his hands as she speaks.

DANNY'S TEACHER

I know everyone's excited it's the last day of school. You'll also be excited to know that I'm giving you a summer assignment.

There are groans among some of the other 5th grade students. DANNY opens the cover and writes his name and date.

DANNY'S TEACHER

If you want to make the 6th grade, this is a requirement. Look at it as...an opportunity to learn a little about your inner self this summer.

MALE STUDENT

(whispering to DANNY)
Whatever that means.

DANNY smiles to be cool. DANNY'S TEACHER steps forward and speaks earnestly.

DANNY'S TEACHER (CONT'D)

I want you to jot down your experiences. Prose, poetry, sketches, whatever helps you to express yourself. Creativity is welcome.

Pause.

DANNY'S TEACHER (CONT'D)

Your homeroom teacher will collect the journals on the first day of school in September.

The bell rings and the students jump up enthusiastically. There are some cheers heard from the hallway. DANNY follows some friends out of the classroom but stops to say goodbye to his teacher.

CUT TO:

EXT. DICKINSON'S FRONT YARD - AN HOUR LATER

MR. DICKINSON pushes a mower across the front lawn and turns it off after finishing a row. He pulls the bag from the mower and stands to wipe the sweat from his brow. He looks to a school bus at the corner, where DANNY and some other kids walk off and go their separate ways. DANNY gives his dad a big, proud smile.

MR. DICKINSON

Hey buddy.

DANNY

Hi dad.

MR. DICKINSON

Did you pass?

DANNY smiles at his father, then keeps walking towards the front door.

MR. DICKINSON

We're leaving early. Get your bag packed tonight so mom doesn't have to do it for you.

DANNY

(running off)

Okay I will!

DANNY takes his sneakers off at the front door and glides through the hallway to the kitchen. His older brother DEREK stands holding a blender lid closed as he starts it up. DEREK is 17, and is entering his senior year at Merion High School. He has light hair and light eyes like his older sister KAT and a thick athletic build for his age.

DEREK

(casually)

What up D.

DANNY

What up, D.

It's what they do.

DEREK

I'm up to 175.

DANNY

You know your body can only use so much protein at one time? You just crap the rest out.

DEREK
Where'd you hear that?

DANNY
Wikipedia.

DEREK
All lies.

DEREK smiles at his brother as he chugs his shake down.

DEREK
You want some?

DANNY shakes his head no, grabs a glass of water and walks past the back door to the patio.

EXT. DICKINSON'S POOL DECK - NEXT

KAT, 18, lays sunning in her red bikini with large circular shades covering her eyes. She is tall and dirty blonde with a dancer's build. She is the oldest of the DICKINSON kids.

MRS. DICKINSON (O.S.)
Are you packed, honey?

KAT
Everything's laid out I just have to put it in my bag.

MRS. DICKINSON
You know we're leaving at 7 tomorrow?

KAT
Yeah, you told me.

MRS. DICKINSON
Do you have a towel and sheets? I didn't pack extras.

KAT
(indifferent)
Nope.

MRS. DICKINSON stops and looks at KAT. She walks in her direction from the glass doors on the porch and tosses a towel on KAT'S lap. KAT finally opens her eyes and looks at her mom.

MRS. DICKINSON
This is our last family vacation.

KAT

Mom, I'll be back for Christmas and spring break, and then I'll be home for the whole summer. You'll be sick of me!

MRS. DICKINSON

That's what you think.

MRS. DICKINSON turns away, acts like she is testing the pool temperature with her toes. KAT watches her.

KAT

(annoyed)

Mom.

MRS. DICKINSON

(defensive)

You'll understand when you have kids.

MRS. DICKINSON fights her emotions. KAT pulls her sunglasses up.

KAT (CONT'D)

You're crying.

MRS. DICKINSON

No I'm not.

She wipes a tear.

KAT

Mom, please don't cry.

MRS. DICKINSON

I'm fine.

KAT puts her shades back on and lays back. She grabs her phone and starts texting a friend. MRS. DICKINSON walks away briskly, but turns back to KAT.

MRS. DICKINSON

Make sure you're all ready to go tonight, I want to check in before dark tomorrow.

KAT mouths "okay".

INT. LOWER MERION, PHILADELPHIA - PRIVATE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM -
LATER THAT EVENING

A dark auditorium is packed with middle-aged parents, all waiting for their children to perform in the senior dance recital. MR. AND MRS. DICKINSON, parents of KAT, and their sons DEREK and DANNY, look at each other in anticipation.

A voice cuts through the stir of the crowd.

MC (O.C.)

Ladies and gentleman, our finale.
State jazz finalist and Gershaw
Award Winner, KAT DICKINSON
performing Bullet with Butterfly
Wings.

She smiles and hustles off stage.

The crowd applauds, and we hear some scattered whistles from the young men in the back of the auditorium. DANNY looks back at the boys. One of them makes a blowjob gesture at DANNY and tilts his head towards the stage. DEREK, known to be a bit bold and aggressive, turns to look at his brother, DANNY, who meets him with a blank stare. DEREK turns to make eye contact with the group of boys in the back. They straighten up and turn their attention back to the stage.

The auditorium goes black and the music starts. Colorful red and green spotlights blast from left and right, revealing KAT. While hiding her face from the audience, she pushes her hips out and arches her back.

KAT turns and dances to the audience. She takes the spotlight while some other dancers enter from the darkness behind her and join in a well choreographed performance.

The song goes into full stride and KAT moves gracefully across the stage. She shows a smile and strikes a pose as the song ends. The crowd loves it and the auditorium erupts with applause. KAT has an undeniable magnetism about her.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY - NEXT DAY

We push in on the DICKINSON SUV as it speeds along a one lane highway on a West Virginia hillside.

INT. DICKINSON'S SUV - WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY - NEXT

DANNY sits in the middle, between KAT and DEREK in the back. DEREK listens to his iPod. KAT smiles, texting a friend. DANNY is playing with a set of small walkie talkies.

DEREK
(shouting)
When are we rafting?

KAT
You're shouting.

KAT pulls out one of his earbuds and he shoots her a look. MR. DICKINSON turns down the radio.

DEREK
(softer)
When are we rafting?

MRS. DICKINSON
Tomorrow morning. We take the ATV
adventure after lunch. It's a 12
mile ride through the West Virginia
wilderness. For the strong at
heart!

MRS. DICKINSON speaks like she's their tour guide, reading from the brochure.

MR. DICKINSON
(teasing)
You have it memorized!

MRS. DICKINSON
I'm reading!

DEREK
(teasing)
You are so pumped!

MRS. DICKINSON
Damn right I am.

MR. DICKINSON
(amused)
Whoa, language!

KAT
Mom, you're ridiculous.

MRS. DICKINSON
I'm sorry, but I'm going to enjoy
myself.

DEREK
 (trying to be funny)
 With rednecks in West Virginia.

MRS. DICKINSON
 That's a stereotype.

KAT looks at her phone as a text message comes in.

KAT
 Kelsea is in Cancun right now. I'm
 so jealous.

DEREK
 Kelsea...is a spoiled bitch.

MRS. DICKINSON
 Derek!

DANNY smirks and pulls his book up in front of his face. MR.
 DICKINSON gives a stern look, glancing back in the rear-view.

KAT
 (harsh sarcasm)
 Advice for you Derek, keep drinking
 your protein shakes and hitting the
 gym, then when you're 18 ask her
 out again. Maybe you'll have a
 shot.

Pause. DEREK doesn't know how to respond.

DEREK
 (quietly to Kat)
 Go fuck yourself.

MR. DICKINSON
 That's enough!

KAT
 (patronizing, quietly)
 Grow up. Eventually people will
 respect you.

DEREK puts his ear bud back in. Danny smirks. MR. DICKINSON
 pulls the SUV into a gas station.

EXT. GAS STATION ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - MOMENTS LATER

MR. DICKINSON steps out of the SUV and reads the "cash only"
 sign duct-taped to the gas pump. A couple in a beat up
 station wagon watch him as he walks towards the convenience
 store.

DEREK

Damn, stare some more.

The woman opens the station wagon passenger door and lifts herself out onto her feet. She is considerably overweight. Her love handles are like large pancakes and flop from one hip to the other as she edges her way to the gas pump. She digs in her pocket and pulls out a wad of small bills. Some loose change slips from her fingers and she bends down to get it. Her shirt slides up and her ass crack shows.

DEREK

She's gotta be 300 pounds.

DANNY

He's looking at us.

DEREK

Who?

The CAMERA moves from their POV on the woman to reveal the man staring at them over the passenger headrest.

KAT

He knows we're talking about her.

DEREK

She probably crushes him in bed.

MRS. DICKINSON

(annoyed)

Derek, you don't have to say everything that pops into your head.

DEREK

I hear ya, mom.

MRS. DICKINSON

Well if you don't have anything nice to say then don't say anything.

DEREK

(distracted)

So gross...

DEREK and KAT are locked into the surroundings. MR. DICKINSON returns to the car and messes with the old-school gas pump.

MR. DICKINSON

(reading the front of the pump)

Crank and pump.

MR. DICKINSON begins to crank the wheel, and looks over to his family.

MR. DICKINSON
You ever see one of these?

MR. DICKINSON lifts the nozzle. Gas comes splashing out on his shoes as he pulls it from the base.

MR. DICKINSON
Christ!

DEREK
Nice move.

MRS. DICKINSON
What happened honey?

MR. DICKINSON
Piece of shit.

MR. DICKINSON shoves the nozzle in with excessive force and stands steaming about the situation.

KAT turns to an incoming farm truck with an open bed and wooden guards around the outside. The truck pulls up to a pump on the other side of the station.

KAT looks back at the parked farm truck and notices something hairy sticking out of the bed of the truck as MR. DICKINSON slams the nozzle back on the pump. As the family pulls away in the SUV, coming closer to the farm truck, KAT notices a hoof of a deer sticking out of the bed.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA RESORT - HOURS LATER

The DICKINSONS pull up to the resort welcome center. There are a few cabins in the distance, a sand pit for volleyball and horseshoes, and a lake with impressive floating obstacles including a zip line, glacier climbing wall and 20 foot slide. DANNY jumps out to get a closer look.

DANNY
This is awesome!

MRS. DICKINSON
(proudly)
I knew you'd like it.

MR. and MRS. DICKINSON start walking towards the check in area. The kids are too focused on the lake to notice.

MRS. DICKINSON
(shouting)
You kids coming?

MR. DICKINSON
We'll be right out, Darlene.

We move back to the kids.

DEREK
It's straight out of the Blob.

KAT
Please, don't say that.

DANNY
What's the blob?

DEREK
Oh, you never saw the Blob?

KAT
You don't want to.

DANNY
Yes I do.

DEREK stares at DANNY for a while trying to get a smile out of him, then laughs. He and KAT walk around the back of the SUV together. KAT pulls a Twizzler string-thing apart and bites into it, checking out the scene. MR. and MRS. DICKINSON disappear into the check-in area. DEREK opens the back gate and pulls open the cooler. He grabs two beers and hands one to KAT. DANNY watches him, surprised.

KAT
Did you ask?

DEREK
(obvious lie)
Yesss. Do you want one?

KAT
No.

DEREK chugs a beer and tosses the can in a nearby trash can. He looks at DANNY.

DEREK
You gonna tell on me?

DANNY smiles at him.

DANNY

Nope.

DEREK

Good man.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA RESORT - CHECK-IN AREA - NEXT

MR. and MRS. DICKINSON approach the check-in desk. An older woman, ROBIN, and her younger assistant, SADIE look up to greet them.

MR. DICKINSON

Hi, we're here to check in, last name's Dickinson.

Pause.

ROBIN

Dickinson. Got ya right here.
Sadie, grab their packet.

SADIE scurries down the counter to grab a welcome packet and returns with it. DEREK, KAT and DANNY enter. DEREK watches as SADIE hands the welcome packets to his parents and makes an obvious smile at her as he approaches. She gives an uncomfortable little smile back.

MR. DICKINSON

Do you take Visa?

ROBIN

No, I'm sorry we don't.

MR. DICKINSON

(mildly combative)

Your website said we could pay by credit card.

ROBIN

The machine crapped out on us.

MRS. DICKINSON

Honey, we have the cash.

ROBIN

The total is \$680.

ROBIN turns and smiles, waiting for MR. DICKINSON to respond. He shows his annoyance and turns to get money from his wife.

MRS. DICKINSON
Can I ask you something? I'm sure
you know the resort as well as
anyone.

ROBIN
(without looking up)
Shoot.

MRS. DICKINSON
We're interested in the horse back
riding.

ROBIN
Okay.

MR. DICKINSON
Some of us are.

MRS. DICKINSON
(playing back)
Some of us don't like to try new
things.

ROBIN smiles.

MR. DICKINSON
I'm not riding a horse, we can ride
horses in Pennsylvania.

MRS. DICKINSON looks back to ROBIN.

MRS. DICKINSON
Would you recommend it?

ROBIN
I recommend all of our activities.

MRS. DICKINSON
Over ziplining?

ROBIN
(trying to multi-task)
Well they're completely different.

MRS. DICKINSON
Hmm...ok.

ROBIN grabs for the computer mouse and clicks down through the check-in information on screen. She makes an annoying clicking sound with her mouth, as if to note she's "processing". A staff member named ED steps in. ED is a few inches shy of six feet, thin, light hair and a bit scruffy.

He walks by KAT and smiles at her. He walks up next to MRS. DICKINSON.

ED
How many night's are ya staying?

MRS. DICKINSON
Just three.

ED
My opinion?

ED looks around dramatically before continuing. Then holds his hand up to denote ranking with each finger.

ED
ATV, rafting, ziplines, high ropes
if you can fit it in. You seem like
an active crew.

Pause. ED makes eye contact with KAT as he continues.

ED (CONT'D)
I'm a little biased towards the ATV
excursion but they're all pretty
popular. I'm not much for horses.
Can't take the smell.

ROBIN
(annoyed)
Ed's our ATV guide, can you tell?

ED
Hey, it's not just me talking. ATVs
get good reviews. I know the trails
better than anyone in West
Virginia. Grew up here.

MRS. DICKINSON
(being friendly)
Good to know.

MR. DICKINSON hands ROBIN some large bills. ED watches the money exchange.

ROBIN
Thank you.

MR. DICKINSON
(to Robin)
Where would you go to eat?

ROBIN
What are you looking for?

ED leans over the counter.

ED
(interjecting, less
friendly)
You're not gonna find anything
fancy around here, sorry to say.

MR. DICKINSON
Nothin fancy, just good food.

ED
Steer clear of the BBQ.

MRS. DICKINSON
Why is that?

ED just looks at her, but doesn't answer the question.

ED
You folks like italian?

MR. DICKINSON
Italian is fine.

ED
Try Luigi's, good pizza and cheap
beer. Plus you avoid the locals.

MRS. DICKINSON
That sounds good to me.

DEREK
(sarcastically)
Yeah, sounds perfect.

ED takes a look at DEREK. There is an awkward silence. ED turns to ROBIN, who is annoyed at ED for butting in.

ED
(condescendingly)
Did you give them a welcome packet?

ROBIN
(without looking up)
They got it.

ED
Well, you folks enjoy yourselves, I
gotta prep for the next ride. Maybe
I'll see you around.

MRS. DICKINSON
Thanks for the help.

ED
Don't mention it!

ED exits briskly through the swinging wooden door.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - LATER THAT AFTERNOON

The DICKINSONS enter the resort cabin. It's clean and modern, and the kids seem surprised by the interior.

DANNY
This place is cool.

DEREK
Good work Mom!

MRS. DICKINSON
I told you it was nice.

MR. DICKINSON
Air conditioning and a hot tub. Not what I had in mind when you said we were staying in a cabin.

MRS. DICKINSON
(amused)
You wanted to pack the tents.

DEREK
Forget that.

KAT
(looking at DEREK)
With dad snoring...no way.

MR. DICKINSON
I snore?

Everyone laughs.

MRS. DICKINSON
It's unbearable, honey.

MR. DICKINSON
(defending himself)
You still sleep next to me.

MRS. DICKINSON
After 20 years, I'm pretty used to it.

MR. DICKINSON
 (hurt)
 Well, sleep on the couch.

KAT
 C'mon dad, you know you're bad.

MR. DICKINSON
 I never hear a thing.

MRS. DICKINSON laughs and follows after MR. DICKINSON as he leaves the living room to head to the bedroom, showing his sensitivity.

MRS. DICKINSON
 I'm just messing with you. Come here.

MRS. DICKINSON grabs her husband and lands a big kiss on him. MR. DICKINSON gives in, sort of. KAT comes around the corner to see them. She turns away immediately.

KAT
 Get a room!

MRS. DICKINSON looks at her and smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA RESORT - ON THE RIVER - NEXT MORNING

We see a rafting party approaching, a good distance upstream. The sound of their conversation is close, but we can barely make out the DICKINSON family as they ride the white water toward us.

RAFTING GUIDE
 Left...Left. Steady!

The sound of an engine slowly overtakes the calm sound of rushing water. The CAMERA pans slowly left to the treeline before we can get a good look at the family.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA RESORT - WOODS NEAR THE RIVER - NEXT

ED flies through the woods on an ATV and veers off the trail suddenly. In front of him is what's left of an old equipment shed, broken down and seemingly unused.

ED jumps off the ATV and pulls a large black duffle bag from the back of the vehicle.

He removes a combination lock and disappears for 10 seconds before coming out and adding a second combination lock on the door. It's obvious ED is storing something important in the shed, but it's unclear exactly what it is.

ED hops back on the ATV and speeds away, spraying mud up against the brush nearby.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA RESORT - ATV GARAGE - LATER THAT DAY

The DICKINSONS walk up to the ATV prep area. ED is strapping supplies across the back of one of the ATVs with a cigarette in his mouth. ED picks up his gas can, screws on the top and carries it to the shelf. He turns back and realizes the DICKINSONS are standing behind him. He flicks his cigarette.

ED
I knew you'd come.

MR. DICKINSON
You sold us.

ED
That's great. So we got 5 of you,
that means someone gets to *ride*
with the *guide*.

Everyone looks at each other. MR. DICKINSON breaks the awkward moment.

MR. DICKINSON
Someone small, would that be best?

ED stands up and ponders the question.

ED
Well sir, you seem like a real nice
guy but me and you might get a
little to close for comfort, you
know what I mean?

ED laughs at himself.

ED (CONT'D)
Nah I'm just kidding, but yeah. You
ride with the Mrs., and I'll...

ED checks KAT out as she climbs up onto the back of one of the ATVs. He stares a bit too long and MR. DICKINSON takes notice.

ED (CONT'D)
I guess I'll take little man.

DANNY looks uncomfortable but just goes along with it.

ED
Good with you little man?

DANNY
Yeah.

ED
Perfect. Let's saddle up.

DEREK looks back to KAT who is sitting behind him on the ATV.

DEREK
What a perv.

ED pulls out to lead the group. KAT doesn't have a response for DEREK other than a playful smile. She motion to DEREK to get going and they pull out behind ED and DANNY.

DISSOLVE TO:

A montage takes us from the prep area for the ATV trip and ends with the family riding through a sliding patch of mud. DEREK's ATV stalls in deep mud and ED pops his helmet off to see what has happened. ED turns back over his shoulder, frazzled.

ED
Let off the gas.

DEREK
What?

ED
Take your foot off the gas, man!

DEREK lets off the gas and just sits to hear the next order.

ED
Now turn the wheel all the way
towards me.

DEREK is flustered and turns it the wrong way.

ED
The other way! Switch to overdrive.
It's the yellow button.

DEREK
It's not moving.

ED
Fucking christ!

ED hops off his ATV and comes closer to DEREK. MR. DICKINSON looks on with concern.

MR. DICKINSON
What was that about?

He looks over to MRS. DICKINSON who is busy snapping photos from the side of the trail. DEREK tries overdrive. The engine sputters well beneath the surface and a cloud of smoke rises.

ED
Do you see the smoke?

DEREK
Yeah.

ED
Well shut it down!

DEREK and KAT are both surprised by ED's sudden outburst.

ED pulls out a pack of cigarettes. For a moment he avoids the problem and focuses on his fix. DEREK and KAT stay put and wait for the next move. ED sucks down two drags on his cigarette and he is suddenly calmer.

ED
I'm gonna latch on. Don't do anything.

ED comes back from his ATV with a cable and hooks it onto DEREK's front bumper. The cigarette hangs from his lips.

ED
Put it in overdrive again. Wait for my signal.

ED spins his wheels and finally gets some traction.

ED
Now, give it some gas!

ED pauses and watches DEREK struggle.

ED (CONT'D)
Force the wheel to the side!

DEREK hits the gas and immediately rolls onto more stable ground. MR. and Mrs. DICKINSON are enjoying the scene from afar. They pull up next to him.

DEREK
 (sarcastically)
 I'm glad you enjoyed that.

ED
 (to Mr. and Mrs.)
 Good he made it out, it's a long
 way to camp.

ED lets out a creepy smile, now much calmer than a minute prior. ED hops back on his ATV and flicks his cigarette.

MRS. DICKINSON
 Ed, do you mind taking a picture?

ED turns around, trying not to show his disinterest.

ED
 If you don't mind mud on your
 camera.

ED stands and waits for the family to gather around. He holds the camera at his side and squints at the family.

ED
 Now you, step back, you're blocking
 your mother.

DEREK looks at him defensively.

DEREK
 Step back?

ED
 Yes. Now Kate, step forward and a
 little sideways.

KAT
 It's Kat.

ED
 Yes, Kat, now put your hair back.
 Right there. I like that. Now, Dad,
 put your hand on your daughter.

MR. DICKINSON hesitates, but puts his hand on KAT's shoulder.

ED
 (under his breath)
 Pretend you like each other- there
 ya go.

KAT lifts her eyebrows, half amused.

ED
What goes with crackers!

MRS. DICKINSON is the only one that says cheese. Everyone is pretty weirded out by the whole sequence. ED laughs to himself and starts coughing from deep in his chest. The DICKINSONS look on as he doubles over and coughs until his face turns red.

ED
Wheww, allergies gettin' to me.

DEREK
(under his breath)
Have another cigarette.

CUT TO:

The family pulls back into the check-in area. ED takes their equipment and turns his back, cleaning up from the trip.

MRS. DICKINSON
You rock, ED! We had an awesome
time.

MRS. DICKINSON looks to MR. DICKINSON and gestures, "tip him". MR. DICKINSON pulls a twenty dollar bill from his zip pocket, reluctantly. MRS. DICKINSON, KAT and DANNY head toward the SUV.

MR. DICKINSON
Thank you.

ED turns back around, quickly, and accepts the twenty dollar bill.

ED
You got it.

Pause.

ED (CONT'D)
Your family handled the trail
pretty well.

MR. DICKINSON
Oh yeah?

ED
Better than most of the yuppies
that come down here to vacation.

ED laughs to himself. The scene is uncomfortable. MR. DICKINSON breaks the silence.

MR. DICKINSON
Are you going to make me take that
tip back?

ED clenches his jaw and looks at DEREK. DEREK stares back. ED is much better at dishing it out than taking it.

ED
(apologetically)
C'mon, I didn't mean anything by
it.

MR. DICKINSON tosses his helmet to ED and smiles to show it's a harmless jest back. DEREK tosses his helmet into the gravel to rub it in. ED struggles to show a smile as MR. DICKINSON turns to join his family. The CAMERA hangs on ED, he begins to clean off the ATVs but looks up for a while to watch them as they walk away. His smile fades.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - DICKINSON'S CABIN - LATER

The DICKINSON SUV pulls up and parks in front of the cabin. DEREK hops out first and carries his muddy shoes out in front of him.

DEREK
I need some baby powder, that seat
was rough.

DEREK walks uncomfortably with his legs spread.

MRS. DICKINSON
Were you scared, Dan?

DANNY
No.

MR. DICKINSON
You did well, buddy.

DANNY
I wasn't scared!

KAT
Did you like riding with Ed?

DEREK
Ed's an asshole.

MRS. DICKINSON
He was fine.

MR. DICKINSON
Are you serious?

MRS. DICKINSON
What?

MR. DICKINSON
He's trash, Darlene.

DEREK
Did you see how he was looking at
Kat?

KAT
Ew.

MRS. DICKINSON
I think Ed was a good guide.

KAT
Mom, he wasn't that good.

DEREK
(with a southern accent)
I'm from West Virginia, I like
riding with little boys.

DEREK grabs DANNY and shakes him.

DEREK
I like the way they smell!

DEREK stops shaking his brother, then yells:

DEREK
Squeal like a piggie!

MRS. DICKINSON
Derek, stop!

DEREK
Didn't you ever see Deliverance,
mom?

MRS. DICKINSON
No, and I don't want to.

DEREK
It's about this group of guys that
go out in canoes and get...

MR. DICKINSON
That's enough.

DEREK laughs.

We follow KAT through the front door and into her room where she grabs a towel. She heads out and through the back door. MRS. DICKINSON yells out to her from the kitchen.

MRS. DICKINSON
Do you want a drink, Kat?

KAT
I'm allowed to drink here but not
at home?

MRS. DICKINSON
You can have a drink. You're with
me and we're on vacation!

KAT
Okay, when I come back up!

KAT heads down the wooden steps to the outdoor shower, tucked neatly under the 2nd story deck. The sun peeks through the trees. She looks around and in the distance notices people just in sight out in front of the neighboring cabin. A red pickup truck pulls up and parks on the gravel road outside of the cabin. KAT takes a look, then focuses back on getting into the outdoor shower.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - NEIGHBORING CABIN -
SIMULTANEOUSLY

ED, the man from the resort welcome center, steps out of the truck with some plumbing equipment and acknowledges one of the boys playing in the front of the cabin. He puts his hands out to request the football. The kid throws the ball to ED and he runs with it for a few steps before tossing it back. Some of the tubing that is wrapped around his shoulder unravels and slides down to the ground. ED laughs, picks it up and throws it back over his shoulder.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTSIDE DICKINSON'S CABIN -
NEXT

KAT hears ED's voice as he is moving closer, and makes sure to pull the creaky wooden door closed behind her. She hangs her towel on a rusty metal hook and turns on the water. Her skin is tanned from laying out by the pool.

KAT drops her shorts and pulls off her muddied shirt. She stands with her arm outstretched, waiting for the water to warm up, then looks back out to see what's going on outside.

ED is on one knee at the back of the neighbors cabin, examining the hose to the air conditioner unit the back yard. He attempts to unscrew it with his hands, but fails and takes out a wrench instead. He turns slightly, and his back is completely turned to KAT.

KAT realizes the water is warming up and steps under to begin showering.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTSIDE DICKINSON'S CABIN -
NEXT

From a distance, we can see KAT's feet moving around in the puddle collecting on the cement shower floor.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTDOOR SHOWER - NEXT

We move closer. The sound of the water heightens and from a higher angle we see some daddy long-leggers hanging out above KAT on the wall. She washes the soap from her face and looks out again through the cracks in the door to see if ED is still there. ED is no longer kneeling by the air conditioner unit. KAT's view of the yard is obstructed and she struggles to get a clear vantage point from between the wooden slats in the door.

As she moves down the door to a wider crack, ED is revealed in the neighboring yard. He is now closer to KAT, standing facing the trees, wiping sweat from his forehead. He takes a drag on his cigarette, one hand on his hip, and turns slightly to look in KAT's general direction.

KAT pulls back, startled, and looks down at her feet, realizing that they are in his view. ED stands observing for a moment, then puts his cigarette out and goes back to work.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTDOOR SHOWER - NEXT

KAT washes the soap off herself quickly and grabs for the towel. She looks out again to make sure ED is not in view, then wraps her towel and hurries back up the steps to the cabin.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - INSIDE DICKINSON SUV - LATER THAT EVENING

DEREK drives the family SUV with KAT sitting passenger and DANNY in the back. They pull past the Food Lion sign and park in the lot.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - OUTSIDE THE LOCAL LIQUOR STORE - NEXT

ED, who we know as the resort's ATV guide pops up over the dashboard of his truck, with a glazed look on his face. Smoke escapes from the window. He watches as KAT and her brothers jump out of the SUV and walk towards the grocery store.

ED
(to himself)
I'll be damned.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - GROCERY STORE - MINUTES LATER

KAT walks down the snack aisle looking at a paper list. She walks by a young couple. The young man grabs a bag of pork rinds from his girlfriend and places it back on the shelf.

YOUNG MAN
You want it, you pay for it.

GIRLFRIEND
Fuck you, I will.

YOUNG MAN
You're gonna eat your way into a coma one of these days. I ain't taking care of you.

The GIRLFRIEND glares at KAT as she passes by. From the end of the aisle we see LOGAN, 26, ED's younger mentally challenged brother. He can't help but stare at KAT as she moves to the marshmallows. LOGAN disappears around the corner but not without getting KAT's attention. LOGAN walks to the bathroom supply and pharmacy aisle. DEREK and DANNY are looking at the selection of razors and shaving cream. DANNY is looking at the Trojan Her Pleasure condoms.

DEREK
You need some?

DANNY smirks, but doesn't respond.

DEREK
 (trying to be cool)
 If you ever need 'em you just ask
 me. I have plenty.

LOGAN approaches and stops by the cold and flu section. He grabs for the Sudafed and places three boxes into his jacket and pants pockets. He shoves two more down his pants. Finally, he grabs three and takes them to the counter. DEREK and DANNY watch LOGAN. DANNY looks at his brother, amazed to see LOGAN's tactics. They peer around the end of the aisle, watching as LOGAN puts a twenty dollar bill on the counter. LOGAN takes a brief sweeping look back their way and DANNY's sleeve gets caught on the metal chip rack as he moves out of view. An older man pops into frame.

OLDER MAN
 Do you remember me?

DANNY
 Huh.

OLDER MAN
 It's my birthday. Guess how old I
 am?

The man moves closer to DANNY. DEREK steps in and shoves the man away.

OLDER MAN (CONT'D)
 (without much reaction)
 I'm 41. Today's my birthday and I'm
 going to dinner with my father and
 my mother.

The OLDER MAN is obviously not right.

RANDOM WOMAN
 (yelling)
 It's always his god damn birthday.

DEREK grabs DANNY and pulls him along.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - OUTSIDE GROCERY STORE - NEXT

LOGAN approaches his brother ED and begins pulling the hidden Sudafed boxes out of his pants.

ED
 How many?

LOGAN
 I got seven, Ed.

ED
 Figures. Put 'em in the bag.

LOGAN
 I paid for two.

ED counts the change.

ED
 You paid for three! You think I'm
 stupid? It says right here on the
 receipt.

ED roots through the bag.

ED (CONT'D)
 Where are my cigarettes?

ED stares at LOGAN disapprovingly, then takes a drag from his
 cigarette and tucks the change into his wallet. LOGAN drops
 his head and walks around to the passenger side of the truck.
 We hear KAT's laugh enter in. LOGAN turns abruptly to see.

DEREK
 (from a distance,
 impersonating)
 Today's my birthday. Ain't it
 exciting?

KAT
 (nervous)
 Stop, he's right there.

DEREK turns around to look. The OLDER MAN looks up at them,
 then digs into the trash can.

DEREK
 Birthday dinner.

KAT
 C'mon, let's go.

KAT looks up and makes eye contact with LOGAN, then his
 brother, ED.

ED
 Look who's in town.

KAT and her brothers say hello and keep walking to the SUV.
 ED pulls his truck up next to the SUV.

ED
 Hey, you gonna invite me and my
 brother to roast marshmallows?
 (MORE)

ED (cont'd)
People do that 'round here, invite
their friends.

KAT shuts the car door.

KAT
(nicely)
I'm sorry Ed, we're gonna enjoy
some family time.

ED
Aww, I'm just fuckin with ya. Enjoy
your night.

KAT smiles uncomfortably. DEREK turns the ignition and drives
away. ED watches them as they leave, then picks up his bowl
and smokes it.

ED
You're driving.

He puts the bowl in the console and opens his door.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - GROCERY STORE - MINUTES LATER

A young grocery store attendant is stocking the pharmacy
aisle. She notices the Sudafed rack is empty. She stands
perplexed then walks briskly to the front of the grocery
store. We follow her across the front of the store all the
way to the customer service desk. An old and wrinkled store
manager named EVELYN MOORE, a female in her late 60s, looks
up from behind the desk, where she's kneeling down.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - GROCERY STORE - BACK OFFICE - NEXT

The store manager, EVELYN MOORE, sits with legs crossed in a
chair, one elbow on the desk with the phone to her ear. The
young store attendant stands next to her. We wait as the
phone rings.

EVELYN MOORE
Deputy Farris, please.

Pause.

EVELYN MOORE (CONT'D)
Deputy, it's Evelyn Moore. One of my girls here says the Durrant boy stole a bunch of our medicine.

Pause.

EVELYN MOORE (CONT'D)
Yep, I'm certain. She just stocked it and he was one of just a handful that came through here since.

Pause.

EVELYN MOORE (CONT'D)
You tell me, deputy. Ain't those boys known for this?

EVELYN MOORE waits for a response.

EVELYN MOORE (CONT'D)
Thank you, deputy. I'm sure you will.

She hangs up the phone.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA BACK ROAD - MINUTES LATER

DEREK drives the family SUV back to the cabin. The road winds through a hillside bordered by a steep rock face and a 200 foot drop into a ravine, protected by a metal guardrail.

KAT
Slow down Derek. You don't know the road.

DEREK
It's fine, relax.

KAT looks at DEREK, observing him.

KAT
It's not your car, slow down.

DEREK
Seriously, relax with the mom shit.

DEREK turns up the music. KAT glares at him, then looks out the window. From the side view mirror she can see a red truck behind them.

KAT
That's Ed's truck.

DANNY whips around in the back seat to see.

DEREK
Maybe they live out here.

DANNY
He said he lived in town. He said
he lived there all his life.

DEREK
Chill out, he works here.

The truck pulls closer.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA BACK ROAD - ED'S TRUCK - NEXT

LOGAN drives while ED leans over, egging him on.

ED
You're in love with her, ain't cha?

LOGAN squeezes the wheel with both hands and leans forward in his seat.

ED
You know what mom used to say?
Don't let a good one get away.

LOGAN steps on the gas. ED looks at his brother with a smirk.

ED
You think she wants you, Logan?

LOGAN
(proud)
She was lookin at me.

ED
She was?

LOGAN
Yeah she was.

ED
With those sexy eyes?

LOGAN is focused and doesn't respond.

ED
Well, hell, that sounds like love
to me.

ED punches LOGAN in the arm and starts to chuckle.

ED
The girl wants to fuck your bones,
Logan.

LOGAN pulls within yards of the DICKINSON SUV, laughing with excitement. ED smirks - you can see he's getting a rise of the control he has over the situation.

LOGAN steps on the gas and slams the truck into the back of the DICKINSON SUV. The kids jerk forward in their seats.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA BACK ROAD - INSIDE DICKINSON SUV - NEXT

KAT watches nervously as the truck drops back and then speeds up to them a second time.

DEREK
Mother fucker!

KAT
Keep driving!

LOGAN rears back and slams them again, this time causing DEREK to swerve into the guard rail. LOGAN clips their back bumper a final time as he stomps on the brakes. LOGAN and ED come to stop a few yards behind the SUV. ED jumps out immediately, but we catch a quick glimpse of him grabbing a hand gun and tucking it in his pants.

ED
(yelling)
Fuck man, you kids alright?

ED jogs up to the DICKINSON SUV, unaltered by the crash. LOGAN is slow to get out. ED looks back at his brother.

ED
Don't you know how to drive, you
fuckin dummy?

LOGAN looks on, dazed. There is no movement from inside the DICKINSON SUV. ED turns and approaches the door.

ED
(still yelling)
My brother just got his license, he
thinks he's goddamn Dale Earnhardt
out here.
(back at Logan)
Mom's rollin in her grave right
about now!

ED pulls open KAT's door. She sits shaking inside, and looks up at him in fear.

ED
You kids alright? I'm so sorry, my
brother... he ain't 100% up here ya
know?

ED points to his temple for emphasis, then focuses on DEREK, slumped over the wheel. He is bleeding. ED moves around the front of the SUV to DEREK's door.

ED
This boy needs medical attention!

KAT
Don't touch him!

ED
I'm trained to handle situations
like this. Are you?

KAT fumbles for her phone and dials 911. ED pulls open DEREK's door and drags him from the seat.

ED
(to Logan)
Get your ass over here and help me!

ED realizes KAT is on the phone. He drops DEREK and darts in her direction.

ED
It's okay, give me the phone.

KAT
Back off!

ED looks on, surprised by her harsh reaction.

ED
I'm busting my ass to help you, you
ungrateful bitch!

KAT slams her door and tries to roll up the window. ED walks to the back door, opens it, and reaches over DANNY to pull KAT's seatbelt tight against her throat. KAT grabs for the seatbelt to pull it away from her neck. ED rips the phone from her hand and steps away from the vehicle. He launches it into the woods and looks back at her disgustedly.

ED
(to Logan)
You picked yourself a handful.

LOGAN carries DEREK to their truck and puts him in the truck bed.

LOGAN
Where we going, Ed?

ED
We're gonna get this boy help.

LOGAN
(worried)
We gonna leave them?

ED
(disgusted by Logan)
No you dumb shit, they're coming with us.

ED turns back to the KAT and DANNY. He thinks for a moment, then focuses back on LOGAN, who is standing dumbfounded, waiting for an order.

ED
Put the tarp on that fucker and get in the truck.

ED walks towards the DICKINSON SUV, with a scary intensity in his face.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA - ELI'S TRAILER - AN HOUR LATER

The phone in the foreground rings. ELI TARK is a very short muscular black man with a deformed ear and a burn down his cheek. He is dressed in an oversized wife beater, purple shorts and gaudy leather loafers. He lifts the phone off the hook on the second ring with a cigarette wedged between his fingers.

ELI TARK
Yeah.

ED (O.S.)
You busy?

ELI TARK
Busy thinking of ways I'm gonna
fuck you up, Eddie. If you're gonna
hold the stuff, I need access.
Access. That means, I need to know
the combination. I was about to
bust out the window, man.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA BACK ROAD - ED'S TRUCK - SIMULATANEOUSLY

ED
I'm sorry, we ran into some
friends.

Pause.

ELI TARK
I want my share, man, is that too
much to ask?

ED laughs.

ED
You'll get it. I want you to come
meet one of my friends. I think
she's into black dudes.

ELI TARK
Who?

ED
The girl, man.

LOGAN looks at ED with an irritated look.

ELI TARK
She look good?

ED
She's young. White. Legs like a
giraffe.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA - ELI'S TRAILER - SIMULATANEOUSLY

ELI TARK
Aw, shit.

ELI begins rubbing his dick, and lets out a deep bellowing laugh. He takes a final drag from his cigarette and straightens up.

ELI TARK

But for real, my shit best be packaged up when I get there cause I'm not playing this game no more.

ED

Alright, man. I hear you.

ELI TARK

Yo.

ED

What?

ELI TARK

Set me up with one of them hot pockets, man. I'm hungry as hell.

ED hangs up on ELI TARK.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA - ED'S DRIVEWAY - LATER

ED's truck sits in the gravel driveway. The tarp is still latched tight over the truck bed and we can only assume DEREK is still inside. DEREK's heavy, painful breathing breaks the silence. For a moment there is complete darkness, until DEREK pulls at the corner of the tarp top and the daylight pours in. DEREK squints as he lifts his battered torso up and over the back truck gate, and drops to one knee in the gravel drive. DEREK surveys the area, noticing a few trailer homes and a shed against a treeline close by. The faint sound of radio music plays in.

DEREK crouches against the truck as he moves. He peeks his head around the front of the truck and forces himself to focus. His head is swollen from the accident and his vision is blurry.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA - ED'S TRAILER - NEXT

ED sits alone at the far end of the trailer home. He places a meth rock into his pipe and smokes it. At the other end of the trailer, and in sight, KAT and her brother DANNY sit silent, waiting.

ED stands up suddenly and walks to the window and back. He turns and looks at LOGAN and the kids. KAT stares at the ground, arms crossed.

ED
Be a fucking host and offer her a drink.

LOGAN
You want a beer?

KAT doesn't look up.

KAT
No. I want you to call an ambulance.

LOGAN turns back to ED.

ED
Take the kid to the back and get him something to eat.

LOGAN looks confused.

ED
Don't come back out here unless I tell you.

LOGAN goes from confused to irritated, but leaves the room without saying a word.

ELI TARK enters in cheap slacks and shirt undone. He looks KAT up and down and gives her a gentleman's nod of the cap. KAT looks to ED.

KAT
I'll have that beer.

ED gets up and moves to the kitchen. He comes back a moment later with a beer in hand and gives it to KAT. In a closeup, ELI turns on ED's radio, then focuses his attention on KAT. ED looks on, seated, smoking another hit on his meth pipe.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA - OUTSIDE OF ED'S TRAILER HOME - NEXT

DEREK creeps alongside the trailer. He stops and sets himself with back against the side of the trailer, then peeks his head up to the window and looks inside. He sees ELI's back and KAT sitting on the far side. He scans the interior looking for DANNY.

Without any further delay DEREK crouches and moves down the side of the trailer. He stops and turns to find an entrance to the nearby shed.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA - INSIDE ED'S SHED - NEXT

DEREK opens the wooden door to the shed. Inside there are some tables lines with trash, dirty drug paraphernalia, broken battery casings, Sudafed boxes, and a wall of hanging tools. DEREK moves swiftly to the wall and grabs a hammer. He holds it firmly and drops his arm to his waist. He turns and moves swiftly to the door.

DEREK strides powerfully from the shed to the trailer, setting his fears aside. His breathing is deep and rough but his walk is determined.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA - INSIDE ED'S TRAILER HOME -
SIMULTANEOUSLY

ELI is seated next to KAT. She sits still, staring down and away from ELI. ED watches from the shadows on the opposite side of the trailer. He lets out a slight smirk.

ELI stares at KAT without speaking, making her feel more uncomfortable. KAT raises her eyes to meet ED. ED looks at her but has no sympathy in his expression.

ELI chuckles and then finally speaks.

ELI TARK

I spent some time in New York when
I was younger.

Pause.

ELI TARK

I knew a girl like you. With that
little attitude like you're too
good for a guy. All pretty and
pure. I bet you're smart too, too
smart to be good.

ELI stares at KAT, waiting for a response. He slides closer.

ELI TARK

She was nervous at first, just like
you.

KAT keeps her eyes on the floor.

ELI TARK

I know I ain't the best looking but
once you get past that, it's all
pleasure.

ED

Eli.

ELI turns his head to ED.

ED

That's enough.

ELI TARK

She ain't said shit, so mind your
business.

ELI turns back to KAT and moves closer to her. As he does, ED stands up from his seat, grabs an available beer bottle and moves swiftly towards ELI. ED stands over ELI for a moment, looking at him in disgust, then rotates the bottle to hold the it by the neck and smashes it across ELI's head.

ELI TARK

(shrieking)

Fuckkk. Ahhh.

ELI falls to the ground holding his bloody head in his hands. KAT rises to move away just as DEREK busts through the trailer door. He holds the hammer in one hand and takes two strong steps towards ED. ELI is still huffing and puffing on the floor.

ED stands still, waiting for DEREK to make a move. ED looks for his gun. He reaches around his waist as if it's tucked in his pants, but comes up empty. He's high and slow to react.

DEREK

Don't move!

KAT is still frozen, but realizes ED's gun is sitting on a table in the corner. KAT jumps up and grabs the gun before ED can figure it out. KAT holds the gun up to ED, then ELI, who rolls over groaning in pain.

DEREK

Where's Danny?

KAT

(fearful)

Back there.

DEREK

Give me the gun Kat, and get Danny.

ED watches as KAT hands the gun to DEREK and then moves quickly to the door. Inside the bedroom LOGAN stands up from the floor where he is seated near DANNY. DANNY pops up from the edge of the bed and runs to KAT. The three DICKINSON kids bolt towards the door and DEREK stops before leaving. He moves aggressively towards ED. ED holds his position.

DEREK
Gimme your keys.

ED hesitates for a moment then reaches into his pocket and holds out his keys.

DEREK
Your phone, too.

ED reaches into his other pocket and holds both the keys and the phone out in front of him. DEREK grabs them and backs out of the trailer.

ED
(yelling)
Give it a lot of gas on the hills
or it will stall.

ED looks at ELI, who still holds one hand to his bloody head.

ELI TARK
Fuck you, man. Fuck you!

ED looks out the window.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA TOWN - FOOD LION GROCERY STORE

A tall well built police officer in his mid-thirties eyes the Sudafed rack and turns around to address EVELYN MOORE. He holds a pad in one hand and looks at her.

EVELYN MOORE
Well? What are you going to do to
them, deputy?

DEPUTY FARRIS
I can't come up with a search
warrant without some hard proof,
Evelyn. I'm a deputy, not a
detective.

EVELYN MOORE

Hard proof? Knowing those Durrant boys is proof enough. You know 'em as well as I do.

DEPUTY FARRIS

I'm gonna put in a note to the sheriff so he's aware of the situation. But, if you want action here I need a report of your inventory or a surveillance tape or something.

EVELYN MOORE

You're gonna tell the sheriff?

DEPUTY FARRIS

I'm gonna archive this report and next time, we'll bring the Durrant boys, or whoever's robbing your store in for questioning.

EVELYN MOORE looks slightly relieved.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(reassuring)

I understand you have a business to run here. I'll keep an eye out for you, Evelyn.

EVELYN MOORE

Thank you, Deputy.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN TRAIL - ED'S TRUCK - NEXT

KAT is driving the truck and DEREK is riding in the passenger seat.

DEREK

I took his phone.

DEREK pulls the phone out to show KAT.

DANNY

Are you calling Mom and Dad?

DEREK

(sternly)

No, I'm calling the cops.

DEREK realizes his tone isn't helping.

KAT
We're almost back, Danny, it's gonna be ok.

DEREK
We'll call from the cabin.

KAT
This isn't our truck, and you have a gun.

DEREK
(yelling)
They were going to rape you Kat! I did what I had to do.

DANNY
(scared)
What are we going to do?

KAT
We're going back to the cabin to get mom and dad.

DANNY looks at KAT but doesn't respond.

KAT
We're going to be fine.

DEREK looks at the gun. KAT grabs it and throws it out the window into the treeline on the side of the road.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA - OUTSIDE OF ED'S TRAILER HOME - NEXT

ED leads ELI and LOGAN out the door and into the front yard.

ELI TARK
This thing wont stop bleedin.

ED
Shut up!

LOGAN
Eli's bleeding, Ed.

ED stops, looking out towards the front of the trailer park, then to his brother.

ED
You think I don't know!?

ED looks at ELI, pausing to regain his composure.

ED
You gonna be alright?

ELI TARK holds a rag to his head.

ELI TARK
Yeah.

ED
Gimme your phone.

ELI TARK grabs a phone from his pocket and holds it out to ED, begrudgingly.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA - NEAR ED'S TRAILER HOME - NEXT

DEPUTY FERRIS drives ED and ELI TARK in his police car. They sit quietly in the back. ELI TARK touches his head, trying to be casual about his wound. DEPUTY FARRIS looks back in the rear view mirror and makes eye contact with ED.

DEPUTY FARRIS
You sure you got a good look?

ED
About as good as you can get.

DEPUTY FARRIS
You sure it was the boy and his sister?

ED
They're staying up at the campsite.
Robin will back me, she checked 'em in.

DEPUTY FERRIS waits for ED to continue.

ED
(playing it cool)
Donnie, I'm not sayin' I know it all, but you asked me what I saw.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Yeah I did.

ED

You'll know when you see the girl,
like mature for her age but still
lanky like a teenager.

DEPUTY FARRIS

We'll have a look at her.

Pause. The men are silent for a moment.

ED

You coming to the bar on Sunday?

ELI TARK

They got karaoke now.

ED waits for DEPUTY FARRIS to answer.

DEPUTY FARRIS

I don't give a fuck.

ED

Christ. What happened to you,
Donnie? Spendin too much time in
church.

DEPUTY FARRIS stops the car and turns to look at ED.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(furious)

You forget who you're talking to?

ED

Nah, Donnie. It's all cool.

ED laughs. DEPUTY FARRIS stops abruptly at an intersection,
then pulls away.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - DICKINSON CABIN

Through the cabin window we see the red truck pull into the
drive. KAT and DEREK step out and approach the cabin with
glacial expressions.

MRS. DICKINSON stands up from the couch and stares at her
kids as they enter. KAT goes right for the freezer to get
ice. MRS. DICKINSON follows her in and grabs her by the
shoulder.

MRS. DICKINSON

What took you so long?

KAT looks at her mother, but doesn't respond. Her eyes tear up.

MRS. DICKINSON
(worried)
What's wrong Kat?

KAT
(defeated)
I called you.

MR. DICKINSON
We don't have service here.

MR. DICKINSON looks at DEREK as he enters. He holds a dirty hand towel to his head.

MR. DICKINSON
Derek!

MRS. DICKINSON turns her attention to DEREK, then DANNY, who holds his tears back.

DEREK
I'm ok.

MR. DICKINSON
What happened to you, Derek!?

MR. DICKINSON stands up and approaches DEREK as he removes the towel from his head. There is a patch of crusted dry blood on the side of DEREK's skull.

MR. DICKINSON
Shit!

DEREK
We were in an accident, Ed and his brother rear-ended us and took us to their trailer.

MR. DICKINSON
The guide, Ed?

MRS. DICKINSON
What do you mean he took you?

DEREK
Both of them did.

KAT
There were three.

MRS. DICKINSON

What?

DEREK

(scattered)

Ed and his brother rammed us and kidnapped us... and then some black dude showed up with them. They were ready to rape Kat!

MR. and MRS. DICKINSON look at KAT in fear. Her pain is controlled but her eyes show she's been scarred by the incident. Tears start to run down DANNY's cheeks. MRS. DICKINSON embraces him.

MR. DICKINSON

(with growing intensity)

We're calling the police and you're going to tell them what happened.

Pause. DEREK looks at him, without a response.

MR. DICKINSON

You're alright, Derek?

DEREK

Yeah I'm alright.

MRS. DICKINSON

(motherly)

Lay down.

MRS. DICKINSON helps DEREK down to the couch and grabs some ice from KAT, placing it on Derek's head. A police car pulls up behind the truck. DEPUTY FARRIS and two other men step out. It's ED and ELI.

KAT

(frightened)

He's here!

DEREK jolts up from the couch. A fury ignites in him.

DEREK

I'm going to kill him!

MR. DICKINSON

Derek!

MR. DICKINSON corrals DEREK back down to the couch and stares him in the eyes.

MR. DICKINSON
I'll handle it. Kat, take Danny to
the bedroom.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTSIDE DICKINSON'S CABIN -
NEXT

DEPUTY FARRIS has a toothpick hanging from his lip. As he
approaches the house, he stops and examines ED's truck.

ED
You see my truck, Donnie?

DEPUTY FARRIS
Yeah, I see it. You stay right
there.

ED
Mind if I smoke?

DEPUTY FARRIS
I'd prefer you sit your ass in the
car.

ELI looks from DEPUTY FARRIS to ED.

ELI TARK
(to Ed, quietly)
Chill the fuck out.

DEPUTY FARRIS runs his hand down his holster and turns to the
cabin again. MR. DICKINSON opens the door and steps out.

DEPUTY FARRIS
(shouting)
Whoa, you're good right there. Show
me your hands, sir.

MR. DICKINSON
No problem, officer.

DEPUTY FARRIS slides closer to the window to look in, still
keeping his body facing the door. MR. DICKINSON stands frozen
in the doorway. DEPUTY FARRIS lowers his gun and moves slowly
towards MR. DICKINSON.

DEPUTY FARRIS
How many you got inside?

MR. DICKINSON
4 others. My wife and my three
kids. I'm Jim Dickinson.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Step back, Jim.

MR. DICKINSON steps back into the house leaving the doorway open. DEPUTY FARRIS peeks his head in the door. All of the DICKINSON family sit looking at him.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Show your hands, please.

MR. DICKINSON
We're not going to trouble you,
officer.

Without responding, the DEPUTY takes a good look at KAT, then turns his attention to DEREK.

MR. DICKINSON
My son needs medical attention,
officer.

KAT
The men outside ran our car off the
road!

DEPUTY FARRIS
(focused on DEREK)
What's your name?

DEREK
Derek.

DEPUTY FARRIS
You alright to step outside, son?

MR. DICKINSON
(fired up)
What for?

DEPUTY FARRIS
Keep your mouth shut.

MR. DICKINSON
Those men out there need to be
locked up. Are you fucking dense?

DEPUTY FARRIS turns and points his gun at MR. DICKINSON.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I suggest you sit your ass down.

MRS. DICKINSON
 (shaken up)
 They were going to assault my
 daughter, officer. They need to be
 restrained!

DEPUTY FARRIS
 That's enough from you too, ma'm.

MRS. DICKINSON stands to speak to DEPUTY FARRIS.

MRS. DICKINSON
 (helplessly)
 Aren't you listening?

DEPUTY FARRIS
 Ma'm, if you don't sit down I'll
 have you taken into custody.

MR. DICKINSON
 Darlene, sit down.

MRS. DICKINSON
 Take me. Go ahead.

DEPUTY FARRIS
 (looking at MR. DICKINSON)
 You better take care of her.

MR. DICKINSON moves to MRS. DICKINSON and sits her down.

DEPUTY FARRIS
 Come with me son.

DEPUTY FARRIS grabs DEREK by the forearm. He has about 75
 pounds and a few inches on DEREK. MR. DICKINSON stands
 watching. He holds his wife back.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTSIDE DICKINSON'S CABIN -
 NEXT

DEPUTY FARRIS walks DEREK out the door. ED looks at DEREK,
 and stares him down with a proud smirk. ED nods his head at
 DEPUTY FARRIS.

ED
 It wasn't all him.

DEPUTY FARRIS takes his handcuffs out and pulls DEREK's hands
 back to cuff him. DEREK attempts to reason with OFFICER
 FARRIS.

DEREK

Officer, can't you tell he's lying to you?

DEPUTY FARRIS

Sit down right here and stay put.

ED

(shouting)

It was the girl too. She was driving.

DEPUTY FARRIS looks back at the house, then to DEREK. He realizes he has his hands full.

DEPUTY FARRIS helps DEREK down to sit on the edge of the porch, then walks briskly towards ED and ELI. ELI is already seated in the back seat.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(approaching Ed)

Put that cigarette out.

DEPUTY FARRIS grabs ED's shoulder and spins him around against the car. He takes a second pair of cuffs from his pocket and slaps them on Ed. ED laughs, surprised.

ED

You're a bully, Donnie.

DEPUTY FARRIS

You force me to be.

DEPUTY FARRIS pushes ED into the passenger seat of the car.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(to ELI)

Get up.

ELI TARK

Okay.

DEPUTY FARRIS

Go sit in the truck.

DEPUTY FARRIS grabs his radio from the dash and pulls it out through the window. He leans over so the cord will reach.

DEPUTY FARRIS

Deputy Farris to base, got an open carrier here. Please confirm.

DISPATCH (O.S.)

Yes, deputy. Come in.

DEPUTY FARRIS

I'm out at the ridge at the campsite on a 10-16, a '92 red Tacoma pickup registered to Ed Durrant. I'm bringing three perps in for questioning, including Mr. Durrant. There will be a fourth man, Eli Tark, following me in with the vehicle in question. I need a patrol car to rendezvous at the pump station off exit 17.

DISPATCH

Just sent him out in the opposite direction, deputy. Could be a while.

Pause.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(frustrated)

10-4.

DISPATCH (CONT'D)

Should I radio out?

DEPUTY FARRIS

Just tell the sheriff to expect me.

DEPUTY FARRIS walks towards the cabin. ED sits staring in KAT's direction, feeding off her reaction.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - DICKINSON CABIN - NEXT

Through the cabin window, KAT makes eye contact with ED, then looks to an approaching DEPUTY FARRIS. She takes a deep breath, and prepares for the worst.

DEPUTY FARRIS motions for KAT.

DEPUTY FARRIS

Young lady, I have to take you in.

MR. DICKINSON

You know damn well she was only protecting herself. Are you gonna let these men take advantage of you?

DEPUTY FARRIS

I don't prove right or wrong, I just do my job. That means she's coming with me.

DEPUTY FARRIS leads KAT out the door.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA CAMPSITE - OUTSIDE DICKINSON'S CABIN

MR. DICKINSON takes a few steps out of the house, then stops.

MR. DICKINSON
(threatening)
I'm calling my lawyer and we're
going to get this straightened out.

MR. DICKINSON stands silent, waiting for DEPUTY FARRIS to respond. DEPUTY FARRIS cuffs KAT, then turns slowly to engage MR. DICKINSON. he takes a few steps back in his direction.

DEPUTY FARRIS
(slightly empathetic)
Listen, Jim, I know you're angry.
I'll call in to the station and
have a car sent out for you and
your wife. If your kids are
innocent, they'll get a slap on the
wrist and you'll all be on your
way.

Pause.

DEPUTY FARRIS (CONT'D)
We have rules here like anywhere
else and I'm one to stick to them.

MR. DICKINSON stares at DEPUTY FARRIS as he walks away.

DEPUTY FARRIS leads KAT to the patrol car and turns to speak to her.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I'm outta cuffs. Do I need to worry
about you?

KAT
No.

ED
I got some rope in the truck,
Donnie.

No one responds to ED. MR. DICKINSON follows ten yards behind KAT and the DEPUTY.

MR. DICKINSON
Where's the car, Kat?

KAT turns back to her father.

KAT
(frustrated)
It's on the side of the road, I
don't know...

DEPUTY FARRIS
(firmly)
Where?

KAT
It's on the hill a mile or so out.

DEPUTY FARRIS stops for a moment in contemplation.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I'll send a man out to look. What
type of vehicle?

KAT
It's a Ford Expedition.

MR. DICKINSON
It's black, 2010.

DEPUTY FARRIS lets go of KAT and walks back to meet MR. DICKINSON. He pulls a small pad out of his chest pocket and takes out a pen.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Here's the number to the station.
Someone there will be able to talk
to you. That's the best I can do
right now.

DEPUTY FARRIS hands the sheet of paper to MR. DICKINSON.

DEPUTY FARRIS takes KAT the rest of the way to the patrol car and sits her in the back seat next to her brother. MR. DICKINSON looks back to his wife with a worried look on his face.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - MINUTES LATER

The patrol car, driven by DEPUTY FARRIS, speeds down a West Virginia highway into town.

INT. PATROL CAR

KAT and DEREK DICKINSON are seated in the back seat. ED is sitting with a smug grin in the front. DEPUTY FARRIS is stone serious next to him. DEREK looks to his sister, then to DEPUTY FARRIS.

KAT

You're sitting next to a criminal,
officer.

ED

(obnoxiously)
You have the right to remain
silent.

DEPUTY FARRIS

I don't want to hear another word.

DEREK

You're all fucked up.

ED

You have the right to an attorney.
If you do not have one, one will be
appointed to you.

DEREK

This piece of shit totaled our car
and kidnapped us.

ED

It was an accident!

DEREK

Bullshit!

DEPUTY FARRIS looks questioningly at ED.

ED

You know Logan, deputy. He didn't
mean any harm by it.

DEPUTY FARRIS has a confused look on his face. He looks back to the DICKINSON kids in the rear view mirror. We see DEREK and KAT sitting, waiting.

ED

I tried to help. I saw the kid
bleeding, I was as scared as they
were.

DEPUTY FARRIS

Where's Logan?

ED laughs, a tad uncomfortably.

ED
No clue. I been here with you,
Donnie.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA BACK ROAD - SIMULTANEOUSLY

With the DICKINSON SUV in neutral, LOGAN rolls it off the road and down the mountain. We hear a crash off screen.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. PATROL CAR - NEXT

DEPUTY FARRIS turns the patrol car sirens on and signals ELI TARK in ED's truck ahead of him to pull off the road into the gas station. It's the same gas station that the DICKINSONS stopped at on their way into town. DEPUTY FARRIS parks the car off the side of lot next to a big rig. DEPUTY FARRIS looks at ED.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Why don't you step out for a minute
and have a smoke? You're all heated
and I don't want to get these kids
riled up any more than they already
are.

ED
You have my smokes.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Here.

DEPUTY FARRIS hands the pack to ED. ED looks at DEPUTY FARRIS for a moment, investigating him.

ED
Alright then, Donnie. Can you light
it for me?

ED lifts up his cuffed hands to remind DEPUTY FARRIS.

DEPUTY FARRIS lifts a cigarette to ED's mouth. ED leans his head forward and grabs it with his lips. DEPUTY FARRIS lights the cigarette with the lighter inside ED's cigarette pack and watches as ED steps out of the vehicle and walks a few good paces from the patrol car. He pretends to separate himself from them, but stays within audible range.

DEPUTY FARRIS picks up the radio.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Deputy Farris to base. Come in.

He waits for a voice on the other end.

DISPATCH (O.S.)
Loud and clear, deputy. How can I help you?

DEPUTY FARRIS
Hey Betty. I stopped off at the pump station on 17. I want you to get the sheriff and let him know I have Ed Durrant, Eli Tark, and two others. I have three in the patrol car, one unrestrained and I could use some help.

DISPATCH (O.S.)
Ok, Deputy. I can have them out to you in 15 minutes if you can hold tight.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I can do that, thank you.

DISPATCH (O.S.)
Everything alright, Donnie?

DEPUTY FARRIS
Yeah, Betty, tell the sheriff Durrant ain't lookin too good. I think he's hopped up and you know his history.

DISPATCH (O.S.)
You got it. 10-4.

DEPUTY FARRIS places the radio back on the hook and looks out at ED, finishing his cigarette, back turned to the vehicle. DEPUTY FARRIS looks back at the DICKINSON kids and then leans forward to exit the patrol car.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NEXT

DEPUTY FARRIS moves slowly around the car with hands on his hips and takes a few paces towards ED's truck, inspecting the front for signs of an impact. There is obvious denting and scratches on the front bumper. ELI TARK sits inside, staring back at him. DEPUTY FARRIS strokes his chin, then walks up to ED and stands beside him.

ED
What's up Donnie? You radio in?

DEPUTY FARRIS
They radioed out, I picked it up.
No big deal, they got it covered.

DEPUTY FARRIS looks off into the distance and moves his fingers through his balding hair. From behind ED we can see him trying to work the handcuff key into the hole.

DEPUTY FARRIS
You on something, Ed?

ED is caught off guard and fidgets.

ED
(guilty)
High on life, Donnie. Always.

DEPUTY FARRIS
What made you ram the vehicle?

ED's temperament changes.

ED
I told you, Logan got some crazy
shit in his head. I tried to stop
him, man.

DEPUTY FARRIS (CONT'D)
You took them to your piece of shit
house to do what exactly?

ED looks away.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I doubt you were gonna take out
some gauze and peroxide and heal
the kid. So tell me, Ed.

DEPUTY FARRIS stops, grilling ED.

DEPUTY FARRIS (CONT'D)
You invite some kids into your home
and you got no story?

DEPUTY FARRIS stops and thinks, dramatically.

DEPUTY FARRIS
Then, they go and steal your truck?
You think I'm a fucking idiot?

ED forces out a laugh.

DEPUTY FARRIS

Nah, I'm not laughing, Ed. You been fuckin with the people of this town for a long time, stealing sudafed and cigarettes from Evelyn? She was a good friend to your momma, you know that, Ed? You feel good about that?

ED

You don't have shit on the me, that bitch is crazy and you know it.

DEPUTY FARRIS

How much you cooking up out there in the shed?

DEREK and KAT watch from the patrol car.

ED won't look at DEPUTY FARRIS. DEPUTY FARRIS walks around to face ED.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(fired up)

Why are all the poor ass people in Oak Hills walkin around skinny as shit and hopped up like zombies, mother fucker!

We close in on ED. His eyes are dilated and his breathing picks up. We see him look down at DEPUTY FARRIS's pistol. DEPUTY FARRIS sees it too. ED suddenly looks sad and confused.

ED

You say something about my mother, Donnie?

ED moves swiftly towards the DEPUTY and pummels him in the face.

DEPUTY FARRIS regains his balance and grabs for his gun. ED is on him before he can get a grip and slides the gun out of the DEPUTY's grasp. ED steps back and points the gun at DEPUTY FARRIS.

DEPUTY FARRIS

(shaking)

Ed. You don't want to do this.

ED closes one eye and squints down the barrel of the gun.

ED
Donnie. I don't want to do this.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I know. Give me the gun.

ED
Say you're sorry.

DEPUTY FARRIS
I'm sorry, now give me the gun. You
don't want to do this.

DEPUTY FARRIS takes a small step towards ED with his hand
outstretched.

ED
I don't?

ED lowers the gun and for a moment seems to contemplate his
actions.

DEPUTY FARRIS
(calmer)
Now, gimme the gun.

ED
I...

DEPUTY FARRIS
(softly)
That's it, hand it to me now.

ED drops his arm down almost to his side, then suddenly lifts
it back up to DEPUTY FARRIS and pulls the trigger, hitting
him in the throat. DEPUTY FARRIS stumbles to the ground
holding his neck. Blood streams down onto his collar.

ED
(helplessly)
I didn't want to.

INT. PATROL CAR - NEXT

DEREK scrambles to slide his hands out of the cuffs, with no
luck. He looks at KAT in fear. ED stands a good ten yards
from the car and the view of DEPUTY FARRIS is blocked by the
back corner of the truck next to them. DEREK sinks to his
back and kicks his legs up against the window. It holds firm.
With a second try the glass shatters and he kicks the
remaining glass shards from the door frame.

DEREK

Go, Kat!

KAT dives over him and struggles feet first out of the window, getting a push from DEREK. She tumbles and smacks her shoulder on the pavement outside.

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NEXT

ED stands over DEPUTY FARRIS's body as he squirms. He holds the gun out at him again and fires into his torso. ED stands and watches as the DEPUTY kicks once more, then stops moving. ED looks up from the body, to ELI, who is standing and watching from the other end of the big rig.

ELI TARK

That ain't right, Ed.

ED looks up at ELI TARK, slowly, but doesn't respond.

ELI TARK

That's Donnie, man. You killed a cop.

ED

He was onto us.

EXT. PATROL CAR - SIMULTANEOUSLY

KAT is standing, trying to pull her brother from the window. He struggles to get his shoulders out and the fractured glass slices into him. He shrivels back in pain and the glass rips his flesh.

DEREK

Ahhh. I can't. Go get help!

KAT looks in ED's direction. Realizing she is their only chance to survive, KAT runs wildly from the car towards the gas station convenience store. She looks back to see if anyone is following. ED is still out of sight.

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NEXT

ED picks DEPUTY FARRIS's body from the ground and drags him around the back of the big rig truck. ELI follows behind, unsure if he should stay or run.

ELI TARK

What are you gonna do with him?

ED looks at the broken window of the patrol car, realizing KAT and DEREK are gone.

ED

Shit.

ED stops for a moment and drops DEPUTY FARRIS's body on the ground. The DEPUTY's skull smacks the pavement with a thud.

ED looks around, then notices the spots of blood leading away from the car and catches a glimpse of DEREK stumbling into the gas station convenience store. KAT is nowhere to be seen. ELI TARK follows behind ED as he moves in pursuit of DEREK.

ED

Where's the girl?

ELI TARK

I don't know.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION CONVENIENCE STORE -
MOMENTS LATER

DEREK walks past the counter, towards the back of the store. There's a door with an "employees only" sign. He holds his arm, with blood dripping from his hand. A man behind the counter stands frozen watching.

STORE CLERK

Son, you alright?

DEREK

There's a dead cop outside.

STORE CLERK

What!?

DEREK stops.

DEREK

Do you have a gun?

STORE CLERK

(caught off guard)

What!?

DEREK moves away quickly.

DEREK

Call 911!

STORE CLERK

You can't go in there!

DEREK rips open the door and steps inside. He sits on the toilet, pulling the door shut. A gun shot rings out from inside the convenience store.

Derek searches helplessly for a weapon- there's a plunger, and a piece of thin metal shelf hanging from the wall that was probably used at one time to hold rolls of toilet paper. He begins to pull at it and the rusty screws strip from the wall.

Before he can react, the door flies open and smashes into DEREK. ED picks him up and drags him from the bathroom in a surge of strength. DEREK has little energy left to fight back and as ED drags DEREK out the store, we can hear the store clerk on the ground, writhing in pain from a bullet to the gut.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION PARKING LOT -
MOMENTS LATER

From a distance, ELI TARK exits the store looking around. The parking lot is empty and a pickup truck pulls out onto the highway. ED follows ELI TARK out the door, dragging DEREK out behind him with all his might.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - GAS STATION PARKING LOT - NEAR
THE PATROL CAR - SIMULTANEOUSLY

We see DEPUTY FARRIS, dead, eyes open, bloodied.

CUT TO:

INT. ANIMAL MAINTENANCE TRUCK - SIMULTANEOUSLY

Inside the truck, two bearded men listen to country music. As they pull out, one of them catches a glimpse of ED and ELI standing with DEREK slumped next to them on the pavement.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1

You see that?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2

What?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1
Kid's so drunk he can't stand.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
God damn, makes me jealous.

The truck picks up speed as it merges onto the highway.

INT. ANIMAL MAINTENANCE TRUCK - TRUCK BED - NEXT

Amidst a pile of dead deer carcasses, KAT wiggles her way to fresh air. She keeps from plain view and does her best to stomach the situation as the truck moves down the open road. KAT pulls her head up just enough to catch a glimpse of the back of one man's head and wonders if it's safe to try to get their attention.

She lays her head back down and listens, while making sure to separate herself from the body a dead deer. She cringes and closes her eyes.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1 (O.S.)
How much cash you got?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
Not shit. It's your day to pay.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1
Ed's got the goods but I ain't
takin you in there without any
dough.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
Ed's my boy, he knows what's up.

INT. ANIMAL MAINTENANCE TRUCK - INSIDE THE CAB

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1 gives ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2 a look of intolerance.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
C'mon, man! I hook you up!

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1 pulls out a pistol and shoves the nozzle into the other man's chest.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1
I should shoot you and dump you off
the side of this road for all the
bullshit you cause me.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
That's harsh. What did I do?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1 puts the gun away and watches the road.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2
Seriously, what did I do?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1
(pissed)
Listen, we're gonna get our money
and I'm gonna drive you over to see
Ed- you can use your share to buy
us some, and I'm gonna smoke all
the goddamn shit I want. I'm done
with all these fucking handouts!

INT. ANIMAL MAINTENANCE TRUCK - TRUCK BED - NEXT

We push into a CLOSE-UP of KAT, startled by what she can hear. We stay on her until the truck slows and comes to a stop. The engine turns off and KAT opens her eyes. Both doors squeak open and she can hear the muffled conversation of the men as they walk away from the vehicle. She swats a fly from her face and holds in a whimper, trying to stay quiet.

CUT TO:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA BUTCHER SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

The buzz of a second fly takes us inside a butcher shop. An overweight butcher in a white apron swats at the fly as it lands on his arm. He lifts a slab of meat up on his cutting board and immediately starts carving it with his knife, cigarette in his lips. The two men walk in from outside, their entrance marked by a bell dangling from the door.

BUTCHER
Always fucking late.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1
Yeah but we got a full load for
you, so no bitching.

BUTCHER
Good, the BBQ hut keeps calling and
I ain't got nothin. That means no
business for me and no BBQ for
nobody else.

The butcher finally looks up, over the shoulders of the men and out to the truck.

BUTCHER

How many?

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 2

Seven, got 2 bucks, big suckers.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1

(reasoning)

Listen Davey, I know we fucked up
your schedule.

As the butcher looks out the window, his face suddenly drops and his cigarette falls from his lips into a moist piece of meat.

ANIMAL COLLECTOR 1 (CONT'D)

We don't want no hard feelings, so
we'll come back in a day or two and
you can pay us out then.

From inside, we watch KAT jump the fenced truck bed and drop to the pavement. She stands up and sprints off screen. The BUTCHER's expression turns from fear to anger. He raises his knife over the counter towards one of the men.

BUTCHER

(petrified)

You sick sons o' bitches!

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS NEAR A WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - MOMENTS LATER

KAT sprints from the scene, looking back to see if anyone is following. She darts away from the parking lot and into some tree cover. We follow her through the trees and into a clearing as she stops for a moment to catch her breath.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - NEXT

KAT moves slowly, feeling something is stalking her. We hear a rustling nearby and a flock of doves take off into the air. KAT turns abruptly and runs directly into the strong grip of a hunter. She falls to her knees, too stunned to fight. She is shaking, and lifts her head to make eye contact with the man who stands above her. She blocks the sun from her eyes as she looks up at him. The man is MELVIN, a sturdy old man about six feet tall. His wrinkles and wiry gray beard put him in his late sixties.

MELVIN
(monotone)
You scared away the flock.

MELVIN breaks his shotgun and moves towards KAT carefully with an outstretched hand.

MELVIN
Here.

KAT accepts MELVIN's gesture and he helps her to her feet.

KAT
I'm sorry.

MELVIN
Who you running from?

MELVIN spits some tobacco juice over his shoulder, hiding it from her view. KAT looks around realizing that she has no idea where she is.

KAT
Where are we?

MELVIN looks at her with a curious smirk.

MELVIN
Edge of Oak Hills.

MELVIN waits for some reaction from KAT.

MELVIN (CONT'D)
I'm Melvin, who are you?

KAT
Where's the gas station?

MELVIN
Which one?

KAT thinks hard and licks her lips. She's dehydrated and worn.

KAT
Where's the resort?

MELVIN
The resort?

KAT
You're from around here aren't you?

KAT struggles to get her words out and barely holds it together.

MELVIN

Five or so miles back into town.
Thereabouts.

Melvin pauses, and analyzes KAT. KAT turns from him, feeling uncomfortable from his gaze.

MELVIN

(sympathetically)
You alright young lady?

KAT places her hands on her hips, then wipes a tear that beads up under her eye. Another falls down her cheek. She turns back around to face MELVIN.

KAT

I really need to get back into town.

KAT wipes another tear from her face and straightens up.

KAT

Here, I have ten dollars. Can you take me?

MELVIN stares at her, trying to piece together the situation.

KAT

(louder this time)
Sir, can you take me into town?

KAT pulls a ten dollar bill from her shorts pocket. MELVIN's reaction is heartfelt.

MELVIN

Put your money away.

CUT TO:

INT. MELVIN'S TRUCK - WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY - MINUTES LATER

MELVIN's posture shows his age, back slumped, with two hands high on the wheel. He looks over at KAT, who is turned, looking at the back window where his shotgun is resting on the hooks. She turns around and opens his glove compartment. She sifts around through a loose road map and some food wrappers and finds a clip of rounds. She pulls it out and looks at it.

MELVIN
What're you doing?

KAT slides MELVIN's elbow off the center console and lifts it. She digs her hand in and finds a pouch of tobacco, and some loose change.

MELVIN
You looking for something? Maybe I
can help you.

KAT continues to search the interior, reaching under her seat and runs her hand along the bottom. She feels the edges of a small case and pulls it out from underneath. KAT flips open the tabs and pulls out a black handgun.

MELVIN
(firmly)
Put it back.

KAT
Is it loaded?

MELVIN laughs.

MELVIN
Young lady, down here that's what
we call a flare gun.

KAT lets the gun down and rests it on the case.

MELVIN (CONT'D)
I keep it in case I get stuck out
here.

KAT
I know what a flare gun is, do you
have anything else I can borrow?

MELVIN looks at her, now more annoyed than sympathetic.

MELVIN
What for?

KAT
Protection.

MELVIN is tired of KAT keeping him in dark. He pulls off the side of the road.

MELVIN
(aggravated)
We're not moving until you tell me
what the fuck is going on.

KAT

Okay.

MELVIN

Now where am I dropping you off?

CUT TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - LATER THAT EVENING

MR. and MRS. DICKINSON step out of a taxi cab and walk to the entrance of the police station. MRS. DICKINSON puts an arm around DANNY as they walk. There are two patrol cars parked in the lot, along with an old gray Toyota. The scene is quiet.

MR. DICKINSON attempts to open the door to the police station, but it is locked. He peers through the glass to the interior. It is dark and there is no sign of life.

MR. DICKINSON

This is absurd!

MRS. DICKINSON

It's 6 o'clock, someone has to be here.

MR. DICKINSON bangs on the glass three times, then peers in again.

INT. POLICE STATION - NEXT

From the inside, we can see MR. DICKINSON looking in. The station is quiet, except for a repetitive squeaking and some heavy breathing close by, muffled behind a closed door.

INT. POLICE STATION - SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NEXT

An overweight middle-aged woman in a light flowery dress is bent over a chair. SHERIFF ADAMS, a short stocky man in his fifties, has his pants at his ankles. He grips the woman from behind and grunts as he finishes. He leans over her for a moment and catches his breath. Then, perks up as he hears the banging from outside.

SHERIFF ADAMS

Back to work Miss Muffet.

SHERIFF ADAMS shuffles to the side and plops down on the chair. He wipes his brow, then reaches down to pull up his pants.

RECEPTIONIST
 (pulling up her panties)
 Someone's out front.

The RECEPTIONIST looks at SHERIFF ADAMS for direction.

SHERIFF ADAMS
 Well go find out who it is!

INT. POLICE STATION - NEXT

The RECEPTIONIST scurries out into the lobby with a guilty look on her face. She stops at her purse, pulls out a makeup case and takes a quick look at herself.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NEXT

The DICKINSONS are worn out and frustrated. DANNY is seated against the building staring down at his shoes.

MR. DICKINSON
 Someone's coming.

MRS. DICKINSON
 (relieved)
 Thank god.

The RECEPTIONIST unlocks the door and lets them inside.

RECEPTIONIST
 Can I help you folks?

MR. DICKINSON
 (irritated)
 Why isn't anyone answering the
 phone here?

RECEPTIONIST
 (awkwardly)
 I haven't heard it ring, sir. Is
 there a problem?

MR. DICKINSON
 Yes, there is.

MRS. DICKINSON stands behind DANNY, hands on his shoulders.
 MR. DICKINSON holds his head for a moment.

MR. DICKINSON
 My son and daughter were taken into
 custody and we're here to get them.

The RECEPTIONIST looks on, not sure what to say. SHERIFF ADAMS pops out from his office with a warm smile on his face.

SHERIFF ADAMS

I heard some shuffling around out here, how we doing?

MR. DICKINSON

We're here to pick up Derek and Katherine Dickinson. They were picked up by your deputy over an hour ago.

SHERIFF ADAMS

(perplexed)

Uh huh.

He looks at the RECEPTIONIST.

SHERIFF ADAMS (CONT'D)

You hear from Donnie?

RECEPTIONIST

Not for a while. I sent a car out to meet him after he called in.

SHERIFF ADAMS stares at her, with growing contempt.

RECEPTIONIST

(defensive)

That's what I was tellin' you.

MRS. DICKINSON

How long ago was that?

The RECEPTIONIST looks up at the clock on the wall.

RECEPTIONIST

Twenty minutes, half hour. I can find out for you.

The RECEPTIONIST moves towards her desk and grabs for her computer mouse.

MR. DICKINSON

No one followed up on it? Jesus christ!

SHERIFF ADAMS

Relax now, we'll find out where they are.

The radio static interrupts them.

OFFICER 1 (O.C.)
 (with urgency)
 Grady to base. Come in.

The RECEPTIONIST reaches for the phone and picks it up quickly.

RECEPTIONIST
 Base here, come in Officer Grady.

OFFICER 1
 (shouting)
 We have a 187 here. It's Deputy
 Farris, Margerie. He's bleeding all
 over and he ain't breathing.

The RECEPTIONIST's face goes white. She turns away from the others.

RECEPTIONIST
 (under her breath)
 Oh my god.

The DICKINSONS look on in desperation.

JUMP FORWARD TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - MOMENTS LATER

The scene is frantic, and we watch it play out without sound. A police car pulls up as the DICKINSONS follow SHERIFF ADAMS out the door gripping a shotgun. The SHERIFF motions at the officer as he opens his door, waiving his hand towards the road. MRS. DICKINSON is teary eyed and DANNY watches in a confused state of fear.

MR. DICKINSON moves aggressively towards SHERIFF ADAMS and grabs him by the shoulder to get his attention. SHERIFF ADAMS ignores him at first and continues shouting orders at his men. Finally he turns and yells at MR. DICKINSON to go inside. The sound plays back in and the scene moves at a quickening pace.

MR. DICKINSON
 We're not staying here!

The SHERIFF moves around the front bumper of his vehicle to the driver's side with MR. DICKINSON in pursuit.

SHERIFF ADAMS
 It's against the law for you to
 ride with me!

The SHERIFF closes his door in MR DICKINSON's face and turns on the engine. MR. DICKINSON shouts at him through the glass, attempting to pull the door open as he pulls away.

MR. DICKINSON
There's no fucking law here you
piece of shit!

MR. DICKINSON lunges a few paces after the fleeing patrol car, then stops and watches it pull onto the highway.

MR. DICKINSON
Fuck!

MR. DICKINSON stands motionless, hands on hips. MRS. DICKINSON stands holding DANNY's head tightly against her hip. MR. DICKINSON turns slowly to face his wife. His expression is defeated and looks away from her before breaking down.

The door to the police station swings open and the RECEPTIONIST walks out. She goes straight for MRS. DICKINSON.

RECEPTIONIST
(sincerely)
I'm sorry about all this.

MRS. DICKINSON nods her head, holding back her tears.

RECEPTIONIST
Is he okay? Do you want me to get
him some water? We got a soda
machine inside.

DANNY doesn't respond. The receptionist realizes she's not wanted, and begins to turn away. She stops in mid-stride and turns to MRS. DICKINSON with a set of keys in her hand.

RECEPTIONIST
That's my car over there. You can
take it, I don't mind.

MRS. DICKINSON looks at the keys, then over to her husband. MR. DICKINSON moves decisively for the keys and grabs them from her outstretched hand before moving towards the car. MRS. DICKINSON turns to the RECEPTIONIST.

MRS. DICKINSON
(sincerely)
Thank you.

MRS. DICKINSON guides DANNY towards the vehicle, to join her husband.

RECEPTIONIST

I'll pray for your children.

MRS. DICKINSON looks back over her shoulder to the RECEPTIONIST. Something in her expression has changed. The initial adrenaline has worn off and the painful severity of the situation has set in.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - SIMULTANEOUSLY

ED pulls up to the abandoned shed on an ATV. He wears a pair of black cargo riding pants and a tight gray cut-off tee. He grabs a large blue duffle bag from the back of the ATV and carries it to the shed, following an identical process to the last time we saw him at the location.

From a low angle vantage point, we watch ED lower the bag on the first step of three and unlock both locks, one at a time. He stands a distance from the door, stretching his arms out uncomfortably to remove the second lock and open the door. He jumps back a step to grab the duffle bag and leaps up over all three steps to enter the shed.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - INSIDE THE SHED - MINUTES LATER

ED sets down his bag and plops down on the floor. There's not much in the room but some bags stuffed up against the wall, an old rocking chair, and in the corner there's a pipe and lighter.

ED slides into the corner with his back against the wall. The light comes in from a window and brightens one side of his face. He picks up the pipe and lights the bowl in a circular motion until it sparks from the intense heat. He pulls a long drag of smoke from it and repeats. He slides down a few inches and closes his eyes as the meth takes him.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA - ED'S CHILDHOOD HOME - MANY YEARS AGO

ED runs across a dusty street, followed closely by his younger brother, LOGAN. ED is only ten years old and smiles easily, without a worry in the world. His clothes are cheap and dirty but he doesn't know the difference. LOGAN, his six year old brother, follows close behind.

LOGAN

I'll beat you there.

ED
Ain't beat me yet, never will.

ED sprints past LOGAN up the front porch and whips open the swinging screen door. He continues up a few steps in the front hall and stops.

ED
Momma!

LOGAN comes scurrying into the house behind him and shadows his older brother.

ED
Momma!?

ED hears a commercial jingle playing from the TV room and realizes his mother is sitting in her rocking chair, facing the screen.

ED approaches her, followed by LOGAN, and ends up only a few inches from her ear.

ED
(a whisper)
Momma, you asleep?

A fly buzzes near her head and lands on her lip. She doesn't respond. ED knows she's dead and pushes her rocker back and forth for a moment to pretend otherwise.

FADE BACK IN:

INT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - INSIDE THE SHED

ED stares stoically across floor, eyes glazed over. He focuses in on the old rocking chair and imagines his mother there with him. His stare turns to a disgusted scowl.

ED
Thanks for nothing you fucking
bitch.

ED takes another hit on the pipe. A woman's voice plays in.

ED'S MOTHER
(soft and fuzzy)
She's beautiful. Look how graceful.

ED coughs on a second hit and stares across the shed, wondering what's going on.

He realizes she's talking about something out the window. The rocking chair is empty and ED knows it, but he continues to indulge in this momentary break from reality.

He turns slowly now with a small grin and spots a young doe grazing outside near the treeline. He watches as she flicks her ear to combat a pesky bug and continues grazing, without a care in the world. ED smiles a bit, taking in the serenity of it all. Then, with no warning at all, ED's smile fades to a look of unforgiving evil- snapping back to reality. He stands up quickly and bolts for the door.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - OUTSIDE THE SHED - NEXT

Ed's head spins with the sudden movement and he tucks his forehead into his palm for a moment. He sucks in a painful breath and pulls his gun from his pants.

ED

You're not supposed to be here.

He looks out in the direction where the doe was grazing and catches a quick glimpse of KAT darting through the shadows. He hears the movement again, but can't focus enough to make anything out.

ED flails his gun around hoping for a target, then rubs his hand up against his face again attempting to reset himself. He lifts his head and closes his eyes to take a deep breath. He points his gun in an sudden motion, opens his eyes and fires 6 rounds at the doe as it darts into the woods unharmed.

ED

Fuck, I cooked up a nice batch.

ED laughs to himself, revealing again his sudden unpredictable nature. His laughter cuts through the gentle rustling of the trees. ED locks the shed carefully and looks down at a rusty propane tank as he makes his way to the ATV.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF ED'S HOME - NEXT

We open on a frontal view of ED's trailer and begin moving closer. The door is open and we enter the dark premises. There is some light music on inside, but no one is there. Now on the inside, the CAMERA reveals the living room in a SLOW PAN and stops on the door. Over the music we can hear the faint sound of a dog barking in the distance and some birds chirping nearby.

Suddenly, the low murmur of a man's voice can be heard. The voice becomes louder and the long moving shadows outside are warning that someone is approaching.

ELI TARK slips in cautiously with a pistol held out in front. He motions out the door, and a second man enters. JAMIEL, a very dark skinned black man in his thirties, stands nearly 6 foot 4 in baggy jeans and a oversized white tee. His head is bald and shiny and some small scars cross his cheek under his bloodshot eyes. The butt of a gun sticks up from his waistband. ELI steps forward some more and takes a look around.

ELI TARK
He cleaned the place up.

JAMIEL
Where's the shit?

ELI TARK
He keeps some here and hides the rest in another spot.

ELI walks to the back bedroom and opens the closet. He pulls for some loose bags and rips some shirts off the hangers. ELI flips the bags inside out and tosses them to the side. JAMIEL walks up behind him and places a gun to the back of his neck.

JAMIEL
(threatening)
You telling me it ain't here,
mother fucker?

ELI TARK turns and walks past the pointed gun.

ELI TARK
Put that shit down, negro. He must have moved it all to the woods.

JAMIEL
He hides the shit in the woods?
Tell me he buries his cash in the backyard too.

ELI TARK
He thinks I don't know the spot but I followed him there.

JAMIEL
Fuck, let's do it then.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNNAMED TRAILER BAR - OUTSIDE ED'S TRAILER PARK - NEXT

MELVIN pulls his vehicle up to a large trailer with a wooden sign reading "rafters welcome". There are a few faded beer banners hanging from the siding- the kind the distributors send out for free. There's not much else to signify it's a drinking establishment. From across the road a mangy three-legged terrier looks up from a puddle and watches KAT get out of the car.

MELVIN

The pay phone's right there, I got two quarters in the cup holder.

KAT

Where are you going?

MELVIN

I know the guy here, see if I can't get some info out of him. Unless you rather me sit in the car.

MELVIN turns and walks into the bar. KAT picks up the pay phone and dials 911. After three rings a woman picks up on the other end.

RESPONDANT

911, what's your emergency?

KAT

I was kidnapped and assaulted by a man. My brother and I both. My brother is missing and I need to find him.

RESPONDANT

Are you injured, ma'm?

KAT

No, I'm okay, but my brother is hurt.

RESPONDANT

Is he there with you?

KAT

No. He was in a car accident and was kidnapped.

RESPONDANT

Location?

KAT

What?

RESPONDANT

What is your location?

KAT

I'm outside of a bar that looks like a trailer. In West Virginia.

RESPONDANT

An address ma'm?

KAT looks at the front of the trailer, but can't find an address- not even a name.

KAT

There's no address.

RESPONDANT

(matter of factly)

I want to help you, ma'm, but I can't do that without your location.

KAT

(raising her voice)

We were taken by one of the employees here. His name is Ed. We escaped and then we took his truck to get away from him and got arrested and now I don't know where I am.

RESPONDANT

An employee at the bar?

KAT

No, at the resort. My family is staying at Outdoor Adventures, it's in Oak Hills.

KAT spots a sign up the road.

KAT

(frustrated)

Wait, I'm at the intersection of Denton Road and something, outside of a trailer park. I'm sorry I can't give you more, but I need your help.

RESPONDANT

Please stay calm and I'll look up the resort. Your name please.

KAT
Katherine Dickinson.

RESPONDANT
Okay, Katherine. I believe I've pulled up the resort. Outdoor Adventures, Clinton Rd. And you said you're in the vicinity, correct?

KAT
Yes, down the road a few miles. It's a bar.

Pause.

RESPONDANT
Have you been drinking, ma'm?

KAT takes a moment to digest the question.

KAT
(defensive)
No, I have not been drinking!

RESPONDANT
Were you inside the bar?

KAT
No I'm outside at a pay phone.

RESPONDANT
Okay then, what's your brother's name, please?

KAT
Derek Dickinson.

RESPONDANT
Do you have an address for his location?

KAT
(discouraged)
I don't know where he is, that's my emergency.

RESPONDANT
Please hold for a moment, I'm pulling up your location now based on the phone number.

KAT
Okay.

KAT turns to the bar and through a harsh reflection in the window, catches a glimpse of MELVIN and the bar owner in a heated conversation.

RESPONDANT

I have your location, ma'm. Thank you for holding. I am now going to route you to the nearest...

The phone call goes silent.

AUTOMATED OPERATOR

Your call is complete. Please insert additional funds to continue your call.

KAT watches as MELVIN and the bar owner move out of view.

The door to the bar opens and MELVIN steps out. The CAMERA shows us a WIDE SHOT of the scene. The phone hangs from the cord and sways back and forth. KAT stares at MELVIN. MELVIN scratches his head and looks back at her. He takes a few more steps in her direction and holds his hand out.

MELVIN

Why don't you come inside and we'll figure this all out?

A large bar owner named JERRY steps out of the trailer bar and waits for a response. KAT stares at MELVIN, then looks at the second man.

MELVIN

How does that sound?

MELVIN seems nervous, and sweats from his brow.

KAT notices and suddenly thinks that she cannot trust MELVIN or the man standing behind him. She begins to move away from the pay phone, backing up into the grass nearby.

KAT turns and sprints from the scene, leaving both men frozen in place, bewildered.

In a CLOSE-UP, MELVIN sweats from his forehead and clenches his jaw. He looks to JERRY, stunned and troubled by KAT's rash decision. It's obvious to the audience, judging by his expression, that MELVIN only meant to help.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE JUNKYARD BEHIND ED'S TRAILER - MINUTES LATER

Cars are stacked in twos and threes, half-flattened, creating a wall that stretches about a hundred yards against the edge of the woods. There is an break in the stack, creating an entrance about 20 feet across that continues into the center. Through the opening we see more rows of flattened vehicle bodies running parallel to each other, creating what looks like a sloppy, decrepid automobile maze.

The sound of the dog barking is closer and echoes through the stacks of rusted metal.

EXT. JUNKYARD - CONTINUOUS

In the middle of the junkyard there is a open area that's isolated from the world around. Tire rims and random metal scraps lay about and scattered weeds poke up through the dusty cracks in the ground.

A close-up reveals ED's pit bull, BADGER, snarling and lunging forward, restrained by a chain wound around a car door frame.

LOGAN (O.S.)
Badger, be quiet!

LOGAN sits fifteen feet away in a busted lawn chair, pushed up flush against the outside wall of cars. He holds a tire iron in both hands, knocking it against the ground repeatedly as he tilts forward and back in his chair. He swats at the gnats that swarm above his head.

Not far from LOGAN, and a few feet from BADGER's reach, DEREK sits slumped against the side of a car. His eyes are closed and his mouth is covered with black tape. His nose flares up every few seconds to fight for oxygen. DEREK's hands are taped together in his lap.

Another loud series of barks wake DEREK out of his partial coma. The sun is beginning to set behind the trees, but beads of sweat still collect on his forehead amidst the patches of dry blood and bruising on his face. DEREK peeks up at LOGAN who is staring intently at him.

DEREK begins to tremor and his eyes roll to the back of his head. He convulses a few times violently and his cheeks puff out as he attempts to scream beneath the tape. LOGAN stands up slowly from his chair and drops the tire iron. He waits a moment as DEREK finishes convulsing, twitching a few times before coming to a complete rest.

LOGAN takes a few cautious steps towards DEREK, then looks around. He is freaked out and doesn't know how to handle it.

LOGAN

Ed?

LOGAN waits for ED to respond.

LOGAN

(a bit louder)

Ed!?

His voice echoes. LOGAN looks back to DEREK, who lies still.

LOGAN

Dang it, man, you alive?

LOGAN takes a few quick steps in DEREK's direction and bends down closer to his face to inspect, while making sure to keep a safe distance between them. BADGER begins barking again.

LOGAN

C'mon Badger, I told you to shut up. Ed told me to watch this boy and look what you're doing. Making so much noise I can't think.

LOGAN scratches his balls and then turns around suddenly. He goes back to his chair, picks up the tire iron and returns to his standing position over DEREK.

LOGAN

You dead?

LOGAN shakes DEREK's arm. DEREK doesn't respond. In a CLOSE-UP we can see he is still breathing. LOGAN leans in closer and reaches out his hand to touch DEREK's neck.

LOGAN

(nervously, talking to himself)

Where is it?

LOGAN doesn't have any luck attempting to find DEREK's pulse. He drops down on one knee, turns his head to the side and lays one ear against DEREK's chest to listen for a heartbeat.

LOGAN

He ain't dead, badger, I can hear his heart.

Before LOGAN can pull away, DEREK comes to life and raises his arms up over LOGAN's head and down onto his shoulders like a horseshoe wrapping a stake.

DEREK pulls LOGAN's head and neck in tight to his body and LOGAN's feet fly out from behind him.

Saliva foams and trickles from DEREK's mouth as he holds tight around LOGAN's large frame. LOGAN flails his legs and digs his nails into DEREK's arms to escape but DEREK's muscular grip keeps him down.

DEREK
(barely audible)
Fuuuck you.

BADGER barks wildly and one strong kick from LOGAN powers both men into the side of the car, smacking DEREK's shoulders and head at impact.

LOGAN struggles for a few more brief seconds before coming to a rest. DEREK lets go, completely exhausted, with LOGAN's dead weight strewn on top of him. Both men lay lifeless on the ground, and even BADGER has stopped barking, curious about the situation.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF ED'S HOME - NEXT

KAT moves gracefully across the back of a trailer and sets her back against the siding of the another. She peers around the corner and picks out ED's trailer at the end of the row. KAT holds the flare gun close to her chest and takes a moment to compose herself. She darts down the row and stops one trailer away from ED's. His trailer is dark and his red truck is not in sight.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA WOODS - NEXT

ELI and JAMIEL pull up to the abandoned shed in ED's truck. JAMIEL steps out with gun drawn and takes a long look around. ELI TARK walks out with less caution in his step.

ELI TARK
He's a redneck cracka' alright, but
he ain't stupid enough to hang
around.

JAMIEL
You don't know that.

ELI TARK stops a few paces in front of the truck and pulls the last cigarette from his pack. He tosses the empty package in the weeds.

JAMIEL
Can't it wait, nigga?

ELI TARK lights the cigarette and takes a drag, eyes locked on the shed.

ELI TARK
There's 50 grand worth of shit in there. Meth, white, pills. Maybe some cash too.

JAMIEL
(impatient)
Let's get it then.

ELI TARK chuckles and takes another puff. JAMIEL moves for the door of the shed and stops in front of the steps. He slides to the only window and tries to get a look inside, then moves back to the door.

From the same low angle perspective we had on ED when he came to the shed earlier, JAMIEL steps up onto the top step and grabs for the lower lock. The CAMERA moves right and down the wall to a close-up of a propane tank sitting against the house. A hose runs out from the tank nozzle and disappears under the steps.

From a wide view the shed explodes, sending shards of wood debris everywhere. JAMIEL is tossed backwards off the step and ELI is knocked to the ground from the blast. The shed goes up in flames and JAMIEL gasps for air. His face is scalded and he groans in pain. ELI TARK gets up on one knee and grabs for his abdomen. His hands roll over the end of bloody 6-inch splinter, deeply grounded in his stomach cavity. He begins bleeding from the mouth and folds over in pain.

From the edge of the woods there is a rev of an engine and ED appears from the shadows. He rides his ATV up to ELI TARK with a burning hatred in his eyes and slows to a stop a few feet from him. ED steps up to ELI and stomp kicks him in the head. He draws a gun from his waistband and puts a bullet in ELI's back.

JAMIEL rolls over to see ED approaching. He struggles to his hands and knees to look for his gun but is stopped with two gunshots to his torso. JAMIEL is dead on the spot.

ED jumps back on his ATV and rides off, leaving ELI TARK to die.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF UNNAMED TRAILER BAR - NEXT

MR. DICKINSON slows to a stop down the block from the bar where SHERIFF ADAMS and his men are parked. They stand in a small circle interrogating the bar owner, JERRY. JERRY looks confused, raises his shoulders and points to MELVIN's truck that is still parked out front.

INT. RECEPTIONIST'S TOYOTA

MR. DICKINSON turns to look at his son, then to his wife in the passenger seat. He grabs her hand and holds it.

MRS. DICKINSON
What are they doing?

MR. DICKINSON
I don't know, Darlene.

He pauses, then adjusts his body to face them both.

MR. DICKINSON (CONT'D)
I want you both to stay here until
I come back.

MR. DICKINSON pushes open the door.

DANNY
Dad?

MR. DICKINSON
Yeah buddy.

DANNY
Here.

DANNY hands his father one of the small walkie talkies.

DANNY (CONT'D)
We can keep track of you and you
can tell us if you need our help.

MR. DICKINSON takes it from DANNY and turns the sound all the way down before placing it in his pocket.

MR. DICKINSON
I'll be back soon, don't worry.

CUT TO:

INT. ED'S TRAILER - NEXT

KAT creeps through the doorway with gun held out in front of her body. She walks slowly past the radio that is still on, playing some abrasive 80s grunge metal, then approaches the back bedroom. Her heart pounds with every step and she tries her best to keep her breathing and footsteps from making a sound.

KAT pushes open the bedroom door and it squeaks as it comes to a halt against the wall. The faint sound of a dog barking enters in over the radio noise. The room is dark and the warm hue of dusk comes through the window and highlights the gaudy wood panels in the room. She takes a quick look at the bags and clothes scattered on the floor, then heads back into the living room.

KAT moves to the makeshift kitchen- nothing more than a stove, microwave and a cupboard tucked into a corner of the trailer. There are empty beer bottles covering the small counter space and a bag of cheap dog food slumped over in the corner. The dog food grabs her attention and she makes an immediate connection. She stops and listens for the barking outside. KAT takes a few steps to the front window to make sure the coast is clear and exits, disappearing around the corner.

EXT. NEAR THE JUNKYARD - CONTINUOUS

We follow KAT down a dusty path behind the trailer park as she nears the junkyard. The barking gets louder. She fights her fears and keeps moving. Not far off, the sound of ED's ATV engine can be heard. KAT turns her jog into a full out sprint as she reaches the entrance to the junkyard.

KAT peers down the long rows of stacked vehicles as she passes each one, hoping to find her brother. SHE can hear the faint sound of a police siren. KAT stops and pulls out a cartridge to load the flare gun. Her hands shake and she fumbles the flare, while the sound of ED's ATV closes in. She holds the loaded flare gun above her head and fires a blast into the air.

We cut quickly from three different locations:

EXT. MIDDLE OF TRAILER PARK - SIMULATANEOUSLY

SHERIFF ADAMS and his men watch the flare go up as they move through the trailer park

EXT. NORTHERN EDGE OF THE TRAILER PARK - SIMULATANEOUSLY

MR. DICKINSON watches the flare from the edge of the woods as he approaches.

EXT. THE JUNKYARD ENTRANCE - SIMULATANEOUSLY

ED looks up while riding his ATV through the entrance to the junkyard and watches the flare light up the sky and fade away. KAT has revealed her position.

ED slows the ATV as he enters, trying to figure out where the flare was fired from. He takes a sharp turn down a row and speeds around in blind pursuit.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTER OF THE JUNKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

From a wide shot, MELVIN moves into frame where LOGAN still lays lifeless over DEREK. MELVIN falls down at their feet, defeated. He tugs at LOGAN's pant leg in denial, as if to wake him.

MELVIN
(broken)
Logan. Logan!

MELVIN waits for a moment, but knows full well that he is dead and gone.

You're alright, Logan. C'mon now,
son! Say something!

MELVIN's weathered eyes twitch as he tries to hold back his emotions. He gently rolls LOGAN off of DEREK and checks DEREK's wrist for a pulse. DEREK opens his eyes very slightly to make eye contact with MELVIN.

MELVIN
You alright?

MELVIN pulls the tape from DEREK's mouth. DEREK lets out a painful moan and gasps for air.

MELVIN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna find you some help, you
just hang on tight now.

MELVIN looks at DEREK tattered face for a moment, realizing the extent of his injuries.

MELVIN

Lord have mercy.

MELVIN stands up slowly and backs away from them. DEREK opens his eyes again briefly, watching helplessly as MELVIN leaves him stranded there. With the little strength remaining, DEREK tugs at the chain connecting his hands to the car. It is secured tightly to the frame of the demolished vehicle. He has no choice but to lie and wait.

ED finishes his lap around the junkyard and ends up where he started. Realizing his efforts are getting him nowhere, he hits the breaks and turns off the ignition. He jumps down to the ground, leaving the ATV behind in a cloud of dust. ED pops out the clip from his semi-automatic pistol and counts the remaining rounds. He slides it back in and holds the weapon down at his side.

ED stops and tilts his head slightly. Like a trained hunting dog, he zones into the faint sound of footsteps nearby. ED slips behind the hood of an old Buick that juts out from the pile, waiting for someone to walk into his trap. He picks his head up over the dashboard, far enough to see the man turn the corner unarmed and vulnerable. ED's pupils show extreme dilation as he watches the man come closer. He fidgets with his gun, and bites down on his lower lip repeatedly from the levels of meth in his system. His hungry stare begins to fade as ED gets a better look at the man approaching. Suddenly we see another side of ED- weakened, humbled, and remorseful. He ducks his head down and runs open palm across his face and into his hair, pulling at it as if to inflict pain on himself. ED stands abruptly and moves into MELVIN's path. MELVIN stops in his tracks, staring down the barrel of ED's gun.

MELVIN

(gently)

Put down the gun, Ed.

ED bobs back and forth, keeping the gun firmly out in front of him. He moves gradually closer to MELVIN, brings the gun down for a moment, and begins shaking his head at MELVIN.

ED

What the fuck! What are you doing
here!

ED lifts the gun back up and points it at him. MELVIN doesn't move. He keeps his hands up and out in front of his shoulders to show he is not a threat.

MELVIN

No one wants to play your game.

ED

(defensively)

It's not my game! I didn't ask for it. I didn't start it. These fucking people come and try to control me. Control my life. Tell me I'm not good enough. Their money ain't greener than anyone else's.

MELVIN

I know.

ED

(infuriated)

They bleed the same fucking way we do!

MELVIN looks into ED's eyes before responding to show his sincerity. ED refrains from making eye contact.

MELVIN

I know how you feel, Ed.

ED

You know how I feel?

MELVIN

We are a lot alike, even if you don't want to admit it.

ED

We're nothing alike. You're a fucking traitor. You deserved to die the day you left us!

MELVIN

You're right. I fucked up.

MELVIN pauses and searches for the right words.

MELVIN (CONT'D)

(trying to reason)

Now look where we are.

ED continues to bounce around. He drags his palm across his face and cups his forehead for a moment. The veins extrude from around his eyes and temples.

MELVIN
(with hesitation)
Logan is dead.

ED squints at MELVIN, studying him. MELVIN's look is solid and unchanging. ED waits for him to cry or break into laughter or show some sort of emotion.

ED
(disbelief)
Logan?

MELVIN
He's gone, Ed.

ED
What!?

ED flails his arms and moves in a circle, bewildered and enraged.

ED
Fucking bullshit! You're a fucking
shitty liar!

He screams at the top of his lungs. Foam sprays out of his mouth. He turns back to MELVIN, takes three quick strides to face him in close quarters and shoots him square in the stomach. MELVIN falls to his knees, holding his insides in.

MELVIN
(straining)
You fucking bastard.

ED stands over MELVIN, watching him die. He slowly turns his attention to the center of the junkyard, where he left LOGAN and DEREK hours earlier. As ED steps away from MELVIN's body, a shot rings out and hits the dirt near ED's feet. ED turns calmly to face SHERIFF ADAMS and OFFICER GRADY standing with guns drawn.

SHERIFF ADAMS
ED, drop the gun and get on the
ground!

ED begins to raise his arms, then in a swift motion aims and fires at SHERIFF ADAMS. SHERIFF ADAMS does not react in time and fires wildly into the air as he's hit in the chest. ED immediately takes aim at the other officer. OFFICER GRADY steadies his gun and shoots, nailing ED just below the chin. ED grabs for his neck and pulls his hand away, covered in blood. ED lifts his gun again and walks stridently at OFFICER GRADY. OFFICER GRADY fires quickly and misses.

ED stops and fires, blowing out OFFICER GRADY's knee cap. OFFICER GRADY shrieks in pain and drags himself behind cover. ED grabs for his neck again and wipes his hand on his shirt. The blood runs down his shoulder and covers the left side of his body in a dark red. He looks down at the blood on his hand.

ED
(stunned)
You fucking cunt.

EXT. CENTER OF THE JUNKYARD - NEXT

KAT runs into frame and kneels down by DEREK.

KAT
Derek!

BADGER growls viciously at KAT and leaps forward with ferocity. The door frame keeping the chain in place is now bent from the tension and we can see it slowly losing its hold on the dog.

KAT shakes DEREK, hoping for any kind of response. She leans in and embraces him gently, searching for a heartbeat. The tears pour down her cheeks.

KAT
(just above a whisper)
You're gonna be okay. Hang on for me.

KAT is startled as a another gun shot goes off. She pulls at the tape on her brother's hands and yanks at the chain but knows she won't be able to move him very far, even if she was able to free him. BADGER barks wildly at the sound of the gunshot and launches against the chain again, this time bending the door frame with such force that it snaps in two. The dog somersaults forward and springs to his feet, stunned and dangerous.

KAT watches BADGER as he postures and turns to face them. KAT keeps her eyes on the dog as it circles them slightly, growling, and turns back like a lion marking it's territory.

KAT grabs for the flare gun, preparing herself for a sudden attack. Instead, the dog flees from the scene as his master, ED, walks into the area and fires a haphazard shot in their direction. It ricochets off the surrounding metal.

ED's wound is severe and the blood loss has him dazed, weaving back and forth as he moves towards them.

KAT makes a split second decision and sprints across ED's line of sight, down the row of stacked vehicles. ED lifts his gun to her but not in time to get a clear shot before she escapes from sight. He fires anyway, missing terribly.

ED contemplates heading in the direction of DEREK and LOGAN, but turns to follow KAT, unable to resist the chase.

KAT crawls through a car interior and slips through to the other side, waiting for ED to creep into view. She readies the flare gun, waiting.

Thirty seconds pass and KAT wonders if ED is attempting to outsmart her by attacking from a different angle. KAT searches for a hiding spot and peers down the row on both sides. ED emerges about a hundred feet away from the end of the row and starts jogging at KAT with his gun raised. He fires a shot in her direction, missing again. KAT fires a flare back at him. It flies into the ground and sputters into the wreckage just a few feet from ED. He slows down and begins laughing, amused by her feeble attempt.

KAT ducks out of plain view, and stands flat against the hot metal.

ED's left leg buckles suddenly and he veers into the wall of solid metal. His body caroms off the dense wall like a rubber ball at impact and he is sent sprawling on the ground. He fails to break the fall and lands rib cage first with a thud.

ED
(slurring like a drunk)
You stupid fucking whore.

ED's face is caked in dirt and he spits out a mouth full of bloody saliva. KAT slides down the row and finds a hole. She lifts her body up a few feet to crawl through.

ED
Look what you did!

ED puts the nose of his pistol in the ground and props himself up. He finally makes it back to his feet and continues the hunt.

ED
(spitting blood)
Typical fucking woman. Gotta make
shit difficult.

ED shuffles up against the row of cars and out of view as he approaches KAT's proximity. He is winded and stops to lean against the wreckage. The stacks around him shift and lean as his vision becomes more blurry by the second.

ED looks up and watches a helicopter hover a few hundred feet up and it begins to circle the area. He fires a wild shot into the air.

ED
(waiving his gun)
C'mon, you pussy!

ED pushes off the metal to straighten himself and wobbles to one side. He raises the gun to his right temple and holds it there for a moment, grimacing. His face shrivels as if he's about to start crying and then quickly drops his arm and starts laughing at himself. All sanity is gone.

ED
(exhausted)
Come out and give me a clean shot
you little bitch!

ED attempts a few more paces before slamming his shoulder up against the metal again. He rests there momentarily.

The CAMERA changes to a new perspective on top of the short stack of cars, looking down at ED. KAT stands poised and raises the tire iron above her head. She swings downward and cracks ED on the crown of his skull, before he can respond. She splits his skull almost perfectly down the center, leaving a five inch gash.

ED's gun flops in the dirt and he stands frozen, staring straight ahead, waiting to topple over. KAT watches as he sways and almost falls. His mouth is gaping open as he tries to compute the massive blow. ED lets out a low whimper and raises his hand slowly to the top of his head, running his fingers along the deep ridge and feeling the smooth bone beneath, all while eyes still locked on KAT.

ED looks up at KAT as the blood starts cascading down around his head and into his eyes. They stare at each other. KAT is waiting, confident she now holds the higher ground.

With one last burst of energy, ED dives in the direction of his gun. From his knees, ED uses both arms to brush the blood from his eyes and feels around for his weapon. He spits blood from his lips. He grabs for anything he can find- something rigid, anything.

MR. DICKINSON is revealed standing rigidly with ED's gun hanging at his side. ED notices MR. DICKINSON's feet first and lifts his head slowly to look at him. ED makes an attempt to lift himself off the ground, but his arm slides off from under him.

ED turns to KAT briefly, shining a smile of a southern gentleman, before attempting to lift himself again.

KAT steps forward and whips the tire iron across ED's jaw. ED's body goes limp and his head hits the dust. Blood drips from his mouth.

KAT stands for a moment, waiting for ED to back come to life. He is still.

KAT looks to MR. DICKINSON. He goes to his daughter and embraces her.

EXT. CENTER OF THE JUNKYARD - MINUTES LATER

From an EXTREME WIDE SHOT, emergency medical personnel and a team of state police officers converge on the scene. DEREK is cut loose and placed on a stretcher by three emergency medical staff. MR. DICKINSON stands with an arm around his daughter, holding DEREK's hand before he's hoisted up into the ambulance.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DICKINSON'S FRONT YARD - MONTHS LATER

MR. and MRS. DICKINSON stand together a few feet behind a healthy DEREK DICKINSON. They wave DANNY off to the bus on the first day of sixth grade. He waves back from his seat by the window as the bus pulls away. We hold on him for a bit and we watch his smile change over to a calm and optimistic expression. He looks at his backpack for a moment, then reaches in to grab his journal. He pulls it out and flips through the first few pages. There are two entries marked "Day 1" and "Day 2" and the family photo taken by ED is slipped in between pages. DANNY takes a long thoughtful look at the photo, then closes the journal, placing it back in his bag as another student sits down next to him.

YOUNG GIRL

Hey.

DANNY

Hey.

YOUNG GIRL

How was your summer?

DANNY

Pretty good, how was yours?

YOUNG GIRL

It was fun.

The YOUNG GIRL smiles at him. The conversation is short, neither one knowing what to say next. They sit looking forward.

CUT TO:

EXT. UCLA CAMPUS - LATER

KAT DICKINSON exits the student center with a group of friends and makes her way down the sprawling set of concrete steps onto the quad. She turns and smiles in response to one of the girls and looks forward out onto campus as she leads the group past the CAMERA.

CUT TO BLACK.

ROLL CREDITS.