

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

"Innocent on the Outside"

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&

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FADE IN:

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - NIGHT

A very nice home in an upper middle-class area, somewhat secluded from the nearest neighbors. The lawn is well-manicured. The landscaping is professional. A BMW is parked in the driveway.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT - SAME TIME

The house has all wood/tile floors. A child's bare feet peeking out from under a nightgown make their way down the stairs. The child stops at the bottom.

This is BROOKE COLLINS, an adorable but troubled 8-year-old. Her shoulder-length blonde hair is unkempt. There is scattered bruising to her little arms.

O.S. Distant VOICES are muffled. A man and two women speaking from below. One of the females seems to be pleading.

Brooke looks a little unnerved and swallows hard. She leaves the stairs to walk down the hall.

IN THE KITCHEN

The main light is off. Brooke flips it on as she enters and gasps over something she sees before her.

A small pool of blood is in the middle of the floor, a slight trail leading to the closed basement door.

O.S. The muffled VOICES come from the basement.

Brooke walks around the blood to the refrigerator, where she grabs an opened juice box inside and takes a long drink.

O.S. FOOTSTEPS march up the basement steps.

Brooke watches the door wide-eyed.

The basement door opens. Brooke's Mom, VICTORIA COLLINS (35), very well-groomed with her expensive haircut and designer dress, leaves the stairway. She is very snooty and sour.

Victoria immediately spots Brooke and her eyes narrow.

VICTORIA

What did I tell you about coming
down here after we put you to bed?

Brooke stares at her mom in fear. Victoria charges up to the girl and grabs her arm tightly. The juice box drops from Brooke's hand, spilling some at impact with the floor.

VICTORIA
Answer me!

BROOKE
I was thirsty.

VICTORIA
So you're too good to drink water
from the bathroom?

BROOKE
I, uh...

VICTORIA
You what?

Victoria jerks on Brooke's arm.

VICTORIA
Speak up.

Brooke battles tears.

VICTORIA
Since you're here...

Victoria grabs a small bucket from under the sink and runs water into it. She selects a rag from a drawer, drops it into the water, and holds the bucket handle in one hand.

With the other, she grips Brooke's arm and drags her to the blood on the floor.

VICTORIA
... you can clean up this mess.

Victoria sets the bucket down next to the blood trail. Brooke shakes her head, emotionally devastated.

BROOKE
No.

VICTORIA
Did you just tell me no?

BROOKE
Please...

Victoria backhands Brooke. Brooke falls back to the floor, holding her burning cheek and sobbing.

VICTORIA
(mocking)
Please please please.
(normal tone)
You know better than to disrespect
me.

Victoria grabs the rag from the bucket and only half wrings it out before lobbing it at Brooke. It soaks the girl's shirt.

VICTORIA
Clean it up, now!

Crying, Brooke crawls to the blood and starts wiping some of it.

VICTORIA
You'd better get it spotless or
you're spending the night in the
closet.

Brooke wrings out the rag. The bucket's water already turns red. The clean rag only smears some of the blood when Brooke wipes the floor with it.

VICTORIA
Change that water often. You know
the drill.

The basement door opens again, the main light on inside. JAMES COLLINS (40), very stoic but stylish, fastens his belt buckle as he leaves the basement. He shuts the door behind him and slides a latch closed to secure it. Notices Brooke.

JAMES
I thought she was asleep.

Victoria grabs a bottle of wine from a holder on the counter and pours some into a glass.

VICTORIA
So did I.

JAMES
I'll pick us up some dinner.

James leaves down the hall.

O.S. The front door CLOSES.

Victoria takes a big swig of her drink and picks up the bottle.

VICTORIA

I'm taking a hot bath. Don't you dare go to bed until that floor is spotless.

Victoria heads out of the room with her bottle and glass.

VICTORIA

And stay out of the basement.

BROOKE

Can I wait up for Dad to come back?
I'm hungry.

VICTORIA

Ha! You don't deserve dinner. Get yourself right to bed when you're finished, you hear me?

Brooke's little face fills with disappointment.

BROOKE

(under breath)

Yes.

VICTORIA

What was that?

BROOKE

Yes, ma'am.

VICTORIA

You know, Brooke. You might just make us glad we gave you life one day.

Victoria laughs as she heads into the hall.

Brooke's head lowers in sorrow. She drops the bloody rag into the water and goes to the sink. Dumps out the water, rinses the bucket, and adds clean water. It's almost too much for a girl her age.

Brooke returns to the blood and sets the bucket down. She kneels and wipes up more of the blood, but breaks down during the task. She sits back against a cabinet and pulls her knees to her chest. Buries her face against them and cries.

BROOKE

I can't, I can't, I can't.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

A finished basement with a living area near the stairs. An old freezer chest HUMS quietly to the side.

To the back is a twin bed with bedposts bolted to the floor. On it is ANNABELLE (19), wearing a men's t-shirt as a nightgown. Some blood spots are on it. One of her hands is chained to the bed. Her hair is a mess, and she showcases bruising and scrapes.

Annabelle fights to slide her hand through the cuff around her wrist. The action damages her skin but she makes some progress and keeps going. She takes a look to the side and freezes when she finds Brooke standing several feet away, staring at her.

ANNABELLE

Little girl, you have to help me.

There's no emotion on Brooke's face.

ANNABELLE

Can you hear me?

No response.

ANNABELLE

Call 9-1-1 before they return.
Please.

O.S. The front door CLOSES. Slow and steady FOOTSTEPS walk across the floor above.

Annabelle follows the sounds with her eyes in a panic.

ANNABELLE

Oh my god.

Annabelle struggles harder and makes a little more progress. Her hand is close to being free.

JAMES (O.S.)

I brought you a sandwich.

James descends the stairs, holding a wrapped sandwich.

Annabelle pulls her hand through the cuff, tearing her skin in the process.

James arrives at the bottom. The first thing he spots is Brooke, still staring at Annabelle.

JAMES

What are you doing...

James then sees Annabelle as she springs to her feet.

JAMES

Shit.

James quickly lays the sandwich down and charges Annabelle. She hurries away from him, grabbing anything she can reach and throwing it. James blocks the objects as he continues his approach.

ANNABELLE

Stay away from me!

James lunges at Annabelle. She barely dodges him and races toward the stairs. She stumbles in her weakened condition, allowing James to catch her. Annabelle kicks and screams as her captor restrains her.

Victoria scurries down the steps, wearing a robe and slippers with a towel wrapped around her damp hair.

VICTORIA

What's going on down here?!

JAMES

She tried to escape.

ANNABELLE

Let me go!

JAMES

(re: Brooke)

Get her out of here.

Victoria goes up to Brooke and takes her by the arm.

VICTORIA

What are you doing down here?

Brooke stares at her dad and his prisoner. Victoria yanks on her arm.

VICTORIA

Answer me, Brooke.

Brooke looks up at Victoria calmly. Her action only angers Victoria. She drags Brooke to the stairs.

VICTORIA

I'm not playing games with you. Get upstairs and finish cleaning that floor.

Victoria gives Brooke a shove. She starts up the stairs. Victoria turns her attention to James. Brooke stops halfway up to watch.

Annabelle cries in desperation.

ANNABELLE

Please let me go!

James nods at Victoria, who goes to a cabinet and looks through the contents inside. She finds an extension cord and turns back with it.

James forces Annabelle face first down to the couch and holds her there. Victoria hands the cord to him. He wraps it tightly around Annabelle's throat and squeezes. She chokes as her fingers fight to pry the cord away from her neck.

Brooke watches without emotion.

Victoria looks exhilarated as she watches her husband choke the life out of their prisoner. Annabelle falls limp, dead.

VICTORIA

I thought she'd last longer than the others.

JAMES

I knew she'd do something stupid.

James looks over and finds Brooke watching them.

JAMES

Get upstairs!

Brooke calmly ascends the stairs.

Victoria and James exchange a bothered look.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - LATER

The blood is gone from the floor. Brooke now cleans up the spilled juice.

Victoria and James bring the body, rolled up in a blanket, out of the basement. They head to the interior garage door.

VICTORIA
(to Brooke)
Get to bed.

Brooke dumps the bucket and returns it under the sink. She pauses to watch her parents. They notice.

JAMES
NOW, Brooke.

Brooke walks briskly down the wall, nearly in tears again.

IN THE GARAGE

James and Victoria lay the body down next to the LEXUS parked inside. James opens the trunk. They put the body inside. James grabs a shovel from a wall rack and places it next to the body, then closes the trunk. They get into the car, James driving.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Scattered toys are very organized. Brooke races inside and jumps into bed. Crying, she yanks the covers up over her completely.

O.S. The main garage door GOES UP. After a few moments, it CLOSES.

UNDER THE COVERS

Brooke covers her ears and squeezes her eyes closed.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

James and Victoria enter from the garage, looking exhausted. Both are wet and a little dirty.

VICTORIA
I just took a bath.

JAMES
Throw our clothes out in the morning.

VICTORIA
I know the drill.

They walk down the hall.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALL - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

James and Victoria leave the stairs. They go to Brooke's open door and look inside. The back of Brooke's head is visible and unmoving. Victoria closes the door.

VICTORIA

She's not worth the trouble she causes.

JAMES

You're the one who wanted the brat.

James walks off to their bedroom. Victoria follows with a smirk.

VICTORIA

It takes two to make a baby, you know.

They enter their room.

IN BROOKE'S ROOM - UNDER COVERS

Brooke's eyes snap open, something different about them. They're much colder and unafraid.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - NIGHT

All is quiet, TOO quiet.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - MAIN BEDROOM - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Victoria and James sleep. She stirs, having sensed something. Looks to the doorway. Her eyes widen in terror.

VICTORIA

Brooke.

James wakes and follows his wife's gaze to the doorway.

Brooke stands there, a handgun extended in her small hands and aimed at her parents. A bruise has formed on her face from being hit. There's something cold about her eyes.

James and Victoria sit up in bed.

JAMES

What do you think you're doing? Put that gun down.

Brooke's little hands tremble as they strain to hold the heavy weapon. She is focused, serious.

JAMES
Did you hear me?

James grows impatient and tosses the covers off. He charges toward Brooke.

JAMES
I said to...

Brooke reflexively FIRES a shot. James falls back with a bullet to his chest. He's dead by the time his head hits the floor.

Victoria jumps out of bed and reaches under her mattress, where she removes a handgun of her own. She points it at Brooke.

Brooke fires a SHOT. Victoria flies back with a bullet to her chest. The gun skitters out of her hand at impact with the floor.

Brooke slowly moves in, completely unemotional.

Victoria struggles to breathe through the agony. Her eyes look up at the little girl standing over her.

VICTORIA
(pained)
Help... me.

Victoria grows still, her eyes frozen open.

Brooke drops the gun. She studies Victoria a long, creepy moment before stepping out of sight.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Police lights dance around the hall from outside. OFFICERS roam about, gathering evidence.

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Brooke is seated on the couch with a blanket draped around her. No emotion at all accompanied by a spaced out look.

FEMALE OFFICER steps up to Brooke.

FEMALE OFFICER
You'll have to come with me, honey.

No response. CLOSE ON Brooke's eyes.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

MATCH CUT/MORPH to the same shot of Brooke's face, only she's 22 now. She stands in the doorway looking inside, wearing a black dress fitting for a funeral. She enters. Steps into the...

LIVING ROOM

A fireplace is to the side with family photos displayed on the mantle. A set of fireplace tools stands next to it. A computer desk in the corner. A stereo system on a shelf.

Brooke lays her purse down and drifts over to a table of family photos. A few are of her before the age of 8. None of her parents. A couple are of her grandmother (60s).

She chooses one of her grandmother and studies it. A tear leaks from her eye as she touches the image. She puts it back and schlepps out of the room.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - DAY

Brooke wanders in and looks inside the medicine cabinet. Normal toiletries along with one prescription pill bottle. Brooke selects it and goes to dump a pill into her hand. There's only one inside. This worries her.

Brooke pops it into her mouth and gets a mouthful of water from the faucet to wash it down. She exits.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

In pajamas, Brooke is curled up on the couch, watching a movie on TV in the dark. While her eyes are on the TV, it's obvious that she just stares blankly at it.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Dressed, Brooke enters, something clutched in her hand. She stops just inside and stares at the floor where the blood had been.

VICTORIA (V.O.)
Clean it up, now!

Brooke blinks a single time.

VICTORIA (V.O.)
You'd better get it spotless or
you're spending the night in the
closet.

Brooke looks down at the empty prescription bottle in her hand. She stands it in the center of the table and goes to a cabinet, where she removes a box of cereal.

MOMENTS LATER

Brooke sits down at the table with a bowl of dry cereal and a half gallon of milk. She pours some on her cereal and eats a bite. Her chewing stops as she studies the prescription bottle.

She reaches out and turns the bottle in her hand. Pulls out her cell phone and goes to a pharmacy page.

INSERT - PHONE

Brooke selects "Refill a prescription." Enters the prescription number and adds it to cart. On the checkout page, it shows that the billing person is Martha Page at the same address.

Brooke deletes the name only and replaces it with hers. She clicks to proceed. On the final page is a place for payment info. The total shows \$513.60.

BACK TO SCENE:

Brooke stares at her phone with wide eyes. She touches the screen a few times and slams the phone to the table. She returns to eating her cereal.

INSERT - PHONE

Still on the pharmacy page, the screen now shows no order in the cart. The balance is 0.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Brooke sits on the couch, wrapped in a blanket while she watches TV. The DOORBELL rings. Keeping the blanket around her, Brooke goes to the door.

FOYER

She opens it to APRIL TURNER (22), glasses hiding a natural beauty.

APRIL
Hi, Brooke.

Brooke just stares at April.

APRIL
It's really good to see you.

April gives Brooke a hug. Brooke fails to reciprocate. This puzzles April and she pulls back.

APRIL

I heard about your grandmother. I'm so sorry.

Brooke stares, making April more uncomfortable.

APRIL

Can I come in?

Brooke hesitates for a moment before opening the door all the way. April enters and Brooke closes the door. April surveys the house from where she stands.

APRIL

(scanning house)

It's so creepy, isn't it? I mean, what happened here. I was surprised to learn your grandmother moved in after you went away.

April's eyes shift to Brooke's. She continues to stare.

APRIL

I didn't mean to...

April stops herself short and grins.

APRIL

You look wonderful. Maybe we could catch up on things?

Brooke goes to the...

LIVING ROOM

She sits on the couch, legs pulled up under her blanket.

April looks lost. She goes to sit down by her friend.

APRIL

I'm a cashier down at the Shop Mart while I'm taking a few classes at the university. I know, not the kind of life we always talked about having, but I'm mostly using my trust fund to pay the bills while I find myself.

April waits for a response that doesn't come. She reaches out and finds Brooke's hand smothered by the blanket.

APRIL

Brooke, please talk to me.

Brooke hesitates before offering a response.

BROOKE

It's nice to see you, April.

April smiles big.

APRIL

How are you holding up?

BROOKE

Okay. It's kind of lonely.

APRIL

Maybe you could take in a roommate.

Brooke slightly shakes her head.

APRIL

Why not? Someone to help pay the bills and keep you company.

BROOKE

I'm not comfortable with strangers in my house.

APRIL

It just so happens that I'm looking for a new place. We could be roomys!

Brooke returns to staring at April. April's joy fizzles.

APRIL

I thought it might be fun, like when we were kids and you'd sleep over at my house.

BROOKE

That only happened when my parents went out looking for their next...

Brooke stops herself.

APRIL

I didn't mean to force myself on you.

April gets up to leave.

BROOKE

April...

April looks back. Brooke holds out her hand. April takes it and sits down.

BROOKE

It's not you. I just...

Brooke struggles to say it.

APRIL

You what?

BROOKE

I don't have any income right now.
My grandma paid for everything.

APRIL

That's no problem. I can pay the bills out of my trust fund until you get on your feet and then we can split everything.

Brooke still looks unsure.

APRIL

Remember how we used to talk about growing up and getting an apartment together in a big city?

April squeezes Brooke's hand.

APRIL

We can do all the things we used to talk about.

Brooke sucks in her lower lip as she thinks.

APRIL

What do you say?

Brooke nods. April embraces her.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - DAY

The front door stands open. Brooke and April carry boxes of April's things inside, unloaded from a pickup truck. No more boxes are left.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY - SAME TIME

The girls set the boxes with a few others.

APRIL

That's the last of it. I need to
get the truck back to Jimmy.

Brooke grins.

APRIL

Don't start unpacking without me.
I'll pick up a pizza on my way
back. We'll make it into a little
party.

All smiles, April leaves the house and closes the door.

Brooke drops back to the couch, arms behind her head and
legs sprawled out. The most relaxed we have seen her.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Everything is the same - the couch and the bed are still
present.

The light turns on. Brooke slowly treks down the stairs. She
arrives at the bottom and scans the room. It troubles her.
Her eyes settle on the spot where Annabelle threw objects at
James.

ANNABELLE (V.O.)

Stay away from me!

Brooke's eyes shift slightly to where James trapped
Annabelle.

ANNABELLE (V.O.)

Please let me go!

Brooke hurries to the wall and slides down it. She holds her
head in her hands.

APRIL (O.S.)

Brooke?

April walks down the steps, searching for Brooke. She
doesn't see her until she reaches the bottom.

APRIL

Are you okay?

Brooke lowers her hands, only there's something different
about her. She looks completely calm, even stern. This is
Brooke's alter ego, HAYDEN.

HAYDEN

Who are you?

APRIL
(puzzled)
Quit playing around.

Hayden gets up and steps closer. If looks could kill.

HAYDEN
Does it look like I'm playing?

April swallows hard.

HAYDEN
Now you'd better tell me who you
are before something bad happens.

APRIL
I'm April. I just moved in,
remember?

HAYDEN
I guess that could be cool. Just
stay out of my way.

Hayden goes to the couch, where she plops down and relaxes.
April moves in a little closer, heavily suspicious.

APRIL
Something's not right with you,
Brooke.

HAYDEN
What did you say?

APRIL
I... uh...

Hayden jumps up and gets in April's face.

HAYDEN
Spit it out, girl. Come on.

Hayden shoves April.

HAYDEN
Don't be shy.

Hayden approaches April boldly. April backpedals in a panic.

APRIL
What's wrong with you?

April trips over her own feet and stumbles to the floor.
Hayden stops short of her, a sly grin on her face. She turns
and walks up the steps.

April turns her head to follow Hayden.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - LATER

April peeks through the basement doorway. No sign of Hayden, but a pizza box waits on the table. Using caution, April makes her way down the...

HALL

She arrives at the bottom of the steps and looks up them. A bedroom light shines out of Brooke's bedroom. April takes the steps slowly, hardly breathing as she goes.

BROOKE'S BEDROOM

April comes to the doorway and finds Brooke changing the sheets on her bed. There is normality on Brooke's face. She notices April.

BROOKE

I changed your sheets.

April curiously studies Brooke as she goes to her.

APRIL

What just happened downstairs?

BROOKE

What? In the kitchen?

APRIL

No, in the basement.

BROOKE

I haven't been down there today.

APRIL

Brooke, I was just in the basement with you.

Brooke finishes with the bed and takes a whiff of the air.

BROOKE

(changing subject)

That pizza smells incredible.

Brooke leaves. April stands there, looking very confused.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALL - NIGHT

Brooke and April arrive at the top, each carrying a box of April's clothing. They walk away from Brooke's bedroom.

BROOKE

Your room's on the left.

April stops at the first closed door on the left and grabs the knob. Brooke tenses.

BROOKE

Not that one.

Too Late. April has already opened the door to the bedroom where young Brooke shot her parents. The room looks untouched, including messy covers on the bed. The blood has been cleaned from the floor, however.

Brooke juggles her box with one hand as she cuts in front of April to keep her from entering.

BROOKE

This was my parents' room.

Brooke closes the door.

BROOKE

No one's allowed in there.

APRIL

What really happened? There was this cloud of secrecy around their deaths.

BROOKE

(lying)
Murder-suicide.

Brooke walks to the next room on the left and opens the door to another room. April follows.

APRIL

How horrible that must have been for you. Were you present?

Brooke is more than happy to change the subject.

BROOKE

This was my grandma's room. I've moved all of her things to the attic so make yourself at home.

Brooke goes in and sets her box on the bed. She barely looks at April as she steps back out and heads to her bedroom. April turns to watch her.

APRIL

Brooke?

Brooke looks back.

APRIL
If you need to talk, knock any
time.

Brooke gives April a brief nod before entering her bedroom.
She closes the door.

April goes into her bedroom. The door closes.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Brooke makes herself a sandwich.

O.S. The main door OPENS and CLOSES. GIGGLES come from both
a man and a woman.

Brooke leaves her sandwich behind and goes to the...

FOYER

April and DACK MARTIN (early 20s), bad boy appearance,
practically make out near the door. Brooke clears her
throat. The couple pulls back. They're inebriated.

APRIL
Brooke, this is...

April looks at Dack, somewhat confused.

DACK
Dack.

APRIL
Right. He's in my Sociology class.

Brooke gives Dack a disapproving look but downplays it.

BROOKE
Hello.
(to April)
Are you drunk?

April indicates a very small amount.

APRIL
Just a smidge.

April hangs her purse down on a coatrack. Dack goes to
Brooke and studies her physique as he circles her.

DACK

Damn. Wanna join me and April for some fun?

The offer stuns Brooke.

BROOKE

No... thanks.

DACK

You don't know what you're missing.

Dack gazes at Brooke lustfully. Brooke looks to be on the edge of a panic attack.

April laughs it off as she goes over and takes Dack by the hand.

APRIL

Leave her alone, you naughty boy.
If you want to play, I'm all yours.

April and Dack kiss passionately. She leads him upstairs. Dack gives Brooke one last look before he disappears from sight.

Brooke grimaces. She returns to the kitchen.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

As they enter locked together in a kiss, April nudges the door closed but it stops short of closing completely. They fall to the bed. Dack gazes into April's face.

DACK

I bet you rock in bed. I can always tell.

April looks a little uncomfortable.

APRIL

Oh, well, I've only been with one guy for a short time. About a year ago. I thought I was in love.

DACK

So this will be your first purely lustful encounter? I like that.

Dack kisses April. She complies at first but then breaks out of it.

APRIL

Go slow.

DACK

I can't promise anything.

Dack takes his shirt off while kissing April. Then he removes her blouse. His hand roams underneath April's skirt. When it returns, it slides her panties down.

April grabs her underwear to keep them from going any further.

APRIL

I can't do this.

April goes to tug the panties back up but Dack forcefully stops her, making progress in lowering them.

DACK

Guys don't like teases.

Dack forcefully covers April's mouth with his mouth as he fights to remove the underwear. April struggles to break free as she yells out. Her yells are muffled until she finally gets a break.

APRIL

Get off me!

Dack becomes very forceful by yanking the panties off and throwing them aside.

DACK

I know you didn't invite me to your room to play checkers.

Dack fumbles at his zipper out of sight, then lies on top of April. Kisses her neck as he goes in for the kill.

APRIL

Stop it! Get off!

Hayden suddenly appears behind Dack and raises a baseball bat. She swings at his head like a pro baseball player. Dack topples to the floor, heavily dazed.

April sits up to watch in terror.

Dack groans as he attempts to sit. He fails, holding his aching head. He looks to Hayden standing over him.

DACK

You bitch.

HAYDEN

Damn straight.

Hayden swings the bat and makes contact with Dack's head a second time. His head smacks the floor, his eyes frozen open. Blood is left behind on the bat.

April jumps up and grabs her panties. Slides them back on as she faces Hayden.

APRIL
Why did you hit him?!

Hayden calmly turns to April.

HAYDEN
Seriously? The asshole got what he deserves.

APRIL
This is serious. You just killed a man!

HAYDEN
Doesn't bother me none, except we have to get rid of the body. That could be a real drag.

Both stare at the body.

APRIL
We have to call the police.

April dashes out of the room. Hayden follows after her.

FOYER

April skips down the steps with Hayden not far behind. April grabs her purse and pulls out her cell. Prepares to dial.

Hayden charges over with the bat ready to swing.

HAYDEN
You're not calling anyone. Put that phone down.

April stares at Hayden, unsure.

HAYDEN
NOW!

April quickly lays the phone down. She is genuinely worried.

APRIL
Brooke...

Hayden swings the bat. Just misses April as she stumbles back. In her hurry, April trips to the floor. Hayden looms over her.

HAYDEN

I save your ass from that creep and this is how you thank me? I'll kill you before I let you turn me in.

APRIL

What are we going to do then?

Hayden thinks briefly. A smirk comes to her face.

HAYDEN

Give me a hand.

Hayden holds the bat over her shoulder and goes to wait at the steps.

April struggles to her feet. Terrified, she approaches the stairs, keeping her eye on Hayden. Hayden gestures up the stairs with the bat.

HAYDEN

After you.

April glances back as she climbs the steps. Hayden follows with a satisfied smirk.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Hayden lays the bat on the bed and grabs Dack under the arms. She looks impatiently at April, who stands back in reluctance.

HAYDEN

Grab his feet.

April looks ill as she picks Dack up by the legs. They carry him out of the room.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - DAY - LATER

The freezer is unplugged. Hayden and April carry Dack's body down the steps. Both are winded by the time they reach the freezer.

HAYDEN

Open it.

April lays Dack's legs down and opens the freezer. Hayden strains to dump Dack inside. She plugs it in. It HUMS to life. She closes the lid.

APRIL

We can't leave him in there forever.

HAYDEN

We'll get rid of him later, when no one's looking for him anymore.

Hayden walks up the steps. April looks back at the freezer with grave concern.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Brooke sits down at the table with her sandwich. She eats as if nothing happened.

April leaves the basement.

BROOKE

What were you doing down there?

April looks at Brooke as if she's lost her mind.

APRIL

What do you mean? We just stuffed Dack into the freezer.

BROOKE

That's not funny.

April curiously goes closer to study Brooke.

APRIL

You killed him.

BROOKE

I don't know what kind of game you're playing, but stop it.

APRIL

I'M playing the games? I am???

Brooke cleans up after herself and dumps her trash. April sticks close. She grabs Brooke's arm and looks into her clueless eyes.

APRIL

(realizing)

You're going to pin it on me.

BROOKE

Pin what? You're not making sense.

April grabs Brooke by the arm and pulls her to the basement.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The girls stop by the freezer. April yanks the lid open to expose Dack's body.

Brooke reacts in terror, letting out a scream as she stumbles back. She looks at April in fear.

BROOKE
You killed him?

APRIL
No... that was you.

Brooke stares at the body. April takes a step toward her.

APRIL
Brooke...

BROOKE
Stay away from me!

Brooke runs up the steps.

April angrily closes the lid on the freezer and races upstairs.

APRIL
Brooke!

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

April arrives in the kitchen. She stops to look around her. No sign of Brooke.

O.S. Brooke THROWS UP.

April follows the sound into the...

DOWNSTAIRS HALL

The bathroom door stands halfway open. April goes to it. She finds Brooke inside, kneeling before the toilet and throwing up into it.

APRIL
I don't get you. You kill my date
and now you're acting like you
don't remember.

Brooke drags herself up, flushes the toilet, and goes to stand at the sink.

BROOKE
Stop saying that. I didn't kill
anyone.

Brooke rinses her mouth out with water, then mouthwash. It's
April's turn to stare silently.

BROOKE
This is bad.

APRIL
I think we should call the police.

BROOKE
No!

Brooke's brief outburst startles April.

BROOKE
We have to think this through.

Brooke brushes past April on her way out of the room. A
mental wreck, April turns to follow.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Brookes paces frantically. April stands nearby to watch.

BROOKE
They'll send me back to the
hospital. I can't go back there.

APRIL
You were just protecting me.
They'll understand.

Brooke stops suddenly to face April.

BROOKE
For the last time, I didn't kill
him!

APRIL
Okay, okay.

Brooke paces again.

BROOKE
We need to dump the body, as soon
as possible in case the police
track him here.

April deliriously runs fingers through her hair.

APRIL

We're both going down for this,
Brooke.

Brooke stops to give April a serious look.

BROOKE

Not if we stick together and think
carefully about every move we make.
Are you with me?

April crosses her arms.

APRIL

I guess I'll have to be.

The girls make eye contact.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - GARAGE - NIGHT

The trunk to April's sedan is open. April and Brooke drag
Dack's body out of the house, wrapped in a tarp. They lift
it into the trunk and close it.

BROOKE

We can't dump it in the tarp if we
want it to look like an accident.

APRIL

I know that. We'll remove it before
we dump him off of Pine Bluff. It
should look like he fell,
consistent with a head injury.

BROOKE

I somehow don't think we're the
first ones to come up with that
idea.

APRIL

No, but maybe we'll be the first
ones to make it work.

Brooke raises a questioning brow.

APRIL

It's possible.

April gets in behind the wheel, Brooke shotgun. The main
door goes up. April backs the car out. The door closes.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brooke lies in bed, clutching the covers to her, eyes wide as she recalls...

VICTORIA (V.O.)

You're worthless, Brooke. You're the reason why your father and I do bad things. It's all your fault.

JAMES (V.O.)

Your mother is right. We wouldn't have to harm these poor women if you were a good girl.

Brooke covers her head with the blanket.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - DAY

April enters. She pauses to take a look around, then she starts a search through Brooke's things inside the closet.

Having found nothing, April checks Brooke's drawers and finds the empty prescription bottle inside one. She studies the label.

INSERT - PRESCRIPTION BOTTLE

It's Brooke's prescription, a drug called Alledral. There are two refills remaining.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

We see Brooke walk up to the house and enter.

BACK TO SCENE:

Oblivious to Brooke approaching, April sits on the bed and pulls out her cell phone.

INSERT - PHONE

She does a search for Alledral. Search results show that it's an antipsychotic drug, often used for Dissociative Identity Disorder.

BROOKE (O.S.)

What are you doing?

April startles, looking up to find Brooke standing in the doorway. She gets up, pill bottle and phone still in hand.

APRIL

I...

Brooke snatches her pill bottle.

BROOKE
I thought I could trust you.

APRIL
You can.

Brooke whirls around and leaves the room.

APRIL
Brooke...

April shoves the phone into her pocket and races after Brooke.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Brooke storms out through the back door, allowing the screen door to slam closed. April arrives in the room, spots the open door, and exits.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - REAR DECK - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Several flower pots spread around with beautiful flowers. Brooke sits on the step, her face buried against her knees. She still holds the prescription bottle in her hand. April sits next to her, a hand on Brooke's back.

APRIL
Hey, I didn't mean to upset you like this.

BROOKE
I expected to retain some privacy when I let you move in.

APRIL
I'm sorry. It's just that after what happened, I wanted to try and find out what caused it.

BROOKE
I don't know what to tell you. I can't remember anything.

April watches as Brooke nervously turns the bottle in her hand.

APRIL
You DO realize those are antipsychotic pills, right?

Brooke studies the bottle as she continues rotating it.

BROOKE

My therapist insisted I take these
the rest of my life. She says they
make me better.

APRIL

But you're out of them now.

BROOKE

My grandma paid for them after I
left the hospital. They're over
\$500 for one month's worth. I can't
afford that.

They sit in silence, looking out at the yard.

APRIL

I wish I could help you, but I only
get enough from my trust fund each
month to cover bills and some
college expenses.

BROOKE

I'd like to say it's not your
problem but I'd be lying.

April places an arm around Brooke. They lay their heads
together.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

The doorbell RINGS. Brooke walks in from the kitchen and
opens the door to DETECTIVE JARED REYNOLDS (late 20s), nice
suit.

JARED

April Turner?

BROOKE

No, I'm her roommate Brooke.

Jared flashes his badge.

JARED

I'm Detective Reynolds. Is she
home?

Brooke starts to panic. She fights to keep her breathing
calm. Inadvertently takes a glance to the stairs.

BROOKE

She's, uh...

April's voice calls out from upstairs.

APRIL (O.S.)
Brooke, who is it?

Brooke grins nervously at Jared.

BROOKE
Come in, Detective.

Jared enters. Brooke stares at him with great unease. Jared stares back, waiting. Finally...

JARED
Could you get her for me?

Brooke's mouth drops open to respond. April trots down the steps. Her pace slows when she sees Jared. She stops by the pair.

APRIL
Not bad, Brooke. I didn't think you liked the suit and tie type.

Jared grins with embarrassment.

JARED
I'm Detective Reynolds.

April's eyes widen. They shift to Brooke, who stares back.

JARED
I need to ask you some questions about...

Jared pulls a small notebook from his pocket and checks the info written inside.

JARED
... Dack Martin.

April swallows hard. She grins to cover for her unease.

APRIL
I don't really know what I can tell you. We only met briefly.

JARED
Can we sit down?

APRIL
Sure.

April leads the way into the...

LIVING ROOM

Jared and April sit on the couch. Brooke heads to the kitchen.

APRIL
Brooke, stay.
(to Jared)
Is that all right with you?

JARED
Sure.

Jared removes a pen from his pocket and prepares to take notes while they speak. Brooke sits in a chair and observes.

JARED
Someone reported seeing you leave the university with Mr. Martin on the 24th around 2:30 in the afternoon. Is that correct?

April inadvertently passes a glance to Brooke.

APRIL
Yes. I started talking with Dack after our Sociology class and thought we kind of hit it off.

JARED
Where did you go when you left?

APRIL
May I ask why you want to know?

JARED
Mr. Martin was found dead yesterday.

April reacts with fake shock.

APRIL
Oh, my. What happened?

JARED
It looks like he fell off a cliff at Pine Bluff.

Jared looks up, studying April's reaction. She still totes the stunned expression.

JARED
Where did you go after leaving campus?

APRIL

We went for a walk up 16th. I was drawn to Dack at first but the more I talked to him, the more I realized he wasn't my type. We parted ways.

JARED

What time was that?

April thinks carefully.

APRIL

Around 3:45, I think. I came straight home.

JARED

On foot?

APRIL

The university is only about a mile from here. I walk to class when it's nice out.

JARED

And Pine Bluff is 12 miles from the campus.

Brooke decides to cut in.

BROOKE

Maybe he got a ride.

Jared studies Brooke a moment. A glimmer of attraction brews.

JARED

It's possible someone picked him up. We're looking for witnesses.

APRIL

Why are you investigating if his death was an accident?

JARED

Until the autopsy report comes in, the department can't assume anything. Did you have a dispute with Mr. Martin?

April is too quick to answer.

APRIL

No. It was just chitchat, where he lived, if he worked, his favorite music. That kind of thing.

JARED

And what WAS his favorite music?

APRIL

Metal. I'm more of a country girl so I knew it wouldn't work out between us. Music is very important to me.

Jared makes a few more notes before putting the notebook and pen away. He stands. Extends his hand to April.

JARED

Thank you for your time.

April stands, shaking his hand.

APRIL

I'm happy to help.

Jared turns to Brooke and holds out his hand.

JARED

Ms...

Brooke grips his hand.

BROOKE

Collins.

They stand there with their hands adjoined for a long moment before Jared ends the handshake.

JARED

Have a good afternoon.

Jared leaves the house. As soon as he's gone, April hurries over to Brooke and catches her breath. Brooke also relaxes somewhat.

BROOKE

Do you think he believed you?

APRIL

Sure. The cops just want to make sure there wasn't any foul play.

BROOKE

But there was.

APRIL
(snappy)
Thanks to you!

Brooke stares at her, near tears. April calms and lays a hand on Brooke's shoulder.

APRIL
As long as I keep my story
straight, there won't be any
trouble.

April goes to the kitchen.

Brooke plops down in a chair and grips her head as she battles to keep it together.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

April empties a can of soup into a pan on the stove. Hayden walks in.

HAYDEN
Got any cash on ya`?

April looks back and instantly worries.

APRIL
Nothing I can spare.

HAYDEN
I'm heading out for a while.

Hayden goes to April's purse lying on the counter and searches through it.

APRIL
Hey!

April rushes over and grabs her purse, but not until Hayden takes the little cash inside.

HAYDEN
Thanks, sweetie.

Hayden stuffs the cash into her pocket.

APRIL
That's all the cash I have until I
get my check next week.

HAYDEN
Don't worry. I'll put it to good
use.

Hayden starts to leave the kitchen.

APRIL
Maybe you should start pitching in.

HAYDEN
I don't do work, but I'll figure something out.

Hayden walks out, exiting through the front door.

April slams her purse to the counter.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

The door opens. Hayden enters with GREG (20s), well-dressed and oozing wealth. They giggle between kisses. Hayden takes Greg by the hand and leads him up the steps.

BROOKE'S BEDROOM

They enter. Hayden pushes the door closed behind them. They fall back on the bed, continuing their passionate encounter, Hayden lying on top. She looks into Greg's face and smiles.

HAYDEN
I've got something special for you.

GREG
I bet you do.

HAYDEN
Wait here.

Hayden goes to the door and opens it. Takes a look back.

HAYDEN
Make yourself comfortable.

Hayden steps out, closing the door to a crack.

Greg takes out his wallet and lays it on the nightstand. Removes his shoes, then his shirt. Lies back and gets comfortable.

Hayden returns, concealing a hand behind her back.

HAYDEN
Did you miss me?

GREG
Oh yeah. What did you bring me?

HAYDEN

Close your eyes for a nice surprise.

Greg happily closes his eyes. Hayden slips into bed and nibbles Greg's neck. She plants a kiss on his lips. Greg is really into it, just before he lets out a pained groan and his eyes go wide.

Hayden holds the handle of a steak knife. The blade is buried in Greg's stomach. She holds it there, her eyes very cold and calculating.

HAYDEN

Surprise.

Greg attempts to yell out but gurgles on his own blood. He goes limp. Hayden leaves the knife in place as she turns to the wallet. She happily opens it and removes the wad of cash inside. Mostly hundreds. She smiles big at the loot.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

April enters from the main door. She finds Hayden seated on the couch, painting her fingernails. April drifts closer and studies her.

HAYDEN

Hey, I got you some cash. Here...

Hayden uses the hand with unpainted nails to reach into her pocket. She removes a small but nice part of the cash she stole and holds it out to April.

April suspiciously accepts the cash. She spreads it out a little to count it.

APRIL

Where did you get this?

HAYDEN

I said I'd find a way to get you some money.

Hayden paints another nail.

HAYDEN

By the way, I'm going to need a hand.

APRIL

For what?

CUT TO:

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

April totes a stunned look as she studies Greg's body. Hayden stands by her side, smiling proudly.

HAYDEN
What do you think?

April turns her head, unblinking eyes on Hayden.

APRIL
What do I think?
(angry)
You killed another man! Why???

HAYDEN
Why?

Smiling again, Hayden grabs Greg's wallet.

HAYDEN
This is why.

Hayden tosses the wallet to the bed.

HAYDEN
Target a guy with money and bump
him off. Easy cash.

Chuckling deliriously, April starts to sit down on the bed, next to Greg, but bounces right back up.

APRIL
You can't keep killing people.

Hayden puts a friendly arm around April's shoulders.

HAYDEN
Think about all the money we can
make.

APRIL
What good does money do you in
jail?

HAYDEN
We're too smart to get caught. Are
you in?

APRIL
No, no I'm not in. I'm sorry, but
you're crazy.

April turns to leave. Hayden catches her by the arm.

HAYDEN

You're helping me get rid of the
body.

APRIL

And if I don't?

Very intimidating, Hayden looks into April's face.

HAYDEN

You'll wish you had.

The intimidation works. April swallows hard.

LATER

The body is gone. The sheets on the bed are somewhat bloody. Wearing gloves, April pulls the covers off and removes the bloody sheets. Stuffs them into a garbage bag. A mattress cover is unstained.

She ties up the bag and leaves the room with it.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

April brings the garbage bag out and stuffs it into a trash can next to the alley. As she returns to the house, she removes the gloves.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Brooke pours a cup of hot water into a tea cup from a kettle. She dunks a teabag in it a few times and adds a little sugar.

April walks in from the back door. She drops the gloves into the trash, then stops to watch Brooke.

APRIL

Brooke?

Holding her teacup, Brooke turns to April.

BROOKE

Yeah?

April moves in closer, inches from Brooke's face. She studies her.

APRIL

It's so wild.

BROOKE

What is?

April wants to tell her but changes her mind.

APRIL
Never mind.

The house phone RINGS. Brooke sets her cup down and grabs the handset.

BROOKE
(into phone)
Hello?... Oh, hi Detective...

April's face widens with alarm.

BROOKE
(smiling)
Jared. What can I do for you?...
Tomorrow? Sure. What time?... I'll
see you then. Bye.

Smiling to herself, Brooke hangs up the phone.

APRIL
What did you just do?

BROOKE
Jared wants to take me out to
dinner tomorrow.

APRIL
Are you out of your freaking mind?

April looks confused.

APRIL
(to herself)
Obviously.

BROOKE
I don't know what your problem is.
He IS pretty cute, and I don't
attract guys like you do.

Brooke retrieves her tea and takes a sip. April lowers Brooke's hand, causing her to spill a little.

APRIL
He's trying to grill you for
information. And now we have Greg
to deal with.

BROOKE
Who's Greg?

Brooke starts to sip the tea. April takes the cup from her and sets it aside. Then grabs Brooke's hand.

APRIL

Come on.

April pulls Brooke along with her into the...

BASEMENT

They scurry down the steps and stop by the freezer. It runs. April opens the lid. Greg's body lies in the bottom. Brooke steps back, shock on her face.

BROOKE

What did you do?

APRIL

What did I do?

(louder)

What did I do?

April charges up to Brooke and grabs her by the arms.

APRIL

I knew you had issues, but this is insane.

BROOKE

Stop yelling at me.

APRIL

You have killed two men in less than a week. I'd be crazy if I didn't yell!

Brooke covers her ears defensively with her hands, on the verge of a breakdown.

BROOKE

No, no, no.

April goes to lower Brooke's hands but she puts up a fight. April finally wins.

APRIL

You need to accept what you've done so maybe it will stop.

Brooke stares at April in terror. The look smoothly transforms into one of deviousness as Hayden takes over. She shoves April's hands off of her.

HAYDEN

Don't touch me.

It's April's turn to have a breakdown. She holds up her hands in surrender.

APRIL

I can't deal with this right now.

April marches up the steps. Hayden watches her coldly.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Seated on the couch in the dark room, April watches TV. Hayden walks up to her.

HAYDEN

I don't know what your problem is,
but we need to talk this out.

Hayden sits next to April. April barely acknowledges her.

APRIL

It's not my place to explain it to
you.

HAYDEN

Give it your best shot.

April glances at Hayden, tempted.

APRIL

You have severe... mood swings. I
can't live like this.

HAYDEN

You're saying you want to move out?

APRIL

I don't know... maybe.

Hayden places an arm around April's shoulders and squeezes her arm too hard. April's face tightens with discomfort.

HAYDEN

If you leave, I lose my home. Do
you understand me?

April stares at Hayden with fear. Hayden squeezes harder. April nearly cries.

HAYDEN

Do you?

APRIL

Yes!

Hayden releases April. April holds her sore arm.

HAYDEN

You know what your problem is?
You're a wimp. If you want
something out of this world, you
take it. If someone threatens you,
you remove the threat.

APRIL

That's working out real well for
you.

April jumps up. She races up the stairs.

Hayden watches her with a victorious smirk.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - DAY

Brooke, wearing a short dress, does her makeup in front of
the mirror. April comes to the doorway.

APRIL

Please don't do this.

BROOKE

I'm not going to sell you out,
April. Stop worrying.

APRIL

Sell ME out? Never mind.

BROOKE

I'm meeting Jared at Sally's
Tavern. I don't know what time I'll
be back.

Brooke finishes her makeup and happily bounces out of the
room. April looks like she might hurl.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

April sits at the computer, surfing the web.

The front door opens. Brooke enters, laughing with Jared. He
still wears a suit like he's on official business.

BROOKE

I can't believe a 93-year-old woman
would assault a man your size.

JARED

She didn't want me to arrest her son. It was one of my least finest moments.

Both notice April watching them at the same moment. They walk into the room.

JARED

Good evening, Ms. Turner.

APRIL

Detective.

JARED

You're free to call me Jared when I'm off the clock.

APRIL

I'd rather not.

April puts the computer to sleep and goes to the kitchen. Jared looks puzzled.

JARED

Was it something I said?

BROOKE

Don't pay her any mind. She thinks I should be dating men my age.

JARED

I see.

BROOKE

Would you like something to drink?

JARED

I'd like to sit and talk, if that's okay with you.

BROOKE

That's fine.

They sit on the couch, facing each other. Jared grips Brooke's hand. She melts at his touch.

JARED

Today was a lot of fun. I hope we can do it again sometime.

BROOKE

I'd like that.

They share a longing gaze. Each slowly moves in closer until their lips meet. They pull back, enamored.

JARED

I shouldn't have...

Brooke interrupts by kissing Jared harder.

In the kitchen doorway, April watches worriedly.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALL - NIGHT

After her date with Jared, Brooke scales the steps, her mind elsewhere. April leaves her room and saunters up to Brooke.

APRIL

Is he gone?

BROOKE

Yeah. He's the most fascinating man I've ever met.

Brooke walks into her bedroom. April follows.

BROOKE'S BEDROOM

Brooke stands before the dresser mirror and removes her earrings. April moves to her side.

APRIL

We need to do something with the body.

BROOKE

I'd wait. Dack's death has been ruled a homicide.

Alarmed, April grabs Brooke by the arm and turns her to face her.

APRIL

What?!

BROOKE

Jared told me tonight. It's not a big deal. Murders go unsolved all the time.

Brooke pulls her arm free and returns to her earrings. April fights to compose herself.

APRIL

This case happens to be a little more personal. Do they have any leads?

BROOKE

Jared couldn't talk about it much, of course, but it didn't sound like it, other than some fingerprints.

April runs her fingers through her hair nervously.

BROOKE

Relax. Our fingerprints aren't in their database.

Brooke kicks her shoes off and looks for a nightgown inside her dresser. April rubs her face with her hands.

APRIL

Come on, Brooke. He's using you to get dirt on me. He even wears his business suits on your dates. Wake up!

Nightgown in hand, Brooke whirls to April.

BROOKE

You're just jealous that a nice guy likes me instead of you.

Brooke charges out of the room, leaving April stunned.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

April enters with MARK (early 30s). He's a small step up from Dack.

MARK

You live here alone?

APRIL

I've got a roomy.

Holding hands, they enter the...

LIVING ROOM

April plops down on the couch. Mark joins her, taking a look around as he goes.

MARK

Are you gonna introduce us?

APRIL

She's out with her boyfriend. I don't expect her until late.

MARK

(too pleased)
Really.

April smiles.

APRIL

Why? What do you have in mind?

Mark moves in closer.

MARK

Let me show you.

Just when it looks like they will kiss, Mark suddenly grabs April with an arm around her throat. She chokes.

MARK

I bet you've got some nice stuff around here.

April is on the verge of passing out. Mark notices an extension cord on the floor and throws April to the couch. She gasps for air.

Mark unplugs the cord and grabs April again. This time, he turns her over on the couch, a knee to her back, and ties her hands behind her back.

APRIL

(sobbing)
Please don't do this.

Mark flips April over and stares down at her frightened face.

MARK

Oh, I'm doing this.

Mark kisses April. She resists and bites Mark's lip. He pulls back, a hand to his mouth, then slaps April. The blow knocks her senseless, although she's still conscious.

Mark fumbles at his zipper and hops on top.

LATER

Mark rolls off of April and zips up. April stares off, a cut to her lip.

MARK

Stay put.

Mark begins a search of the room, looking for valuables. He starts piling anything of value into a pile. Then he goes into the kitchen.

April's hands struggle with the cord around them.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Mark rummages through the cabinets and drawers. Fails to find anything valuable. He turns to the doorway. A fireplace poker whacks him in the head. He falls to the floor, heavily dazed with a bleeding cut.

April stands over him, poker in hand. Mark touches his head wound and examines the blood on his fingers.

APRIL

Looks like you messed with the wrong bitch.

Disoriented, Mark struggles to turn over. He crawls, very slowly, toward the back door. April stands back and watches until he nears the exit.

April charges over and swings downward with the poker. It strikes Mark's head. He falls forward to the floor, barely moving.

MARK

(pained)
Please...

APRIL

Where have I heard that word before?

April swings one more time. Blood splatters slightly and Mark falls still. April stares at the body, non-emotional.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Brooke opens the door. She steps inside and turns to face Jared.

BROOKE

Want to come in?

Jared inadvertently glances past Brooke and notices the pile of stuff Mark left behind in the living room.

JARED
I can't. Early day tomorrow.

They hold hands and come together for a kiss.

JARED
I'll call you.

BROOKE
You'd better.

They kiss again.

BROOKE
Good night.

JARED
Good night.

Brooke closes the door. She turns and notices pile. Her brow furrows. She goes to the...

KITCHEN

April sits at the table, her head in her hands. The bloodstained poker next to her. Brooke walks in and heads for the refrigerator.

BROOKE
Hi.

Brooke sees Mark on the floor and instantly stops.

BROOKE
What happened?

April uncovers her face. It's red from crying.

APRIL
He raped me, then tried to steal
your shit.

Brooke goes to April and lays a hand on her shoulder.

BROOKE
I'm so sorry.

APRIL
I need to speak with her.

BROOKE
Who?

April gets up with a newfound boldness.

APRIL
You know who.

BROOKE
I don't...

April grabs Brooke by the arms.

APRIL
You're a dirty whore.

Brooke looks both stunned and hurt.

APRIL
Your mom was right. You're
worthless. She should have aborted
you!

No change in Brooke. April slaps her. Brooke reels from the
blow and covers most of her face with her hands.

APRIL
Let me talk to her!

Brooke remains still for a long, suspenseful moment. Her
hands lower and she pivots to April. Only this is Hayden,
and she looks a little pissed.

HAYDEN
Why did you hit me?

April instantly worries.

APRIL
I... I need to talk to you.

Hayden charges, clamping a hand around April's throat and
backing her into a wall.

HAYDEN
If you ever hit me again, it will
be your last time. Understand me?

April nods, as much as the hand around her throat allows.
Hayden releases her. April chokes.

Hayden notices the body and smiles big as she goes closer to
look.

HAYDEN
All right! Maybe you aren't as weak
as I thought.

Hayden fishes through Mark's pockets and pulls his wallet out. Finds a small amount of cash and counts it.

HAYDEN
\$27. Couldn't you kill someone with
a lot more money?

April finally gets her voice back.

APRIL
I didn't do it for money. He
attacked me.

Hayden shoves the cash into her pocket.

HAYDEN
(re: wallet)
I'll burn this for you.

Hayden goes to open the back door. Mark's body blocks her. She shoves it out of the way with her foot.

APRIL
I need some advice here. Please?

Hayden sighs. She goes to the table.

HAYDEN
Sit.

Both sit at the table.

HAYDEN
Talk to me.

April needs a few moments to compose her thoughts.

APRIL
I've never even killed a spider
before. How do I cope with this?

HAYDEN
A guy who hurts you is lower than a
spider. How do you get through it?
You realize he doesn't deserve your
grief.

April struggles to look Hayden in the eyes.

APRIL
I'm trying, but I took a human
life.

HAYDEN

What you did is save some other
woman from suffering at his hands.
Don't you dare regret it.

April stares downward at the table. This irritates Hayden.

HAYDEN

(stern)
Do you hear me?

April lifts her head and nods.

HAYDEN

Now let me get rid of his wallet,
then I'll help you dispose of the
body.

Hayden exits with the wallet.

A tear leaks from April's eye. She wipes it away.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Hayden and April drag Mark's body down the steps. They drop
it next to the freezer. Hayden opens the lid. They shove
Mark inside on top of Greg. She can barely close the lid on
top of them.

HAYDEN

We'll have to wait a little longer
to dispose of them with that
detective snooping around.

April stares at the freezer, not hearing a word.

HAYDEN

April?

April looks at Hayden.

HAYDEN

We'll get through this if we stick
together.

APRIL

What about the detective?

Hayden places a friendly arm around April's shoulders.

HAYDEN

If he comes snooping around, I'll
handle it.

April looks unsure.

HAYDEN
Once we get rid of the bodies, I'll
find us a rich boy to knock off.
Then we'll party.

APRIL
You have to stop killing. It isn't
right.

Hayden glares into April's face.

HAYDEN
You'll do as I say. No one said you
have to like it.

Hayden walks up the steps. April's eyes trail after her.
They turn to the freezer as she moves to the stairs.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

April nearly bumps into Brooke as she emerges from the
basement.

BROOKE
What happened to the body?

APRIL
You helped me carry it to the
basement.

BROOKE
Why would I do that? We need them
out of here before Jared catches
on.

April stares at Brooke in disbelief.

APRIL
I need a drink.

April goes to the cabinets and locates a bottle of wine. She
opens it and drinks straight from the bottle. Brooke still
looks lost.

SERIES OF SHOTS - VARIOUS

-- Wearing gloves, April and Brooke carry Greg's body into
the garage, where the trunk to April's car stands open.
Mark's body is already inside, lying on the tarp.

They heave Greg into the trunk. Close it and walk out of
sight.

-- Jared and Brooke kiss good night outside her front door.

-- April brings JOHN home at night. She is very flirty with him as they chat MOS. They kiss heavily. John kisses her neck. April sees something behind him that concerns her somewhat.

It's Hayden, fireplace poker raised. April takes a sudden step back, surprising John. He follows her gaze to look behind him, in time to have the pointed end of the poker embedded into his forehead. He collapses, dead.

Hayden hands the poker to April and raids John's pockets. Removes a nice stash of cash from his wallet.

-- April and Brooke drag John's body to the open trunk of the car. Drop him in and close it.

-- In Brooke's bedroom, Jared and Brooke kiss passionately. They fall onto the bed and continue their passionate encounter.

-- Hayden walks into Brooke's bedroom with a nice wad of cash. She hides it under some clothing in a drawer, where more cash is already present. She closes the drawer and walks out of sight.

-- April sits on the couch, counting out a nice stash of cash. A few thousand's worth. She gathers it into a pile and places a kiss on it.

-- Brooke and Jared cuddle in her bed after an exhausting romp. Jared kisses Brooke's hand. She looks at Jared lovingly.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Wearing a robe with a towel draped around her wet hair, Brooke enters the room. She opens the drawer where Hayden hides the money and pulls out a pair of jeans. In the process, she uncovers some of the money.

Brooke removes part of the cash and looks at it wide-eyed. She grabs the rest, almost too much to hold in her hand.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING - MOMENTS LATER

April cooks bacon and eggs at the stove. They're nearly done. Brooke hurries in with the wad of cash filling her hand.

BROOKE

Did you put this in my drawer?

April passes Brooke an uneasy glance while she cooks.

APRIL

If it were mine, it would be in MY
drawer.

April dishes out food equally to two plates.

BROOKE

Then where did this come from?

April takes the plates and forks to the table.

APRIL

Let's talk.

Brooke looks highly suspicious as she goes to sit at the table. April takes a seat across from her. They eat while they chat.

APRIL

You really have no idea why you
were put on those meds.

BROOKE

For my anxiety. They help with the
nightmares.

April picks at her food while trying to find the right words. Finally...

APRIL

Brooke, you have Dissociative
Identity Disorder.

Brooke hesitates a moment to take that in.

BROOKE

What exactly does that mean?

APRIL

I could tell you to look it up, but
I can't do that to you.

April reaches across and grips Brooke's hand.

APRIL

It means you have split
personalities.

You could knock Brooke over with a feather. She withdraws her hand. Leaves the money on the table as she flees the room.

APRIL

Brooke...

April sits back and sighs.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Brooke is seated on the bed, looking through a photo album of pictures from her childhood, up until 8 years old. Some are by herself and others have one or both parents in them. There is no joy in little Brooke's face. No enriching activities.

A KNOCK at her closed door.

APRIL (O.S.)

Brooke?

BROOKE

It's open.

April enters, holding the cash. She lays the money on the dresser, sits down next to Brooke, and eyes the album.

APRIL

Taking a walk down memory lane?

BROOKE

Reluctantly. They really screwed me up, April. What kind of people do that to their child?

April lays a hand on Brooke's shoulder.

APRIL

Shitty people, that's who.

Brooke touches her glum image in one of the photos.

BROOKE

I always looked so sad.

Brooke thinks for a long moment. Her tragic eyes shift to April.

BROOKE

I killed those men, didn't I?

APRIL

No, no you didn't. I killed one,
and you didn't understand what you
were doing.

BROOKE

Does that matter?

They engage in a silent stare. Brooke breaks away to look at
the last of the pictures.

APRIL

If anyone should feel bad, it's me.
I don't have any excuse.

They rest their heads together.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

April cleans up after breakfast. Her cell phone RINGS. She
retrieves it from her pocket and checks the ID.

APRIL

(into phone)
Hello?

ROGER (ON PHONE)

Is this April?

APRIL

Yes.

ROGER (ON PHONE)

You were the last one seen with my
brother before he disappeared last
week. I want answers.

APRIL

(worried)
Who's your brother?

ROGER (ON PHONE)

John Harrison. What did you do to
him?

April panics and hangs up. She hurriedly goes to her phone
log and blocks the most recent number. That allows her to
breathe a sigh of relief.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

April walks in from the kitchen at the same time Brooke
trots down the steps, looking somewhat better.

BROOKE
Want to catch a movie with me?

APRIL
Sure.

BROOKE
My treat.

April's head lowers. Something bothers her.

BROOKE
What's wrong?

APRIL
The things I've done recently...
it's just sinking in what a
horrible person I am.

Brooke lays a hand on April's shoulder.

BROOKE
No, you're not horrible. And if
it's any consolation, I'm much
worse.

APRIL
I'm not so sure.

BROOKE
This is a chance for us to start
over with a clean slate. Agreed?

April nods.

BROOKE
Just let me use the restroom and we
can go.

Brooke goes to the downstairs bathroom and closes the door behind her.

The DOORBELL rings. Looking to the bathroom door with a grin, April goes to the main door and opens it to ROGER HARRISON, a walking poster for working out. His muscles are vast but subtle. He charges inside and April backpedals.

ROGER
You hung up on me, you little cunt.

Roger backs April against the wall.

APRIL

I'm sorry, but I don't know what happened to your brother.

ROGER

Liar!

Roger grabs April by the arms, nearly lifting her feet from the floor.

ROGER

My friend saw you leave Andretti's with him. No one's seen him since.

APRIL

We had a disagreement and parted ways. He never came here.

Roger clamps a hand around April's throat. Her resisting does nothing to stop him.

ROGER

I guess I'll have to choke the truth out of you.

April fights to pry the hand loose but fails.

APRIL

(choked)
Brooke!

ROGER

Who the hell's Brooke?

The fireplace shovel makes contact with Roger's head. Despite the blow's harshness, Roger remains standing, although he releases April. She clutches her throat as she gasps for air.

A cut to Roger's temple trickles blood. Roger touches it and examines the blood on his fingers. This only angers him.

ROGER

Why you...

Hayden swings again. This strike sends Roger to his knees. He's woozy. Hayden uses adrenaline to bash at his head over and over. Blood splatters her legs. She stops and catches her breath.

April moves to Hayden's side. Both stare at the unseen body.

HAYDEN

Who the hell's that?

APRIL

The last guy's brother. I was seen leaving the bar with him before we came here.

HAYDEN

Okay, I guess we'll need to wear disguises from now on.

April whips around, shooting Hayden a disbelieving look.

APRIL

No. No more killing.

HAYDEN

Oh, I see. You yell for me to kill someone when it suits your needs but when it suits mine, just screw me.

The strong look Hayden possesses worries April. She fights to downplay her tone.

APRIL

No, it's not that. We have enough money right now, and you're dating...

April catches herself in time.

HAYDEN

I'm dating?

APRIL

Forget it. Can we please just make this body the last one?

Just when it looks like Hayden will explode, she breaks into a grin.

HAYDEN

Okay... for now. But no promises about later.

As Hayden turns away, April breathes a sigh of relief.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - NIGHT

A quiet evening. Jared's car is parked in the driveway.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - REAR DECK - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Jared and Brooke sway gently on the swing. He has his arm around her shoulders. Brooke tugs on his suit jacket.

BROOKE

Don't you ever lose the suit?

Jared smiles.

JARED

Of course I do.

BROOKE

No, I mean outside the bedroom.

JARED

Rarely. It's just a part of who I am.

BROOKE

It does seem like you've been working a lot lately.

JARED

I shouldn't say anything, but a few more bodies have turned up around the city over the past few weeks.

Brooke pauses in panic but quickly covers for it.

BROOKE

Really? I've been following the news but didn't hear.

JARED

I'm trying to keep it quiet because I think they're the work of the same person.

Brooke loses out to the panic and hyperventilates.

JARED

Brooke?

Brooke fights to answer through the quick breaths.

BROOKE

It's... my... asthma.

JARED

Where's your inhaler?

Brooke waves Jared off.

BROOKE

I'll... be... fine... Just... give... me... a... minute.

Brooke struggles through the attack. Her breaths start to calm until they become normal, only Hayden has now taken over.

JARED
Are you okay now?

Hayden jumps up in alarm.

HAYDEN
Who the hell are you?

Now very confused, Jared slowly gets to his feet.

JARED
It's me, Jared.

HAYDEN
Get off my property before I call
the police.

JARED
I AM the police. Brooke, you know
that.

April hurries to the screen door and observes.

Hayden grabs a flower pot and holds it ready to throw at Jared.

HAYDEN
I said to leave!

April rushes out and goes to Hayden.

APRIL
Give me the pot.

Hayden appears torn over what to do. April grabs the pot. Both hold it now.

APRIL
(calm)
Let go.

Hayden complies. April sets the pot down and turns to Jared.

APRIL
She's had a stressful day. It might
be better if you go.

April takes Hayden by the arm and guides her inside. Hayden looks back over her shoulder at Jared as they enter.

The interior door closes, bathing Jared in darkness. He looks completely lost.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Hayden yanks her arm free.

HAYDEN

Would you like to tell me why the hell I was out there with a strange man?

April crosses her arms.

APRIL

Haven't you ever found yourself in a room and don't remember how you got there?

Hayden grips her head as if she has a massive headache.

HAYDEN

Don't confuse me.

April tries to lower one of Hayden's arms.

APRIL

She knows the truth. Now it's your turn.

HAYDEN

No! Stop talking!

Hayden scurries up the steps. April reluctantly follows at a distance.

APRIL

Brooke...

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

April steps through the open doorway. She finds Hayden sitting on the bed with Brooke's photo album open in her lap. She seems deflated as she studies the photos before her.

April takes a moment to survey her.

HAYDEN

Something seems familiar about the pictures but I have no memory of being there.

April drifts closer, listening.

HAYDEN
It's me, but it's not.

April sits next to Hayden.

APRIL
Maybe it's time to accept who you
really are.

Hayden makes an instant transformation into angry.

HAYDEN
No! I like who I am now.

Hayden slams the album closed.

HAYDEN
Get out of my room!

April is taken aback by the outburst.

APRIL
But...

Hayden grabs April by the arm and drags her to the doorway.

HAYDEN
Go!

Hayden shoves April through the doorway.

UPSTAIRS HALL

The door slams closed in April's face. She jumps at the BANG and stares at the closed door.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - MORNING

Dressed, April brushes her teeth. The bathroom door stands open. Brooke, looking extra cheerful, comes to the doorway.

BROOKE
Good morning.

April stops brushing to look at Brooke.

BROOKE
I'll fix breakfast. Take your time.

Brooke bounces out of sight. April's gaze lingers on her a little longer before she finishes brushing.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Brooke runs a dust mop over the bare floor. The DOORBELL rings. Brooke stands the mop against the wall and looks out through the window.

April calls out from the kitchen.

APRIL (O.S.)
Who is it?

BROOKE
Some woman.

Brooke opens the door to TINA (20), trouble written all over her. Tina's face tightens upon seeing Brooke.

TINA
You!

Tina charges inside. Brooke is a little unsure.

BROOKE
You can't just barge in here.

TINA
Some friends told me you were hitting on my man at Scotty's Tavern Friday night.

Brooke closes the door.

BROOKE
You're mistaken. I was home all evening.

TINA
Don't lie to me. The bartender said some chick fitting your description to a T was all over Aaron.

BROOKE
Then HE'S mistaken. I was here all night.

Tina shoves Brooke back into the wall.

TINA
I suppose pictures lie?

Tina pulls out her phone, then locates a picture on it of Hayden sitting on a man's lap in a bar. They're very cozy. Tina holds it out to Brooke's face.

TINA

Are you gonna try to tell me that's
not you?

Brooke swallows hard at the picture.

BROOKE

It's not me...

Tina puts her phone away and pulls out a switchblade. Flicks the blade out and touches it to Brooke's face. Brooke fights to stay still and not cry.

TINA

Maybe if I carve up that pretty
little face of yours, I'll be doing
this town a favor.

April wipes her hands on a dish towel as she walks in.

APRIL

What's going on...

April sees for herself and stops.

TINA

Stay out of this. It's between me
and the whore.

April lays the towel aside and approaches cautiously with a hand extended.

APRIL

Put the knife down and we'll talk
about this.

Tina tenses, accidentally pressing too hard and making a small puncture in Brooke's skin. Brooke's eyes leak tears.

TINA

Stay back!

April stops.

APRIL

Look, you're making a big mistake.

TINA

I've got a photo of her coming on
to my boyfriend. Pictures don't
lie.

APRIL

It's her twin sister. They look so much alike that I usually get them confused.

Tina thinks, only for a moment.

TINA

That's bullshit.

APRIL

I swear. She wasn't hitting on your boyfriend.

Tina's grip on Brooke's face tightens.

APRIL

I can prove it. I'll show you a picture of them together.

TINA

Get it.

April tries her best to stay calm as she goes to the display of pictures over the fireplace. She blocks Tina's few of them as she picks up a recent one of Brooke. A 5x7. As she grabs it, she also discretely wraps her fingers around a pocketknife lying on the mantle behind the photo.

As she goes to Tina, April holds the photo in her left hand and the pocketknife concealed behind her back in her right hand. She presses the button to pop out the blade.

APRIL

Here. This proves what I'm saying.

Tina pivots a little more to get a look at the picture. She sees it's one of Brooke alone.

TINA

That's not...

April jabs the pocketknife into Tina's neck. Tina instantly releases Brooke and drops her switchblade. She holds her neck, where blood runs through her fingers. Reaches out to April with her free hand. April backs away.

Tina collapses from blood loss. Her movements slow until they stop.

April hurriedly sets the picture down and rushes over to hug Brooke.

APRIL
Are you all right?

Brooke touches her facial wound, which smears the blood on her cheek. She nods.

APRIL
I'm really surprised you didn't
kick her ass.

BROOKE
I'm not a fighter.

APRIL
Right.

The DOORBELL rings. Both girls jump. April gives Brooke a questioning look and mouths "who's that?" Brooke mouths "I don't know."

Brooke takes a cautious look outside around the front curtain. She looks back and whispers...

BROOKE
It's Jared.

APRIL
(whispering)
Don't answer it.

JARED (O.S.)
Brooke?

The DOORBELL rings. The girls stay frozen. Silence follows. April takes a look this time.

APRIL
He's leaving.

April returns to Brooke.

APRIL
You really need to end it with him.
It's too risky.

BROOKE
He's the first guy I've really
liked in a long while.

APRIL
So that's worth us going to jail?

Brooke stares at April without an answer. April takes her by the shoulders.

APRIL

This isn't a joke, Brooke. I'll get the chair for what we've done.

BROOKE

So will I.

APRIL

You'll get off on insan...

April catches herself. The hurt in Brooke's eyes speaks volumes. She dashes upstairs.

April sighs. She looks back to the body lying at her feet, the pool of blood underneath Tina growing.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Brooke charges inside, in tears. She slams the door closed and paces frantically. Leans back against the wall and slides down it, her fingers wrapped in her hair as she grips her head.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Wearing gloves, April brings a tarp into the room and spreads it out on the floor without it touching the blood. She strains to roll Tina's body over on top of it without getting blood on herself. It's a tough task.

She succeeds and rolls Tina up in it. Hayden strolls down the steps and sees what's going on. It gives her great joy.

HAYDEN

Damn. A girl after my own heart.

April gives Hayden a long look but decides to let it go. She attempts to drag the rolled up body into the kitchen but struggles by herself.

APRIL

Would you please stop hitting on strange men?

Hayden chuckles as she goes to help April pick up the body.

HAYDEN

Why? Are you getting a little jealous?

They enter the...

KITCHEN

April opens the garage door.

APRIL

You're causing all of this to happen because of your carelessness. Enough is enough.

Hayden laughs.

HAYDEN

It's never enough.

They carry the body into the...

GARAGE

They lay it down next to the trunk of April's car and pause to catch their breath.

HAYDEN

What's the guy's name?

APRIL

Aaron, I think.

HAYDEN

Oh, yeah. I remember him. He acted like he was loaded but when he made me pay for our drinks, I knew I was wasting my time and left his ass.

April opens the driver's door and presses a button to pop the trunk. The bloodstained tarp from before is still present. They lift the body inside. April closes the trunk and removes the gloves.

APRIL

Just please calm it down for a while. We don't need any more money.

HAYDEN

A girl can always use more, but I'll be good.

Hayden crosses her heart while flashing a fake smile.

HAYDEN

Cross my heart and hope to die.

April smirks.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Wearing gloves, the girls each carry a bucket of water over to the puddle of blood. They kneel by it and begin cleaning it up, using rags.

HAYDEN

I'm really glad there isn't carpet.

APRIL

Me too.

They clean in silence for several moments.

HAYDEN

Assuming that you're right about me, that I have these "mood swings", which side of me do you like better?

APRIL

What?

HAYDEN

Do you like strength or weakness?

The question causes April to focus on the floor.

APRIL

Neither... both... I'm not sure.

HAYDEN

Come on now. Those qualities are as opposite as night and day. You have to like one more than the other.

April takes a long moment to think.

APRIL

I like your strength. You don't take crap from anyone. But your other side is kind and sweet.

HAYDEN

If there was a way to get rid of kind and sweet, I would do it in a heartbeat.

April gives Hayden a shocked look.

HAYDEN

I'm just being honest.

APRIL

Well thankfully, that isn't possible.

April wrings her rag out in the already red water.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Brooke is on the couch, flipping through a beauty magazine.

April enters the house, carrying a small pharmacy bag. She sits down next to Brooke.

APRIL

I brought you a present.

April holds out the bag. Brooke accepts it and looks the label over.

BROOKE

My medicine.

APRIL

I figured we should put some of the money we took to good use.

Brooke looks unsure.

BROOKE

I can't afford to keep buying it so I'm not sure it really helps me to take it now.

APRIL

We'll try to find you a job with insurance. Or maybe you can qualify for disability.

Brooke opens the bag and studies the bottle inside in her hand.

APRIL

We have enough money for several months' worth. That gives us plenty of time.

Brooke grins at April.

BROOKE

Thanks.

APRIL

No problem. Maybe you should go ahead and take one.

BROOKE

I can't. I'm supposed to take one
in the morning on an empty stomach.

April is clearly disappointed.

APRIL

Oh well, then. Morning isn't that
far off.

April squeezes Brooke's hand.

APRIL

Just think, you'll be back to your
old self in no time and we can try
to put all of this behind us.

Brooke grins. Her eyes lower to the bottle in her hand.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - REAR DECK - NIGHT

Brooke sits in a chair, studying her phone. She
contemplates, then finally pulls up Jared's name in her
contacts. She dials. It RINGS on the other end. She gets his
voicemail.

JARED (ON RECORDING)

I can't take your call right now.
Leave a message.

BEEP.

BROOKE

(into phone)

I'd like to talk to you about what
happened the other night. I wasn't
myself... it's hard to explain.
Please call me back.

Brooke hangs up. She curls her knees to her chest and rests
her head on them.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brooke sleeps, although she's restless. The bottle of pills
are on her nightstand, next to her cell phone.

JAMES (V.O.)

I really wanted a son and I got you
instead. What a disappointment.

VICTORIA (V.O.)

Clean up that mess and stop your
crying. You're such a baby.

JAMES (V.O.)

Say one word to anyone about this
and I'll bury you alive.

Hayden's eyes snap open. There's something cold about them. She goes to get out of bed and notices the pill bottle. Picks it up and examines the label. Her face tightens.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS
LATER

Hayden charges inside and turns on the light. She opens the pill bottle and dumps the contents into the toilet. Flushes them.

With a victorious smirk, she drops the empty bottle into the trash, turns off the light, and leaves.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Brooke sleeps, looking far more peaceful. Her eyes flutter open. She yawns and stretches before sitting up. Her eyes go to the nightstand where the pill bottle should be, only it's gone.

She jumps up and searches around the nightstand. Looks inside the drawer and under the bed. Nothing.

Brooke darts out of the room.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING - MOMENTS LATER

Still in her pajamas, April pours a cup of coffee from a pot. She adds a little cream and sugar.

Brooke hurries inside and goes straight to April.

BROOKE

What did you do with my pills?

APRIL

I haven't seen them since I gave
you the bottle.

BROOKE

I set them on my nightstand when I
went to sleep. They're gone.

APRIL

I'm sure they just fell off or
something.

BROOKE

I looked!

APRIL

Calm down. I'll help you search.

The women hurry out of the room.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BROOKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING - MOMENTS
LATER

The girls rush inside and search in and under things.

BROOKE

It's not here!

April thinks.

APRIL

Maybe you put it in the bathroom so
you'd remember to take one as soon
as you woke up.

April leaves the room. Brooke follows.

BROOKE

I didn't.

IN THE BATHROOM

April scans the vanity area. Looks inside the medicine
cabinet. Brooke watches from the doorway.

BROOKE

I'd remember if I put them in here.

April pauses to give Brooke a questioning look. Brooke lets
it go on a valid point.

April searches a little more. She looks at the trash can and
plucks the bottle out of it. Opens the lid and sees that
it's empty. Brooke looks stunned.

APRIL

Really, Brooke?

BROOKE

I didn't do that.

APRIL

I spent \$500 out of my own pocket
to buy these pills for you and you
flushed them?

BROOKE

I didn't.

April angrily throws the bottle back into the trash.

APRIL

I've had it, Brooke. I have put up with a lot of shit since I moved in, but I can't help someone who doesn't help herself.

April brushes past Brooke on her way out. Brooke stares after her. The calm look on her face transforms into self-assured. Hayden is back.

MONTAGE - HAYDEN GETS READY

-- Taking a relaxing shower.

-- Looking through Brooke's closet. She chooses a short dress and smiles as she holds it up.

-- Putting on lots of makeup before the bathroom mirror.

-- Curling her hair.

-- Admiring how great the finished product looks before the floor-length mirror in her bedroom.

END MONTAGE

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The TV is on. April dusts the furniture. Her back is to the stairs and door.

Hayden quietly makes her way down the steps. She eyes April as she heads to the door. Barely making a sound, she steps out. The door quietly closes behind her.

LATER

April is gone from the room. Hayden enters with BRAD (21), very well-dressed with an expensive haircut, intellectual, glasses. Arms adjoined, they laugh at a previous joke as they enter the living room.

HAYDEN

You should join a fraternity.

BRAD

Not my thing. I'm in college to learn, not to party.

Hayden laughs at the half-joke.

HAYDEN

I bet your rich daddy is glad that
his money is well spent.

BRAD

I'd say he is.

Hayden presses against Brad and removes his glasses.

HAYDEN

You won't need these.

Hayden lays the glasses aside.

BRAD

I really can't see well without
them.

Hayden holds up one of Brad's hands.

HAYDEN

Let your fingers find the way.

Hayden kisses Brad's hand, then plants one on his lips. Brad
goes in for a deeper kiss but Hayden pulls back.

HAYDEN

Wait, I think we need a better
atmosphere.

Hayden goes to the stereo and turns it on to the radio.
Finds a station playing CLASSICAL MUSIC.

BRAD

You don't strike me as the kind of
girl who likes classical.

HAYDEN

I'm full of surprises.

Hayden leads Brad to the couch.

HAYDEN

Have a seat and I'll get us some
wine.

Hayden seats Brad. She blows him a kiss. As she goes to the
kitchen, she glances back at him. Brad watches with a smile.
Once she's gone, he turns forward and relaxes, enjoying the
music.

Hayden, wearing disposable gloves, sneaks back inside, to
the rear of the couch. She reaches underneath and pulls out
the fire poker, being completely quiet.

She takes aim at Brad's head and strikes him. Brad falls over, in terrible pain but conscious with no blood.

Hayden charges around to the front. Brad holds out a trembling hand.

BRAD

No, please...

Hayden hits him in the head again. Same result. Brad is left conscious in agony but with a slight amount of blood on his head this time.

April skips down the steps in urgency.

APRIL

What's going on...

April stops in the doorway when she sees Hayden with the poker standing over Brad.

HAYDEN

April, help me! He won't die.

April stares in terror.

Hayden hits Brad again. He's still conscious but with a noticeable head wound. He cries.

April covers her mouth with a hand and dashes into the...

DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM

She kneels before the toilet and throws up.

O.S. The sound of another WHACK, followed by three more.

Several eerie moments pass. All we hear is the MUSIC playing in the other room. April flushes the toilet and rinses her mouth out at the sink. She grips it for support.

The MUSIC stops. Hayden suddenly appears in the doorway, startling April.

HAYDEN

I asked you for help.

April grows emotional.

APRIL

You promised you'd stop!

HAYDEN

And you believed me? You can't be that stupid.

APRIL

That's it! I'm done. I don't care what happens to me.

April brushes past Hayden as she pulls her cell out of her pocket.

LIVING ROOM

Phone in hand, April pauses to look at Brad on the couch, dead with a nasty wound to the side of his head. She punches in 9-1-1 and prepares to send the call.

Hayden charges up behind April and knocks the phone out of her hand.

HAYDEN

If you're not with me, then I guess you're against me.

APRIL

This isn't you, Brooke! You have to stop her.

Hayden smacks April. Crying, she falls back to the floor.

HAYDEN

Do you want to die in jail? There's nothing you can tell the cops that will save your ass.

APRIL

Maybe I don't care!

HAYDEN

Oh, you care. And if you really want to die, I'll make sure you suffer every goddamn moment.

April cries harder.

HAYDEN

Now get up and help me with this mess.

April shows no sign of standing. Hayden yanks her to her feet.

HAYDEN

Now, April.

April does her best to calm but it's hard. Hayden removes pair of disposable gloves from a box of them in the cabinet. Hands them to April. She reluctantly puts them on.

HAYDEN

We'll put him in the trunk until we can dump him later.

They pick up the body and carry it barely off the floor to the kitchen.

HAYDEN

Careful not to drag him on the floor.

IN THE KITCHEN

As the girls go to the garage, they drag Brad across the floor for a brief moment, leaving a slight blood smudge. They take Brad into the garage.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - NIGHT

The house is dark, except for the flickering of a TV inside the living room.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Brooke lies on the couch, dozing while watching a movie. She suddenly wakes and looks around her as if she doesn't know where she is. She turns the TV volume down and goes to the kitchen.

BROOKE

April?

IN THE KITCHEN

Brooke turns the light on. She curiously opens the interior garage door and finds April's car parked inside. As she steps away, we see the slight bloodstain on the floor, near the garage door.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Brooke leaves the house, carrying a bag of trash. She takes it to the can at the alley and dumps it inside. When she turns back around, she bumps into Jared. Brooke nearly jumps out of her skin.

Jared grips her arms to calm her.

JARED

It's just me.

Brooke relaxes. She gazes at Jared longingly.

BROOKE
I've missed you.

JARED
We need to talk.

They head to the house.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

As Jared and Brooke head to the living room, Jared spots the bloodstain. His eyes linger on it but Brooke fails to notice.

LIVING ROOM

Brooke turns the light on as they enter, then the TV off. They take a seat on the couch.

JARED
I got a little spooked that night,
the way you were yelling at me.

BROOKE
I know. I'm so sorry. My childhood
was pretty messed up. I had to
spend some time in a hospital.

JARED
Hospital?

BROOKE
A mental facility. I don't blame
you if you want to walk away. I
would.

Jared takes Brooke's hand.

JARED
That's the last thing I want to do.
There's something about you. Kind
of like a drug. And I'm addicted.

Brooke grins shyly.

JARED
I take it that you're still getting
help.

BROOKE
I want to but since my grandma
died, I don't have the means.

JARED

I'll see what I can do. There has to be some program out there to get you the help you need.

Brooke looks at Jared with awe.

BROOKE

I just told you I'm not mentally stable and you're still here. Wow.

JARED

We all have baggage. Sounds like yours can disappear if someone cares enough to make it happen.

Jared moves in to kiss Brooke. She reciprocates. The gentle kiss blossoms into one of passion. Just as they are really into it, Brooke pulls back with a look of recollection.

BROOKE

I can't... not tonight. April and I have something to do.

JARED

This late?

Brooke thinks fast.

BROOKE

Yeah, her aunt is really sick and we have to run some things over to her. I'll call you tomorrow.

There's a hint of slyness in Jared's eyes.

JARED

Sure.

Jared gives Brooke a quick kiss.

JARED

Good night.

Jared goes to the door and opens it. As he leaves...

BROOKE

Good night.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - NIGHT

Jared closes the door behind him. He pauses there with professional cunning. After thinking a long moment, he heads to his car parked in the driveway.

LATER

The main garage door goes up. April backs her car out of the garage. Brooke sits next to her. The garage door closes. The car heads up the street.

It passes by Jared's car parked on the road. He pops up from behind the wheel after it's gone past. When the car disappears from sight, Jared hops out and goes to the house.

EXT. UPSCALE HOUSE - SIDE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jared trots around to the side, hidden by the darkness. He checks a window. Locked. He continues around to the...

BACKYARD

Just as dark as the side. Jared takes a look around him and walks up to the...

DECK

He opens the screen door and removes a bobby pin from his pocket. Uses it in the back door's lock. Moves it around. A CLICK is heard. He opens the door and enters.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jared closes the door behind him. Turns on the light. He focuses on the bloodstain. Determines it leads to the interior garage door and opens it.

IN THE GARAGE

Jared pulls a small penlight from his pocket and turns it on. Uses it to scan the area, mostly the floor. He discovers a few splotches of faint blood. Stoops to examine one closely.

He uses the light to look around. Finds the bat Hayden had used earlier and closes in. There are faint traces of dried blood on it. Alarm comes to Jared's face.

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - LATER

The interior garage door opens and Jared steps inside. WHAM! An iron skillet slams him in the head. Jared flies to the floor. The pen light soars across the room.

Heavily dazed and holding his head, he looks up to find Hayden standing over him with the skillet in her hand.

April runs into the room.

APRIL

Brooke!

April stops the moment she sees Jared.

APRIL

What are you doing?!

HAYDEN

He knows. There's only one way this can end.

Hayden raises the skillet to hit Jared. April runs over and grabs her arms.

APRIL

Stop. We need to think this through.

HAYDEN

What's there to think about? He lives, we go to prison.

APRIL

Killing a cop will get us the electric chair. Let's be careful here.

Hayden thinks.

HAYDEN

Fine, but we can't handle him if he's still conscious.

Hayden shoves April out of the way and readies the skillet. Blood already trickling down Jared's face, he sees the impending attack and holds out a hand.

JARED

Brooke...

Hayden swings.

CUT TO BLACK.

O.S. The CLANG of the skillet striking Jared's head.

APRIL (O.S.)

Detective?

FADE IN:

INT. UPSCALE HOUSE - BASEMENT - MORNING

Jared lies on the bed, his hands and feet tied securely to the bedposts with rope. He moans as he starts to wake. Eyes flutter open. He squints at first due to his huge headache.

He finds April sitting next to him, looking worried.

APRIL

Thank god. I thought she killed you.

Jared is a little disoriented in his speech initially.

JARED

What happened?

APRIL

Don't upset Brooke. I'll get you out of here when she falls asleep if she doesn't turn back soon.

O.S. FOOTSTEPS make their way down the stairs.

April jumps up and backs away from Jared, right before Hayden appears in the area.

HAYDEN

What are you doing down here?

APRIL

I was just checking on him.

HAYDEN

How kind of you.

Hayden approaches Jared with a smug grin.

HAYDEN

Don't think I want to kill you, 'cause I don't. But sometimes we need to do things we don't want to.

JARED

Why are you doing this?

HAYDEN

You're a loose end. Don't worry, though. I'll make it quick.

Hayden goes to a cabinet and opens a drawer. Inside are Jared's gun, a cord, and a kitchen knife. She chooses the knife.

Both April and Jared watch on pins and needles.

Hayden turns back with the knife clearly in her hand.

Jared struggles with the binds around his hands. April looks ill. Hayden approaches.

HAYDEN

One jab through the heart and it
will all be over.

April steps forward.

APRIL

Brooke...

Hayden gives April a hard shove. She falls back to the floor, dazed.

HAYDEN

I thought about it like you asked
so stay out of it.

Hayden stands next to Jared. He has a difficult time moving his eyes from the knife.

JARED

Brooke...

Hayden raises the knife. Jared panics more.

JARED

You know I care about you.

The statement causes Hayden to freeze. A glimmer of emotion forms in her eyes.

HAYDEN

Don't say that.

JARED

I mean it. That's why I came back.
Let me help you. Please.

Hayden's hand trembles as she holds the knife up. A long, tense moment. A tear leaks down her cheek. Suddenly she paces, hands to her head. The knife pressed against it.

BROOKE

Stop, stop, stop.

April climbs to her feet and keeps her distance.

APRIL

Let's just wait until morning, to
be sure we're doing the right
thing. It's only a few hours.

Hayden nods.

HAYDEN

Okay.

April gives Jared a look before she goes to Hayden. She takes the knife and lays it on a table. Sits down with Hayden and holds her close. Hayden cries quietly on her shoulder.

APRIL

It's okay now. Get some rest.

Jared lies back and sighs.

LATER

Hayden sleeps against April. April cautiously slides out from under her and grabs the knife on her way to Jared. He's tired and in pain, but watches her.

APRIL

(whispering)

Stay quiet.

April goes to cut one of the ropes around Jared's hands. It comes free. She starts on his other hand. Just when she's fairly close...

Hayden wraps the cord around April's throat from behind and pulls it tight. The knife drops from her hand, onto the bed.

HAYDEN

You're betraying me, you little
cunt.

April struggles to get free but Hayden clearly has the upper hand.

JARED

No!

Jared grabs the knife and works frantically on his other hand.

As April fights for her life, she knocks a few things over. She reaches back and claws at Hayden but that only makes her madder.

HAYDEN
Die already!

April's movements slow until they stop. She slowly collapses to the floor. Hayden allows it. She catches her breath.

Jared cuts through the second rope and frees his hand, just as Hayden yells out and charges. She pounces on him and fights for the knife. The fight is awkward for Jared with his feet still tied to the bed.

He flings Hayden off of him. She topples to the floor with the knife landing a few feet away. She huffs like a wild animal as she glares at Jared.

Jared hurriedly tries to free one of his feet. Just as it comes free, Hayden charges with the knife. Jared battles her with one foot still secure.

He rolls Hayden over. She jabs upward. Jared's eyes go wide in terror. He looks down to the knife sticking into his chest. Blood starts to stream.

His eyes return to his assaulter, but this is now Brooke. Hands still on the knife handle, she looks as stunned as Jared. Jared falls back to the bed, immobilized by the agony.

Brooke shakes her head as she mouths "no, no, no." She pulls the knife out. Blood pours. She presses a blanket against the wound to stop the bleeding. It fails. She reaches out to touch Jared but is afraid to.

Jared goes into shock as he exhales his last breath. Brooke takes Jared's face into her hands and cries.

BROOKE
I'm so sorry.

Jared grows still, his eyes open and looking at Brooke. She breaks down crying.

BROOKE
No!

Brooke rolls off to the bed, falling to the floor. In the midst of a breakdown, she curls into a ball and rocks as she cries.

MOMENTS LATER

Brooke now sits still, her face wet and red from crying.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
Look what you made me do.

Brooke turns her attention away from the bodies, scans the room.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
Fucking cry baby, look at me when
I'm talking to you!

In a daze-like state, she panics, gets up, looks throughout the room. There's no one else alive. Nothing.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
You may have fooled her but not me.
Jared was mine and this house is
mine, not yours!

BROOKE
Who are you!?

HAYDEN (V.O.)
Don't play innocent with me!

Her face transforms immediately, calms, turns commanding and vengeful. Hayden goes over to the cabinet. Removes Jared's gun from the drawer and clutches it firmly behind her back in her waistband.

She moves towards April, grips her underarms, starts dragging her towards the freezer. Hayden opens it, flings April's body inside, grips the door, and begins slamming it down.

BROOKE
No!

Brooke catches it before it slams shut. She swings it back open.

BROOKE
Not like this.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
You don't have a choice! This place
will be crawling with cops.

Brooke quickly moves in to remove April, sobbing.

BROOKE
She deserves a proper burial.

Hayden forces her to withdraw her hands, squeezes her eyes tightly, retakes control.

HAYDEN
She was a piece of shit!

Slams the freezer door shut. Quickly turns back up the stairs.

BROOKE (V.O.)
Get her out of there!

HAYDEN
Somebody has to clean up this mess.

Brooke halts, squeezes her eyes closed tightly once more, struggles to turn back.

BROOKE
You're not going anywhere...

Throws herself back, lands hard on the basement floor. She writhes in pain, slow to open her eyes. She spots Jared's blood just inches away and jolts backward in shock.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
As you can see, the job's not done yet.

BROOKE
We're not finishing anything.

She writhes in agony, eyes closed tight again.

HAYDEN (V.O.)
Don't you tell me what to do.

Hayden returns, quickly rises to her feet, proceeds towards the steps.

HAYDEN
I'll deal with you later.

Suddenly, Brooke fights back, removes the gun from behind her back, quickly goes to aim. Hayden fights her. Brooke's arms trembles severely, jolts in random directions like a disembodied body part. Two shots go off, missing completely. Brooke keeps looking away, focused only on the task and ending everything no matter what the cost.

BANG! We see the third and final gunshot. Brooke's body drops, along with the gun.

Brooke's eyes remain open, though calm and peaceful. Blood slowly spreads across the floor from her head. The pain is over.

THERAPIST (V.O.)

Why do you think you're a bad girl?

YOUNG BROOKE (V.O.)

That's what my mom and dad says.

THERAPIST (V.O.)

What if I told you they were wrong?

YOUNG BROOKE (V.O.)

I wouldn't believe you.

THERAPIST (V.O.)

Well, everything your parents told you is wrong. You have good in you. You just have to reach deep inside to find it.

YOUNG BROOKE (V.O.)

What if I never do?

THERAPIST (V.O.)

As long as you live, there's always hope. But don't ever let the bad defeat the good, no matter how difficult it is.

A final overview of the entire scene. The closed freezer hums. Jared's body remains flung on the mattress.

FADE OUT.