Revelation

Screenplay by

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# EXT. FIELD-NIGHT

SUPER: THE THIRD DAY

The night sky lights up from a *flash* of lightning.

The lightning strikes a grassy area and disappears. A blonde woman lies in the burnt remains of the grass. DEVIL, early 20s. She opens her eyes and stands up --

The Devil looks up at the sky.

DEVIL (laugh)

#### BILLY (V.O.)

Sometimes the Devil comes to earth from the pits of hell to pick the poorest soul to get even with God. It is in those moments that the soul has to make a choice. Not all of them made the same choice.

CUT TO:

#### INT. DELIVERY ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

SUPER: SIX-THOUSAND YEARS LATER

DALLAS, mid-30s. An auto mechanic. A tough, and hardworking man.

PATRINA, mid-30s. A homemaker, wife and mother. This is her first but only time she will see her newborn son.

DOCTOR, early 40s. A doctor for twenty years.

DOCTOR One last push, Patrina!

# PATRINA

(breath)

Ahh!!

With all her strength, Patrina pushes --

The Doctor lifts the newborn up towards Patrina. Dallas takes the newborn from the Doctor -- He looks at Patrina --

# DALLAS

-- Patrina!

Patrina lies back, her eyes closed. Dallas touches her cheek --

DALLAS (CONT'D) -- Patrina! Wake up!

Dallas kisses Patrina on the cheek -- He looks at his newborn son --

CUT TO:

#### **EXT. CEMETERY-AFTERNOON**

Dallas stands in front of a **headstone**. He holds his newborn son in his arms and holds a little girl's hand. SIX-YEAR-OLD AVA. A first-grade student. A bright and sweet girl.

Six-Year-Old Ava lets go of Dallas's hand -- and steps towards the headstone -- She touches it -- and kisses the palm of her hand -- Six-Year-Old Ava lays her palm on the headstone --

#### DALLAS

-- Ava!

Six-Year-Old Ava looks at Dallas.

DALLAS (CONT'D) It's time to go.

Six-Year-Old Ava steps towards Dallas -- and grabs his hand -

Dallas turns around -- and walks away from the headstone --

BILLY (V.O.) I killed my mother, and the devil wants my soul.

CUT TO:

#### INT. CAR-NIGHT

SUPER: PRESENT DAY

A wrecked car is pressed against a tree. A young man's head is leaned against the steering wheel. BILLY, 18. A high school graduate and father to be. A hardworking young man. Naive, down to earth and loyal. A woman lays in the backseat. LEAH, 18. A high school dropout. A dedicated wife and eager mother to be.

A bright light begins to shine in the behind the car --

LEAH -- Help, please!!

CUT TO:

# INT. BEDROOM-MORNING

Billy lays in bed. A blonde-haired woman sets her head down on his chest. LUCIE, 18. A high school student and cheerleader. A young lady with desperation for a man's attention.

Billy opens his eyes -- and looks at Lucie. Lucie looks at him --

LUCIE -- Do you care for a quickie before you qo?

#### BILLY

Sure.

Lucie lifts the blanket over her head-- and lowers herself down --

CUT TO:

# EXT. INDUSTRIAL STREET-MORNING

Billy walks down the sidewalk -- He buttons up his white collared shirt --

GIRLS #1 and #2. Late teens.

Girl #1 looks at Billy. He looks at her.

BILLY Are you going my way?

GIRL #1

Maybe. (laugh)

CUT TO:

#### EXT. CHURCH-MORNING

CHURCHGOERS, early 30s, late 40s and late teens. Billy stops at the pathway to the church --The Churchgoers step towards the front entrance of the church PASTOR PAUL, 48. A pastor of the local church for fifteen years. Billy stops --Pastor Paul steps past Billy --PASTOR PAUL -- Excuse us, son. Leah steps past Billy --Billy looks at Leah. Leah looks at Billy. LEAH Do you care to join us? BILLY I'm a little underdressed. LEAH Come as you are --

-- Leah reaches her hand out -- Billy grabs a hold of her hand -- Leah pulls him towards the entrance --

CUT TO:

# INT. CLASSROOM-CHURCH-MORNING

Leah opens the door -- and flips the light switch on --

Billy looks around the classroom --

BILLY -- What are we doing in here?

LEAH Teaching a class --

-- Leah takes off her **coat** -- and hangs it on the **coat rack** -

BILLY What am I doing?

LEAH

Learning.

Leah grabs a **bible** from the **bookshelf** -- and hands it to Billy --

BILLY -- What's this?

# LEAH

A bible.

Billy flips through the pages --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- You can have a seat.

Billy sits down --

CUT TO:

# EXT. CHURCH-CONTINUOUS

At the curb of the sidewalk, the Devil stands in front of the steps of the church. She runs her fingers through her hair -- and pulls --

DEVIL (scream)

CUT TO:

# INT. CLASSROOM-CHURCH-CONTINUOUS

CHURCH TEENS #1, #2 and #3. 13, 15 and 16.

Leah looks through her bible --

Billy stares at Leah and then looks back at his bible as Leah looks at him --

LEAH -- The devil took him to the highest mountain. Can someone tell me what he told Jesus?

Church Teen #2 raises her hand --

LEAH (CONT'D)

-- Yes?

CHURCH TEEN #2 All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

# LEAH

Very good.

The bell rings. Church Teens #1, #2 and #3 get up from the chairs --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- See you in the auditorium. No running in the hallway.

Leah stands up --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- You can keep the bible.

## BILLY

Thank you.

Billy stands up --

Leah grabs the doorknob -- Billy opens the door for Leah -- Leah looks at Billy --

LEAH -- Thank you. Can you turn that light off for me?

BILLY Sure thing --

-- Billy pushes the light switch down -- and closes the door --

CUT TO:

### INT. HALLWAY-CHURCH-MORNING

Leah steps down the hallway -- Billy walks alongside of her -

LEAH -- So, are you going to attend the service? BILLY Probably not.

LEAH Okay. We do have an evening service.

BILLY Will you be here tonight?

LEAH I will. What's your name?

BILLY

Billy.

LEAH Nice meeting you. I'm Leah, the pastor's daughter.

Billy reaches his hand out -- and shakes her hand --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- Well, it's been nice talking to you. I hope I see you tonight.

Leah pulls the door to the auditorium open -- and walks in --

CUT TO:

# EXT. INDUSTRIAL STREET-AFTERNOON

Billy looks through the bible --

DEVIL (V.O.) Are you sure you want to read that?

Billy looks back --

BILLY -- Who said that?

DEVIL (V.O.) Look no further, Billy!

BILLY How do you know my name?

DEVIL (V.O.) I know everything about you. I know that you're not exactly alive right now.

BILLY What are you talking about? I feel alive! DEVIL (V.O.) Then why are you talking to me. A woman sits on the bench just up ahead. A hood over her head. The woman stands up -- and lowers the hood --DEVIL -- I'm everywhere, William Torres! Billy stops -- and looks at her --BILLY -- Who are you? DEVIL A friend. Just a friend trying to help another find his way home. The Devil wraps her arm around Billy's shoulder --DEVIL (CONT'D) -- Hungry? BILLY I could eat. DEVIL Come with me then. CUT TO: INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT-AFTERNOON Billy steps towards the counter --

GIRL EMPLOYEE, late teens.

Billy looks at the menu just above the counter --

GIRL EMPLOYEE -- What can I get for you, sir?

The Devil leans towards Billy's ear --

DEVIL -- Ask for her phone number?

GIRL EMPLOYEE

Hello!

BILLY

Can I get a large thing of <u>fries</u>, a double burger and a milkshake.

GIRL EMPLOYEE

What flavor?

BILLY What's your favorite flavor?

GIRL EMPLOYEE

<u>Strawberry</u>.

BILLY I'll take it.

GIRL EMPLOYEE That'll be nine even.

Billy leans towards the Girl Employee's ear --

BILLY

(whisper) What do you say we take this to the bathroom, and I give you something better.

GIRL EMPLOYEE (whisper) The storage room is better.

BILLY

Okay.

CUT TO:

# INT. STORAGE ROOM-FAST FOOD RESTAURANT-AFTERNOON

Billy lifts the Girl Employee towards the shelf -- and leans her against it -- He goes back and forth --

GIRL EMPLOYEE (moan)

CUT TO:

#### INT. DINING AREA-FAST FOOD RESTAURANT-AFTERNOON

Billy sits in the dining area. The Girl Employee steps towards him with a tray of food -- She sets it down in front of him -- The Girl Employee kisses him on the cheek -- and steps away -- The Devil appears and sits across from Billy.

DEVIL

You stud!

Billy grabs the double cheeseburger from the tray -- and takes a big bite -- He chews his food -- and swallows --

BILLY -- You said that I'm dead? Why am I able to interact with people like her?

DEVIL I'll tell you someday. For now, enjoy yourself.

BILLY Where do I sleep?

DEVIL Check your phone and find out.

Billy reaches into his pants pocket -- and pulls out his cell phone -- He touches the screen --

BILLY -- Oh, it's just a couple of blocks down the street.

DEVIL Yes. Finish your meal. Times a wasting!

Billy takes another bite --

CUT TO:

# EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

Billy looks at his cell phone and then at the house --

BILLY -- You have got to be kidding me.

DEVIL (V.O.) What did you expect? A mansion!

BILLY

Maybe.

DEVIL (V.O.) Sorry. Got to go! BILLY

Wait!

DEVIL (V.O.)

What!

BILLY At least tell me who I live with.

DEVIL You'll see. Now, remember your house key.

Billy reaches into his pants pocket -- and pulls out his house key --

A woman steps onto the front porch. A **vodka** bottle in her hand. She takes one last gulp of it from the bottle. SIERRA, 37. Billy's stepmother living off unemployment. Dark brown hair, brown eyes. Avaricious, overbearing and possessive.

Sierra looks at Billy. Billy looks at Sierra --

SIERRA (whistle)

Sierra tosses the bottle to the floor of the porch --

BILLY

Sierra?

SIERRA Hey, dipshit! Get your ass over here!

Billy steps towards the front porch --

BILLY -- A little early for a drink, isn't it, Sierra?

SIERRA Where's my cigarettes smartass?

BILLY

Cigarettes?

SIERRA You owe me five dollars. Get your ass in the house!

Billy steps towards the front door -- Sierra grabs Billy by his hair -- and pulls him towards the front door --

BILLY (V.O.) For some screwy way, I got a glimpse of what happened to Sierra in this life. She was not like herself. She had become bitter, angry and aggressive.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-EVENING-FLASHBACK

SUPER: 2005

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA. A troubled young girl with an abusive father and abused mother. She lives her everyday life parked in front of the **television** set while her father drinks himself to sleep.

SIERRA'S FATHER, early 30s. A recently unemployed garbage man. A quick-tempered man when he is intoxicated. Abusive and dangerous.

Sierra's Father drops his bottle of Whiskey on the floor --

SIERRA'S FATHER

(burp) Baby doll! Why don't you go out and get your old man another bottle of Whiskey!

7-Year-Old Sierra looks back at him --

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA -- I can't.

Sierra's Father reaches into his pocket -- and pulls out a **hundred-dollar bill.** He hands it to 7-Year-Old Sierra -- She takes it --

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA (CONT'D) -- A hundred?

SIERRA'S FATHER Shh!! Go on girl!

7-Year-Old Sierra steps away --

SIERRA'S FATHER (CONT'D) -- And get something for yourself too.

CUT TO:

# **INT. CONVENIENCE STORE-EVENING**

7-Year-Old Sierra steps towards the counter -- and grabs a **Snickers candy bar** -- She sets it down --

STORE OWNER, early 30s.

The Store Owner looks at 7-Year-Old Sierra --

STORE OWNER -- Anything else?

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA A bottle of Whiskey, please?

STORE OWNER You look a little young for a bottle of alcohol.

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA I'm aware.

STORE OWNER Sorry, kid. No twenty-one, no drinkie!

7-Year-Old Sierra drops her head down to the counter --

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA (sob)

STORE OWNER Hey, what's wrong!

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA

Nothing.

STORE OWNER

Tell me?

7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA Well, my mom always gives my dad a little Whiskey to calm him down before we go to sleep -- So he -won't beat her!! (cry)

7-Year-Old Sierra covers her eyes with the palms of her hands --

STORE OWNER Okay, kid! Give me what you have. 7-Year-Old Sierra grabs the hundred-dollar bill from her pocket -- and hands it to the Store Owner -- He grabs the bottle of Whiskey from the top shelf -- and sets it down on the counter -- He collects the remaining change from the cash register -- and hands it to her -- 7-Year-Old Sierra takes it -- The Store Owner unfolds a **paper bag** -- and slides the bottle of Whiskey in -- He hands it to her -- and 7-Year-Old Sierra takes it --

#### 7-YEAR-OLD SIERRA

-- Thanks --

-- 7-Year-Old Sierra steps away from the counter --

CUT TO:

# INT. LIVING ROOM-CONTINUOUS

The front door opens -- 7-Year-Old Sierra steps in -- A bottle flies across the living room -- and hits the wall --

SIERRA'S MOTHER, late 20s. A waitress making it on every dollar she makes. An abused woman trying to protect herself and her daughter.

> SIERRA'S MOTHER (O.S.) Where's my money!!!

> SIERRA'S FATHER (O.S.) I spent it!!

Six gunshots are fired --

7-Year-Old Sierra drops the bottle of Whiskey --

CUT TO:

# INT. KITCHEN-EVENING

7-Year-Old Sierra steps into the kitchen --

Sierra's Father lays on the floor. Bullet wounds in his torso.

Sierra's Mother grips her hand on the handle of a *pistol* -- and keeps pulling the trigger --

CUT TO:

# INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM-TORRES RESIDENCE-BACK TO PRESENT

The door opens --

Sierra pushes Billy into the bedroom --

Billy falls to the floor --

Sierra grabs the doorknob --

SIERRA -- Don't even think about leaving!

Sierra slams the door shut --

CUT TO:

#### INT. HALLWAY-TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

She reaches for the **padlock** resting on the doorframe -- She locks the **latch** --

CUT TO:

# INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM-TORRES RESIDENCE-CONTINUOUS

Billy pushes himself into the door --

DEVIL Need help over there!

Billy looks at the Devil --

She lays on the bed. A **vine** of **grapes** in her hand. The Devil takes a bite -- and chews --

BILLY -- Why didn't you warn me?

DEVIL (swallow) About? BILLY

Her.

DEVIL She's your problem.

BILLY She used to be nice.

DEVIL People change.

Billy steps towards the window --

BILLY -- I got to get out of here.

DEVIL Here's a clue, try the window.

Billy pushes the window open -- He looks at the Devil --

BILLY

-- Thanks.

DEVIL

Anytime.

CUT TO:

#### **EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON**

Billy drops down to the driveway from the rooftop -- and lands on his feet --

CUT TO:

# INT. AUDITORIUM-CHURCH-EVENING

Leah sits on the **piano bench.** Her fingertips at the ends of the **keys** --

The doors open -- Billy steps in -- Leah looks at Billy --

Leah smirks -- and leans her mouth towards the *microphone* -- She plays the keys on the piano --

LEAH God of spirit/God of light/Come into my life/Make me your light/Shine in the night. Billy looks at Leah with amazement in his eyes.

LEAH (CONT'D) Move many mountains/Over the Sierra/Shine bright my Lord/Like the flame that won't blow away.

Pastor Paul smiles as his daughters' voice echoes throughout the auditorium.

LEAH (CONT'D) Let no enemy blow me out/For he is going out/Make the light shine bright/Your light and mine/God of creation and of light/Keep this light of mine/Yours and mine/Shine bright!

The AUDIENCE stands --

AUDIENCE (applause)

Billy stands --

# BILLY

(clap)

Leah stands up from the bench -- and steps down --

CUT TO:

# INT. LOBBY-CHURCH-EVENING

Billy sits on a bench. He looks through the book of **Jonah** in his bible --

LEAH (O.C.) Any favorites yet?

Billy looks at Leah --

BILLY

-- Huh?

LEAH In your bible.

BILLY Oh. This Jonah sounds like an interesting story.

Pastor Paul steps behind Leah -- and wraps her coat around her shoulders --LEAH I'm glad you came. I hope to see you next time. Leah turns around -- and steps away --Billy stands up --BILLY -- I enjoyed your singing. It was beautiful. LEAH Thank you. Pastor Paul looks at Leah and then at Billy --PASTOR PAUL -- Do you care to join us for dinner? BILLY I don't want to impose. PASTOR PAUL We have room for one more. Billy steps towards Leah and Pastor Paul -- He walks alongside of them --BILLY -- Thank you. CUT TO: INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM-TORRES RESIDENCE-EVENING The bedroom door opens -- Sierra steps towards the bed -- and pulls the blanket from over the pillows --SIERRA -- Little shit!

Sierra steps out of the bedroom --

CUT TO:

# INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Billy looks around the living room --

Leah stops walking --

Billy runs into her --

# BILLY

-- I'm sorry.

Leah takes off her coat -- and hangs it on the coat rack by the stairs --

LEAH -- You can hang your jacket here.

Billy takes off his jacket -- and hangs it on the coat rack --Leah walks towards the library -- She looks back at Billy --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- Follow me.

CUT TO:

# INT. LIBRARY-NIGHT

Leah steps into the library -- and walks towards the bible section --

Billy looks at all the stacked bibles --

BILLY -- Are those bibles?

LEAH

Yes.

BILLY What do you do with them?

LEAH We give them to people.

BILLY

Why?

LEAH Because people need God. PASTOR PAUL (0.S.) Dinner's ready!

LEAH -- Coming, daddy!!

CUT TO:

## INT. DINING ROOM-NIGHT

PEARL, early 40s. A homemaker. The Pastor's wife and Leah's mother. A gentle woman with a humble spirit.

Pearl takes Billy's plate -- and lays a serving of **green beans** on it --

She scoops **mashed potatoes** with a **wooden spoon** -- and sets them on Billy's plate --

PEARL -- So, Billy, do you have any brothers and sisters?

BILLY No, it's just me and my stepmother.

PEARL Does she go to church?

#### BILLY

I don't think she believes in God.

Pearl picks up a piece of **steak** with a fork -- and sets it down on Billy's plate -- She hands the plate to Leah -- and Leah hands it to Billy --

PEARL -- What does she believe in?

#### BILLY

Huh?

PEARL What does your foster mother believe in?

BILLY

Discipline.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-TORRES RESIDENCE-NIGHT

Sierra holds her cell phone to her ear.

DISPATCHER (V.O.) 911, what's your emergency?

SIERRA Yes, my dipshit stepson is missing.

DISPATCHER (V.O.) How long has he been missing?

SIERRA I don't know. I'm not a fucking mind reader!

DISPATCHER (V.O.) Ma'am, could you please not curse at me.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Leah sits on the couch with Billy. Pastor Paul steps towards Leah with a guitar --

PASTOR PAUL -- Play something for us.

Leah takes the guitar --

LEAH -- Do you want to hear something that I wrote?

#### BILLY

Sure.

Leah touches the *strings* of the guitar with the tips of her fingers --

LEAH Life is like a bird/Flying in the sky/Going like a flash of light/With a little whisper/You come down with your word/All to save us from sin/With what beauty you come.

Billy looks at her with amazement in his eyes. She looks at him and smiles.

LEAH (CONT'D) Come upon us O Lord and bring us your love/And take us home.

Leah stops -- and hands the guitar to Pastor Paul -- He takes it --

LEAH (CONT'D) It's not much. It's just a few chords and lyrics short.

BILLY It's perfect.

LEAH Thanks, but not everything is perfect. Not even me.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-NIGHT

Sierra stands at the curb of the sidewalk. A cigarette in her hand. Sierra puts the cigarette in her mouth -- and blows smoke through her nostrils --

CUT TO:

# INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Billy grabs his jacket from the coat rack -- Leah steps towards him -- and grabs her coat --

LEAH -- I'll give you a ride.

BILLY You don't have to.

# LEAH

# I want to --

-- Leah puts on her coat --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- I'll be back in a bit, mom!

PEARL (O.S.) Call me when you make it there!

# LEAH

I will!

BILLY -- Ladies first --

-- Billy opens the door --

# LEAH

-- Thanks.

Leah steps out -- Billy pulls the door shut as he steps out -

CUT TO:

# INT. LEAH'S CAR-NIGHT

Leah puts the AUTOMATIC in PARK -- and turns off the ignition -- She looks at the house --

LEAH -- So, this is where you live.

BILLY Yeah. I would invite you in but --

LEAH -- It's late. I know. You don't have to explain.

BILLY

I want to take you somewhere better. The park, maybe.

LEAH Are you asking me out on a date?

BILLY Maybe. Will you?

LEAH Next week. After church.

BILLY I'll see you then.

LEAH Good night.

Billy opens the passenger door -- and gets out --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-NIGHT

Billy steps towards the front porch.

Leah's car drives away --

CUT TO:

# INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Billy slides in through the open window -- and hits the floor -- He stands up -- and flips the light switch on -- Sierra stands behind him -- Billy turns -- and jumps out of his skin after seeing Sierra --

# BILLY

(yell)

SIERRA Is something wrong?

# BILLY

You scared me.

Sierra raises her hand -- and slaps Billy across the face --

BILLY (V.O.) That slap rang a bell deep inside of me, but it gave me another glimpse of how I got stuck with this version of Sierra.

CUT TO:

# EXT. STREETS-AFTERNOON-FLASHBACK

SUPER: TWELVE YEARS EARLIER

Sierra walks across the street -- and falls in the middle of the road --

# SIERRA (scream)

Dallas looks back --

6-YEAR-OLD BILLY. A shy boy with a gullible nature.

12-YEAR-OLD AVA. A seventh-grade student. Humble and shy.

# DALLAS Hang tight --

-- Dallas rushes towards Sierra -- and leans down -- He grabs a hold of her arm --

# SIERRA

-- I'm fine --

-- Sierra looks at Dallas --

# DALLAS

-- I got you. Come on.

Sierra stands up -- and keeps her eyes on Dallas's.

# SIERRA

Thank you.

# DALLAS No problem. Be careful out here.

Dallas turns away -- and walks towards 6-Year-Old Billy and 12-Year-Old Ava --

#### SIERRA

Perhaps, I can repay you.

Dallas looks back at Sierra --

DALLAS I was just doing what all men should do. Help a lady out.

SIERRA It's almost time for dinner. I got plenty of food.

DALLAS What are you having?

# CUT TO:

# INT. LIVING ROOM-EVENING

6-Year-Old Billy and 12-Year-Old Ava sit in front of the television. With what's left of the **Barbeque chicken** and **macaroni cheese** on their plates.

Dallas and Sierra sit at the dinner table. Dallas takes a sip of his **beer** from a bottle --

SIERRA -- Would you like another? DALLAS No thanks. I should be getting them home.

SIERRA What are you doing later?

DALLAS I don't know. Why?

SIERRA Just wondering. I might need some company.

DALLAS

Okay.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX-NIGHT

Dallas steps outside of his apartment -- He lights a cigarette with his **zippo lighter** -- and steps down the stairs --

"I Walk the Line" by Johnny Cash plays.

Dallas takes a big whiff of his cigarette -- and drops it to the ground -- He stomps it out with his foot -- He steps across the street --

CUT TO:

#### INT. KITCHEN-NIGHT

Sierra stands at the counter. She pours *iced tea* into a glass -- and takes a sip --

DALLAS (O.S.) -- Hello?

Sierra smiles.

SIERRA

In here!

Dallas steps into the kitchen -- He looks at Sierra and the silk night gown she's wearing.

SIERRA (CONT'D) What is it? Dallas steps towards her -- He touches her face -- Sierra wraps her arms around his back -- and kisses him -- He grabs her from behind -- and yanks at her bottoms --

CUT TO:

# INT. AUDITORIUM-CHURCH-EVENING

Dallas and Sierra stand at the altar. Dallas kisses Sierra --

PASTOR, early 40s.

The Pastor backs away as Dallas and Sierra continue kissing.

12-Year-Old Ava looks at 6-Year-Old Billy --

12-YEAR-OLD AVA -- This is going to be a big disaster.

12-Year-Old Ava watches Dallas with Sierra.

BILLY (V.O.) Little did I know it at the time, but Ava was right.

CUT TO:

# INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM-BACK TO PRESENT

Billy looks at Sierra while he's in a daze -- and having double vision --

SIERRA -- You're grounded!

Sierra steps towards the window -- and locks it with a padlock -- She turns to Billy --

SIERRA (CONT'D) -- You will go to school and come straight home. Am I clear!

BILLY

Crystal.

#### SIERRA

Good.

Sierra steps out of the bedroom -- and slams the door shut --

Billy sits down on the bed -- He looks down at his shoes -- and clutches his hands together --

BILLY (whisper) -- Please, God, help.

CUT TO:

#### INT. KITCHEN-TORRES RESIDENCE-MORNING

Billy walks into the kitchen.

Sierra stands in front of the stove. A **cast-iron skillet** in the palm of her hand. She looks at Billy well she tips the skillet over to drop the **scrambled eggs** out onto a plate --

#### SIERRA

-- Breakfast?

BILLY I'll get something at school.

Billy turns -- and walks away from Sierra --

SIERRA

-- Please?

Billy looks back at Sierra. He steps towards her -- Sierra hands the plate to Billy -- He takes it -- and sits at the table -- Billy grabs a fork -- and takes a bite --

-- Sierra sits -- and looks at Billy --

SIERRA (CONT'D) -- No hard feelings?

BILLY Am I still grounded?

SIERRA Yes. Orange juice?

#### BILLY

Yes.

Sierra grabs a glass from the center of the table -- and a carton of **orange juice** -- She pours the orange juice -- and tosses the carton into the *trash can* -- Sierra hands Billy the glass -- Billy grabs it -- and guzzles it down -- Sierra watches the orange juice disappear --

# SIERRA -- Holy shit --

-- Billy slams the glass down -- and wipes his mouth with his hand --

SIERRA (CONT'D) -- Did you even taste it?

BILLY Maybe. Got to go --

-- Billy stands up -- and walks towards the back door -- He pulls the door open -- and steps out --

SIERRA -- Have a nice day.

The door shuts --

CUT TO:

# EXT. HIGH SCHOOL-MORNING

Billy steps past the school yard -- He looks at a TEEN BOY and TEEN GIRL kissing. The Teen Girl looks at him and her face changes into the Devil's. Billy shakes his head --

> BILLY -- I'm losing it.

Leah's car pulls up to the curb --

Billy looks at the car and stops walking --

CUT TO:

# INT/EXT. LEAH'S CAR-MORNING

Leah leans towards the passenger door -- The window rolls down --

### LEAH

-- Do you need a ride?

Billy steps towards the car -- and grabs the door handle --He pulls the door open -- and gets into the car -- Billy looks at Leah --

BILLY

-- Thanks.

LEAH

No problem.

Leah looks at the school --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- Is that your school?

# BILLY

Yeah.

LEAH Do you want to check out my school?

BILLY What kind of school do you go to?

LEAH You'll see.

Leah puts the Automatic in Drive --

CUT TO:

# INT. HALLWAY-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-MORNING

Billy walks through the hallway and looks around at the clean painted white walls.

LEAH -- What do you think?

BILLY Best looking school I've seen.

Leah steps towards the office --

LEAH -- Come on --

CUT TO:

# INT. OFFICE-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-MORNING

PRINCIPAL, early 30s. A principal for five years.

Leah leans her arms on the counter --

The Principal looks at Leah and Billy --

# PRINCIPAL

-- Good morning! Who is this young man?

LEAH This is Billy. I brought him here to get a tour of our school.

PRINCIPAL I appreciate your boldness but I --

LEAH

-- Come on. You've seen those public schools. Just let him stick with me and maybe he can become a student here one day. What's the harm in that?

#### PRINCIPAL

No harm.

The Principal writes Billy's name on a **name tag** -- and hands it to him --

BILLY -- Thank you --

-- Leah and Billy step out of the office --

CUT TO:

# EXT. PARKING LOT-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

The Devil stands in the midst of the parking lot. She runs her fingers down her face --

DEVIL (scream)

# INT. CLASSROOM-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

In the classroom, Leah and Billy sit alongside of each other. ENGLISH TEACHER, early 40s. An English teacher for ten years.

ENGLISH TEACHER

This afternoon, when you go home, I want you to write about something that you are thankful for. It can be someone or something that has touched your soul. The school bell rings --

Leah stands up --

BILLY -- What's next?

LEAH

Gym.

CUT TO:

#### INT. GYMNASIUM-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

A **volleyball** bounces from girl to girl. Leah hits the ball to the opposite side of the *net* --

GYM GIRL #1, #2 and #3. 15, 16, and 17.

The ball rolls on the floor.

Leah raises her arms up --

LEAH

-- Yes!!

BILLY

(clap)

Leah looks at Billy. A smile stretches across her face.

CUT TO:

# INT. LIVING ROOM-TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

Sierra's cell phone vibrates on the **coffee table** while she lays her head on a **couch pillow**. She sits up -- and reaches across -- She hits the **answer button** -- and puts the cell phone to her ear --

SIERRA

-- Hello!

Sierra stands up --

SECRETARY (V.O.) Hello, Mrs. Torres? Did Billy stay home from school today?

SIERRA No! He went to school today. (laugh) SIERRA (CONT'D) That's not like him. I got to go. Thank you for calling --

SECRETARY (V.O.) -- Mrs. Torres --

-- Sierra hits the end call button -- and drops her cell phone to the coffee table --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. PARKING LOT-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

Leah steps towards her car --

LEAH -- I better get you home.

BILLY What's the rush?

LEAH I have to go home and study.

BILLY (wave) You got plenty of time. Let me take you to my neck of the woods for a tasty treat.

Leah opens the driver door --

LEAH -- I don't like the sound of this.

BILLY

Come on.

Billy opens the passenger door --

CUT TO:

# INT. LEAH'S CAR-AFTERNOON

Leah drives the car --

Billy turns on the **radio** -- and lands on a song that catches his ear.

"Dancing With Myself" by Billy Idol plays.

# BILLY Woohoo!! Perfect!

Billy turns the volume up -- and sticks his head out of the window --

LEAH -- Hey! Calm down!

Billy shakes his head to the music --

Leah looks at Billy and can't help but dance to the music.

LEAH (CONT'D) BILLY (laugh) Dancing With Myself!!!

CUT TO:

#### EXT. WIENER SCHNITZEL-AFTERNOON

Billy and Leah sit on the top of the *picnic table* -- Billy takes a bite from his **chili dog** --

BILLY -- I can't believe you got a **sundae**.

LEAH I can't believe you are eating that. Do you know how many calories you are consuming right now.

Billy moves the chili dog towards Leah's face --

BILLY

-- Try it!

LEAH

No!

Billy moves it a little closer to her face --

# BILLY

-- Come on!

He touches Leah's cheek with it --

LEAH -- Look what you did!

Leah pushes the sundae onto his nose -- and the melted ice cream runs down his chin --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- You look good! (laugh) BILLY Thanks. You were right ---- Leah touches her cheek -- and licks the chili off her finger --LEAH (CONT'D) -- It was tasty. BILLY (laugh)

CUT TO:

# INT. LEAH'S CAR-CONTINUOUS

Leah parks the car at the curb. Billy looks at the house. Leah turns off the ignition --

> LEAH -- I had fun.

> > BILLY

Me too.

LEAH How'd you like the school?

BILLY I enjoyed it.

LEAH Would you ever go back?

BILLY In a heartbeat. It's expensive though.

LEAH Don't get discouraged. There's still hope.

BILLY Yeah, sure. A hand reaches in through the window -- and grabs Billy by his hair --

```
SIERRA
-- Where have you been you little
shit!!
```

Sierra opens the passenger door -- and pulls Billy out --Leah opens her door --

LEAH -- Hey!!

CUT TO:

## EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

Sierra's hand full of Billy's hair. She pulls him towards the front porch --

Leah dials 911 and hits send -- She puts the cell phone to her ear --

LEAH -- Hello, police! There's an assault occurring!

Sierra looks at Leah --

SIERRA -- I'll show you an assault!

Leah gets into the car -- and locks herself in --

CUT TO:

## INT/EXT. LEAH'S CAR-AFTERNOON

Leah turns the key in the ignition -- and rolls the window up -- Her cell phone to her ear still.

LEAH -- Please hurry!!

Billy steps towards Sierra --

BILLY

-- Sierra!!

Sierra turns to Billy --

-- What!!

## BILLY What happened to you?

Sierra drives her foot to Billy's groin --

Billy falls to the ground --

SIERRA -- I should have let you go to that home!

The Devil appears behind Sierra. She jumps in the air -- and is dancing with excitement --

DEVIL -- Yes!! I love this!!

POLICE OFFICER #1 and #2. Early 30s. Police Officers for eight and ten years.

Police Officer #1 raises a **taser gun** up -- and aims it at Sierra --

POLICE OFFICER #1 -- Freeze!!

POLICE OFFICER #2 Get those hands up!!

Sierra raises her arms up --

SIERRA -- Don't shoot. I'm unarmed.

POLICE OFFICER #2 Down on your knees!

Sierra crouches down to her knees -- She looks at Billy --

SIERRA -- Great job you're doing here.

Police Officer #2 pulls out his **handcuffs** from his belt -- and handcuffs her wrist --

POLICE OFFICER #2 -- You are under arrest! You have the right to remain silent! SIERRA (Rolls eyes) Anything else you want to tell me?

BILLY (V.O.) Another glimpse came. This time, it explained how Sierra got me.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. GARAGE-TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON-FLASHBACK

Sierra lays underneath a **1970 blue charger** -- She cuts the **break line** with a pair of **bolt cutters** --

CUT TO:

#### INT. KITCHEN-AFTERNOON

Dallas steps into the kitchen -- An **empty box** in his hand. He grabs glasses from the counter -- and sets them in the box --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

Sierra steps out of the garage --

Dallas steps past her -- He looks at her and at the blue charger --

DALLAS -- What'd you do to my car?

SIERRA

Nothing.

DALLAS Better not have.

SIERRA Keep walking pussy!

Sierra steps away --

SIERRA (CONT'D) (laugh)

## INT. BLUE CHARGER-AFTERNOON

Dallas drives the blue charger into the parking lot of the school -- and parks at the curb -- The passenger door opens - and 12-Year-Old Ava gets in -- and shuts the door --

DALLAS -- Did you have a good day?

12-YEAR-OLD AVA

Yes.

DALLAS Buckle up! We have to go pick up your brother.

12-Year-Old Ava grabs her seat belt -- and fastens it --

He drives off from the curb -- and turns out of the parking lot --

Dallas pushes his foot onto the gas pedal --

12-YEAR-OLD AVA Faster daddy! Faster!!

DALLAS

Okay.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

6-Year-Old Billy looks at Sierra.

POLICE OFFICER #1 and #2. Early 20s.

Sierra stands with Police Officers #1 and #2. She looks at Billy and smiles. It's the same Officers that are arresting Sierra.

> BILLY (V.O.) Then like a kick in the groin, I saw what she planned. She wasn't just my stepmother; she was my father's widow. She got me.

## INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Sierra sits on the couch -- A piece of paper in her hand. Sierra signs at the signature line under **legal guardianship**.

CUT TO:

## EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-BACK TO PRESENT

Billy sits on the front porch -- A **bag** of **ice** on his groin. Leah sits next to him --

> LEAH -- Are you alright?

BILLY Hopefully by the morning.

Pastor Paul steps towards the house -- Leah stands up -- and steps towards her father --

LEAH -- Dad --PASTOR PAUL -- Let's go, Leah!

LEAH

But dad!

PASTOR PAUL No buts, Leah!

Leah looks at Billy --

BILLY -- It's fine, I'll be okay. Go ahead.

Pastor Paul looks at Billy --

PASTOR PAUL -- We have the room if you need it.

BILLY

Thanks.

PASTOR PAUL At least until we can figure out what to do.

BILLY

Okay.

PASTOR PAUL Come on, supper's getting cold.

Billy stands up --

BILLY

Ahh --

-- Billy steps towards Leah's car -- Leah rushes towards the driver door --

PASTOR PAUL

-- Billy!

Billy looks at Pastor Paul --

PASTOR PAUL (CONT'D) -- Ride with me.

BILLY

Yes, sir.

Billy rushes towards Pastor Paul's silver pick-up truck --

CUT TO:

#### INT. PASTOR'S TRUCK-EVENING

Billy sits in the passenger seat. He looks forward.

PASTOR PAUL I don't want you under the same roof as my daughter.

BILLY I understand.

PASTOR PAUL No, you don't.

BILLY

BILLY

Okay.

PASTOR PAUL But God is telling me not to judge too quickly. My wife and I discussed it after we got the call. We have decided to take you in. I didn't want Leah hearing about it yet.

Thanks.

PASTOR PAUL Don't thank me yet. Your mother --

BILLY -- She's not my mother --

PASTOR PAUL -- Whatever! She went after my daughter --

-- Pastor Paul turns the truck into the driveway --

PASTOR PAUL (CONT'D) -- She's very blessed I wasn't there because I wouldn't be so easy to deal with. For what she did to you, I'm sorry.

BILLY It's alright.

PASTOR PAUL No, it's not --

-- Pastor Paul turns the ignition off -- and takes out the key --

PASTOR PAUL (CONT'D) -- Come on, let's get you something to eat.

CUT TO:

## INT. SPARE BEDROOM-NIGHT

Billy lies in the bed asleep. The door open and the hallway light shines in.

Pastor Paul and Pearl stand in the doorway --

PEARL -- What are we going to do about putting him in school?

PASTOR PAUL We'll figure it out soon. Let's just get some rest.

Pearl turns away --

Pastor Paul flips the light switch off -- and walks away from the doorway --

CUT TO:

## INT. JAIL CELL-COUNTY JAIL-NIGHT

In a jail cell, Sierra sits on the mattress and looks towards the door of the cell. Almost as if she can see through the walls.

CUT TO:

#### DINING ROOM-MORNING

The table is set with platters of pancakes, scrambled eggs and bacon. Pearl steps towards the table with a carton of orange juice -- Leah steps towards the table with her books in her hands --

LEAH

-- Good morning!

PEARL Good morning, sweetie.

Leah sets her books down on the table --

PEARL (CONT'D) -- Please, don't put those on the table.

LEAH

Sorry --

-- Leah picks up the books -- and sets them down on the desk --

#### PEARL

-- Is he up yet?

## LEAH

I think he's in the bathroom --

-- Billy steps into the dining room --

## BILLY

-- Good morning.

Pearl looks at Billy --

PEARL -- Good morning. How'd you sleep?

BILLY Good. Better actually.

PEARL That's good. Please, sit?

Billy sits in the chair at the end of the table --

BILLY -- This is the pastor's chair. Sorry.

PEARL He doesn't mind. Eat?

Pearl grabs a pair of *tongs* -- and tosses a couple of pieces of bacon onto Billy's plate --

Leah sits across from Billy -- She lifts a spoonful of scrambled eggs and sets them down onto his plate --

BILLY -- Thank you.

LEAH Thank you for coming to my defense.

### BILLY

No problem.

Leah sets her hands in a praying position -- and closes her eyes --

#### LEAH

-- Dear, Lord, thank you for this food we are about to receive. Make it nourishing to our bodies. In your son's name, Jesus's name, Amen!

## BILLY PEARL

Amen!

Amen!

Billy takes a bite of the scrambled eggs --

## INT/EXT. PASTOR'S TRUCK-AFTERNOON

Pastor Paul parks the truck.

Billy opens the passenger door -- and steps towards the house --

CUT TO:

## EXT. TORRES RESIDENCE-AFTERNOON

Billy steps towards the house. His eyes in disbelief. Billy lowers his head down --

The house boarded up and fenced from entering the charred remains of what's left of it.

Pastor Paul steps up behind him -- He taps him on the back --

PASTOR PAUL

-- Come on.

Billy turns around -- and steps away --

CUT TO:

### INT. MEN'S CLOTHING STORE-AFTERNOON

Pastor Paul stands in front of the dressing room. His arms crossed --

PASTOR PAUL -- Are you coming out or not?

BILLY (O.S.) I'm coming. Do I really have to wear this?

PASTOR PAUL It's a nice suit. Come on out.

Billy opens the door -- and steps out -- Pastor Paul looks at him --

BILLY -- What? Do I look bad?

PASTOR PAUL No. You look very handsome.

BILLY

Really?

Pastor Paul steps alongside of Billy -- and looks in the mirror --

PASTOR PAUL -- That's the kind of man that deserves my daughter's affection. You have the right to win it, you just have to show her that you're on the same level.

BILLY What level is that?

PASTOR PAUL That you love God first before her.

Pastor Paul steps towards the counter.

STORE MANAGER, early 30s. A store manager for ten years.

STORE MANAGER Is that all for you, sir?

PASTOR PAUL No. Where can I find your best ties?

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-AFTERNOON

Pastor Paul steps into the living room -- Billy steps in behind him -- and shuts the front door -- Pastor Paul hands Billy the suit --

PASTOR PAUL -- Here's your suit. Now, go put it away --

BILLY

-- Okay --

-- Billy rushes down the hallway --

CUT TO:

#### INT. SPARE BEDROOM-AFTERNOON

Billy hangs the suit in the closet -- He rushes out of the bedroom --

#### INT. HALLWAY-AFTERNOON

Billy runs into Leah -- Leah falls to the floor --

BILLY -- I'm sorry --

-- Billy leans down -- and pulls Leah up by her arms --

BILLY (CONT'D) -- Are you alright?

LEAH Yeah. Just be more careful next time, okay?

#### BILLY

Okay.

Leah steps towards her bedroom door -- and pushes it open --Leah steps in -- The door slams shut --

Pearl steps past Billy -- She looks at Leah's door --

PEARL -- Don't mind her.

BILLY What happened?

PEARL It's better that she tells you.

Pearl steps into the master bedroom --

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-EVENING

Leah sits in front of the fireplace. She sticks a marshmallow at the end of a fork --

Billy steps into the living room -- Leah looks at him --Billy turns around -- and starts to walk back to his bedroom --

LEAH

-- Hey --

Billy steps back into the living room --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- Come here.

Billy steps towards Leah -- and sits down --LEAH (CONT'D) I'm sorry I was rude earlier. I didn't have the best day. BILLY What happened? LEAH I didn't get the grade I was expecting. BILLY What did you get? LEAH ΑΒ. BILLY So, you'll do better next time. LEAH That's my last chance before I graduate. BILLY Try to ask for extra credit. LEAH Oh. I can do that. BILLY Yeah. Billy grabs a marshmallow from the bag -- and sticks it in his mouth --LEAH -- Thanks. BILLY Uh huh.

# CUT TO:

## EXT. DINING ROOM-MORNING

Billy sits at the table, eating cereal. Pastor Paul pulls out a chair -- and sits across from Billy --

> BILLY -- Good morning.

PASTOR PAUL Good morning.

Pearl sits beside Billy --

Billy looks at Pearl and Pastor Paul --

BILLY -- Is something wrong?

PASTOR PAUL No. There's something that we have to tell you.

BILLY What is it --

-- Billy looks at Pearl --

PEARL -- We're going to legally adopt you.

Billy looks at Pastor Paul --

BILLY

Really?

PASTOR PAUL It goes through tomorrow.

Billy hugs Pastor Paul and Pearl --

CUT TO:

## INT. LOBBY-COURTHOUSE-AFTERNOON

Billy sits on a bench. He looks around the lobby. The Devil sits with a MAN in his late 50s. She leans into the Man's ear -- The Devil looks at Billy with a wicked smile on her face. Billy looks away.

LAWYER, early 30s. A lawyer for ten years.

The Lawyer steps towards Billy -- Billy stands up --

LAWYER -- Please, sit?

Billy sits back down --

BILLY -- How did it go? Pastor Paul steps towards the Lawyer -- and sits beside Billy --

LAWYER -- I'm going to call you to the stand first. The defense wants to get your side of the story.

BILLY Okay, I will.

LAWYER You don't have to.

BILLY

I want to.

LAWYER

Okay.

CUT TO:

## INT. COURTROOM-COURTHOUSE-AFTERNOON

DEFENSE ATTORNEY, early 20s. A defense attorney for three years.

JUDGE, early 50s. A judge for twenty years.

The Lawyer stands up --

LAWYER Your Honor, I call William Torres to the stand.

Sierra turns her head -- and looks at Billy -- Billy stands up -- and steps towards the witness stand --

BAILIFF, early 30s. A bailiff for ten years.

The Bailiff steps towards Billy -- and raises his right hand --

BAILIFF -- Raise your right hand --

Billy raises his right hand --

BAILIFF (CONT'D) Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help you God?

#### BILLY

I do.

## BAILIFF

Please be seated.

Billy steps towards the witness stand -- and sits --

The Lawyer sits --

The Defense Attorney steps towards the witness stand --

DEFENSE ATTORNEY -- William. Can I call you William?

BILLY Can you call me Billy? I hate being called William.

#### DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Okay, Billy. Can you tell me on the date of May, the second, in the afternoon time of why you weren't in school?

BILLY I was attending another school.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY What kind of school? Is it a private one?

BILLY

It's private.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY Can you tell me what happened?

#### BILLY

We had just arrived in front of the house and then Sierra pulled me out of the car.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY And how were you pulled out?

## BILLY

By my hair.

The Defense Attorney leans herself against the wooden rail of the witness stand --

DEFENSE ATTORNEY Do you know why she did that? BILLY Because I wasn't in school.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY Correct Amondo! You weren't where you were supposed to be, and that was her right as your guardian.

BILLY Yes, but that didn't give her the right to go after someone that was pointing out her wrong.

Sierra turns her hand into a fist --

The Defense Attorney looks at Billy -- and steps back towards her table --

DEFENSE ATTORNEY -- Nothing further, your Honor!

The Defense Attorney sits down next to Sierra --

The Lawyer stands up -- and steps towards the witness stand -

LAWYER

-- Mr. Torres, can you tell us what was going through your mind during the assault?

#### BILLY

I was feeling ashamed, and embarrassed by the fact that a woman was dragging me out of a car in front of another woman.

LAWYER

Did you ever mention your stepmother's behavior to the woman that drove you home?

DEFENSE ATTORNEY Objection your Honor! That's hearsay.

LAWYER Alright! I'll rephrase the

question. Was it ever mentioned?

BILLY

No.

BILLY

No.

LAWYER Thank you, Mr. Torres.

The Lawyer steps away from the witness stand --

The Judge looks at Billy --

JUDGE -- You may step down.

Billy stands --

CUT TO:

## INT. LOBBY-COURTHOUSE-CONTINUOUS

Billy sits on a bench. He looks down at his shoes. Pastor Paul steps towards him --

PASTOR PAUL -- Are you alright?

Billy looks up --

BILLY -- Is it over?

PASTOR PAUL

Almost.

The Lawyer steps out of the courtroom -- and walks towards Billy --

Billy stands up --

BILLY -- What happened?

The Lawyer stops -- and steps towards Billy --

LAWYER -- The Judge gave his best judgement and gave her a sentence that was right. BILLY

Which is?

LAWYER

Six months.

BILLY Is that going to stop her from coming after me?

LAWYER The Judge has ordered that she stay away or else she'll be serving a longer sentence. Have a nice day --

The Lawyer taps Billy on the shoulder -- and steps past him --

Billy looks at Pastor Paul --

PASTOR PAUL -- Are you ready to go home?

BILLY

Yes.

Billy and Pastor Paul step towards the exit door --

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-EVENING

Pastor Paul steps into the living room -- Billy walks in behind him --

## PEARL Surprise!!

LEAH Surprise!!

A smile stretches across Billy's face at the sight of the **cake** in Leah's hands. **Candles** lit on the cake with a sign that says, "Welcome to the family".

Billy leans down -- He looks at Leah --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- Go ahead.

Billy blows out the candles --

#### EXT. SUBURBAN STREET-EVENING

The Devil falls to her knees -- She looks at the front door. The Devil sits on her knees and looks up at the sky.

> DEVIL (scream)

> > CUT TO:

## INT. CLASSROOM-CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

The English Teacher stands in front of the class.

ENGLISH TEACHER As we come to a close, please remember to keep your mind in the right place. Every thought, every action and every doing are a consequence. Remember that God is always on your side.

Billy sits in the midst of the classroom, surrounded by other students.

Leah leans towards Billy's ear --

LEAH (whisper) -- Hey.

BILLY Shh! I have to hear this.

LEAH Do you want to go somewhere with me?

BILLY

Where?

LEAH You'll see.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LEAH'S CAR-AFTERNOON

Leah drives the car. Billy sits. He looks at Leah --

BILLY -- Where are you taking me? LEAH We're almost there.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL-AFTERNOON

Billy and Leah step towards the front doors of the hospital.

CUT TO:

#### INT. PATIENT ROOM-CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL-AFTERNOON

Leah walks into the patient room with Billy. A little girl sits up in bed. She holds "The Cat in the Hat" in her hands. JOCELYN, 7-years-Old.

Leah leans down -- and hugs Jocelyn -- Jocelyn hugs Leah with all the strength she has --

LEAH -- I missed you --

-- Leah kisses her on the cheek --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- I brought someone to meet you.

Jocelyn looks at Billy. Jocelyn reaches out for him -- and touches Billy's face --

JOCELYN (SUBTITLE) (In Spanish) Handsome.

LEAH (SUBTITLE) (In Spanish) I agree.

Jocelyn sits down -- Her eyes on Billy. Leah looks at Jocelyn and then at Billy --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- She seems to be fascinated by you.

BILLY

Why?

LEAH I don't know.

Leah sits down in the chair alongside of the bed --

BILLY -- How long has she been here?

## LEAH

Six months.

BILLY Where are her parents?

LEAH They died. My parents were doing missionary work in Mexico and legally adopted her when she was five.

Billy sits at the edge of the bed --

JOCELYN (SUBTITLE) (In Spanish) Love her.

Jocelyn looks at Leah.

BILLY What did she say?

LEAH

Love her.

Billy looks at Jocelyn.

BILLY (SUBTITLE) (In Spanish) Yes!

Leah looks at Billy.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LEAH'S CAR-EVENING

The car comes to a stop in front of the house. Billy looks at Leah --

BILLY -- We're home.

Leah turns the key -- and the ignition goes off --

LEAH

-- Do you?

BILLY

What?

LEAH

Love me.

BILLY

Yes.

Leah leans towards Billy -- and kisses him on the lips --Billy wraps his arms around her back -- Leah backs up --

> LEAH -- This is going to be awkward in the morning.

BILLY Let's keep this between us for now.

LEAH

I agree --

-- Leah kisses Billy on the cheek -- and opens the driver door --

Billy rubs his cheek --

CUT TO:

## INT. DINING ROOM-MORNING

Leah sits across from Billy. She eats oatmeal -- Her eyes on him --

Pastor Paul flips through a newspaper --

Leah looks at Billy and then at her father --

LEAH -- Dad, we have something to tell you?

PASTOR PAUL I'm happy for the both of you --

-- Pastor Paul folds the newspaper up -- and tosses it to the table --

LEAH -- How'd you know? PASTOR PAUL A father knows when his daughter is happy. And your mother told me while she was watching you two kiss yesterday in the car.

BILLY So, your fine with it?

PASTOR PAUL I'll be cool. That's the term that you kids use these days, right?

BILLY

Right.

Pastor Paul stands up -- and steps out of the dining room --He pats Billy on the shoulder --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. PARK-AFTERNOON

SUPER: ONE MONTH LATER

A blanket set on the grass, Billy and Leah sit up. He kisses her -- Leah reaches her arm around his shoulder --

> LEAH -- I have to go away for the summer.

Billy backs away --

BILLY -- Where to?

LEAH Summer camp.

BILLY So, you'll still be at home, right?

LEAH

No.

Billy stands up -- and steps away --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- I'm still coming home for the holidays. BILLY That's not the point.

LEAH Then why are you getting so upset?

Billy turns around --

BILLY -- We just started something and you're going to meet someone that you'll like.

Leah stands up -- and steps towards Billy -- She grabs his hand -- and rubs it on her face. Leah reaches into her pocket -- and pulls out a **silver ring**. She puts the ring into the palm of his hand --

> LEAH -- Then marry me.

BILLY You want to marry me?

Leah steps away -- and turns to face the lake --

LEAH -- Only if you want to.

Billy steps towards her -- Leah turns to him --

BILLY -- I do --

-- Billy kisses Leah --

The Devil watches from the Gazebo --

DEVIL -- I think I'm going to be sick!!

Leah's cell phone rings. Leah hits the answer button -- and puts it to her ear --

LEAH

-- Hey?

PASTOR PAUL (V.O.) Do you have a moment?

Leah steps away -- and steps towards the deck towards the pond --

LEAH -- What is it, dad? PASTOR PAUL (V.O.) Jocelyn's gone. LEAH (sob) When? PASTOR PAUL (V.O.) Last night. Leah wipes her eyes --LEAH -- I'll be home soon.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. OCEAN-AFTERNOON

On a boat in the middle of the ocean, Leah stands at the edge. An *urn* in her hand. Billy steps towards her -- He takes the lid off of the urn -- He tips it over -- and the ashes pour out -- Billy leads Leah away from the ledge -- Leah sits -- Her eyes on him --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. CAMPSITE-EVENING

SUPER: EIGHT WEEKS LATER

Leah sits on the deck. She writes on a piece of paper --

LEAH (V.O.) Dear Billy, how are you? Things are great over here. I have a week left. Now that summer camp is coming to a close, I like to know if you have asked my parents for permission to marry me? It gives us time to prepare. What do you say? I'll see you in a week. Love, Leah.

#### EXT. BACK YARD-MORNING

Billy sits on the steps of the deck. He folds the letter up - and stares straight ahead.

The Devil creeps up behind Billy --

DEVIL (whisper) We should go to a party. Meet a couple of girls and get you laid. What do you say?

BILLY

No.

DEVIL No! Did you really just say <u>no</u> to me?

BILLY Did I stutter --

-- Billy stands up -- and walks up the steps --

DEVIL You can't say no to me.

CUT TO:

#### INT/EXT. LEAH'S CAR-AFTERNOON

Leah drives the car to the curb. She turns off the ignition - and opens the driver door --

Billy steps slowly behind Leah -- He wraps his arms around her neck -- and covers her eyes with the palms of her hands.

BILLY

Guess who!

Leah pulls his hands down -- and turns around to face him --

LEAH -- So, did you ask them?

BILLY Ask them what?

LEAH

You know.

BILLY Why don't we ask them together.

LEAH Fine -- Let's go ask them --

-- Leah steps towards the house --

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-AFTERNOON

Leah and Billy sit on the couch. Pastor Paul and Pearl sit across from them.

PASTOR PAUL So, what did you two want to tell us?

Billy rubs his hands together -- Leah grabs a hold of his hand -- Billy looks at her and then looks at Pastor Paul --

BILLY -- I asked to speak with you both because I want to ask for your permission to marry Leah.

Pastor Paul looks at Pearl --

PASTOR PAUL We're happy for the both of you. We just have one question for you.

PEARL Do you love God as much as you love each other?

## BILLY

LEAH

I do.

I do.

Pearl looks at Pastor Paul and smiles.

PEARL

Then you have our blessing.

Pastor Paul reaches for Billy's hand -- Billy stands up -- and shakes his hand --

Leah steps towards Pearl -- and hugs her --

Billy's stands in front of Pastor Paul --

PASTOR PAUL -- Billy, do you accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?

BILLY

I do.

PASTOR PAUL On the profession of your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and in obedience to his command, I now baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Paul puts Billy's hands over his nose -- and drops him down into the water.

CUT TO:

#### EXT. CHURCH-MORNING

The Devil falls to her knees -- She drives her hands down -- Balling her hand into a fist.

DEVIL

No!!!

CUT TO:

#### EXT. ROSE GARDEN-CHURCH-AFTERNOON

Billy tosses the **veil** over Leah's head -- He looks at her -- and kisses her.

CUT TO:

## INT. CLASSROOM-WOMEN'S PRISON-AFTERNOON

PRISONER #1, #2 and #3. Early 20s and late 30s. PSYCHIATRIST, early 30s. A psychiatrist for ten years. Sierra sits -- and shakes her foot over her knee -- PSYCHIATRIST -- Sierra, tell us how you are feeling today?

SIERRA

Happy.

PSYCHIATRIST That's good. Can you tell us why?

SIERRA I get to live my life my way.

PSYCHIATRIST Any plans of what you might like to do?

SIERRA I'll try to broaden my horizon's. You know, travel.

PSYCHIATRIST Good. Good for you.

Sierra looks outside the window, and she sees a **bird** bathing in the **bird bath**. A smile stretches across her face.

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-AFTERNOON

Leah walks into the living room --

Billy stands in the doorway --

BILLY -- What do you think?

Leah looks back at Billy --

LEAH -- I love it.

Leah steps towards Billy -- and kisses him --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- I love it!

She hugs him --

#### INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Billy and Leah lie in bed.

Leah sits up -- and rushes down the hallway --

Billy sits up --

BILLY -- What's wrong?!

CUT TO:

## INT. BATHROOM-NIGHT

Leah drops to her knees -- and leans her head over the toilet -- She throws up --

CUT TO:

## INT. LIVING ROOM-AFTERNOON

Leah and Pearl sit on the couch. A *teacup* in Leah's hand.

PEARL How are you feeling?

LEAH I'm having a little nausea.

Leah raises her teacup to her mouth -- and takes a sip -- She looks at Pearl --

LEAH (CONT'D) -- What?

CUT TO:

#### INT. PATIENT ROOM-CLINIC-HOSPITAL-AFTERNOON

Leah sits on the **exam table**.

DOCTOR, early 40s. A doctor for twenty years.

Leah looks shocked and amazed after just a moment of getting the update on her current health.

LEAH

Pregnant?

Yes, pregnant. A couple of weeks.

The Doctor steps towards the door -- and turns the knob --

DOCTOR (CONT'D) -- Congratulations.

The Doctor pulls the door open -- and steps outside of the room -- The door closes --

CUT TO:

## EXT. WOMEN'S PRISON-MORNING

SUPER: SIX MONTHS LATER

The gate opens. Sierra steps outside -- She looks around --

SIERRA -- Good to be free!!

She steps away from the gate -- and approaches a taxi --

A man stands by the taxi, smoking a cigarette. TAXI DRIVER, early 30s. A taxi driver for five years.

Sierra looks at the Taxi Driver --

TAXI DRIVER -- Need a ride?

Sierra reaches into her pants pocket -- and pulls out a hundred-dollar bill. The Taxi Driver takes the money --

TAXI DRIVER (CONT'D) -- Where are you going?

SIERRA

South.

## TAXI DRIVER

Okay. Get in.

The Taxi Driver steps towards the driver door --

Sierra steps towards the back passenger door -- and pulls it open -- She gets in -- and shuts the door.

#### EXT. CHURCH GROUNDS-AFTERNOON

Across the field of the church grounds, a **riding lawnmower** drives across the lawn. Billy sits and drives it.

Billy drives off the lawn -- and towards the garage. He wipes his head with the back of his hand --

Leah steps towards Billy and the riding lawnmower -- A full **glass** of **lemonade** with **ice**. Leah hands it to Billy -- Billy takes it --

BILLY -- Thanks, babe.

Billy kisses her --

Leah looks at the lawn --

LEAH

-- Nice job.

## BILLY

Thanks.

Billy looks at Leah's full-grown belly.

BILLY (CONT'D) Have you thought of any names?

LEAH I thought I'd wait. You know, until the birth.

BILLY Oh, yeah.

CUT TO:

#### INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT-NIGHT

At the register, Sierra stands in front of CUSTOMER #1 and #2.

Sierra hits the keys with the tips of her fingers --

SIERRA -- Piece of shit!

CUSTOMER #1 Someone forgot to take their hooked-on phonics test today. Sierra looks at Customer #1 --

SIERRA -- What was that?

#### CUSTOMER #1

You heard me.

MANAGER, early 30s. A manager for five years.

The Manager steps towards the counter -- and pushes Sierra back --

SIERRA -- I'll catch you outside!!

CUSTOMER #1 -- Anytime bitch!

The Manager looks at Sierra and grabs her by the shoulders --

MANAGER -- Go to the back and have a smoke! Okay! Go!!

Sierra looks at Customer #1. She walks towards the back door --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. PARKING LOT-FAST FOOD RESTAURANT-NIGHT

Sierra stands and holds a cigarette in between her fingers.

Customer #1 steps outside of the restaurant -- A soft drink in his hand. He looks at Sierra. Sierra looks at him. Customer #2 grabs Customer #1 by his jacket -- He pulls away -- and steps towards Sierra -- He drops his cup to the ground --

> SIERRA -- That's a five-hundred dollar fine.

CUSTOMER #1 It's fine. You're going to be the one picking up the rest of the trash after getting off your knees from sucking my dick!

Sierra looks at Customer #1 and smiles at him.

#### SIERRA

Really.

Sierra drives her foot in between Customer #1's legs --Customer #1 drops to his knees -- Sierra drives her knee to his jaw -- Customer #1 falls to his back -- Sierra steps over his head -- She looks at Customer #2 --

> SIERRA (CONT'D) -- What! You want some too!!

Customer #2 runs away --

CUSTOMER #1 -- Please -- don't --

SIERRA -- Why? You didn't stop --

-- Sierra raises her foot over Customer #1's head -- and drops it down into his head -- Bludgeoning his head into pieces --

SIERRA (CONT'D) (breath) Thanks. I feel a lot better now --

-- Sierra steps away --

CUT TO:

#### INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Billy sits on the couch, with Leah asleep. She rests her head on his chest.

#### **TV SCREEN**

ANCHOR WOMAN, early 30s. An anchorwoman for five years.

ANCHOR WOMAN It was just an hour ago that a man at this local restaurant had been killed. Police are looking for this woman, Sierra Torres --

A photograph of Sierra appears on the screen.

The television turns off --

## BACK TO SCENE

Billy looks away -- and drops the **remote** to the floor --

Leah opens her eyes -- She looks at Billy --

LEAH -- What's wrong?

Billy looks at her --

BILLY -- Nothing. Let's go to bed.

LEAH

Okay.

Leah stands up --

CUT TO:

#### INT. DINING AREA-DINER-NIGHT

Sierra sits in a booth. Green baseball cap on her head and black sunglasses. She sips coffee from a mug -- and sets it down --

A want ads paper within arm's reach. Sierra grabs it and goes down the list of what's left.

She comes across "Nanny needed for Church mom to be." Sierra smiles wickedly --

SIERRA (laugh)

WAITRESS #1 and #2, early 20s. A waitress for two and a year.

Waitress #2 looks at Waitress #1 --

WAITRESS #2 -- Is that your table?

WAITRESS #1 Yeah. How do I come across these weirdo's every day.

Waitress #1 steps towards Sierra --

WAITRESS #1 (CONT'D) -- More coffee?

SIERRA No. Is there a store that's open late that I can buy some <u>hair dye</u>? Sierra pulls a five-dollar bill from her pants pocket -- and hands it to Waitress #1 -- Sierra stands up -- and kisses her on the cheek --

# SIERRA -- Thanks doll face!!

Sierra rushes towards the doors -- and steps outside --

Waitress #1 looks at Waitress #2 --

WAITRESS #1 -- Did that crazy broad just kiss me?

WAITRESS #2 She did.

WAITRESS #1

I thought so.

Waitress #1 grabs the mug from the table -- and steps away --

## EXT. BATHROOM-MOTEL ROOM #202-MOTEL-NIGHT

Sierra stands in front of the bathroom mirror.

## MONTAGE

- -- Sierra bleaches the tips of her hair.
- -- Sierra washes her hair in the sink.
- -- Sierra dries her hair with a bath towel.

# BACK TO SCENE

Sierra wipes the mirror with a towel -- She looks at herself -- and combs her fingers through her new blonde hair --

> SIERRA -- Get ready for a surprise.

#### INT. KTICHEN-MORNING

Billy sits at the table. He looks at Leah as she pours coffee into a mug --

BILLY -- Any plans for today?

LEAH I have a woman coming over for the nanny position.

BILLY Didn't you just put that ad in?

LEAH Yeah. I guess this woman really wanted the job.

Leah walks towards the table with the mug -- and sets it down -- She kisses Billy on the forehead --

CUT TO:

## EXT. SUBURBAN STREET-AFTERNOON

Sierra walks past a **red convertible**, wearing the baseball cap, sunglasses over her head and face.

CHEERLEADER #1, #2 and #3. Late teens.

Cheerleaders #1 and #2 rush towards the convertible.

CHEERLEADER #1 CHEERLEADER #2 Two, four, six eight!! Who do Two, four, six, eight!! Who we appreciate!! do we appreciate!!

Sierra looks back --

SIERRA -- Not you! (laugh)

Cheerleader #3 steps behind Sierra --

CHEERLEADER #3 -- That's why your ass got too fat!

Sierra stops -- She reaches into her purse -- and turns -- She fires two shots --

CHEERLEADER #1 CHEERLEADER #2 (scream) (scream)

Cheerleader #1 and Cheerleader #2 run away--

CUT TO:

## EXT. PARK-AFTERNOON

Sierra gets behind a rose bush -- and takes off her baseball cap -- She brushes her hair back -- and takes off her jacket -- She stuffs it down into her purse -- and takes her sunglasses off.

Sierra steps out of the park -- and starts walking fast --

CUT TO:

#### INT. BEDROOM-AFTERNOON

Leah puts her arms through the sleeves of her sweater --

Her cell phone begins to ring. Leah picks it up -- and answer it -- She puts it to her ear.

LEAH

Hello?

SIERRA (V.O.) Hello? This is Barbara String. I'm calling to ask if we can meet in the park?

LEAH Sure. I'll see you in a minute.

CUT TO:

## EXT. SUBURBAN STREET-AFTERNOON

SIERRA See you soon. Sierra hits the end call button -- and turns around -- She walks back towards the park --

CUT TO:

## EXT. CHURCH-AFTERNOON

Leah walks across the sidewalk --

Billy trims a bush -- He looks at Leah as she walks away --

BILLY -- Leah!!

Leah turns around -- and looks at Billy --

LEAH -- I'll be right back!!

BILLY Where are you going!!

Leah keeps walking. Unable to hear him.

CUT TO:

## INT. KITCHEN-AFTERNOON

A news coverage plays on the TV. Billy steps towards the refrigerator -- and pulls the door open --

## TV SCREEN

ANCHOR WOMAN

Just this morning, a teenage girl was shot and killed. Witnesses say that the shooter walked by and insulted the three of them. The victim insulted the suspect back and that's when she pulled out a gun.

A sketch of Sierra appears on the TV screen.

# BACK TO SCENE

Billy shuts the door to the refrigerator -- His eyes on the sketch drawing -- Billy's eyes grow with shock --

BILLY

-- Leah!!

CUT TO:

#### **EXT. SUBURBAN STREET-AFTERNOON**

Billy runs past Lucie -- Lucie turns to him --

LUCIE

-- Hey!!

Billy looks at her --

BILLY

Oh, hi!

LUCIE You never called!

BILLY I'm sorry about that! Got to go!

Billy runs --

Lucie reaches her hand out --

LUCIE -- Good to see you too.

A black van pulls up to the curb. MAN #1 and MAN #2. The side door opens -- Man #1 steps towards Lucie --

MAN #1

-- Lucie?

LUCIE

Yes?

MAN #2 Can you come with us?

LUCIE What's this about?

MAN #2 Just come with us.

Man #2 grabs a hold of her arm -- and walks her towards the van -- Lucie gets in --

#### **EXT. PARK-AFTERNOON**

Leah steps towards Sierra --

Sierra smiles -- A gun in Sierra's hand.

LEAH

Hi?

# SIERRA

Hello.

Billy looks at Leah and Sierra. Sierra looks at Billy.

BILLY

Leah!!!

Leah looks back at Billy -- Sierra wraps her arm around Leah's throat.

CUT TO:

## INT. HALLWAY-AFTERNOON

Man #1 and #2 walk Lucie towards the bedroom --

Man #1 wraps a black cloth around Lucie's eyes --

LUCIE -- What's this for?

MAN #1 Just for your safety.

Man #2 pulls out a knife -- and cuts the **blouse** from her chest -- He pulls it off -- and tosses it to the floor --

MAN #2

-- Stop --

Lucie stops -- Man #2 pulls her **skirt** and panties down -- He takes off her **pumps** -- and tosses them to the floor --

MAN #1 -- Let's go.

Man #1 pulls Lucie --

LUCIE -- Hey! Easy!!

### **INT. BEDROOM-AFTERNOON**

Man #2 lifts Lucie up over a bed -- and lays her flat -- He grabs her arm -- and ties it to a **bed post** --

MAN #1

-- You got it from here?

#### MAN #2

Yeah.

Man #2 ties Lucie's legs to the post -- and steps away -- He grabs the doorknob -- and shuts the door --

The Devil appears as a Man from behind the door as it closes

He unties his robe -- and let's it drop to the floor --

# DEVIL (breath)

The Devil steps towards the bed -- He crawls onto it -- and turns into a **serpent**. He crawls onto Lucie --

LUCIE -- Ahh!! Get it off me!!

The serpent turns back into a man -- He hovers over her -and brushes his hands through her hair -- He presses himself against her --

LUCIE (CONT'D) (moan)

DEVIL (breath)

He goes back and forth --

#### LUCIE

(pant)

He goes in deeper and deeper --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. PARK-CONTINUOUS

Sierra points the gun into Leah's back -- and fires the gun -- The bullet hits Billy in the forehead -- Billy falls to his back -- Leah drops to the sidewalk. Sierra steps towards Billy -- She stares deep into his eyes.

SIERRA (Jocelyn's voice) Wake up! No one but Jocelyn is left. No Sierra or Leah. Just her and Billy. JOCELYN Wake up!!! Billy's eyes blink -- He sits up -- and looks at Jocelyn. BILLY Am I dead? JOCELYN Yes. BILLY When? JOCELYN Yesterday. BILLY So, all of this was a -- dream? JOCELYN A glimpse. BILLY Who are you? JOCELYN I'm that still small voice in the back of your mind. I was guiding you the whole time ---- Jocelyn reaches her hand out for Billy -- Billy grabs a hold -- She pulls him up -- He goes up like a jolt of

CUT TO:

## EXT. PARK-HEAVENS-DAY

Billy stands over a pond. He looks at his reflection.

BILLY Where am I?

lightning -- and flies upwards --

JOCELYN (V.O.) A good place. Billy looks around --

BILLY Where are you? JOCELYN (V.O.) Everywhere! BILLY Why'd you show me it? Why'd you let her into my life? JOCELYN (V.O.) You had choices. BILLY What does this mean?

JOCELYN (V.O.) Let me show you.

Jocelyn closes her eyes -- A shine from a light appears --

Billy closes his eyes -- and blocks the light out of his eyes

CUT TO:

## INT. OPEARATING ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

NURSE #1 and #2. Early 30s, nurses for six and eight years.

Billy steps towards the operating table -- He leans in between Nurse #1 and #2 -- He sees an unconscious Leah --

Nurse #1 cuts off her pants -- and Nurse #2 presses her hands against Leah's chest.

The heart monitor starts beeping --

NURSE #2 -- I got her back.

NURSE #1 Prep for caesarean!

DOCTOR, early 30s. A doctor for ten years.

The Doctor rushes into the room -- His hands washed -- Nurse #1 straps the Doctor with an operating gown. Nurse #2 slides gloves onto the Doctor's hands --

DOCTOR -- Let's get this kid home!

The Doctor raises her hand up --

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

-- Scalpel!

Nurse #1 hands the Doctor a scalpel -- The Doctor cuts across Leah's stomach -- Billy looks away --

CUT TO:

# INT. HALLWAY-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

A newborn's cry echoes throughout the hallway of the hospital -- The Doctor lifts the newborn up -- and passes her to Nurse #1 -- Nurse #1 wraps her in a blanket -- and takes her to the incubator.

CUT TO:

## INT. WAITING ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

Sierra clutches her hands together -- and closes her eyes --

SIERRA -- Please let them be alright.

AVA, 24. A graphic designer and mother of one. Dark brown hair and blue eyes.

The Doctor steps towards Ava -- Ava looks at the Doctor --

AVA -- Are they alright?

DOCTOR The baby and mother are resting now.

AVA What about my brother?

DOCTOR I'm sorry but he didn't make it.

Ava's eyes fill with tears --

AVA (sob) Ava turns to Sierra -- and hugs her -- Sierra wraps her arm around her back --

SIERRA (sob) -- I got you!

The Doctor steps out of the waiting room --Billy steps past the Doctor -- He looks at Ava --Jocelyn steps beside him -- and grabs a hold of his hand --

> JOCELYN -- Come on, we have more to see.

> > CUT TO:

## INT. WOMEN'S BATHROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

Ava wipes her eyes as she looks at herself in the mirror --

AVA (sniffle)

SIERRA (O.S.) Are you alright in there?

AVA Yeah, I'll be right out.

CUT TO:

#### INT. HALLWAY-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

Ava steps into the hallway -- She looks at Sierra as she stands across from her --

SIERRA -- Do you want to go lay down for a while?

AVA I'm fine. Come on, let's go see the baby.

SIERRA

Okay.

Ava steps towards Sierra -- Sierra wraps her arm around Ava's back -- and walks down the hallway.

CUT TO:

## INT. NURSERY-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

Ava stands over the incubator and her newborn niece.

AVA (sob) She's so beautiful. I wish you could be here to see her.

Billy steps towards the incubator -- He looks down at his newborn daughter.

Jocelyn grabs a hold of Billy's hand --

BILLY -- What now?

JOCELYN You have more to see.

Jocelyn pulls Billy --

CUT TO:

#### INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-MORNING

Leah lies in bed, asleep. She opens her eyes -- She looks at Ava --

LEAH

-- Ava?

AVA

Yes --

-- Ava stands up -- and steps towards her -- Leah looks around --

LEAH -- Where's Billy?

Ava sits down at the edge of the bed -- She covers her face -

AVA (sob) -- He's gone -- LEAH (sob) (cry)

Leah hugs Ava --

CUT TO:

## INT. NURSERY-MORNING

The newborn lays in her crib. Ava stands on the side -- and looks at Leah.

LEAH He didn't say anything to you, about us.

AVA Not much. He just thought of why you wanted him.

LEAH What did you say?

AVA I said that maybe she has a thing for pretty boys.

LEAH

(laugh) He was fun to be around. He took me to church with him the day after we met.

AVA What made you go?

LEAH I thought after he asked me to go with him, that maybe there's got to be something right about him.

CUT TO:

# INT. AUDITORIUM-CHURCH-EVENING-FLASHBACK

Leah grips her hand onto Billy's -- Billy looks down at her hand -- and looks at Leah --

#### EXT. SUBURBAN STREET-EVENING

Leah steps towards her front porch -- She looks back at Billy --

BILLY

-- Good night --

Leah leans down -- and kisses Billy on the cheek -- She backs away --

LEAH -- Good night.

CUT TO:

# EXT. PARK-AFTERNOON

Billy and Leah walk through the park -- Hand in hand --

CUT TO:

#### INT. HIGH SCHOOL-AFTERNOON

Leah stands by her car and looks over at Billy.

Billy steps towards Leah -- Lucie grabs Billy by the hand --She kisses him -- Billy pushes her off -- He looks at Leah --Leah rushes to the driver side door -- and gets in -- Billy rushes towards the car --

> BILLY -- Come on, Leah!

The car drives away --

LEAH -- Leah!!!

CUT TO:

#### INT. KITCHEN-EVENING

Billy sits at the top of the counter -- His cell phone to his ear --

BILLY -- Babe, come on, pick up! I would never do anything to hurt you.

#### INT. BEDROOM-EVENING

Leah sits on the bed -- Her cell phone in her hand --

BILLY (V.O.) I got something that I want to do. If you're listening to this, you'll be at the church tomorrow.

CUT TO:

## EXT. CHURCH-AFTERNOON

Billy sits on a **wooden bench**. He looks at the time on his **watch** --

LEAH (O.C.)

-- So --

Leah stands behind him. Billy stands up --

BILLY

-- So?

LEAH What is it you want to do?

Billy reaches into his pocket -- and pulls out a **ring box** -- He opens it -- and drops to one knee --

BILLY

-- Will you?

LEAH Don't mess with me right now.

BILLY I'm not messing with you.

LEAH

I --

BILLY What do you say?

LEAH

Yes!

Billy stands up -- and hugs her -- He kisses her -- and backs up -- Billy grabs a hold of her hand --

BILLY

-- Come on.

## LEAH

# Where are we going?

Billy and Leah walk towards the church --

CUT TO:

## INT. AUDITORIUM-CHURCH-AFTERNOON

Leah steps into the auditorium --

AVA

SIERRA Surprise!

A smile on Leah's face --

Surprise!

LEAH -- What's going on?

Ava steps towards Leah with a white dress --

AVA -- Getting you ready for your wedding!

#### LEAH

Now!

Sierra and Ava rush Leah towards the lady's bathroom --Sierra tosses a suit into Billy's arms -- Billy looks at Sierra --

BILLY

-- Where am I supposed to change!

SIERRA Try the men's bathroom, dork!

CUT TO:

## INT. LADY'S BATHROOM-CHURCH-AFTERNOON

Leah looks at herself in the mirror --

LEAH -- Should I be nervous like this?

AVA

It's okay to be.

Ava zips up the back of the dress -- and turns Leah around to look her in the eyes --

AVA (CONT'D) -- He loves you. That's got to count for something, right?

LEAH

Yeah.

Sierra passes a **bouquet** of **flowers** to Leah --

SIERRA -- Go make his day!

Leah takes the bouquet of flowers --

CUT TO:

## INT. AUDITORIUM-CHURCH-CONTINUOUS

Leah and Billy stand in front of Pastor Paul --

PASTOR PAUL -- You may now kiss your bride.

Billy turns to Leah -- and kisses her --

CUT TO:

## EXT. BACK YARD-AFTERNOON-BACK TO PRESENT

Billy sits on the porch steps. Billy wipes the tears from his eyes --

JOCELYN (O.C.) -- Are you crying?

Billy looks at Jocelyn --

BILLY -- Don't be silly, I just had something in my eye.

Jocelyn sits down --

JOCELYN -- You did the right thing. Marrying her. Because of you, she'll never forget what you gave her.

BILLY A daughter.

#### JOCELYN

Faith.

Jocelyn stands up -- She reaches out for his hand -- Billy grabs a hold -- Jocelyn pulls him up -- Billy steps away from the porch.

Leah steps outside with her newborn daughter in her arms --Billy looks at her one last time.

JOCELYN (CONT'D)

I know.

# BILLY

(sob)

LEAH -- Beautiful Jocelyn!

Billy looks back -- and starts to step towards her -- Jocelyn pulls him by his arm --

#### JOCELYN

-- Come on.

Billy turns around -- and walks the other way with Jocelyn --

CUT TO:

### INT. OPERATING ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

DOCTOR #1 and #2, early 20s. Doctors for two and five years. Doctor #2 pulls a white cloth over Lucie's face --Doctor #1 holds a newborn in her arms --

> DOCTOR #1 -- I'll take him.

> > DOCTOR #2

And her?

DOCTOR #1

Burn her.

Doctor #1 steps down the hallway --

#### INT. NURSERY-MORNING

Doctor #1 steps into the nursery -- She lays the newborn in the crib -- Doctor #1 turns around -- and steps out of the nursery -- The door closes.

The Devil appears from behind the door -- He steps towards the crib -- and lifts the newborn up -- He looks at him --

CUT TO:

## INT. FURNANCE ROOM-MORGUE-NIGHT

Doctor #2 pushes Lucie's body on the **rack** -- It goes into the fire -- Doctor #2 closes the door --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. PARK-HEAVENS-DAY

Billy sits on the bench. His eyes closed.

DEVIL How are you doing?

Billy opens his eyes --

BILLY

-- What?

DEVIL I said, how are you doing?

BILLY Do I know you? How'd you get here?

DEVIL Even the fallen can come here.

BILLY Fallen? What are you talking about?

DEVIL You don't get it, do you? How about this.

The Devil leans his head down -- and turns his face into a woman's --

DEVIL (CONT'D) -- Better.

BILLY

You!

DEVIL

Me.

BILLY It was you that caused me to swerve off the road --

-- The Devil stands up --

DEVIL Why do you apes always try to blame me for your lives being so hard. I was just curious to see how you would react --

CUT TO:

#### INT. CAR-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

Billy looks in the rearview mirror --

BILLY -- We're almost there, babe!

CUT TO:

#### EXT. STREETS-NIGHT

The Devil steps out onto the road -- He looks at the car --

DEVIL (laugh)

CUT TO:

## INT. CAR-CONTINUOUS

Billy looks at the Devil -- He turns the steering wheel -- CUT TO:

#### EXT. STREETS-CONTINUOUS

The car hits a tree --

#### INT. CAR-CONTINUOUS

Billy hits his head on the steering wheel -- and cracks his neck --

CUT TO:

## EXT. GAZEBO-PARK-HEAVENS-BACK TO PRESENT

The Devil grabs a red rose from a rose bush --

BILLY You killed me.

DEVIL Fifty percent of you people say your prayers, go to church and for what? All to fight me!

The Devil turns to Billy -- and hands him the rose --

BILLY No, thanks. It has thorns.

The Devil tosses the rose to the ground --

BILLY (CONT'D) Why are you here anyway? Aren't you locked out of heaven?

DEVIL Haven't you read the bible. I can go to and fro.

The Devil steps out -- and looks back at Billy --

DEVIL (CONT'D) -- I'll see you around!

The Devil disappears into a **flock** of **crows** --

Billy looks at the white rose bush -- and pulls off a white rose --

CUT TO:

#### EXT. BACK YARD-MORNING

The white rose is set down on the **swing**.

"The Funeral" by A Band of Horses plays.

JOCELYN, 5-years-old. Light blonde hair and blue eyes. Jocelyn rushes towards the swing -- A half of a sandwich in her hand. She looks at the rose --JOCELYN -- Mommy, look! Leah steps out -- and walks towards the swing -- Leah grabs the rose by its stem. She looks at it --LEAH -- No thorns? Leah looks up at the sky --LEAH (CONT'D) -- Thank you. Jocelyn struggles to get on the swing --JOCELYN -- Mommy! Help me! Leah lifts Jocelyn up onto the swing -- Jocelyn grabs both of the ropes --JOCELYN (CONT'D) -- Push me mommy!! Leah gets behind her -- and lifts the swing up --LEAH -- Ready? Go ---- Leah lets go --JOCELYN (laugh) CUT TO: EXT. PARK-HEAVENS-DAY Billy looks and smiles.

> BILLY (wave) Love you both.

Billy turns around -- and walks towards the light. It shines brighter -- and he disappears.

FADE OUT

THE END