

THE PINATA CLUB

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FADE IN:

EXT. BLOCK PARTY - NIGHT

On a long stretch of suburbia a party is raging. There's roughly 30 people, no one older than 25, having a dangerously good time.

We cycle through a series of QUICK SHOTS of revelers imbibing all manner of illicit substances, but most common is a RED POWDER.

We PUSH IN on a fetching YOUNG GIRL, caught up in the excitement, as she goes to take her top off, then...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. BLOCK PARTY - LATER

Her corpse stares at us with dead fish-like eyes. A white sheet is drawn over her head.

The medical examiner, a man in his 50s named MALLARD, looks down at her with genuine remorse. Police light strobe in the periphery.

MALLARD

My dear girl, what did you get yourself mixed up with?

CAMERON (O.S.)

It's not a party until someone passes out.

MALLARD

I beg your pardon?

Dr. Mallard turns and sees CAMERON (30s) standing over him in a rumpled suit. His smug smile slowly melts.

MALLARD (CONT'D)

This young girl had her life stolen from her. I would ask for a modicum of respect, mister...

CAMERON

Special Agent. Cameron. F.B.I.

MALLARD

Newly minted, were I a wagering man.

CAMERON

Not quite.

MALLARD

What can I do for you, Special Agent Cameron? As you can see I have a long night in front of me.

A few MOMENTS LATER, Cameron approaches a man in a four-digit suit waiting by a BMW. HANS (40s) steps forward.

CAMERON

Right again.

Cameron sighs and hands him a small plastic pouch with a trace of RED POWDER still in it.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

What do we do now?

HANS

We do nothing.
(indicating scene)
You make this go away.

CAMERON

Oh, sure, that'll be a cinch.

Hans gets into his BMW.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

What the hell are you going to do?

As Hans pulls away, we PULL WIDE to reveal the extent of the crime scene. DOZENS of covered bodies litter this slice of suburbia - and the property damage is massive.

CUT TO:

INT. PARTY STORE - NIGHT

The convenience store is packed with underage teens raiding the shelves for cheap libations. In line for the cooler are JASON (22), a proper clean-cut lad, and his best friend KYLE (18), a loudmouth with a wandering eye.

KYLE

I'm telling you, it was sick!
Bitch was panting, yo. I had her by the hair and was like uhn-uhn-uhn-uhn!

JASON
Dude, keep it down.

KYLE
What, man? It's natural. It's beautiful.

JASON
Yeah, you waist deep in some girl's ass is beautiful.

KYLE
You've been at college for a year. You ought to be up to your neck in bitches!

JASON
You do know girls don't like being called 'bitches'?

As if on cue, a PAIR OF GIRLS squeeze by.

KYLE
'Sup, bitches?

The two girls titter.

JASON
Women don't like being called 'bitches.'

Kyle pulls a case of beer from the cooler and hands it off to Jason. He takes another for himself.

KYLE
Is that why you ain't fucked yet?
College full of women?

Kyle walks past Jason and stands in line with six other people. The CASHIER waves the teens through.

KYLE (CONT'D)
So why'd you even come back? You don't want to go to this party, being around me is pissing you off, so what the fuck do you want?

JASON
I don't know. I thought things would be quiet. I can get parties back at my dorm.

KYLE
 Fucking knew it! You're the only
 douchebag there not getting laid
every night.

It's Kyle and Jason's turn at the register when the cashier
 answers his cell phone.

KYLE (CONT'D)
 (to cashier)
 You believe this asshole? He's
 surrounded by liberal arts and
 feminine studies majors and-

The cashier isn't listening; the phone conversation has
 distracted him.

KYLE (CONT'D)
 Hey! Mahmoud! Customer here. Get
 off the fucking phone.

The cashier cocks an eyebrow.

EXT. PARTY STORE - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle fumes as they walk away from the store empty handed.

KYLE
 Are you fucking kidding me! He
 carded us!

JASON
 He carded you.

KYLE
 Fucking-fuck-shit! I can't go to
 Brad's party empty handed. God
 dammit! I was gonna fuck Samantha
 tonight too.

JASON
 Wait, what? You're sleeping with
 his sister?

KYLE
 Not now!

JASON
 She's 15!

KYLE

Only girls to fuck out here, Jason!
Got any college women who want to
get drunk?

(beat)

This shit never happens when you're
not around.

JASON

I'm supposed to feel bad you can't
fuck a junior high kid?

KYLE

She's a freshman, asshole.

JASON

(incredulous)

Is this an episode of *Glee*? When
did anything you're talking about
become okay?

SHANNON (O.S.)

Aww. They're fighting.

Kyle and Jason turn to see two girls watching them. SHANNON (early 20s), the smirking one, is come-fuck-me-boys hot, while CHRISTINE (late 20s) is more reserved and has the girl-next-door thing down pat.

Christine carries two cases of beer, but looks like she'd rather be anywhere else. Shannon, however, is very interested in what she sees.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

I don't know who I want to eat
first.

KYLE

You looking for regular, or extra
spicy?

Shannon bursts out laughing.

SHANNON

You're so cute!

CHRISTINE

Let's go already.

SHANNON

You're being rude, Chrissy. They're
just looking for a good time,
right?

KYLE

Hell yeah. You know a place?

SHANNON

I know a place. But it's very exclusive. Invite only... unless you know someone.

KYLE

Can't be a party if we ain't there!

SHANNON

(giddy)

Oh, wow, you're a real boy, aren't you?

(beat)

Chrissy, why don't you ride with tall and boring; he seems your speed.

CHRISTINE

That sounds great. Thanks.

KYLE

What about me?

SHANNON

You're with me, babe.

She beckons Kyle to follow to a CAR. He bounces after her with horny excitement.

CHRISTINE

He's... enthusiastic.

JASON

Yeah.

(indicating the beer)

I'll take those.

Jason relieves her of the two cases and shows Christine to his PICKUP TRUCK.

JASON (CONT'D)

I'm Jason, by the way.

CHRISTINE

Christine.

JASON

Not Chrissy?

CHRISTINE

Not Chrissy.

Jason puts the beer in the bed of the truck then opens the door for Christine.

JASON
I'll remember that.

EXT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, FRONT YARD - NIGHT

The two vehicles pull off a dirt road and stop on a front lawn packed with a DOZEN or so cars. Off to the side, obscured, sits a COLD STORAGE TRUCK.

We can hear the MUSIC of the party in the back even from out here. Shannon parks first and Jason parks behind her. Kyle is the first to hop out.

KYLE
Oh, man, what the fuck! This is awesome!

SHANNON
I told you the drive was worth it.

JASON
(pulling beer from truck)
Are we even in Texas anymore?

SHANNON
Complaining already? You're not off to a good start, Mr. Jay.

CHRISTINE
(annoyed)
Just go.

Anger flashes across Shannon's face, but then she winks and heads in.

SHANNON
It's business up front, but the party's in the back. You Texans roll like that, right?

Everyone follows, then Jason notices the cold storage truck. He sees Christine watching him and smiles.

JASON
Thanks for inviting us.

CHRISTINE
Yeah. Come on.

Shannon throws open the front door of the farm house and enters...

INT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The house has obviously been abandoned for some time. Shannon leads the others through a hallway, past some rooms, into the kitchen and out the back door to...

EXT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

We've seen this party before. Obnoxious music throbs while drunken revelers gyrate around a listing BONFIRE. A DILAPIDATED BARN at the back of the property serves as theater screen for the flickering shadows.

All told, there are about 30 partiers suffering from varying degrees of alcohol poisoning. Shannon can't stop from grinning at the spectacle. Jason and Kyle simply look stunned. Christine appears... embarrassed?

KYLE

Fuck me...

SHANNON

It's early.

The group is about to head into the party proper when a wiry man with an arrogant swagger approaches. SCOTT (20s) sizes up the new guys.

SCOTT

Bag boys makin' house calls now?

SHANNON

I thought we'd show them a good time.

SCOTT

Is that what you young men want? A good time?

KYLE

There's plenty to go around, bro.

SCOTT

I'm not your bro, fuckhead!

JASON

Look, we're not here to start anything. We'll go.

Jason puts the beer on the ground and pulls Kyle along with him to leave. Shannon shoots Scott a cold glare.

SCOTT
You guys can unclench. I'm just
fucking with you!

KYLE
You had me going, bro!

Kyle gives Scott a friendly punch in the shoulder.

SCOTT
(icily)
You two have fun.

Scott disappears into the party. It's awkward for a beat, then...

SHANNON
(to Kyle)
If you want in my pants, stud, you
have to buy me dinner first.

Shannon takes Kyle by the hand and yanks him into the party. Jason and Christine are alone, not quite knowing what to do.

JASON
You don't have to... I mean,
there's a bunch of other guys here.

CHRISTINE
You want to go someplace quiet?

JASON
Yeah.

They go back off into the house. We spend some time getting SHOTS OF THE PARTY. Heavy drinking. Heavy petting. Pagan-like dancing around the bonfire. Shannon gives Kyle the time of his life.

INT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

The party outside is muted noise. Jason sits on a suspect twin sized bed, while Christine gently sways in a rocking chair. Jason picks at the label on his beer.

JASON
So, what's the story about all
this?

CHRISTINE
All this what?

JASON
You know, this party, Shannon, that other guy... it doesn't seem your speed.

CHRISTINE
They're family. They're all I've got now.

JASON
Did you lose someone?

CHRISTINE
A few weeks ago. He was like... our father.

JASON
I know that feeling.
(beat)
My dad was in Afganistan. An IED hit his convoy.

CHRISTINE
I'm so sorry.
(beat)
How's your mom holding up? It has to be hard.

JASON
She's got my little brother. My dog too.

CHRISTINE
I'm sure she'll do fine. She's surrounded by love.

JASON
Yeah.
(beat)
So is this just your family blowing off steam?

CHRISTINE
I don't like them.

JASON
The parties?

CHRISTINE
(not the parties)
They're dangerous.

JASON
Ever try saying something?

CHRISTINE
I'm low on the totem pole. No one
would listen.

JASON
Would your dad?

Christine take some time to answer, her voice breaks a little.

CHRISTINE
(melancholy)
Yeah... he would.

She takes a drink from her beer and blinks back tears.

JASON
Dads are like that. When mine died
it felt like a trap door opened
under me.

CHRISTINE
It's like that, yeah.

JASON
I heard someone say a man isn't a
man until his father dies.

Christine nods. Jason lifts and tilts his beer toward Christine for a toast.

JASON (CONT'D)
To becoming men, I guess.

CHRISTINE
Cheers.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, BACKYARD - NIGHT

Shannon is grinding up against Kyle when CRAIG (late-20s) comes up. He's dark-skinned with a muscular build that speaks to agility over strength.

CRAIG
(to Shannon)
It's time to setup.

KYLE

What are you talking about, man?
We're kinda in the middle of
something.

SHANNON

Why don't you help me out, lover?
I think it's time I get you alone
anyway.

Craig snickers and shakes his head.

KYLE

Lead the way.

Shannon takes Kyle's hand and races for the BARN.

INT. DILAPIDATED BARN - CONTINUOUS

Kyle chases Shannon inside when she turns to head up some stairs leading into the RAFTERS. Kyle nearly stumbles into a WIDE PIT dug into the ground.

KYLE

Woah, you guys digging a fucking
pool?

SHANNON

Something like that. Get up here.

Visions of sex in his mind, Kyle chases Shannon up into the rafters. Bales of hay are stored up here along with other dusty odds and ends. It's a long drop and Kyle gets vertigo looking down, but Shannon grabs his arm.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

No, no. The show's over here.

She leads him back over to the bales of hay and begins kissing him passionately. She pulls his shirt off, then her own.

Kyle goes right for her perky breasts while she wriggles her hand into the front of his pants. She vigorously strokes him until his shoulders tense and he lets out a gasping grunt.

Shannon pushes him away, disgusted.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Are you fucking kidding me?

KYLE

I'm sorry, it's just... I'm so sorry.

SHANNON

It's just what? You can't hold your nut?

KYLE

I just, umm...

SHANNON

(mocking him)

I just, umm, what?

KYLE

I've never been with, you know...

SHANNON

You're fucking unreal. All that shit you talk?

KYLE

Chicks around here dig that.

SHANNON

Obviously not if you're still a virgin.

KYLE

I'm sorry. It won't happen again. I'll do whatever you want. Anything.

SHANNON

Anything?

She reaches over, pulls a length of ROPE up, and arches an eyebrow. Kyle can't get out of his pants fast enough.

CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

There's a few more empty beer bottles and Jason and Christine are chatting like old friends.

JASON

Eh, college isn't what it's cracked up to be. Everyone says you need to go but they forget to tell you about six figures of debt before you get a job.

CHRISTINE
That's... unpleasant.

JASON
I'm the idiot. Whatever.
(beat)
Honestly, I came back home pretty
okay with the idea of cutting my
losses.

CHRISTINE
What would you do?

JASON
I don't know. I like being outside,
working with my hands.

CHRISTINE
Am I looking at future farmer
Jason?

JASON
Hey, everyone's gotta eat. What
about you?

CHRISTINE
I'm not outdoorsy. I don't tan, I
burn.

JASON
You can't do this forever.

CHRISTINE
Can't I?

JASON
No, I don't think you could.

Christine gets quiet. Jason's hit close to home.

JASON (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said
that.

CHRISTINE
You're sweet. You just met me and
already you're trying to save me.
(beat)
I bet you got that from your
father.

Jason smiles, a little melancholy.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Listen. I think you and your friend should get out of here.

JASON

Why?

CHRISTINE

I wasn't kidding when I said people get hurt around here.

JASON

Now who's trying to save whom?

CHRISTINE

I'm serious, Jason.

DIEGO (O.S.)

Yes. Very serious.

Jason and Christine both jump at the sound of DIEGO's (30s) brassy voice. He's a powerful figure who looks capable of violence in a heartbeat. But there's charm there too. He's leaning casually against the side of the door.

CHRISTINE

Diego, I didn't-

DIEGO

She's right, Jason. People get hurt around us.

JASON

I can handle myself.

DIEGO

(amused; eyes on Jason)

Do you think he'll like the after party, Christine?

CHRISTINE

I think it's overrated.

DIEGO

Come on. We're about to start.

Jason and Christine stand to leave but Diego puts his arm out to stop Christine. She motions for Jason to go on.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

CHRISTINE

He's a good guy. Hans would never-

DIEGO
Hans is dead.
(beat)
You need to remember that.

CUT TO:

EXT. DILAPIDATED BARN - NIGHT

The party is herded into the barn by Scott and Craig. They get a little pushy with any stragglers.

CRAIG
The party wraps in here people.
There's space for everyone.

A YOUNG COUPLE tries to head back into the advancing crowd. Scott intercepts a little too fast, startling them.

SCOTT
You drink our booze, sample our wares, and you want to skip out early?

He grabs them both by the arm and whirls them back around.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
I'd be offended if not for your sudden change of heart.

We come to Jason at the back of the moving crowd. He's craning his neck looking for Kyle. Christine soon joins him, distraught.

JASON
I can't find Kyle.

CHRISTINE
He's probably with Shannon.

JASON
You think they're already inside?

Christine knows they are.

INT. DILAPIDATED BARN - CONTINUOUS

The crowd has filled in around the PIT, but most are too drunk to be truly alarmed. Christine clings to Jason. Jason knows something isn't right here.

Scott closes the door to the barn and he and Craig stand in front of it like bouncers.

DIEGO (O.S.)
Thank you, everyone!

Diego cuts through the crowd and hops down into the pit. He addresses the crowd like a ring announcer.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
I trust y'all had a good time!

A cheer swells.

JASON
(to Christine)
I don't see Kyle. Do you see him?

Christine can't bring herself to look at Jason.

DIEGO
But it's just not a Pinata Club
party without a blow out finale, am
I right?

More cheering from the masses.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
So to get your blood pumping, I
present to you: Little Red!

The crowd roars in approval. Craig flips on a STEREO and a bass line starts thumping.

From BEHIND the stairs into the rafters we FOLLOW SHANNON'S FEET as she descends. We PAN UP to reveal her BARE BACK.

However, the reaction of the people who see her is terrified silence, not titillation. We FOLLOW HER FROM BEHIND as she shakes her hips through the crowd to the rhythm of the music.

BACK ON DIEGO. The party is mute. Shannon comes INTO FRAME covered mouth to navel in a thick smear of BLOOD. Diego extends his hand and she descends with grace.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Little Red, everyone!

The silence is suffocating. Jason recoils, but Scott's firm clasp on the shoulder brings him to.

SCOTT
Time to pay the cover.

Jason looks to Christine for answers, his terror plain.

CHRISTINE

I'm so sorry.

A SCREAM from a GIRL draws attention back to Diego. We see Shannon DRAGGING her by the HAIR to Diego's feet. Diego pulls her up and looks her over.

DIEGO

What's your name, kitten?

GIRL

(sobbing)

Jennifer!

DIEGO

Why are you crying, Jennifer?

JENNIFER

P-please don't hurt me!

Diego turns her around and nuzzles up to her ear.

DIEGO

(just to her)

You drove to a shithole 500 miles from anything to get drunk and high.

(beat)

How did you think this would turn out?

Jennifer cries out when Diego wrenches her head to one side. He snarls and his CANINES LENGTHEN. She chokes as Diego BITES DOWN INTO HER WINDPIPE. Blood gushes.

The crowd tramples over itself making for the exit.

Shannon, Scott, Craig, and Diego all reveal their monstrous nature as they wade into the panicked crowd with enthusiastic viciousness. Bones break and necks snap as they gorge themselves on carnage.

But Jason is the calm in this storm. He's frozen and pale with fear, but the monsters are leaving him alone.

Christine has her arms wrapped around him as his eyes dart from one gory detail to another, unable to process it.

The PIT rapidly fills with carcasses. As a vampire finishes with someone they shove blood-soaked fingers into the corpse's mouth and blithely toss the body in.

And then the massacre is over. For a FEW BEATS we just hear Jason's shallow breaths. Christine continues to hold him. Jason's eyes are locked on the charnel pit.

SCOTT (O.S.)
That's some fucked up shit right there.

Scott is examining a large gash in his coat.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
Prick had a knife.

CRAIG
Getting slow in your old age.

The two proceed to cover the grave over with DIRT stacked to the side. They're a BLUR of motion.

Diego gently pulls Jason away from Christine and walks him to the edge of the pit.

DIEGO
Jason, Jason, Jason... I can imagine what you're feeling right now. They're in there, you're up here.
(beat)
That's all really deep shit but I need you to focus.

Diego puts his arm over Jason's shoulder and turns him around.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
I'm going to help you save your life by letting you cap this party off for us. How's that sound?

JASON
Wh-what?

Diego pulls a BLINDFOLD from his back pocket and hands it to Jason. Jason is dumbfounded.

DIEGO
You don't think we'd be called the Pinata Club if there wasn't a pinata, do you?

Diego steps back and stands next to Christine, who couldn't look more miserable. He snaps his fingers and Craig tosses him a SHOVEL. He cracks it cleanly in half and tosses the shovel end aside.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 The rules are simple. Crack the
 pinata open and you live.
 Questions?

JASON
 (desperate)
 Why are you doing this? We didn't-

SCOTT
 About the game, retard!

JASON
 I don't... I don't...

DIEGO
 Great!
 (to Christine)
 Why don't you help him with the
 blindfold?

Christine takes the blindfold from Jason's hand. Jason tries
 to look her in the eyes but she never looks up.

JASON
 What did I do to you?

CHRISTINE
 (a whisper)
 Please turn around.

Jason searches Christine's face for answers.

SCOTT
 Turn around!

Jason obeys and Christine ties the blindfold over his eyes.
 She runs her hand down his back in a gesture meant to
 comfort.

Scott, annoyed this is taking so long, takes the shovel
 handle from Diego then pushes Christine out of the way.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Yes, it's all very fucking moving.

He shoves the handle into Jason's hand.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Give us a good show, boy.

Scott pushes Jason forward onto the fresh grave. Jason
 stumbles and falls. Everyone but Christine laughs.

CRAIG
 You ain't hitting nothing down
 there, son!

Jason pushes himself up on one arm but his hand sinks into the fresh dirt. He pulls back and ANOTHER HAND catches his wrist! Jason screams and jerks free then comes to his feet.

CRAIG (CONT'D)
 Don't worry about that, it's
 normal.

SHANNON (O.S.)
 Look out below!

Everyone looks up as Shannon TOSSES THE "PINATA" DOWN from the rafters. The ROPE goes taught, swinging the mass into Jason, knocking him on his ass. The usual suspects roar with laughter.

SCOTT
 You gotta keep that head up!

We now have a good look at the pinata while Jason gets his feet under him. Kyle is BOUND AND GAGGED but unconscious. There's a nasty wound on his neck that has covered him in a lot of blood.

DIEGO
 Go right!

Jason swings right and misses.

SHANNON
 (from rafters)
 Get closer, dumbass!

Jason takes a few anxious steps forward and narrowly misses the swinging body.

SCOTT
 A little more!

Jason listens and gets clipped by the body on a back swing. He stumbles but doesn't fall. Angry now he roars and swings wide but connects with Kyle's abdomen.

Now that he knows where to swing, Jason lands one powerful blow after another. The vampires cheer as he beats his best friend to pulp. One hit after another rends skin, cracks bone, and whips the vampires into a frenzy.

Then it's over. Jason collapses and weeps.

DIEGO
Well done, well done.
(to Christine)
Go help him up.

Christine goes to help Jason to his feet but he recoils at her touch. Shannon walks down from the rafters fully clothed.

SHANNON
Their first fight...

Jason stands. His knuckles whiten around the handle.

DIEGO
Blindfold.

CHRISTINE
(to Jason; whispering)
Hold on just a little longer.

Christine pulls the blindfold from Jason's eyes and the horror of what he's done knocks the wind from him. He drops his weapon and rushes to Kyle's pulped body. He wants to touch it, to put it back together...

JASON
Nonononono... I have to... I have to...

SCOTT
You have to finish the job.

JASON
What are you... what... what...?

Diego tosses a BOXCUTTER KNIFE to Jason's feet.

DIEGO
I said you had to crack open the pinata.

JASON
What?

Christine picks up the knife and turns to Jason, desperate to get through to him.

CHRISTINE
Jason listen... listen to me.

JASON
I can't... I can't...

CHRISTINE

Jason, you have to. If you don't
they will kill you.

JASON

(no one's home)
I can't... I can't...

Christine places the knife in Jason's hand. She gently kisses him on the cheek, then WHISPERS something into his ear. Shannon, disgusted, yanks Christine away.

SHANNON

Fuckin' pussy.
(to Jason)
Nut up, Bambi, because you're food
in exactly three - two - one -

Jason screams and swings wide with the boxcutter. It's not clear if he was going for Shannon, but she side steps the blade and it ends up in Kyle's stomach.

The screaming and weeping doesn't stop as Jason pulls the blade down and through Kyle's rib cage.

Jason's legs give and he falls and vomits. Shannon fumes and throws Diego a look, asking for permission.

DIEGO

The sun's gonna come up soon.
(to Christine)
He stays out here with everyone
else.

Diego leaves the barn along with Scott and Craig. Shannon starts to go as well but stops next to Christine.

SHANNON

If he gets out of line as much as a
hair on your pretty head, I'll kill
him.

Shannon exits, leaving Christine and Jason alone. She lowers herself to her knees next to him. Jason can't stop staring at Kyle. Christine pulls Jason into an embrace.

CHRISTINE

This was the only way I could save
you.

Christine's FANGS EXTEND and she sinks them into Jason's neck. Kyle's body sways gently behind them. Jason watches his best friend for a BEAT, then his eyes roll back.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DREAMSPACE

Darkness, unending. Then rhythmic THUMPING, like rushing water. WOOSH-WOOSH. WOOSH-WOOSH.

Jason cries out. He sits up, holding his ears in agony. WOOSH-WOOSH. WOOSH-WOOSH. The noise is deafening.

Then there are VOICES in the darkness. A whispered conversation. WOOSH-WOOSH. WOOSH-WOOSH.

JASON
Stop it! Shut up!

The noise dies down and Jason relaxes. He drops his hands while the whispered conversation grows LOUDER.

The darkness fills in with muted gray LIGHT. Details, fuzzy at first, fill in. Jason is crouching in the corner of a HOTEL ROOM.

The scene is washed out. Sound reverberates wrong. This space is the echo of a real place - a memory that isn't Jason's.

Christine sits on the edge of a bed while Hans looks up at her, kneeling. She can't look at him but he pleads anyway.

HANS
Please. Please tell me you understand.

CHRISTINE
I can't... I can't.

HANS
People will die. Too many people.

CHRISTINE
They're family. We don't have anything else.

HANS
(deflated)
I know.

WOOSH-WOOSH. WOOSH-WOOSH. The scene fractures and fades. Jason panics and reaches out.

JASON
Christine? Christine!

WOOSH-WOOSH. WOOSH... WOOSH... The memory crumbles and bleeds into a new one. Jason now stands in a MAKESHIFT METH LAB. Dizziness washes over him and he leans against a table, his hand balled into a fist at his chest.

Craig is busy at work with his chemistry set while Christine looks on. She pushes him on a point she's passionate about.

CHRISTINE
I don't care what they think. I want to know what you think.

CRAIG
I didn't think I made a weapon. I didn't think that.

CHRISTINE
We can always back out.

CRAIG
Are you insane? This isn't a date. We promised to deliver product to bad people with guns.

CHRISTINE
Is this what we are now? Fuck the world; let it burn. Are we monsters?

Craig stops working and turns to her.

CRAIG
We're not as bad as some.

He moves past her and exits, leaving her to her thoughts.

JASON
(gasping)
Christine... something is wrong...

WOOSH... WOOSH... Something is slowing. Dying. Jason is barely able to stand.

Christine picks up a packet of what Craig is working on: RED POWDER.

Jason collapses, bouncing his head off the ground. The world goes BLURRY. WOOSH... He opens his eyes and sees a WAREHOUSE BURN.

Jason is lying on dirt under a starry sky. He hears a LOW MOAN, like audio played back slow. Then it picks up speed and turns into SCREAMING.

Christine screams as Diego restrains her. He's trying to drag her back to the VAN but she's not having it. Shannon holds the side door open, anxious to bug out.

CHRISTINE

No! We have to save him! We have to save him! Let me go!

DIEGO

He's gone! We have to leave now. Corina's men are coming.

CHRISTINE

We can't leave him!

SHANNON

Fuck her! If she wants to die let her.

DIEGO

Shut the fuck up!

Diego grabs Christina's jaw and forces her to look at him. Her eyes are wild, her face is caked with dirt and tears.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Hans is dead. Corina is coming. We have to go.

Diego releases her and jumps into the driver's seat. There's a war raging in Christina's eyes, but the choice is hers now.

It's all Jason can do to keep his eyes open a few moments longer. The world begins to fade. Before the darkness takes him he sees Christina jump into the van.

CUT TO:

INT. DILAPIDATED BARN - DUSK

Jason's eyes shoot open. To his horror he finds he's covered under a HEAVY TARP. In a panic he flails and rips the thing off him.

Pulling himself free, his eyes fall on Kyle's still-suspended corpse. But now it's covered in a fresh coat of BLOOD. In fact, several EMPTIED BLOOD PACKETS litter the ground around it.

Jason feels a stirring in his gut, A BURNING that makes him gasp. Without his consent his body takes one agonizing step after another toward Kyle. He's almost on Kyle...

Then Craig and Scott enter.

Their conversation cuts short when they see Jason. Using CATTLE PRODS they force him into the corner.

SCOTT

Back, foul demon! Back, I say!

Fangs out, Jason hisses like a surly cat.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

The power of Christ compels you!

Shannon and Diego, each carrying a SHOTGUN, enter along with Christine. Horrified, Christine rushes over to Jason, shoving Scott aside.

CHRISTINE

(to Scott)

Stop it!

Jason slashes at Christine but she catches his wrist. He struggles against her until she locks eyes with him.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Stop.

As if a switch is flipped, Jason goes limp.

SCOTT

Oops, you broke it.

SHANNON

Looks like you woke the babies.

Scott and Craig turn to see HANDS pushing up through the mass grave. Diego racks his shotgun. The four take up positions around the grave.

JASON

(in agony)

What... is wrong with me?

CHRISTINE

You have to feed.

Jason looks over at Kyle's corpse.

JASON
 (distraught)
 No...

A WOMAN'S HEAD emerges from the earth. Craig pulls on her hair. She hisses.

DIEGO
 Take her.

Craig pulls her up by the back of the shirt and drags her kicking and screaming OUTSIDE. Another newly minted vampire pushes through the grave and Scott pulls HIM out of the dirt.

SHANNON
 He was leering at me all night.

Scott drives his cattle prod into the man, dropping him to his knees. Shannon aims point blank and blows his head clean off. Jason can't believe what he's seeing.

JASON
 What are they doing?

CHRISTINE
 Herding cattle.

Vampires rise from the mass grave and are either executed or dragged away outside. As more rise they're drawn to Kyle's corpse, biting meaty chunks out.

Scott and Craig keep order with their cattle prods while Diego and Shannon decide who lives or dies.

Jason sees his future in the horror.

JASON
 I can't do this... I can't.

CHRISTINE
 You must feed, Jason.

JASON
 No!

CHRISTINE
 Here...

Christine BITES INTO HER WRIST to get the blood flowing. She proffers it to Jason. He's repulsed but the hunger is overwhelming.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
 This is fine for now.

Jason looks at her like she's nuts. Gently she pushes his head toward her wrist.

Finally it's too much for him and he pulls her wrist into his mouth. He bites down and blood gushes like an overripe melon. Christine cradles him with her free arm.

The stillness of the moment is shattered as Craig cattle prods a vampire into unconsciousness at their feet.

CRAIG

Sorry. He got away from me.

DIEGO

Christine, help him get that one in the truck.

Christine doesn't want to leave Jason just yet...

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Today.

Jason looks less freaked out so Christine takes the unconscious vampire by one ankle. Craig takes the other.

CRAIG

Sorry.

Christine forces a smile. They drag the body away.

Jason spots an OPENING in the wall nearby and realizes no one is watching him now. He eyes his captors for a few beats then scrambles for the hole and wriggles through.

A few moments later Christine and Craig return and Christine notices Jason's gone. And Shannon notices her.

SHANNON

You're fucking kidding me.

SCOTT

What?

SHANNON

The prick ran.

DIEGO

(to Christine)

Get him.

CUT TO:

EXT. DROUGHT-STRICKEN FOREST - NIGHT

Jason runs frantically but he's having difficulty. Every few feet he becomes a BLUR - moving with supernatural quickness. He trips up and nearly falls every time.

Jason can't control his speed bursts as he tumbles over himself and scrambles onto his feet.

CHRISTINE

Jason!

Christine suddenly appears in front of Jason mid-burst. He SLAMS into her EXTENDED HAND like it's a brick wall. There's a CONCUSSIVE BLAST OF AIR that blows detritus OUTWARD. Jason lies sprawled on the ground.

Christine takes a step back to give Jason space.

JASON

I'm not going back.

CHRISTINE

Then we're both dead.

JASON

What? Why?

CHRISTINE

I made you my responsibility. To save you.

JASON

Why not Kyle? Why not the both of us?

CHRISTINE

He was gone the moment Shannon saw him.

JASON

So you let him be a pinata!?

CHRISTINE

I had no idea they'd pick him. I swear.

JASON

Oh, that's fine then. As long as some other random guy gets beaten to death it's all good!

CHRISTINE

I know you're angry-

JASON

You don't know shit! You're a monster. What the fuck do you know about how I feel?

There's nothing left to say. Christine walks away.

CHRISTINE

I'll tell them I couldn't find you. You might make it a few nights. Then you'll kill someone.

(beat)

I hope you have the sense to stand in the sun before then, I really do.

We leave Jason to his thoughts.

EXT. ABANDONED FARM HOUSE, FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Craig and Scott lock up the back of the cold storage truck. Shannon and Diego are chatting next to JASON'S TRUCK when Christine returns.

SHANNON

Oh, that's fucking awesome.

Shannon makes a beeline for Christine and points her shotgun in her face, relishing this.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Anything to say before you go Jackson Pollock from the neck up?

Shannon racks the gun. No one steps in. Then...

DIEGO

Wait.

Shannon looks past Christine's shoulder and sees Jason approaching. She doesn't lower the shotgun, instead she locks eyes with Christine.

SHANNON

We noticed you ducked out, little guy. Feeling okay?

JASON

Yeah. Just needed some air.

SHANNON

We're all better now?

Jason feels all eyes on him.

JASON

Yeah.

SHANNON

Good. Disappear without a hall pass again and you're dead, m'kay?

JASON

Okay.

SHANNON

Okay, buddy.

She lowers the gun from Christine's face.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

(to Christine)

No hard feelings?

Shannon pats Christine on the cheek.

DIEGO

Let's go!

Diego and Shannon head for the cold truck. Craig walks up to Jason.

CRAIG

Keys?

JASON

Hm?

Craig nods to the truck. Jason fishes them from his pocket then hands them over. Craig gets into the cab while Scott crosses over and puts an arm around Jason's shoulders.

SCOTT

You okay? You need anything?

JASON

Nope, I'm good.

SCOTT

You sure? 'Cuz I wanna help.

JASON

Yep, I'm sure.

SCOTT

Good, good.

(beat)

Well, welcome to the club.

Scott slaps Jason a little too hard on the back then heads to his own CAR. Christine gets into the bed of Jason's truck then extends a hand to him. He pauses for a moment then accepts it.

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTY ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

The pack's caravan is COMING AT US, then turns RIGHT at the intersection onto the main road. We PAN RIGHT and PULL WIDE and stay here until all three cars disappear into the night.

CUT TO:

EXT. JASON'S TRUCK, BED - MOMENTS LATER

Jason watches the desert whiz by wistfully.

CHRISTINE

What are you thinking about?

JASON

Can't you read my mind?

CHRISTINE

Do you think I can?

JASON

Vampires have all kinds of powers, right?

CHRISTINE

No, I can't read your mind.

CRAIG

(in cab)

I'll tell you what a brother's thinking: Why me? What's next? Does this get any more fucked up?

(beat)

Am I right, bro?

Jason doesn't respond.

CRAIG (CONT'D)
Don't need powers to figure that
out. Its gone through all our heads
some time or another.

Christine reaches into the cab and squeezes Craig's shoulder -
thanks. He nods.

JASON
Does it get better?

CHRISTINE
Is that what you need to hear?

JASON
Yeah.

CHRISTINE
It can.

There's a long silence while Christine lets Jason gather his
thoughts. Then...

JASON
I saw something... after you bit
me.

CHRISTINE
What did you see?

JASON
It was fast, you were upset.
(beat)
Who is Hans?

Christine looks gut punched. She glances back at Craig for a
reaction but either he didn't hear or is playing it cool.

She reaches over and closes the window to the cab.

CHRISTINE
How do you know that name?

JASON
I saw you talking to him in a hotel
room. And I saw a warehouse on
fire. You were screaming.

Christine doesn't know the first thing to say.

JASON (CONT'D)
Why did I see all of that? What was
it?

CHRISTINE
Turning someone is an intimate
process. Sometimes... potent
memories can be shared.

JASON
(putting it together)
You said you'd lost someone; you
were talking about him. Hans.

CHRISTINE
Yes.

On the horizon lights grow. They're nearing something.

JASON
What happened at the warehouse?

CHRISTINE
(reluctant)
Jason, there's a lot you-

Craig raps on the window. Christine slides it open.

CRAIG
(in cab)
Scott's pulling off the road.

EXT. BIKER BAR - CONTINUOUS

This place is a hole, pure and simple. A DOZEN or so Harleys
are lined up in front of the joint. Scott steers the caravan
into the parking lot.

JASON
Why are we stopping?

CHRISTINE
I don't know.

Scott passes by on foot.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
Hey, why are we here?

SCOTT
Why the fuck do you go to a bar?

INT. BIKER BAR - CONTINUOUS

Scott enters and it's unmistakable who the alien is. Despite the attention of numerous dangerous men, Scott takes an empty table like he's entered Applebee's.

An unimpressed WAITRESS takes his order.

SCOTT
Do you have anything fruity? I'm
feeling fruity.
(off her look)
No? Okay. Um...
(pointing)
I'll have whatever that is. Thanks.

As the waitress takes his order to the BAR while the rest of the pack enters and congregates at the same table.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
I ordered mozzarella sticks; hope
everyone's cool with that.

SHANNON
Nice place, Scott. Feels homey.

CRAIG
(deadpan)
Yeah, nice place, Scott.

SCOTT
Oh, come on. There's gotta be at
least a couple of Obama voters
here.

The waitress drops off Scott's drink.

WAITRESS
What the rest of y'all want? We
all out of 'fruity.'

DIEGO
A bottle of Jack and some glasses.

WAITRESS
Uh-huh.

She walks back to the bar. Craig can't help notice some of the locals eying him.

CRAIG
We're heading to a Black Panther
bar next for a little balance.

SCOTT

You see a biker bar full of white people and you assume they're all racist? That's hurtful and offensive.

SHANNON

(to Craig - purring)

I'm sure they'd brighten right up if they hear how you pleasure me like no white boy ever could.

Craig is about to retort when the waitress returns with the bottle of Jack and some glasses.

SCOTT

(to waitress)

Not to pry, miss, but may I ask who you voted for last election?

WAITRESS

Roseanne.

She leaves the table mired in an awkward silence. Shannon spots a BIKER WOMAN leaving her MAN.

SHANNON

Excuse me for a bit.

Everyone but Jason seems disinterested when she cozies up to the man.

JASON

(distracted)

So, where are we headed?

DIEGO

East.

JASON

What's east?

DIEGO

A surprise party.

JASON

For who?

DIEGO

For 'whom', college boy. Why all the questions?

Jason chokes, being put on the spot.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Stay loyal and follow orders and
you'll be fine.

Behind them the Biker Woman has returned and isn't happy seeing her man and Shannon being friendly.

BIKER WOMAN
(to her man)
What the fuck do you think you're
doing?

SHANNON
Upgrading. Obviously.

BIKER WOMAN
What did you say?

Shannon stands, loving this.

SHANNON
Aw. Is your hearing gone too?

The woman swings and connects with Shannon's jaw. Shannon straightens and smiles, FANGS prominent.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
It's a catfight, boys!

Shannon SLASHES at the woman, carving DEEP GASHES into her face. The woman cries out, cradling the wound. Shannon turns to the man she was cozy with, fangs still out.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
(grinning)
The blowjob is still on the table.

The bikers and the pack ready themselves for a fight.

SCOTT
(to Jason)
Drink up!

The two sides collide, but this isn't a repeat of the barn. The bikers know how to handle themselves, brandishing small arms and knives.

Jason, however, isn't a monster, not yet, and hesitates. Christine keeps bikers off him then finally pulls him away.

She pushes him down BEHIND THE BAR.

CHRISTINE
Stay out of sight.

GUNSHOTS RING OUT, shattering bottles above Jason's head. Christine leaves, getting back into the fight. A BIKER flies over the bar and lands unconscious next to Jason.

We focus on Scott, Shannon, Diego, and Craig in this fight - they're doing the heavy lifting. They take gunshots and stabbings and keep ticking.

It's a one-sided fight. Bikers make for the exit but are just intercepted by a vampire and tossed back in. Quickly the fight is over and everyone is feeding.

One mangled biker sneaks up on Christine as she feeds and buries a knife in her calf. She falls to a knee then pulls the biker over and sinks her teeth into his neck.

Jason stays BEHIND THE BAR, transfixed on the unconscious biker next to him, aching to feed.

He doesn't notice the BARTENDER come in from the KITCHEN with a shotgun. The bartender racks the weapon. We go TIGHT ON JASON'S FACE as he flinches when the GUN GOES OFF.

SLOWLY he turns and sees Diego feeding on the bartender and keeping the shotgun pointed up. Diego drops the corpse.

DIEGO
(snarling)
Cozy back here?

Diego returns to the pack. Jason comes out from his hiding hole, sees the slaughter, and retches.

SCOTT
You still have shit in your
stomach?

Scott picks through the remains for WALLETS. Christine rushes Jason OUTSIDE.

EXT. BIKER BAR - CONTINUOUS

Jason darts over to the parked bikes and dry heaves.

CHRISTINE
Okay. Calm down. You can control
this.

JASON
I... I can't...

CHRISTINE
 Yes you can. Your insides are dead.
 Your mind still thinks it's alive.

Jason clenches his fist and forces himself to calm down.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
 See?

JASON
 Is that why I felt what I did back
 there?

CHRISTINE
 What do you mean?

*INSERT CUT: Jason SHAKES like a junkie as he stares at the
 unconscious BIKER - hungry.*

JASON (V.O.)
 It was just like the barn. I
 wanted, I needed, to sink my teeth
 into him.

CHRISTINE
 No, that's not in your head.

JASON
 I'm a monster.

The revelation hangs in the air. After a few beats everyone
 but Diego comes out.

SHANNON
 How you feeling, punkin'?

CHRISTINE
 Give it a break, Shannon.

SHANNON
 The sooner he pops his cherry the
 better off we'll all be.

SCOTT
 Be nice. He just needs to meet the
 right lady, maybe some music...

SHANNON
 That right, Jay? You need some
 romance before you rip a bitch's
 throat out?

Diego comes out and hands a STUFFED ENVELOPE to Scott.

DIEGO
We have enough. Make the call.

SCOTT
Yessir.

Scott pulls out his CELL PHONE and walks toward his car.
Diego ignores Jason as he walks to his own.

DIEGO
We're losing night.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

The space is ENGULFED IN FIRE and moments from collapsing.
Hans and Diego are PUMMELING one another viciously. Diego
gets Hans into a HOLD.

DIEGO
You sold us out!

HANS
I had no choice...

DIEGO
We would've died for you.

Hans breaks the hold and FLIPS Diego onto his back.

HANS
We crossed a line, Diego. I had to
do something.

Hans pulls out a GUN and points it at Diego's face.

SHANNON (V.O.)
Hey!

CUT TO:

INT. COLD TRUCK, CAB - NIGHT

Shannon waves her hand in Diego's face, snapping him to.

SHANNON
Are you listening to me?

DIEGO
Do I have a choice?

Shannon pouts then turns her attention to a FLYER about a CONCERT SERIES IN AUSTIN.

SHANNON

His friend Kyle would've been a better fit, and he was a jackass. At least he would've killed someone if I told him to.

(beat)

Jason's dead weight. Christine too. I don't know why you put up with her...

Shannon's voice FADES as Diego focuses on the TRUCK in front.

CUT TO:

EXT. JASON'S TRUCK, BED - SAME TIME

Christine LOOKS UP. She FEELS Diego watching her. Jason rests his head in her LAP as she runs her fingers through his hair. Jason notes the sudden tension.

JASON

What is it?

Christine smiles warmly at him and looks off into the desert.

CUT TO:

EXT. FROST BANK TOWER - NIGHT

From HIGH ABOVE we see Hans exit a TAXI and enter the building.

CUT TO:

INT. PENTHOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The ELEVATOR opens into a SPACIOUS living area. FOUR GUARDS take notice of Hans. Hans exits the elevator and proceeds through this area and into a CONNECTING HALL. He stops at a KEYPAD and punches in a CODE.

INT. PENTHOUSE, SANCTUARY - CONTINUOUS

We hear HEAVY LOCKS DISENGAGE and see the LARGE SECURITY DOOR lumber OPEN. Hans enters into a room lit only from the LIGHTS OF THE CITY BELOW through a SLANTED GLASS WALL.

He steps forward and stops before a literal POOL OF BLOOD. SEVEN PILLARS encircle the pool. From each pillar a NUDE BODY HANGS, blood slowly DRIPPING from them, feeding the pool.

The SURFACE of the pool RIPPLES and the HANGING BODIES SPEAK as one - like a CHOIR.

CHOIR

You forget yourself.

Hans lowers himself to his knees.

CHOIR (CONT'D)

Your beasts near my city and you have done little to staunch the bloodshed.

HANS

I can't know where they'll stop to entertain themselves.

CHOIR

You wield your ignorance like a shield but insist nevertheless you know their minds.

HANS

Your hand in my deception ensures they will come here, your grace.

The surface of the pool BUCKLES.

CHOIR

I provided the resources you requested to eliminate the threat at the warehouse. You failed.

HANS

There were circumstances I couldn't-

The pool ROILS and a BATTERING RAM OF BLOOD sends Hans tumbling across the floor.

CHOIR

Excuses!

The blood appendage SPLATTERS onto the ground and FLOWS BACK INTO THE POOL. It takes Hans a beat to recover.

CHOIR (CONT'D)

You came to me seeking forgiveness for the sins of your past. I took you into my bosom and gave you absolution.

Hans gets back onto his knees - a bit farther from the pool.

HANS
Yes, your grace. The failure is mine.

CHOIR
And your plan to rectify this?

HANS
I think it would be wisest to allow them to enter the city. All of your eyes and ears are here.

The choir doesn't respond.

HANS (CONT'D)
A bounty for their capture will motivate the elements we require.

CHOIR
How will you contain them before their poison strikes at my heart?

HANS
I can reach out to one of them.

CHOIR
Christine...

HANS
Yes.

The choir is silent again for a beat - then...

CHOIR
Act decisively. My favor has its limits.

HANS
Yes, my grace.

Hans stands and goes for the exit.

CHOIR
Hans...

HANS
Yes, my grace?

CHOIR
I look forward to meeting Christine. Your results will dictate the tone of the encounter.

HANS
Understood, my grace.

Hans exits. We PUSH IN on the POOL OF BLOOD. A VOLUPTUOUS FIGURE RISES and turns to look over HER city.

CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - DUSK

Jason is sleeping when Scott wakes him with a solid KICK.

SCOTT
Wakey, wakey.

Jason BARES HIS FANGS and earns ANOTHER KICK.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
Don't be grumpy.
(beat)
We're leaving.

CUT TO:

EXT. TEXAS DESERT - NIGHT

Our vampire caravan treks across barren terrain and STOPS when it encounters TWO OTHER VEHICLES.

From those vehicles steps out THREE GUARDS and a charmer with a perpetual smile named CARLOS (50s).

The pack exits its vehicles and Diego approaches Carlos and the two men embrace like old friends.

CARLOS
It warms my heart to see you. All of you.

DIEGO
It's good to see you, Carlos. Is that a new suit?

CARLOS
Yes it is. You like it? Come down and I'll get one made for you. It's like I'm wearing nothing at all. It's indecent!

DIEGO
That's tempting.

CARLOS

Then let me sweeten it. I want to bring you under my protection. What happened in El Paso was tragic. I want to make sure my friends are never hurt like that again.

DIEGO

I'm flattered, Carlos, really, but we have other plans. We just need what we asked for.

CARLOS

I understand.

Carlos motions and one of his guards brings over a METAL SUITCASE. Diego motions and Scott comes over.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Do you wish to inspect the parcel?

DIEGO

Do I need to?

CARLOS

A trusting partner; a rare commodity in my business.

Diego motions again and Scott hands over a STUFFED ENVELOPE OF CASH to Carlos.

DIEGO

Loyalty is everything. We're wild animals without it.

CARLOS

Very wise.

Diego takes the suitcase and he and Scott start back.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Diego. It is because we are such close friends I feel compelled to warn you.

Diego turns back around.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

After El Paso I became concerned for your safety and I instructed my informants to report any news related to it directly to me.

DIEGO
What have they heard?

CARLOS
The FBI are looking for you, Diego.
I hear they draw closer each day.

The vampires exchange uneasy looks. Diego frowns.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
I regret to be the bearer of bad news.

(beat)
Come with me. I can protect you. We can take this drug you've created and cultivate it with the *Ejercito Mexicano* watching our back.

(beat)
It doesn't get any better than that, my friend!

DIEGO
My drug?

CARLOS
Si, yes. If what I hear is true, I think it has tremendous potential.

Diego's demeanor changes - Carlos just turned into a THREAT.

DIEGO
Is that so? What have you heard?

CARLOS
That it makes you fucking rock hard. Makes you feel like you can punch the shit out of Superman! Crazy shit, man.

DIEGO
You heard right. It's crazy shit.

CARLOS
Right...

DIEGO
(long beat)
It was good seeing you.

Diego turns to walk away when FLOODLIGHTS blind him. From out of nowhere TWO PICKUP TRUCKS race in carrying ARMED MEN. The pack is SURROUNDED.

SCOTT
The fuck is this?

CARLOS
It's your last chance to do the smart thing. We can leave together as friends and make a lot of money, or you can throw my generosity back in my face!

Diego SLOWLY SCANS the forces against him. We HOLD ON HIM in anticipation - the pack is cornered. Then-

DIEGO
You know what, Carlos?

CARLOS
What?

DIEGO
Keep your generosity.

Diego THROWS THE SUITCASE at Carlos' HEAD, severing it.

Carlos' GUARDS are stunned. The pack VANISHES from sight. We PULL WIDE revealing how alone the guards are.

Christine PULLS Jason around to the back of the COLD TRUCK.

CHRISTINE
Stay under there and be quiet. I'll be back.

She vanishes in a BLUR. Jason darts under the truck.

The GUARDS don't know how to react.

GUARD 1
(in Spanish)
Where did they go? Where did they go?

One of the guards who came with Carlos HEARS something. He SKULKS around to the BACK of Carlos' car. He POPS out and gets the drop on NOTHING. We PULL WIDE, revealing Shannon, GRINNING, behind him.

The GUARDS IN THE TRUCKS hear him SCREAM and OPEN FIRE on Carlos' car. When they stop-

GUARD 1 (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
Go check it out.

GUARD 2
 (in Spanish)
 What?

GUARD 1
 (in Spanish)
 Go!

GUARD 2 warily hops down from the truck and STANDS in the BEAM of the FLOODLIGHTS.

GUARD 2
 (at Carlos' car)
 It's okay, man. We can all just go home. Cool?

SILENCE for a beat - then CARLOS' HEAD rolls to the guard's feet. He panics and FIRES BLINDLY into the night until his magazine is EMPTY. Then it's STILL once more.

The guards start LAUGHING NERVOUSLY - they think it's over. Then the FLOODLIGHTS FLICKER. SMOKY BLACK SHADOWS SWIRL around Guard 2's feet. He SCREAMS and tries to reload his gun when the SHADOWS CONSUME HIM.

The SHADOWS then EXPLODE OUTWARD - dissipating - vomiting MEATY CHUNKS of guard. Then the vampires strike. Shannon LEAPS into one of the trucks and takes on THREE GUARDS in fisticuffs. Scott takes down Carlos' LAST guard.

GUARDS disperse from the remaining truck, firing on everything. Craig INTERCEPTS them near the COLD TRUCK. He kills one guard quickly. He LUNGES for the second but gets a BURST of automatic fire in the CHEST - flattening him.

Craig goes down in front of Jason as he HIDES under the cold truck. The guard CLOSES IN on Craig. Craig is OUT COLD. Jason's EYE WIDEN - panic stricken.

GUARD 3
 (to Craig)
 What the hell are you?

The guard takes careful AIM at Craig. As his FINGER goes to the TRIGGER, Jason GRABS his ankle, YANKING him to the ground. The guard quickly recovers and points his gun at Jason. Jason flinches.

SHADOWS reach up FROM THE GROUND and PLUNGE INTO the guard. He dies with a SQUEAK. Then Jason is QUICKLY PULLED from his hiding spot.

CHRISTINE
 Woah. Relax. It's over.

JASON
Craig! He's shot! It looks bad.

CHRISTINE
Where is he?

Jason pulls Christine around the cold truck to Craig's PULPED body.

SCOTT (O.S.)
Man...

Jason watches Scott walking up.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
I really liked that shirt.

JASON
What the hell is wrong with you?
He's dead.

SCOTT
Bound to happen sooner or later.

JASON
Don't you give a shit about anyone?

SCOTT
Watch your tone.

JASON
My tone?

CHRISTINE
Jason-

JASON
He was the closest you assholes had
to a decent guy!

Jason's FANGS have come out. Christine PULLS him away from Scott. Shannon WATCHES from a DISTANCE.

CHRISTINE
Jason, stop! Craig isn't dead.

JASON
What? He's, look at him... he's...

Jason notices that Craig's body has MENDED itself.

JASON (CONT'D)
But he... he just collapsed...

SCOTT
 Take half a magazine to the face
 and see how you feel, you fucking
 idiot.

Christine GENTLY takes Jason on a walk.

CHRISTINE
 Come on. Let's get some air.

The two leave. Scott fumes as Craig WAKES.

CRAIG
 Argh... fuck. I don't feel so good.

SCOTT
 Fuck you.

Scott storms away. Craig lies there, puzzled.

Out of the SHADOWS, Diego walks up to Shannon as the conflict disperses. She doesn't look at him.

SHANNON
 What did I say about that kid?

DIEGO
 He stepped up for Craig.

SHANNON
 He hid like a coward through the
 whole fight.

DIEGO
 He's new. What do you expect?

SHANNON
 I killed a man my first night.

DIEGO
 Every class has its overachievers.

Diego goes to walk away...

SHANNON
 The FBI is on us, Diego. And you're
 protecting Christine's puppy?
 (beat)
 When the cartel finds out about
 Carlos...

DIEGO
 When the cartel finds out about
 Carlos...

SHANNON

What the fuck are we gonna do? We can't go back. We can't go south now. We can't go north.

DIEGO

Good thing we're heading east.

Diego leaves Shannon to her thoughts.

Christine and Jason are cooling off by Carlos' CAR when Diego approaches.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

I saw what you did for Craig. You could have kept hiding, but you chose to act. You kept loyal. That's everything to us.

JASON

I was scared out of my mind.

DIEGO

But you acted. That's what family does. No matter what happened in the past, they cover one another.

Diego clasps Jason on the shoulder, then walks away. Jason watches him go and meets eyes with Craig. Craig nods.

CHRISTINE

Look at you making friends!

Jason smiles nervously.

CUT TO:

INT. HANS' HOME, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Hans is on his KNEES, FEEDING on an ELEGANT WOMAN. When finished he lets her ROLL away to his side, dead. He then pulls a DELICATE NECKLACE from an ORNATE BOX and places it on the floor in front of him.

BITING into his WRIST he pumps his fist until BLOOD FLOWS and he uses that blood to WRITE SYMBOLS around the necklace. That done, he closes his eyes and exhales.

HANS

Christine...

CUT TO:

EXT. JASON'S TRUCK, BED - SAME TIME

As Christine rests a JUMBLE OF IMAGES OVERLAY her. Faces, places, events tender and violent - she and Hans are in the center of them all. In all of that a NIGHT CLUB pushes through. Hans walks in.

Christine wakes with a start.

CHRISTINE

Hans!

CRAIG

(in cab)

You okay back there?

CHRISTINE

Where are we?

CRAIG

See for yourself.

Christine sits up and sees AUSTIN glowing in the distance.

CRAIG (CONT'D)

(in cab)

It's a good thing they like weird,
'cuz a whole lotta weird is coming.

EXT. SPARTAN MOTEL - NIGHT

We PUSH IN on ROOM 117's DOOR. Shannon's THROATY MOANS bleed through.

CUT TO:

INT. SPARTAN MOTEL, ROOM 117 - CONTINUOUS

Inside, Scott and Shannon are having vicious sex. The room is SHREDDED. They're fighting one another for dominance. Shannon drives her FANGS into Scott's neck. Scott's EYES roll back, then he pulls free - and does the same to her.

It goes like this for awhile, fucking and feeding, then we FADE TO Scott lying back while Shannon SMOKES on the edge of the bed.

SCOTT

How cliché.

SHANNON

Fuck off.

SCOTT

The motel's gonna keep the deposit.

Shannon rolls over to him.

SHANNON

Then I'd better put it out.

She grinds the cigarette out in his chest. He hisses and LEAPS to his feet.

SCOTT

You bitch!

Shannon roars with laughter. For a moment Scott seems close to striking her, then it melts away. He crawls on top of her and LICKS droplets of blood from her body.

SHANNON

I saw what Jason did to you.

SCOTT

Fuck him.

SHANNON

That's big of you.

SCOTT

It's a brave new world; Diego's running things.

Shannon reaches and takes Scott's member into her hand.

SHANNON

Oh, look. You've gone soft.

(beat)

Seems like there's a limp dick everywhere I look. Maybe I oughta bat for the other team.

SCOTT

Okay, I'll play. I get rid of Jason, then what?

SHANNON

We do something about the sow who sired him.

SCOTT

We? No. You.

SHANNON

What-

SCOTT

If you want to clean house, you get
dirty too.

SHANNON

I kill our precious Christine...
(beat)
I can live with that.

Scott smiles, all fangs, then bites down into Shannon's
breast. She laughs and wraps her arms around him.

EXT. SPARTAN MOTEL, ROOM 117 - NIGHT

Craig and Jason WATCH Christine and Diego talking under a
light in the PARKING LOT.

JASON

They've been at it for awhile.
(beat)
Can you hear them?

CRAIG

No. Why do you think I could?

JASON

That's a vampire power, right?

CRAIG

Get the movies out of your head,
Bella.

JASON

So what can we do? I've been able
to run real fast. Christine too.
Diego has weird shadow fingers...

CRAIG

All of us can do the Superman thing
to one extent or another-

JASON

We can fly?!

CRAIG

No, Jimmy Olsen, we can't. But leap
a moderately sized building? Maybe
if we concentrate.

JASON

(wriggling fingers)
And the shadow thing?

CRAIG

That's something special and it takes a lot of effort. Diego won't be using that trick for awhile.

JASON

Do you have a trick?

CRAIG

Piss me off and find out.

(beat)

Boss headin' over. Look busy. Grab the broom.

As Diego and Christine approach Jason starts SWEEPING.

DIEGO

What are you doing?

JASON

Oh, um, just keeping busy.

Craig can't stop from snickering.

DIEGO

(to Craig)

Christine wants to make a run-

(to Jason)

Just put that down.

Awkward, Jason leans the broom against the wall. It slides down and falls in front of DOOR 117.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Christine wants to run downtown. She thinks she can dig up some intel at a club.

CRAIG

Cool. What's the problem?

DIEGO

She wants to go alone.

CHRISTINE

The guy I know is skittish. If he sees any of you, he'll shut down.

CRAIG

It's like he's met us.

JASON

He hasn't met me.

DIEGO
You volunteering?

The door to ROOM 117 opens and Scott steps out, only to TRIP over the BROOM. Craig snorts.

SCOTT
The fuck?

CRAIG
Your boy was keeping things tidy.

Shannon is at Scott's back as he's about to tear into Jason, when-

DIEGO
Now that you two are vertical we can get some work done.

SHANNON
What's up?

DIEGO
Christine and Jason are taking a road trip. Scott, you're going with.

CHRISTINE
But-

DIEGO
But, nothing. We're balls deep in Corina's backyard. He's going.
(to Scott)
You can handle discreet, right?

SCOTT
I'm the picture of it.

SHANNON
I can handle recon.

DIEGO
No, you're with Craig. He's cooking and needs a gopher.

SHANNON
What? No way-

DIEGO
Shut up. You're doing it.

Diego checks his WATCH.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Three hours, then everyone meets at the warehouse.

(beat)

You three better clean up if you're hitting the club. You look like shit.

EXT. UNDERGROUND NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

The music POUNDS even out here. Christine, Jason, and Scott walk past a LONG LINE of hopeful patrons. Christine is wearing a TASTEFUL, but sexy, dress. Scott is just this side of GUIDO. Jason looks like his little brother.

Scott struts, pleased with himself.

CHRISTINE

Is discreet hard to understand?

SCOTT

I'm not killing anyone, am I?

The trio are stopped from entering by a BOUNCER.

BOUNCER

Jersey Shore goes to the back of the line.

CHRISTINE

They're my dates.

BOUNCER

You can do better.

SCOTT

Okay, asshole, you've had your fun...

The bouncer levels a glare.

BOUNCER

The girl and little guy goes in. You get to go anywhere else.

The bouncer stands to the side. Christine makes to enter.

SCOTT

Christine, are you serious?

Christine places a HAND on the bouncer's ARM. She locks EYES with him, authority in her VOICE.

CHRISTINE
They both come.

The bouncer nods, then waves Jason and Scott in. As the three enter-

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
(venomous)
Discreet, you fool.

INT. UNDERGROUND NIGHT CLUB - CONTINUOUS

It's loud and obscene - an assault on the eyes and ears. Of course, it's packed with flesh too young to have good taste.

CHRISTINE
Find a dark corner and stay put.

SCOTT
Where the fuck are you going?

CHRISTINE
To do my job. Do yours and stay out of sight.

Christine is gone before Scott can object. Jason bobs on his heels.

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Shannon looks into the BACK of the cold storage truck with a FLASHLIGHT. There are SIX ROWS of unconscious VAMPIRES stacked on metal slats FIVE HIGH. TUBES run from both of all their arms.

Light bleeds into the space from NUMEROUS bullet holes.

SHANNON
At least they got air holes.

CRAIG (O.S.)
How many are alive?

SHANNON
Twenty?

Craig is busy working with CHEMISTRY EQUIPMENT on tables. There are CASES of BOTTLED WATER on the ground.

CRAIG
That's enough. Pull out the transfer hose.

SHANNON
Um, the what?

CRAIG
The panel right there.

Shannon sees the PANEL he's pointing to in the truck. She opens it, revealing a NOZZLE and a BUTTON.

CRAIG (CONT'D)
Connect the hose there.

Shannon pulls on the nozzle and connects it to a MACHINE.

SHANNON
Look at you, Mr. Wizard.

CRAIG
Turn the hose on.

Shannon looks lost again.

CRAIG (CONT'D)
Come on. The big red button.

SHANNON
(pressing the button)
I got it. You don't have to be a
dick.

BLOOD is siphoned from the stored vampires through the hose and into Craig's equipment. Craig is focused on the process.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
So, we don't get much time
together.
(beat)
It's nice. This is nice.

CRAIG
You didn't seem so happy earlier.

SHANNON
Come on, who doesn't want to stalk
some clubbers? But this is good.

Craig continues to work, not engaging Shannon.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
I was wondering what you thought
about something.

Craig measures out some chemicals. Shannon continues.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
Jason and Christine. What do you-

CRAIG
Don't. Just stop right there.

SHANNON
What?

CRAIG
This game you're playing is old and tired, Shannon.

SHANNON
What are you talking about?

CRAIG
From the moment we took you in, you worked this angle. Always looking to push Christine out.

SHANNON
I don't... I never...

CRAIG
I don't care. To be honest, I like Christine. Fuck. God knows we could use someone more human around here.

SHANNON
I don't know what the fuck-

CRAIG
Go, just go. Get Carlos' drugs. I need to combine them with the blood now.

SHANNON
Sure. Fine. Whatever.

Shannon leaves. Craig goes back to work, pouring an amount of RED POWDER into a GREY VIAL and capping it off.

INT. UNDERGROUND NIGHT CLUB, STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Christine closes the DOOR behind her, muting the musical din. She steps forward into the heavily SHADOWED room, scanning.

CHRISTINE
Hans?

Hans steps OUT and Christine runs and embraces him.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Hans! On, my God, you're alive. I can't...

After a few BEATS the two part.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

I don't understand. The warehouse fire. Diego said you died.

INSERT CUT: Inside a burning warehouse, Diego is lying on his back as Hans points a GUN at him. We HEAR wrenching METAL and Hans looks up. A section of the ROOF comes down. Hans DIVES. Diego ROLLS and comes to his feet. He sees Hans trapped under a BURNING PILE of metal debris.

HANS

Yes. It was... necessary you all believe that.

CHRISTINE

What? Why?

HANS

Christine, I have done things that will be hard to hear. The choices I made, there was no other way.

CHRISTINE

I don't understand. How could you let me think you were dead?

INTERCUT:

INT. UNDERGROUND NIGHT CLUB, BAR - SAME TIME

Scott, drink in hand, leers at the GIRLS on the dance floor. One makes eye contact and her expression sours, to his amusement.

JASON

I don't think this is what Christine had in mind.

SCOTT

You need to get off her tit. It fucks with your head.

JASON

What are you talking about?

SCOTT
Our blood is like a drug. Anyone
feeds off it enough and you own
their ass.

Jason watches a fit ASIAN GIRL dance in the middle of the club all alone. His eyes follow her slender lines, the sweat beading on her exposed chest and neck. They lock eyes and there's no doubt she's interested.

Jason forces himself to look away, gasping from the effort.

JASON
I had no idea.

SCOTT
Of course you didn't. It wouldn't
be a problem if you'd fucking kill
someone already.

JASON
I don't think-

SCOTT
It's amazing you think I care about
anything you have to say.

JASON
What the hell is your problem with
me?

SCOTT
My problem is that you're here,
right now, talking to me, and not
in a hole five hours that way.
(beat)
You're prey, Jason. You. Are. Food.

Scott JABS his finger into Jason's chest. Jason POPS him in the mouth with supernatural speed. He immediately realizes he fucked up.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
Okay. Now I have to kill you.

Scott is SPUN AROUND. VINCENT (20s), powerful, lean, someone who is used to being feared, stands there, pleased.

VINCENT
Scott. It has been too long.

SCOTT
Vinny...

Scott's bravado drops.

Christine looks like she's been sucker punched by Hans' revelation.

CHRISTINE

Corina? You sold us out to Corina?

HANS

I had no choice. The drug is too dangerous. It was only a matter of time before we were hunted down, or ordered to distribute it. It would start a war.

CHRISTINE

You should have told me. I would have helped you!

HANS

The betrayal is my own. I couldn't ask you to do that.

CHRISTINE

But you can now?

HANS

If there was another way... please. I have to know what Diego is planning.

On Christine's PAINED expression...

Vincent has his arm over Scott's shoulder.

VINCENT

Scott, who's your friend here? I saw him smack you in the mouth and I knew I had to meet him.

SCOTT

Jason, meet Vinny the Douche.

VINCENT

(off Jason's look)

Ah, don't mind him. Scott and I go way back, don't we, Scott? The name's Vincent LaRouche.

JASON

Jason Mitchell.

VINCENT

Jason Mitchell, eh? That's a good strong name. Sounds like a fighter pilot's name. Lieutenant Jason "Sidewinder" Mitchell. I like it.

(beat)

What do you think, Scott?

SCOTT

I think it's weird you've got a hardon for a man's name.

VINCENT

And there it is. There's what I've been missing. Do you see it, Sidewinder? Mind if I call you that?

JASON

Uh, sure?

VINCENT

Great. But do you know what I'm talking about, Sidewinder? That quintessential American go-fuck-yourself attitude that made this country great.

JASON

Uh... yeah...?

SCOTT

It's been weird, Vinny, but Jason and I have somewhere to be.

Scott turns to leave but THREE LARGE BODYGUARDS block him.

VINCENT

Corina is looking for you. And Corina gets what Corina wants. Save yourself some pain and tell me where everyone is.

Vincent gives his goons a look and they GRAB Scott.

SCOTT

He's not invited to the party?

VINCENT

Sidewinder? Please. He practically has new car smell. No, it's you, my friend, who has the details I need.

Vincent nods and the goons drag Scott away. Jason steps forward but Vincent puts out his arm.

VINCENT (CONT'D)
Don't involve yourself in this,
Sidewinder. I still like you.

SCOTT
Wait! Wait! How about a deal?

VINCENT
What could you possibly offer me?

SCOTT
I'll take your guys to Diego. You
can deliver him personally.

VINCENT
I've seen this movie, Scott. You
need to do better.

SCOTT
Jason! You can keep Jason!

JASON
You son of a-

In a BLUR, Jason lunges at Scott, sending them across the club. As Jason presses the attack...

The sounds of the BRAWL reach into the STORAGE AREA.

Christine gives Hans an anguished look and she turns and leaves.

HANS
I'm sorry.

Christine is gone. Hans steps back into the shadows.

Christine walks in on a RIOT on the club floor - the entire club is fighting. She spots Scott fending off Vincent's goons. Jason is surrounded. She grabs a BOUNCER and points, authoritative.

CHRISTINE
Go help him.

She follows behind the bouncer as he makes a beeline for Jason. He breaks up the fight with little effort. Christine grabs Jason and he swings at her. She lithely sidesteps.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
I'm getting us out of here.

JASON
Sounds good!

CHRISTINE
Scott!

Scott snaps a goon's knee then looks up, seeing Christine.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
(to bouncer)
Take us out back!

The bouncer obeys, punching a path clear.

EXT. NIGHT CLUB, ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

A heavy industrial DOOR swings open and the trio come running out. The bouncer stands in the opening - waiting.

CHRISTINE
Thank you. You can go.

The bouncer closes the door behind himself.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
What in the hell happened?

Jason LUNGES at Scott, landing furious blows.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
What are you doing!

Scott SLAMS Jason into a WALL and handily beats him into the ground. He STOMPS Jason relentlessly.

SCOTT
You're out of your league, little man!

The beating doesn't stop until Christine HITS Scott across the head with a PIPE. He reels away.

CHRISTINE
Don't you go near him!

SCOTT
Uh-oh. Is momma grizzly mad?

CHRISTINE
(commanding)
Go back to the warehouse.

SCOTT
 Sorry, princess, your Jedi mind
 tricks won't work on me.

Scott runs at Christine and bats the PIPE away. He grabs her by the THROAT and presses her against a DUMPSTER.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 You're just so perfect. Hans'
 little porcelain doll. Why couldn't
 we ever get to play with you?

Christine swings at him but he catches her fist and SNAPS her wrist. She screams. He then tears open her dress, exposing her to the cold air.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Look at you. So clean.

He runs his hand over her bared stomach and up to her breast. She BUCKS but he SLAMS her head into the dumpster, HARD, dazing her.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Don't, don't. I can be kind.

With his free hand he undoes his pants and forces himself inside of her.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 I can be kind. I can be kind.

Jason starts to come to and he sees Scott raping Christine. He looks around a spots a JAGGED PIPE.

Scott thrusts faster - almost finished - bares his FANGS, and moves toward Christine's NECK... until a PIPE is SHOVED through his CHEST.

Scott stumbles back, dropping Christine to the ground. Jason LEAPS onto him and buries his FANGS into his jugular.

The fight quickly drains from Scott and Jason rides him to the ground. Jason never stops FEEDING.

CHRISTINE
 (barely conscious)
 Jason, no, you have to stop!

Lethargically she reaches to pull Jason off but he SHOVES her away violently.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
 You don't know what you're doing!

Jason wraps his arms around Scott, like an embrace, and pushes forward. Scott's face is ASHEN.

SCOTT

Jason... Jason... I don't want to die...

Jason closes his eyes and GROWLS. Scott looks into the darkness of the alley and see a BLACK WOLF baring its canines.

Scott reaches out to it. The wolf charges forward and RUNS THROUGH Scott and INTO Jason. Scott's body crumbles to DUST.

We stay here for a few beats with Christine's horror. Jason's back is to us.

FADE TO:

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE, OFFICE - NIGHT

Shannon is tearing the room apart in a frenzy - SCREAMING.

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE - SAME TIME

Shannon's rage is heard even out here. Diego is unreadable as Christine lies to his face, nursing her wrist. Jason stays BACK.

CHRISTINE

When we got into the alley they were waiting for us. We ran. Scott got hit and they killed him.

Diego remains stone-faced.

DIEGO

And your informant?

CHRISTINE

He didn't tell me anything we don't already know now.

DIEGO

(to Jason)

You're pretty quiet. Is that how it went down?

JASON

Yeah. Scott got himself killed.

Diego snarls and grabs him. The LIGHTS flicker. Christine is startled by the sudden violence. Craig walks in.

DIEGO
What was that, smartass?

DARKNESS presses in on the pair.

CHRISTINE
Diego...

DIEGO
You think just because she has her
stink on you you're safe?

The DARKNESS spreads across the FLOOR, REACHING OUT to Jason.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
I would trade a hundred of you for
any them.

CRAIG
Diego!

Diego snaps his head toward Craig and the SHADOWS DART that way. Craig DIVES clear as the WALL behind him EXPLODES. Diego drops Jason, looks over the three of them, and walks out. No one moves.

FADE TO:

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE, OFFICE - LATER

Diego sets a large METAL DESK upright when Craig walks in. Diego doesn't pay him any attention.

CRAIG
Jesus, she fucked this place up.

DIEGO
If you're looking for an apology-

CRAIG
No. Not that.

DIEGO
Then what the hell do you want?

CRAIG
Answers.

Diego plants his ass in an upright office chair and puts his feet up on the desk.

DIEGO
Please. The door is open.

CRAIG
What are we doing, Diego?

DIEGO
Killing a bunch of people. I
thought that was clear.

CRAIG
When this was just about avenging
Hans, I was down. Now Scott is
dead. Shannon is-

DIEGO
This was never about avenging Hans.

CRAIG
What?

DIEGO
Hans wasn't ambushed in El Paso. We
were.

CRAIG
What are you-

DIEGO
Hans betrayed us!

With a solid shove Diego sends the metal desk skittering
across the floor. Craig slams his palms down onto it,
stopping it cold.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Hans turned us in. To Corina.

CRAIG
Does Christine know?

DIEGO
Fuck her.

There's a tense silence, then...

CRAIG
This is about Corina?

DIEGO
Hans was supposed to be family.
(beat)
He cared more about Corina's cattle
than us!

(MORE)

DIEGO (CONT'D)

(beat)

Well, now I'm going to remind her
what wolves do to cattle.

CUT TO:

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE, LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Jason is lying on a BEDROLL when Christine enters.

CHRISTINE

Want some company?

JASON

Not really.

She turns to leave.

JASON (CONT'D)

Do you want some company?

CHRISTINE

Yes.

Jason moves over and Christine lies next to him.

JASON

Scott was going to kill us. Shannon
too. They planned it.

CHRISTINE

I know.

JASON

I can see his memories in my
head... It's like he's inside me.

CHRISTINE

I know.

JASON

You don't sound happy about it.

CHRISTINE

It's just... you didn't take his
life, you took him. Scott's part of
you now.

(beat)

You're a vampire who feeds on
vampires, Jason. There's no
protecting you if that gets out.

JASON
(exhausted)
What are we doing, Christine? What
am I involved with?

CHRISTINE
Its complicated.

JASON
I deserve to know.

Christine is quiet for a few beats, then it all comes out.

CHRISTINE
We were selling a drug laced with
our blood. It fucked people up and
we made a killing. But Craig kept
tinkering, trying to make it
something special.

JASON
What does the drug do?

CHRISTINE
It's like Ecstasy and cannibalism
had a kid. The get our hunger
until they burn out. No one
survives.
(beat)
A bite passes it on like a disease.
It could wipe out whole
neighborhoods.

JASON
What the hell were you thinking?

CHRISTINE
We didn't know, I swear. When we
found out, Hans did everything in
his power to put the genie back
inside the bottle. But it was too
late. Word had gotten out and
people wanted it.

JASON
And that's when...

CHRISTINE
That's when he went to Corina.

Jason sits up.

JASON

Who is Corina? Vincent said she's looking for you.

INSERT CUT: A curvaceous red-haired woman looks over her city from behind a glass wall in the nude. WE PUSH IN on her, but we never see her face.

CHRISTINE (V.O.)

She owns this region, runs it like her own fiefdom, and I guess it sorta is. But she's a creature of order... and she's used to getting her way.

JASON

Why would Hans go to her?

CHRISTINE

Because no one would listen to him. Diego may love Hans as much as I do, but he is what he is. All of them are.

JASON

Monsters. Like me.

CHRISTINE

No. You're nothing like us.

Christine watches Jason for his reaction, then kisses him deeply. As they get intimate we PULL BACK and out of the room - revealing Craig standing next to the entrance. His face is unreadable as he walks away.

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Craig packs CASES OF BOTTLED WATER, now tinted RED, into a DELIVERY VAN when Christine and Jason enter.

CRAIG

Hope you two slept good. There's a lot to get done.

JASON

Where's Diego?

DIEGO (O.S.)

Right here.

Diego and Shannon walk in.

JASON
I didn't see you.

SHANNON
And that's your problem, Jay.

CHRISTINE
What's going on?

SHANNON
Jay and I are gonna go for a walk.
(to Jason)
We got a chore for you, m'kay?

JASON
I don't-

SHANNON
Have a choice. Come on, now. Messes
don't clean themselves.

DIEGO
Go.

Jason follows Shannon out.

CHRISTINE
What are you doing?

Diego ignores her.

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE, GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Through a SIDE DOOR Shannon and Jason enter. There's nothing here but the COLD STORAGE TRUCK.

SHANNON
Finally, we're alone! You know,
this was all I ever wanted, Jason.
I didn't care about Kyle. He was an
idiot. But you're something
special. You care.

JASON
What are you talking about?

SHANNON
Come on, lets be honest. You want
me.

JASON
What?

SHANNON

Don't worry, I get it. Christine is the one you marry. But me? I'm the one you see when you're fucking her.

JASON

I don't... I don't want to sleep with you.

SHANNON

You sure? Because there's something in you that does. I can smell it on you and it wants me bad.

Shannon is up on Jason and grabs his groin.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Yeah. It's there.

Jason pushes her away a little too hard.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Okay. Maybe later. Maybe you need a mood. I know Scott liked one.

Shannon points to the cold storage truck.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Open it. I got a present for you.
(Jason hesitates)
Go on. It'll barely bite.

Jason opens the back of the truck and a number of desiccated VAMPIRES tumble out. They're dripping wet.

JASON

The fuck is this?

SHANNON

A test, Jay. We want to see your killer instinct. Here's your chance to show us.

JASON

What?

SHANNON

Catch.

Shannon tosses him a CANISTER.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
 Everything is covered with
 gasoline. That's the match.
 (beat)
 Forget that they're innocent.
 Forget that they have families and
 lovers, and clean this mess up.

JASON
 Are you insane?

SHANNON
 Then give yourself to them. Let
 them feed and maybe they'll live a
 little longer.
 (beat)
 Whose life matters more, Jay?
 Theirs or yours?

The vampires stumble over one another, slowly closing on
 Jason.

JASON
 I can't! This is wrong!

The vampires use some speed and in a BLUR one latches onto
 Jason's arm and another his leg. He struggles to peel them
 off as more near.

SHANNON
 It's your choice! Kill or be
 killed!

More claw and bite into his flesh. Jason ROARS and tosses one
 vampire back into the truck. He kicks another into the
 truck's bumper.

Free now, he throws the canister THROUGH a third's chest and
 INTO the truck. The truck bursts into flames and the fire
 spreads to engulf the remaining vampires.

Jason's gasoline drenched clothes catch flame but he strips
 them off before real harm is done. Naked he makes for the
 exit but Shannon grabs his arm.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
 A predator watches his prey die.

Jason watches the flames consume flesh as Shannon coos into
 his ear. We PUSH IN on Jason's face - mesmerized.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Take it in. That's the power you have, Jason. You're the fire that will burn the world.

Shannon wraps her arms around Jason and turns him around. She pulls off her shirt.

Jason smiles and pushes her to the ground. He rips her pants away and forces himself into her. Shannon cries out. He bites down into her breast and she cradles him like a suckling infant as he continues to mercilessly thrust.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

That's right, Scott. I'm here for you, baby. I'm here.

CUT TO:

INT. DECREPIT WAREHOUSE - LATER

Jason and Shannon enter wearing DELIVERY UNIFORMS. Everyone else is suited up the same.

DIEGO

Everything good?

SHANNON

Couldn't be better.

Jason is awkward as Christine approaches him.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

I just made sure there was a man under there.

Shannon leave the two of them alone.

CHRISTINE

Are you okay?

JASON

Yeah. I'm fine. Everything's good.

Shannon isn't convinced.

DIEGO

Load up! We're rollin' out.

Jason is quick to get into the van. Christine is the last inside. Diego drives.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONCERT - NIGHT

A QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS covering the concert on the RIVER. People having a good time on a clear night.

CUT TO:

EXT. DELIVERY VAN - NIGHT

The delivery van is waved through a GATE. An ATTENDANT points Diego in a direction. He pulls up to a...

EXT. LOADING DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Diego gets out and a ROADIE approaches him.

ROADIE
Woah. What's going on, man?

DIEGO
I got an order for fumumbler...

ROADIE
(leaning in)
What?

Diego snaps his neck. Everyone files out of the van. Craig starts loading up a DOLLY with CASES of SMALL WATER BOTTLES with a reddish tint. Shannon winks at Christine.

SHANNON
Ready to make a mess?

CHRISTINE
(to Diego)
I'm gonna go keep a look out.

SHANNON
What?

DIEGO
No. We do this together.

He pushes a DOLLY into her hands. Craig loads it. Diego points at Jason.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Over here.

He hands Jason a GRAY VIAL.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 Go around that way. You'll see a yellow door marked 'Pumping Station.' I want that dumped into the drinking water.

JASON
 Diego, I think-

DIEGO
 Don't think. It's time to trust me now, okay?

JASON
 ...okay.

DIEGO
 Go.

Jason gives Christine a look, then leaves.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 (to Craig)
 We good?

CRAIG
 I'm betting there's a lot of thirsty people out there.

DIEGO
 Don't keep them waiting.

CUT TO:

EXT. PUMPING STATION - NIGHT

Jason rounds a corner and finds the yellow door. He tries the handle and it's LOCKED. He looks around then tries again with effort. METAL SNAPS and the door gives.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCERT - NIGHT

Shannon stops in an aisle and tears open a water case. She hands out bottles to the sweaty audience. INSERT SHOTS of Christine and Craig doing the same.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCERT, BACK STAGE - NIGHT

Diego, water case under arm, passes out bottles to the crew.

INTERCUT BETWEEN JASON, CRAIG, DIEGO, AND SHANNON

Jason is turned around but finds a MAP on the wall. He finds FRESH WATER RECYCLING and heads that way.

Diego hands his last bottle to a GUARD watching the MAIN STAGE. Diego watches the PERFORMING ACT.

DIEGO
Hot as hell, man.

GUARD
You're telling me.

Shannon flirts with a BRO MAN as he drinks her last bottle.

Craig is in with the crowd on the ground dancing.

Christine has walked away from her remaining cases, but the audience is picking from them. She looks at her PHONE. A message reads: STAY PUT

Jason finds the door labelled "Fresh Water Recycling." It's LOCKED. Like the door into this area, Jason snaps the handle open and enters.

The band finishes a song and the crowd cheers. Diego goes to step on STAGE.

GUARD (CONT'D)
You can't go out there.

DIEGO
Oh, right. Lost my head.

The guard backs down and Diego twists his HEAD OFF in a clean motion and steps forward.

INTERCUT:

INT. CONCERT, MAIN STAGE - CONTINUOUS

Diego applauds as he crosses the stage to the LEAD SINGER. The band doesn't know what to think.

DIEGO
Can I borrow that?

SINGER

What? No. Get the fuck off.

DIEGO

I just need it for a minute.

Diego CRUSHES the singer's hand, forcing him to drop the microphone. Diego turns to the crowd.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Hello Austin!

The crowd roars.

The Bro Man Shannon is talking to looks distracted.

SHANNON

Hey, you okay? You need something?

BRO MAN

Yeah, I just-

A HIPSTER bumps into him.

BRO MAN (CONT'D)

Hey, watch where you're fucking going.

HIPSTER

Yeah. Whatever.

Bro Man turns him back around forcefully.

HIPSTER (CONT'D)

What the fuck's your problem, man?

Bro Man PUNCHES Hipster then SNAPS his elbow. Hipster screams.

Things are getting violent around Craig too. Harmless nudges degrade into full fist fights. A BUSTY GIRL in a bikini top is thrown into Craig. She swings at him.

BUSTY GIRL

Were you trying to cop a feel, you psycho?

CRAIG

I think I should probably go.

BUSTY GIRL

No, fuck that!

The Busty Girl goes to swing again, but Craig quickly snaps her neck.

CRAIG
Yeah. Time to go.

CUT TO:

INT. SNIPER SCOPE - SAME TIME

CROSSHAIRS rest on Diego's head.

SNIPER (V.O.)
I have eyes on target.

SOLDIER
(over radio)
Lost sight of package. Reacquiring.

BACK TO:

A SOLDIER in a black suit has his finger to his earwig. We PULL WIDE and see he's NEAR Christine but looking in the wrong direction. A MASSIVE BRAWL separates the two.

Diego wraps up addressing the raucous crowd.

DIEGO
It was great being here! I hope Austin remembers this night for years to come!

BASS PLAYER
(to band)
Yo, we have to get out of here. The crowd is going nuts!

DIEGO
Wait, guys. You haven't played my favorite song.

SINGER
What are you talking about?
They're fucking out for blood!

DIEGO
That reminds me: I'm a little thirsty too.

SINGER
What?

Diego attacks the Singer, ripping a chunk of meat from his neck. The band recoils.

DIEGO
Looks like you need a new singer.

The concert is a full blown RIOT. Everyone is either fighting or FEEDING. Normal humans are acting like bloodthirsty vampires - minus the fangs. They TEAR pieces of flesh from one another, feeding on the dead and living alike.

Shannon revels in the carnage, killing anyone who passes by. Christine finds her.

CHRISTINE
We have to go!

SHANNON
Fuck that!

Christine goes for Shannon's arm and Shannon PUNCHES Christine, flattening her. Shannon hops from one foot to the other like a boxer warming up.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
This is gonna be fun.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONCERT, EXITS - SAME TIME

The mob runs out of the concert in terror only to be GUNNED DOWN by COMMANDOS behind a line of BLACK SUVs.

COMMANDO
(into radio)
The crowd has reached the perimeter.

HANS
(over radio)
Maintain your position.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCERT, SUITE - NIGHT

Hans overlooks the massacre from high above.

HANS
 (into radio)
 No one survives.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOADING DOCK - SAME TIME

A team of commandos gun down anything that moves as they race for the BACK STAGE ENTRANCE.

Jason rounds a corner, running, when they spot him. He leaps at them.

COMMANDO
 Tag him!

Three commandos fire TAZER DARTS into Jason, dropping him mid-vault.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCERT - SAME TIME

Shannon THROWS Christine into a ROW OF SEATS and LEAPS after her. DISTANT GUNFIRE punctuates the fight.

SHANNON
 Come on, Chrissy. You're not gonna see the show from down there.

Shannon reaches down for Christine, but Christine rips a SEAT from its HINGES and HITS Shannon with it.

CHRISTINE
 You look dizzy, Shannon. Maybe you should have a seat!

Christine brings the seat down HARD on Shannon's head. She turns to retreat but Shannon is right in front of her.

SHANNON
 You hurt my feelings, Chrissy.

CHRISTINE
 You're easily offended.

SHANNON
 You promise not to get mad if I tell you something?

CHRISTINE
Sure. Cross my heart.

SHANNON
I fucked your boyfriend.

Shannon PULLS a PISTOL and empties it into Christine, dropping her again. Shannon leans in, whispering in Christine's ear.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
(singing)
I fucked your boyfriend and he
liked it!

CHRISTINE
Jason would never...

SHANNON
We both know Jason didn't come home
alone.
(beat)
It was twisted; Scott inside of him
while he was inside of me.

CHRISTINE
Liar!

Christine hits Shannon like a SHOCKWAVE. It sends Shannon off her feet, but Christine grabs her by the ankle and SLAMS her into the ground, Incredible Hulk style. Shannon rolls over - groaning and laughing.

SHANNON
Your little pet doesn't have eyes
just for you, Chrissy. I'm in his
blood now.

Christine lifts Shannon into the air.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
Is this where you kill me? I don't
think Jay would like that.

Christine puts Shannon down and takes a step back.

SHANNON (CONT'D)
You always stay clean.

CHRISTINE
I am tired of hearing your voice.
(beat)
Shannon, would you give me your
throat?

Shannon's face contorts as her body betrays her and her hand goes to her neck.

Christine extends her hand, waiting for her prize.

Shannon's fingers plunge into her neck and remove the organ. She hands it to Christine. Christine spots a grouping of audience members eating a screaming man.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
Why don't you wrestle them for it.

Christine tosses the organ at the grouping and Shannon dives after it. She's quickly overwhelmed and consumed.

HANS (O.S.)
You've changed.

CHRISTINE
She never knew when to shut up.

HANS
Yes. Ready to go?

CHRISTINE
Where's everyone else?

HANS
Craig and Jason are in custody.
Diego...

He points to the main stage. Commandos surround Diego. Three TAZE him into submission. Christine looks around the concert as commandos kill everyone in sight.

CHRISTINE
Was this the only way?

HANS
It was the price... for you.

Hans motions and Christine walks forward, dejected.

FADE TO:

INT. PENTHOUSE, SANCTUM - NIGHT

CHAINS rattle as Diego comes to. He's chained to the ground in front of Corina's pool of blood. He looks up and sees Jason and Craig each chained to a pillar, unconscious.

DIEGO
Guard, I can smell you. Where am I?

CHOIR
You're in my home.

DIEGO
Corina.
(regarding chains)
Did I upset you?

CHOIR
Titles will be observed.

DIEGO
I get it. Your home is your castle.
So what now, my queen?

CHOIR
A choice.

DIEGO
This ought to be good.

CHOIR
Become my fist.

DIEGO
Or?

CHOIR
Insult me.

DIEGO
That's easy. Go fuck yourself.

CHOIR
My grace.

DIEGO
Right. Go fuck yourself, my grace.

CHOIR
We haven't discussed boons.

DIEGO
This has to be the most fucked up
timeshare pitch ever.
(beat)
Sure. Let's have it.

Christina is escorted in, shackled, by a GUARD.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Okay. Unconventional but-

Hans walks in, shackled and covered by two GUARDS. Diego loses it - roaring and lunging like a wild beast at Hans. Only the chains keep him from killing the man.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 Traitor! I'll rip your fucking
 throat out!

Tendrils of blood reach up from the pool and pull on Diego's chains, dragging him to the ground and to the lip of the pool.

CHOIR
 Calm yourself. I have no use for a
 rabid dog.

HANS
 I delivered what I promised. You
 gave your word!

CHOIR
 Your muse lives! That was our
 agreement.
 (beat)
 But the fire you allowed to consume
 my city for her sake must be
 answered with equal fury.

More tendrils of blood sprout from the pool and reach out to rake Diego's body. He cries out in agony. Where the tendrils touch flesh rends and THICK BONE SPURS protrude.

Diego's wailing wakes Craig and Jason, they're understandably startled.

CRAIG
 Oh shit.

The messy work done, the tendrils melt back into the pool. Diego is bent over, a hulking mass of muscle and bone.

CHOIR
 Enter into covenant with me, Diego.
 Become my fist and slake your
 vengeance.

DIEGO
 Yes, my queen.

Tendrils strike at Diego's bindings, shattering them. He doesn't hesitate and charges Hans. Christine yells at a guard.

CHRISTINE

Shoot him!

The guard opens up on Diego, sending him sprawling across the ground. A second guard shoots down the first.

In a BLUR Christine and Hans overpower the third guard, killing him. Hans shoots the second guard, then their bindings. Diego gets back to his feet.

HANS

Run!

CHRISTINE

Jason!

HANS

There's no time!

Hans grabs Christine by the arm and drags her out with Diego hot on their tail.

Jason and Craig look dumbfounded. Then they look at the pool.

CRAIG

Fuck this.

Craig plants his foot against his pillar and strains against the chain.

CHOIR

(amused)

What do you think you are doing?

CRAIG

Hit my quota of crazy. Time to call it a day.

After a few more moments of effort the chain snaps. Craig cheers. Then a tendril bats him THROUGH THE WALL-

INTERCUT:

INT. PENTHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Into the penthouse proper. He crashes into a guard, tumbles over a COUCH and-

INTERCUT:

INT. PENTHOUSE, ANTEROOM - CONTINUOUS

Skids to a stop at Christine's and Hans' feet. He looks around and sees three dead guards. The pair are RELOADING.

CRAIG

What the...

HANS

Grab a gun. We're moving.

Jason is stunned into stillness for a moment, then starts to furiously pull at his own chain.

CHOIR

Jason.

He freezes.

CHOIR (CONT'D)

Why are you afraid, child? I'm not angry with you.

CORINA (O.S.)

You're innocent.

Jason stops and slowly turns his head. Corina is just inches from him, her breathtakingly beautiful nude form extending out of the pool like an appendage.

Christine, Hans, and Craig dart from one piece of cover to another as the guards quickly pulverize anything they're behind. Finally, Diego raises his hands, stopping the gunfire.

DIEGO

(to Christine and Craig)

I only want Hans!

CRAIG

This is nuts, Diego. You think Corina is gonna let any of us walk?

DIEGO

I'll protect you.

Craig stands though Christine tries to keep him down. He walks into the open.

CRAIG

You're working for her!

Diego swings at Craig, but he darts to the side and rolls to his feet.

CRAIG (CONT'D)

Hans came to us first, he had honor. You? You'll kill anyone to get what you want.

Diego roars and swings again, but Craig CATCHES his fist. Bone protrudes from the back of Craig's BLOODIED HAND.

But then the blood CRYSTALLIZES, turning JAGGED. Craig wrenches his hand free and blood seeps from his skin, covering his body in a coating of crystallized ARMOR.

He and Diego lunge at one another. Craig is faster, but Diego is stronger. Craig is able to slash and stab at Diego, but takes a lot of powerful hits. When Craig can block, crystallized blood SHATTERS but quickly reforms.

Christine and Hans work at thinning the guards' ranks with deadly accurate gunfire.

Corina floats above the pool, elegant and monstrous.

CORINA

How old are you, Jason?

JASON

22.

CORINA

You're barely out of your infancy. How did you come upon these people? Did they attack you?

JASON

Kyle and I met them at a party.

CORINA

Kyle? I do not know him. Where is he?

Jason expression darkens.

CORINA (CONT'D)

Oh, I see. But why not kill you too?

(beat)

One of them took to you.

(beat)

Christine took to you.

Craig and Diego's brawl goes back and forth across the living area. The guards can only take potshots at Hans and Christine.

Hans and Christine use the lull to strategize.

CHRISTINE

I'm not leaving without Jason.

HANS

I'm down to three bullets. Diego is going to pulverize Craig any minute.

(beat)

We need to make a break for the elevator.

CHRISTINE

I won't leave him behind.

HANS

What other choice do we have?

There's a LOUD CRASH and the two look up and see Diego standing over Craig. Hans gives Christina a look.

CHRISTINE

No.

Corina caresses Jason's cheek with the back of her hand.

CORINA

You poor little thing. Look at what they turned you in to. What would your mother say?

(beat)

Let me free you from all of this.

JASON

Why would you do that?

CORINA

I know what Christina sees in you, for I see it too. It is a rare treasure to behold.

(beat)

You, my young boy, care.

Hans gives Christine the bullets from his gun.

HANS

Take these.

CHRISTINE

What? Why?

He takes her gun from her, pops the magazine, loads the ammo, and hands it back to her.

HANS

When I go, make a break for the
elevator. Understand?

CHRISTINE

Hans, I can't! I won't leave
Jason!

HANS

You have no choice! Go!

Hans charges Diego with supernatural speed, leaping into the air to tackle him. Diego grabs him in mid-air, spins him around, and SLAMS him THROUGH a HEAVY TABLE.

DIEGO

Hello, Hans.

Diego smashes his forehead into Hans' face over and over.

Corina reaches over and SNAPS Jason's bindings open.

CORINA

Stay with me, Jason. Become my
consort. In turn I will see that
you are pleased in ways you
cannot imagine.

JASON

If I refuse?

A tendril lashes out at Jason, cutting a deep gash into his cheek. He recoils but Corina takes him by the chin and LICKS the wound closed.

CORINA

There is pain in this world.
Unimaginable pain.
(beat)
Let me protect you.

Corina floats back and submerges into her pool.

CHOIR

Be with me. Now.

Jason crawls to the edge of the pool. He dips his hand in and the CHOIR MOANS.

He looks up and sees Diego beating Hans THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE WALL Corina made by batting Craig outside. And he sees Christine peeking around cover.

And she sees him.

Everything SLOWS as Christine watches Jason plunge into Corina's pool. Her world shatters in that moment.

CHRISTINE
(horrified)

No!

Christine darts from cover out into the open, making a line for Jason. Diego reaches out, however, and SWATS her into a grouping of GUARDS.

A guard reaches down to her but she grabs his arm and pulls him off balance. She shoots one guard in the face and another in the shoulder.

Using the first guard as a shield against incoming fire, Christine fires her final round into the throat of a third guard. Gun spent, she drops it and pulls the sidearm of her human shield from its holster, and continues to fire.

The remaining guards are kept off balance until Diego picks up a dead guard's body and LOBS it into Christine.

He lumbers over, digs her out, and holds her in the air by her jaw. When her eyes open Diego jerks her head to the side, exposing her neck. He grins, ready to taste her lifeblood.

The surface of the pool RIPPLES and the CHOIR MOANS IN ECSTASY.

Then they SCREAM IN PAIN.

Then the POOL EXPLODES.

HUNDREDS of gallons of blood are evacuated from the pool in a split second. Jason stands at the bottom of the pool, defiant.

Corina scrambles up the stairs of the pool, away from Jason, panicked.

CORINA
What... what did you do to me!

Jason tosses the EMPTY GRAY VIAL into her lap as he closes in on her.

CORINA (CONT'D)
No! Stay back! Guards! Guards!

Corina backs herself against the wall and Jason crouches down next to her, watching her. Like she's a insect. Enjoying it.

CORINA (CONT'D)

You cannot do this to me. I am
power. I am-

JASON

Old.

Corina is stunned into silence. Jason lets her reel.

Thin tendrils of blood coalesce behind Jason and bend in toward him like spears. Jason's FANGS extend.

JASON (CONT'D)

Let me protect you.

Jason bites hungrily into Corina's neck. The tendrils splatter to the ground. She gasps.

CORINA

No... you cannot... I cannot...

Corina sees a growling WHITE WOLF staring at her behind Jason.

The remaining TWO GUARDS watch the hole into Corina's sanctuary nervously. Diego drops Christina on top of Hans' body. He hasn't fed on her.

DIEGO

(to guards)

Get your asses in there.

Reluctantly the guards comply and disappear inside. After a few moments of silence we hear PULPY CUTTING AND TEARING NOISES and GUTTURAL SCREAMS.

Then absolute stillness once more.

Diego is frozen in a moment of uncertainty.

A lone guard stumbles back outside. He's missing an ARM. He looks up at Diego and his face twists in pain.

He looks down and FOUR TENDRILS OF BLOOD are protruding from his chest. He looks confused for a beat, then is torn into chunks.

Jason stands there after the gore clears. There's subtle satisfaction in his posture, something we haven't seen before.

Jason looks around the highlights of the room: Hans and Craig are dead. Christine is beaten and looking at Jason in horror.

He doesn't seem to notice.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Well, aren't you impressive.
(beat)
But I have tricks too.

The LIGHTS FLICKER and go out one at a time. SHADOWS dance across the WALLS and WINDOWS. The room SHUDDERS.

CHRISTINE
Jason!

Then everything goes STILL. Diego falls to his knees. Jason pulls back a BLOODY FIST. Diego looks up at Jason and spits.

DIEGO
You gonna drink my blood now, too,
freak?

JASON
No. Rabid dogs are simply disposed
of.

Jason reaches out his hand and Diego starts to spasm. DAGGERS OF BLOOD, dozens of them, rapidly flick IN AND OUT of his skin. It's as if he were being stabbed to death FROM THE INSIDE.

Diego's body collapses onto the ground. Christine looks on in disbelief. What the fuck is happening?

CHRISTINE
Jason..?

Jason looks up from his work and regards her silently for a moment. Then...

JASON
Titles, Christine, must be
observed.

Jason smiles, but neither Christine nor we know whether it's mirth or malice in the gesture.

FADE TO BLACK.