

TOO YOUNG TO DIE

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Story by  
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THIRD DRAFT  
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TITLE CARD: All children are survivors. If they weren't; there would be no adults.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE SCHOOL - DAY

A group of adults, pull back as ZOMBIES attack them, they try to protect their kids from the onslaught as they are over run by zombies. Blood splatters against the steps in front of the school, screams echo out. No one can help them.

MRS. ROBSON stares at the carnage from the doors. MR. CONNERS comes up behind her and pulls her out of the way. Zombies approach the doors. SOPHIE - a student - is behind them, she can see the death outside, terror on her face.

SOPHIE  
Don't leave them!

Her words are lost as Mr. Connors pulls the doors closed with a crash, just before zombies brace themselves against it.

CUT TO:

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Close on a phone. A man's shaking hand as he holds onto the desk.

MR. CONNERS (O.S.)  
No, do you have any idea what is happening out there?

We follow up the phone cord toward Mr. Connors as he screams down the line. Behind him we can see a group of children and another teacher.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
Then what are we supposed to do? I already told you, we tried to get there, as soon as we opened the doors, they rushed us. Those people. I know for a fact they killed at least one person... I don't care if its happening anywhere else, its happening here! What about the children? Yes, not everyone got left outside, we have...

Conners instinctively waves toward the kids and does a mental count. At the back of the room, MS ROBSON the form teacher tries to calm down the children;

BRANDON, 14, The oldest boy. He holds onto his little sister:

LINDSEY, 7, who in turn holds onto her friend,

JULIE, 6, Who shakes with fear.

SOPHIE, 13, The oldest girl. She keeps to herself as she rocks herself for comfort.

SEAN, 10, Takes in his surroundings, looking toward the windows, almost trying to keep vigil over the other kids. Behind him

SALLY, 10, and

CALLUM, 9, sit together in shock, focusing on MS Robson's face as she tries to talk them into a calm.

And TOMMY, 5, The youngest, just lies on his side sucking his thumb, his eyes glued to Mr. Conners on the phone.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)

Eight of them, and another teacher as well. No, the rest were outside when the doors closed. I don't know how many. Everyone scattered!... I know, so... We... Excuse me?... Wait for what? You're the police, that's why I am calling. Procedure? Yes, I've barred the doors, but I can hear them trying to get in, send someone over now. How safe can it be? No... I... Please? Please come here. Yes we're a priority... Everywhere? Everywhere. But the children... I. Right, I... I...

Outside of the head master's room is a main hallway which runs the length of the school. At the end the doors are locked and figures beat their bodies slowly against them, their shapes bouncing on the glass. Mr. Conners sighs and takes a moment. In the silence, we can hear the zombies banging themselves against the doors and windows. Echoing down the hall.

MS. ROBSON (O.S.)

Well...

He hangs up. The children all sit and wait. Mr. Conners crouches before them and holds his hands out, at a loss.

MR. CONNERS

... OK Children, Ms. Robson, I've spoken to the authorities. And whatever is happening, is happening all over. We are not alone. And we won't be alone.

(MORE)

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)

They'll come here and get us as soon as they can. They just... There is a lot going on. With the train crash last night and now this. But regardless, I want you all to try and keep calm. I know its scary. But we're safe inside here. And we just need to keep to ourselves and wait... And we'll be fine... OK?

The children nod and agree, keeping strong for their teachers. Brandon looks over to Sophie and puts his hand on her shoulder. She tries to smile back at him, but doesn't manage more than a smirk. She looks out toward the windows, uneasy.

FADE TO BLACK.

CREDITS ROLL AS THE NEXT FEW SCENES MONTAGE

INT. THE SCHOOL, CAFETERIA - EVENING

The teachers safeguard the children as they all eat together in the cafeteria, the room is intended for a lot more than just 10 people. They look small huddled at the table.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ms. Robson takes the girls into the ladies toilets while Mr. Connors takes his group into the boys. Keeping everyone together.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The teachers put together some make shift beds, for the kids to sleep on in the office. Taking some cloth from the other rooms. They make sure to tuck Tommy in.

TOMMY

Thank you.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY - THE NEXT DAY

The kids all play with Ms. Robson, kicking a ball around in the hallway while Mr. Connors looks out of a side window. Watching a few of the mysterious figures walk around. They have blood on them and Mr. Connors is terrified.

At the main doors, he checks the chains are tight. When he looks out the window here, he can see blood and bodies on the ground, including some of the other kids who were killed when they first opened the doors. He sighs.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - EVENING

They have pulled a TV into the room and they all watch the news report that a train has derailed near the edge of town (This shows the town from an aerial standpoint, its a small town of about 2000 people)

NEWS REPORTER

(Indistinct)

--Overwhelmed. First reports suggest this infection may have been caused by this tragic train derailment which led to the loss of an estimated 200 lives. The MOD has issued a statement that this string of violence is in fact nationwide and these individuals do appear to be infected with some sort of disease or virus. They're calling it a pandemic. Pictures are pouring in from other cities which highlight similar scenes of chaos. In this harrowing time, remember, viewers are urged to stay in doors and keep away from windows.

As the screen turns to even more images of violence and devastation from across the whole country, Mr. Connors nods to Ms. Robson to turn it off. They put on some SpongeBob. The kids all stare at it without one smile.

At the back of the room, Brandon sits beside Sophie, her face drained of color. He tries to put his arm around her but she shrugs him off. She looks away.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Sophie stands before Mr. Connors. Behind them, Tommy plays with a ball, hitting it against the wall and catching it.

SOPHIE

- But if they *did*?

MR. CONNERS

I promise, we're safe here. We have to believe that or-

Tommy's ball bounces into the hallway.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY

Tommy chases a ball down into the hallway and he can hear the banging, getting louder at the doors and windows. Curious, he approaches the noise at the window. It's just above his head height. Tommy gets closer and puts his hand on the window sill.

He tries to pull himself up - just as one of those things faces comes into view - Mr. Conners pulls him back. Back in the office, Sophie steps back and away.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Mr. Conners come in with a few cricket bats and hockey sticks. This draws looks from the room.

MR. CONNERS

Just in case...

LINDSEY

In case of what?

SOPHIE

What do you think?

He drops the bats and things on the floor with a clatter.

INT. THE SCHOOL, CAFETERIA - DAY

The cafeteria is empty and the cupboards in the kitchen spread out and open. Large windows in here have shapes beating against them.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - EVENING

The kids now eat in the office. Mr. Conners looks out the window again, there is more of them people wandering around. Some of the bodies are gone... Still no sign of police. He looks grimly to Ms. Robson. She nods.

SALLY (O.S.)

I don't know. They are taking real good care of us, I guess. I miss you. Why can't you come get me? They told us to wait too. Yeah, I saw on the TV the roads are closed. But can't-Yeah.Oh, Andy's OK? Good.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - EVENING

The kids are taking turns on the phone. Mr. Conners taps his watch. Sally nods.

SALLY

OK, well, I have to go now. We're taking turns. see you soon too. Goodnight.

She hangs up the phone. Mr. Conners dials for Tommy and he steps up to the phone, near tears.

TOMMY

Mommy? Take me home. I don't want to be here anymore.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY - THE NEXT DAY

Mr. Conners takes the kids to the bathroom and tries the light switch - but nothing happens. He sighs.

INT. THE SCHOOL, CAFETERIA - EVENING

We see the doors to the refrigerator wide open, things strewn across the ground. No noise coming from it.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The kids all eat from a box of defrosting food by candle light. Ms. Robson tries the phone and shakes her head at Mr. Conners. He watches the kids a moment and puts his head in his hands.

Sophie sits at the back of the room. Brandon takes some food to her and offers it. She takes it reluctantly. Still in a state of depression and shock.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY - THE NEXT DAY

The noises at the door are even louder now. Mr. Conners stands looking toward the door, and then the windows. The ZOMBIES are now at the windows full-time, rubbing their bodies against the glass. He has a chance to look them over. They are clearly dead. He doesn't know what to do.

MS. ROBSON

Still the same?

Ms. Robson stands behind him. He turns to her gravely.

MR. CONNERS

Miss Johnson is at the door... I saw her die last week.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - EVENING

Ms. Robson recoils into the room, upset. Sean and Callum are fighting about something, hitting at each other and a Nintendo 3DS slides across the floor. Ms. Robson grabs them both by the collar and pulls them back.

MS. ROBSON

You two! Stop it now! Stop acting like a couple of spoiled brats! I can't take it!

MR. CONNERS

Calm down! Ms. Robson... Emily! It's OK. Kids, listen...

Mr. Connors stoops down and pulls the kids close. Ms. Robson walks off to tend to the other kids, holding back her tears of frustration.

SEAN

We're sorry.

Callum shoots a look like 'speak for yourself!'

MR. CONNERS

It's OK. She's not mad at you. We're all a bit frayed... This is all going on a lot longer than we expected, its just... A hard time. You kids have to be brave. We have to be tolerant of each other.

TOMMY

What's tolerant?

MR. CONNERS

It means we keep each other together, Tommy. We're all friends here, right? We're all going to keep each other safe.

JULIE

Mr. Connors, is anyone ever coming?

MR. CONNERS

Of course they are, Julie. Of course they are.

(MORE)



MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)

We just stay here for now. Can you kids all be brave? For me and Ms. Robson?

SEAN AND CALLUM

Yes, Mr. Connors...

The kids all kind of nod in agreement. Sophie keeps to herself in the corner on a bed. Her face in folded arms.

FADE TO BLACK.

MR. CONNERS (V.O.)

Everything will be fine.

SMASH CUT:  
THE SOUND OF  
GLASS BREAKING

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Mr. Connors wakes and scrambles to his feet. He eases into the hallway. Wanting to not be noticed. A few zombies have broken their way into the building and are falling in from the waist high broken glass, lifting themselves back up as they pile in on top of one another. One of them has been bisected by the weight of the others on it and its upper torso still crawls towards the survivors.

Mr. Connors quickly closes the door and locks it. Stands back from it.

BRANDON

What's happening?

MR. CONNERS

Nothing. Go back to bed.

BRANDON

Bullshit.

MR. CONNERS

Watch your tone, Mr. Campbell.

MS. ROBSON

What do we do?

MR. CONNERS

OK. Children. They're inside the building.

The kids start to get upset, Mr. Conners turns to the room, his back to the door, holds his arms out, trying to shush them.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
But we're safe in here. It's OK.  
Everyone just keep calm. We're-

A bang at the door. Everyone eyes it. Lindsey hides her face and Julie holds her. Very slow banging now. Trying to get in.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
No, it's still OK.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
Children, listen. This door is locked. They don't have the key. So, we'll be fine. It's OK.

The kids scream. A zombie appears in the window beside the door. Mr. Conners quickly pulls the shade down to hide it. It beats softly on the glass.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
It's OK, it's OK... They'll realize they can't get in and they'll move on. We just need to wait.

Everyone looks uneasily at each other.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - LATER

The kids try to read books or talk to one another but the banging at the door is more frequent now. More outside, coming in. Mr. Conners and Ms. Robson shoot each other questioning looks. Fear, hiding it for the kids. Sophie watches them intently. She knows. Sally stands forward.

SALLY  
I need to go to the bathroom.

The two adults look unsure of what to do.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Sally is behind the desk, peeing into a bowl. The other kids look either grossed out or find it funny, but the adults keep them from acting up. She finishes and looks bashful.

MS. ROBSON  
It's OK, sweetie. It's nothing to be embarrassed about.

Mr. Conners takes the bowl and reaches up high, opening the thin-slit windows at the end of the room and pours it outside.

SEAN  
Throw it on them things.

MR. CONNERS  
Ha. I'll try, Sean. Anyone else?

Reluctantly, Tommy, Julie and even Ms. Robson (bashfully) lift their hands.

MR. CONNERS (CONT'D)  
OK... Number one?

Julie puts her hand down... There is a collective groan in the room.

EXT. THE SCHOOL - EVENING

Another pot of urine is thrown out the small slat window. We see it land on the ground ten or so feet below. A couple of zombies mill around. We also see this window borders onto a small roof.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The banging is worse and there are small cracks forming at the edges of the plaster work and glass around the window. A chair is propped against the handle of the door now, as it keeps being pressed down. It's a matter of time. One way or another. Mr. Conners whispers to Ms. Robson. Sophie watches them from across the room, suspicious.

MS. ROBSON  
(Quietly)  
I couldn't. We need to wait.

MR. CONNERS  
(Quietly)  
You've seen what those things can do. They'll tear these kids apart.

MS. ROBSON  
I couldn't live with myself.

MR. CONNERS  
We may not have to, Emily...

He reaches into his desk and pulls out a small flask. He hands it to her. She nods and takes a swig. Chokes quietly.

She looks around the room. At the kids. Some trying to read or play little board games with each other. Some trying to sleep.

MS. ROBSON

... When?

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - LATER

By candle light, the kids are all in their beds on the floor and Mr. Conners has a small treat. To drown out the sound of the zombies, he's putting up a little radio, the batteries have just enough juice to let them put some music on. They put some soothing music on.

MR. CONNERS

This should make it easier to go to sleep, guys.

LINDSEY

Mr. Conners... Are people really coming for us?

MR. CONNERS

Of course they are. I'm sure everything is going to be fine. Just go to sleep, and keep your strength up.

The kids are all listening, uneasy.

LINDSEY

Really? Before those things get in here?

MR. CONNERS

Yes. Lindsey, tomorrow... Will be a brighter day. I promise.

LINDSEY

OK. Thank you... Good night Julie.

JULIE

Good night Lindsey.

The two girls hold each others hand a moment and turn to go to sleep. Ms. Robson, fights tears, but the two adults are unsteady from drinking. Mr. Conners presses his hand to Lindsey's head.

MR. CONNERS

Go to sleep now. It's OK.

INT. THE SCHOOL, MAIN HALLWAY - NIGHT

The hallway is now full of zombies who are slowly piling on the door and window to the office and it is partly giving way. The sounds of the music echoing down the halls.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - LATER

The music has stopped and beside the banging there is some mild rustling noises. Sophie lazily opens her eyes. The scene comes into focus. The teachers are smothering the children. She scrambles up with a start.

SOPHIE  
Brandon! Wake up!

Brandon comes to and sees what is happening, Ms. Robson has a pillow over Lindsey's face. He sees red and dives forward.

BRANDON  
What th - Get off my sister!

Brandon grabs Robson from behind and swings her around and off Lindsey. She falls back and hits her face against the desk, splitting open her cheek, knocking her out. Brandon pulls the pillow off of Lindsey's face and asks her if she is OK. She's crying and sputtering.

LINDSEY  
What's happening?!

MR. CONNERS  
You don't know what you're doing!

Mr. Connors back hands Brandon, knocking him back. Sophie dives up into action and pushes Connors down with all of her body weight.

Sally and Callum all get up and get on top of him as well, all screaming in fright. Sean stays in bed, watching, frozen.

SOPHIE  
Sean, help me!

Sean gets up but just stands there. Connors is on his back, held down. He fights to get up. Lindsey moves over to Julie to help her.

MR. CONNERS  
I don't want to hurt you!

Brandon picks something up and scrambles over to see Lindsey crying, holding Julie in bed - her eyes open, staring. She's been smothered to death.

LINDSEY

Julie isn't waking up! Why won't she wake up?

Everyone goes quiet a moment. There is a collective stun in the room.

MR. CONNERS

Get off me! They will come in here, and they will kill us all! Don't you unders-

Brandon swings a hockey stick down in a wide arc. Slamming it into Mr. Conner's face. With one bloody crunch, he's dead. The kids all stare in disbelief.

SOPHIE

Jesus, Brandon, what...?!

BRANDON

I... Had to!

LINDSEY (O.S.)

Julie, wake up, wake up Julie, please. Don't go.

SALLY

Oh my god!

SEAN

What do we do?

They all turn to Lindsey. Holding Julie's body. Then look to Brandon. Tears streak some of their faces. Sophie is just stunned, mouth agape. She doesn't even notice the splash of blood on her face.

Brandon pants and looks around, dazed. The banging at the door brings Brandon back to reality. He scans the room hastily. The teachers, dead? Those things at the door. The window...

BRANDON

... We... Have to leave. Now. Get your backpacks... *Do it!* All of you!

He accentuates *do it*, launching the kids into motion. Sophie reaches under one of the beds and pulls Tommy up off the ground. He's been covering his face and sucking his thumb. As she grabs him, he squeals.

SOPHIE

It's OK, it's me, you're OK. You're OK.

She shields his eyes and holds him close. Brandon thinks...

BRANDON

Ah Sh... Over here.

Brandon reaches up and pulls himself through the thin window slit, barely fitting.

EXT. THE SCHOOL, ROOF - NIGHT

The window borders a small roof, Brandon pulls himself onto it and quickly looks around. The music is barely audible out here. He gets on his knees and sticks his arm through the window.

BRANDON

Come on, I'll pull you up.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE

Sophie first lifts Tommy and Brandon pulls him up and out the window. She holds her hands out for Sean next.

EXT. THE SCHOOL, ROOF

Brandon pulls Sean up. Tommy and Sean both step up from the small roof onto the main flat top. Next Sally... They stand and hold each other together. Confused.

INT. THE SCHOOL, HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE

Sophie pushes Callum up to Brandon, leaving her alone in the room. Before she can take Brandon's hand herself, Ms. Robson reaches over and pulls her leg. Her face covered in blood. Sophie kicks her off.

MS. ROBSON

You can't leave me. Don't go.  
Please. We took care of you.  
Please...

Sophie stares her down. Anger flashing across her face.

EXT. THE SCHOOL, ROOF

Brandon helps Sophie onto the roof and leads her up onto the flat top.

BRANDON

You OK? You've got some...

He touches his face. She realizes he means she has blood on her face. She wipes it off nervously, not wanting to look at her own hand. Brandon turns to the others.

The kids all stand together in the dark. With no electricity, the city is pitch black and silent. The occasional moan and groan breaking the dull.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Hello!

He shouts into the night. No response.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Anyone, we need help, anyone?!  
Anyone?

No answer. On all sides, the streets are a black haze. No lights. No people. Just those things. They all look to each other, wordless, and wait.

FADE TO:

EXT. THE SCHOOL, ROOF - DAWN

One by one, the kids wake as the sun rises. They have all slept huddled together. Brandon was the first up and is sitting on the edge of the roof. He watches the zombies beneath them. There doesn't seem to be too many - maybe the rest are still inside the school? He can still see blood on the steps at the front of the school from when they all first tried to leave.

SOPHIE

Anyone? Help?!

Sophie's screams, like Brandon's the night before, go unanswered.

BRANDON

I told you. Nothing.



SEAN

What now?

BRANDON

I'll tell you what we're not doing.  
Waiting.

SOPHIE

Brandon... What if...

BRANDON

What if what? We waited and no one  
came. Now, we're all alone. So  
forget waiting. We need to do  
something.

LINDSEY

Like what?

BRANDON

We... Ah, We go see dad. He'll know  
what to do.

SOPHIE

Your father?

BRANDON

Yeah, he always has an answer.

Some of the kids talk up, but don't take away from Sophie and  
Brandon's discussion.

SALLY

Can we go see my mom?

SEAN

What about mine?

SOPHIE

How will we get there, Brandon?

BRANDON

We'll walk.

SOPHIE

With those things? Have you seen  
what they...

CALLUM

They don't scare me.

BRANDON

I watched them all morning. They  
don't look fast.

SOPHIE

What does speed have to-

BRANDON

We can outrun them. Go right past.

SALLY

I don't want to stay here.

SOPHIE

But if they-

BRANDON

If they get too close, I'll take care of it.

Brandon picks up the cricket bat he'd used on Mr. Connors. It still has blood and hair on it. All the kids pause.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Whatever it takes. I guess.

SOPHIE

... How far is it?

BRANDON

You can see our house from here.

Brandon points out his house, on the outskirts of town, on the hillside. It's a small cottage.

SEAN

Yeah, let's do that.

TOMMY

That looks real far.

LINDSEY

It's not that far, Tommy.

SOPHIE

I don't know if that's a good idea.

BRANDON

Oh yeah. Why?

Sophie looks to the kids and picks her words carefully.

SOPHIE

Like you said, what if we are *all*  
*alone*?

Brandon thinks a moment. He holds Lindsey close.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
I mean. Why take the risk if we're  
right back where we are now?

SEAN  
Food?

BRANDON  
Well... Even if... My dad has a  
gun... At least we can protect  
ourselves.

Sophie has no come back. But its clear she does not want to  
leave the apparent safety of the roof. Brandon stands.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
So yeah... Let's go then.

He holds his arms out to help the kids climb down onto a  
lower roof. Sophie looks around, unsure. Callum walks up.

CALLUM  
Don't worry Sophie. I'll protect  
you.

She puts her hand on his shoulder. Veiled tears beneath.

EXT. THE SCHOOL, STREET LEVEL - DAY

The kids get down to the ground level, taking a moment to  
help the younger kids off the roof, onto a dumpster and then  
the ground. Brandon watches some zombies about 50 yards away.  
They begin to turn their direction.

BRANDON  
Keep it quiet, guys.

TOMMY  
(loudly)  
OK!

SALLY  
Shut up Tommy! He said be quiet.

Brandon shushes them both and pulls Tommy down quicker. They  
all get off the ledge and make their way to the outer fence.  
They pass through an open gate and keep moving.

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

The kids make their way, keeping close to the store fronts,  
heading toward the outskirts of town.

A few cars and zombies dot the landscape, but the kids just keep moving. Speeding up near zombies, and slowing down to let the kids move at a comfortable pace when they aren't near. Blood stains, but no bodies on the ground. Is everyone a zombie?

They stop near an alleyway and wait. In the street beyond a zombie stands, staring up into the sky and then looking around. Tommy leans his head out from the wall and gets a good look.

TOMMY

Aw, gross.

Sophie pulls him back. Holds her hands on his shoulders. The zombie moves away. They keep moving.

EXT. CITY STREETS - LATER

The kids pass a convenience store, its door open; the windows broken. Sean eyes it up and thinks.

SEAN

I'm hungry. Anyone else hungry?

BRANDON

There's food at my dad's house.

Everyone stops moving but Brandon and he pauses to look.

TOMMY

I'm hungry too.

CALLUM

Maybe we should stop for a bit...

BRANDON

Lindsey, you hungry?

LINDSEY

Um. Yeah.

BRANDON

(Sighs)

OK, let's find a quiet spot and we'll open our packs.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

They open their back packs. Sophie, Brandon and Sean all have some canned food, while Sally has Books, Tommy and Callum have toys and things. Callum still has the broken 3DS - just in case.

BRANDON

Why don't you guys have food?

SALLY

I haven't used my bag since school.

Brandon angrily reaches over and empties Sally's bag.

BRANDON

Why would you bring your bag if its only got books in?

SALLY

Because you told me to!

SOPHIE

We left in a rush. Go easy.

BRANDON

Shut up...

Sophie tries to ignore Brandon. He is lost in the moment.

SEAN

This isn't much food.

TOMMY

I'm hungry!

BRANDON

OK, OK! We'll just split what we have.

Sean points to the convenience store.

CALLUM

Or, There is food in there.

BRANDON

No, we'll split this and then go.

CALLUM

But its right there.

BRANDON

My dad always says be safe not sorry. We're not going anywhere we don't have to.

TOMMY

But, I don't even like peaches.

SEAN

Then don't eat.

SALLY

I'll eat the peaches.

TOMMY

But I'm hungry!

SEAN

So eat.

CALLUM

This is messed up.

BRANDON

Everyone is eating the peaches. Hurry up and we'll go.

Sophie eyes Brandon up, but doesn't speak. They all sit there and eat, paying attention to look onto the street here and there to make sure they are safe enough.

EXT. STREET - LATER

Walking past a few cars and distant zombies. Tommy shrugs.

TOMMY

Are we there yet? My feet hurt!

Brandon spins around angrily.

BRANDON

Tommy, keep your mouth closed. I keep telling you. We'll get there when we get there.

LINDSEY

Brandon!...

He pauses and thinks. Tommy looks near tears with fright.

BRANDON

OK. Listen, Tommy. This is serious.  
OK? You need to - we *all* need, to  
be tough.

CALLUM

Yeah, we need to be bad ass!

BRANDON

Yeah, we need to be bad ass, that's  
right.

SOPHIE

Go easy Brandon.

BRANDON

Look around. There is no room for  
easy. Guys, I know its scary, but  
Tommy, you need to grow up! Need to  
be bad ass! Right?

TOMMY

Yeah...

BRANDON

OK? Yeah! Now... Do your feet still  
hurt?

EXT. HILLSIDE - DAY

Tommy comes walking up the hill - but we see he's actually on  
Brandon's shoulders. The other kids all pull each other  
forward. With the town behind them, they arrive at Brandon's  
dad's house. As they near the house, Brandon takes Tommy off  
his shoulders and runs forward, Lindsey not far behind.

BRANDON (O.S.)

Dad! Dad!

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, MAIN HALL

Brandon darts through the door. Quickly looks around. The  
house isn't ransacked, but it is unkept. He runs up the  
stairs. Lindsey follows through the door.

LINDSEY (O.S.)

Daddy! Are you here?!

The rest of the kids come through and Sophie pauses by the  
door, looking around the house. She stops by a picture frame  
and sees Brandon, Lindsey and their father MICHAEL. The kids  
run past and into the kitchen.

CALLUM

Oh, food!

Sophie follows them through - in case there is any danger.

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, KITCHEN

Some of the cupboards are open and things have been moved around. There isn't much. Someone took stock and ran. The refrigerator door swings in the breeze and it stinks of rotting food.

SALLY

Aw, phew, stinks in here.

Sophie reaches over to close the door, but the door just swings open again. Callum comes over and kicks the door and it sticks. Sean and Sally start to pour through what is there, looking for food. They grab a few cans.

Tommy walks up with a pot noodle.

TOMMY

Can you make this for me please?

Sophie shakes her head.

SOPHIE

There is no hot water, sweetie.

He drops it on the floor, upset, hands to either side. Brandon and Lindsey come into the room.

LINDSEY

Oh, it stinks in here.

SALLY

That's what I said!

BRANDON

Dad's not here.

SOPHIE

I think he took food before he left. There isn't much.

Brandon nods and slumps against a wall.

LINDSEY

When is dad coming back?



SOPHIE  
... I don't think he means to come back.

BRANDON  
No note or anything. Where is he?

SOPHIE  
I'm sure he had good reason to leave.

BRANDON  
I don't know.

There is a pause in the air.

SOPHIE  
... I'm sure he's fine.

BRANDON  
Wherever he is...

The kids are focusing on what food they can pilfer. Sophie tries to think how she can help Brandon.

SOPHIE  
So... This is your house huh?

BRANDON  
Yeah. Sure is.

SOPHIE  
Finally got me to come over.

BRANDON  
Ha. Is it everything you thought it would be?

SOPHIE  
Um. Yes?

Brandon chuckles.

BRANDON  
At least sister Mary isn't here, kicking me out.

SOPHIE  
She doesn't like boys. Or didn't...

BRANDON  
Sophie...

CALLUM

Hey... Didn't you say you had a GUN?!

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, UNDER THE STAIRS

Opening the door under the stairs reveals a gun cabinet. In the center port is a double barrel shotgun. There are two more gun racks but they are both empty. Brandon picks up the shotgun and reaches down collecting the spare few shells.

CALLUM

I want to play with it first.

BRANDON

No one is playing with it. It's not a toy.

SALLY

Yeah, this is serious Callum.

Brandon fumbles for a second and manages to disengage the barrel and load the first two shotgun shells into it. He snaps it back together. Clearly not well versed with this.

SOPHIE

You sure you should have that loaded?

BRANDON

Yeah, duh.

SOPHIE

Around the kids I mean, duh.

CALLUM

Seriously, guys, I can do it, I can shoot.

BRANDON

When have you ever shot a gun?

CALLUM

All the time, my KDR is insane!

There is a communal blank expression.

CALLUM (CONT'D)

You know, my kills to death ratio, is like 4.5 All the time!

SOPHIE

Kills to death ratio?

CALLUM

Yeah, its like how many kills I get versus how many times I die, I kill like 9 people for each time they kill me!

SEAN

Yay for math.

BRANDON

Callum. This isn't a game.

SALLY

Which is why you should give it to me. I take things super seriously.

CALLUM

Experience is experience, you know. COD is a highly realistic military shooter.

SEAN

Yeah, whatever.

Brandon shakes his head. Sophie face palms. Callum is still oblivious.

BRANDON

Look... everyone listen to me. Nobody is touching the gun.

TOMMY

Can I touch it?

Tommy reaches for the gun as he's simultaneously asking permission. Brandon pulls the gun in closer toward his chest.

BRANDON

What did I just say? No. Nobody touches it, Tommy.

TOMMY

But your touching it and you said nobody touch it but your a body so can I touch it too?

CALLUM

If Tommy gets to touch it, then I get to touch it.

SALLY

After Callum I get to, touch it!

BRANDON

For the last time. This is a gun.  
It is not a toy. It's for our  
protecti--

As Brandon speaks he is cut off as Tommy (attempting subtle stealth) walks past Brandon brushing his fingers along the gun on his way out of frame. Brandon wide eyed shakes his head in disbelief. The other kids are finally quiet as not to push Brandon further.

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, UPSTAIRS - LATER

Brandon cools off near an open window. Sophie comes up behind him. Knocks on the door. Brandon rights himself and sits up. Was he crying before she came in?

SOPHIE

You OK?

BRANDON

I'm fine. The kids OK?

SOPHIE

Yeah, they just... Get on with things... You know? I don't know how they do it. I can't get my mind off what happened.

BRANDON

We did what we had to Sophie.

SOPHIE

I've never hurt anyone before,  
Brandon.

BRANDON

Sophie. We did. What we had to.

SOPHIE

I know but...

BRANDON

No buts.

SOPHIE

Brandon, what you did to M-

BRANDON

Shut up.

The finality in his voice stops Sophie in her tracks. She doesn't know what to say.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
... You just have to be like the kids. Just get on with it. We're gonna get through this.

He tries to lighten his tone, but he still comes off as commanding.

SOPHIE  
Brandon... You don't feel bad for what you...

BRANDON  
No... No, Sophie. My dad always says, when fate closes a door, it opens a window. We'll figure something out. That's life.

SOPHIE  
I just don't get how you're keeping so cool about everything.

BRANDON  
Um. I have the gun?

SOPHIE  
Seriously.

Brandon sighs.

BRANDON  
I can't let anything happen to Lindsey... Or any of you. And I'm going to keep everyone OK. So, I have a mission.

SOPHIE  
And that keeps you from going insane and worrying?

BRANDON  
Who said I'm not insane?

SOPHIE  
You know what I mean.

Brandon signals to her with open arms.

BRANDON  
Come here.

She sits beside him and he gives her a hug.

SOPHIE  
I'm scared.

BRANDON  
I know. But it's going to be OK.

SOPHIE  
Are you scared too?

BRANDON  
I guess... It'll be OK.

They sit in silence a moment.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
God, those kids are being really quiet. Sure they are OK?

SOPHIE  
Yeah, they're playing with some action figures we found.

Brandon suddenly darts up.

BRANDON  
Not the Spawn ones?!

He rushes off down the stairs towards the kids. Leaving Sophie alone on his bed. She looks around and down to her hands. She still doesn't know how to cope.

BRANDON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Hey guys, those aren't toys!

EXT. THE HILLSIDE - EVENING

The farmhouse silhouetted against the dying sun, smoke starting to seep from the chimney. Empty fields on either side. One lone zombie stands in the distance. Away from the town, it seems a lot less dangerous out here. It turns towards the cottage. Another not far behind it. Hunting.

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Brandon finishes breaking some firewood and places it in the fireplace.

BRANDON  
Better?

Tommy nods sheepishly and yawns. The kids are huddled around the fireplace, keeping warm. A pot of beans bubbling away.

Brandon sits on the couch behind the kids. He holds the gun on his lap and looks at the three remaining shells lined up on the table. He sighs and pockets them.

SOPHIE

... Have you ever actually shot that thing?

BRANDON

Well... you know... couple of times. With my dad. Shot a badger once.

SOPHIE

Really?

BRANDON

Well... Shot *at* a badger once... It was really far away. And I didn't really wanna kill it so just scared it away. Dad though, could hit a rabbit from like a crazy distance.

He looks to Sophie. She looks uncomfortable talking about shooting.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

I'll do what I have to, to keep us all safe.

SOPHIE

Yeah I know...

She looks out the window, through a gap in the curtain. He bows his head and puts the gun on the table. They sit in silence a few moments. Sean starts to dish some beans out to the kids.

SALLY

Yuck, I hate beans.

SEAN

They're good for you.

TOMMY

Yeah, they make you toot!

SALLY

Aw, please don't.

CALLUM

Why not?

Callum lets out a little fart. Sally pushes him away.

LINDSEY

Do you want some Brandon?

BRANDON

No, you guys eat, I'm OK. Sophie?

Brandon watches them, then stares at Sophie. She's lost in a daze. He reaches over and puts a hand on her shoulder. She starts slightly.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Sophie?

SOPHIE

... I can't see anything outside. No city lights. No cars. I don't know if anyone is out there. Or if it's all just those things now.

BRANDON

There has to be people left.

SOPHIE

You think?

BRANDON

Yeah. 'Cause we're still here.

SOPHIE

I guess.

BRANDON

Whatever is happening, someone will be in control.

SOPHIE

Ever since this started, it feels like everything has been spinning right out of control.

BRANDON

Yeah, what do we know, we're stupid kids, but like people in power will know, they always have plans for stuff. Don't worry, its only for tonight. We'll see if we can find anyone tomorrow.

Sophie turns to Brandon.

SOPHIE

Find anyone? You want to go back out there with these things?



BRANDON

If someone comes to get us from the school and we're not there, they aren't going to think to hike up here.

SOPHIE

Why not, we did!

Brandon eyes the kids to make sure no one is paying attention to them. The kids are all talking amongst themselves, eating.

BRANDON

Sophie, we need to find some help.

SOPHIE

Get some help? We should just stay here, lock the place up and hide. There is less of them here. It was your idea to come here in the first place. For the gun. I can't see them, but, Brandon, I know those things are out there. Waiting for us to leave, I know it.

BRANDON

We have the gun, but not much food or anything else. We stay here, we're trapped. We need help. We'll find someone. Maybe my dad's still in the town.

Sophie moves to speak, but catches herself and stops.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

... Everyone probably left when those things came, but they'll be back when they have, like, weapons and stuff.

SOPHIE

Everyone just up and left?

BRANDON

That's what I'd have done.

SOPHIE

Would you have left Lindsey?

BRANDON

No.

SOPHIE  
Would your dad?

BRANDON  
Hey... my dad is fine. He's probably out there getting help for us right now, but we need to be where he can find us.

SOPHIE  
Yeah, so stay here at home!

BRANDON  
He doesn't know we're here.

SOPHIE  
At least a couple of days. Please.

BRANDON  
We can't. It's like my dad always said. It's stupid to wait around in one place too long. Makes you vulnerable.

SOPHIE  
You haven't seen what they...

BRANDON  
I don't care. It'll be OK.

SOPHIE  
I don't know Brandon. I -

BRANDON  
Well *I* do know, so we'll do what I say. Alright? I'm the boss now. Just listen to me for once.

Brandon stands and walks off. The kids are all staring Sophie's direction. She looks to try and say something but just looks out the window. Into the darkness. Callum starts to stand and walk toward Sophie.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
Nice try.

Brandon comes back, picks the gun up off the table and walks away again. Callum shakes his fist and Sally hits him on the shoulder. Sophie sighs and clutches the couch cushions.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BRANDON'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Sophie awakes with a start. There is banging on the door. She backs off the couch.

BRANDON (O.S.)

Its OK. They've been there for a while now.

Sophie's eyes dart around, scared from waking.

SOPHIE

They, what? What!

BRANDON

They haven't got in yet so I don't think they're gonna start now.

The kids are all huddled around Brandon.

SOPHIE

What are you doing?

SALLY

We're strategizing.

SOPHIE

Strategizing?

CALLUM

Yeah, it means when you make a plan.

BRANDON

Yeah. And as I was saying. I was thinking about it last night. My dad's truck is in the garage. So what we gotta do is drive to the city. There will be help there for sure. There has to be.

LYNSEY

And dad will be there.

BRANDON

Yeah, he's got to be. It makes the most sense.

SOPHIE

You can drive, Brandon?

BRANDON

Well... I've seen my dad drive a lot. How hard can it be.

SEAN

Its cool. I can drive.

BRANDON

You can drive? How can you drive?

SEAN

What, I'm from the city, you know?  
I can teach you... If you want.

BRANDON

No, I don't need to be taught, I  
can drive... But, uh, can you drive  
stick? 'Cause I'm not so good with  
stick.

SEAN

Yeah I got this, I can do it.

SOPHIE

Are you sure we should do this?

BRANDON

I'm sure we're not staying here.  
Kids, grab what you can.

SOPHIE

I'm not sure we should go out there  
with those things.

Sophie looks out the window. There is one at the door, but  
another couple walking toward the cottage. Homing in on the  
kids.

TOMMY

That's a good point, there is  
things out there.

BRANDON

I'd rather leave before those  
things are in here. Like we talked  
about last night... Right?

TOMMY

That's a good point too.

All the kids look to Sophie. They have sided with Brandon.  
She looks to them and back to Brandon.

SOPHIE

... You're the boss...

INT. GARAGE

The kids throw their backpacks into the back of the pickup truck. Tommy throws a blanket into the truck.

SALLY

He said 'useful' things, Tommy.

TOMMY

Well I don't know!

At the front of the pickup, Sean is getting adjusted in the seat and Brandon passes him the keys.

BRANDON

Sure you know what you're doing.

SEAN

Yeah, I'm fine!

BRANDON

Do you know the w-

Sean starts the engine. Lindsey covers her ears as he revs the engine. Sound reverberates in this small space. Brandon motions to turn the engine off.

TOMMY

Ow!

BRANDON

Do you know the way to the city?

SEAN

Yeah, you follow that big road.

BRANDON

Big road? I'll get you directions.

SOPHIE

Where do I sit?

BRANDON

You're navigator, you get in the front with Sean, I'll get in the back with the kids, 'cause I've got the gun. OK?

They all nod in agreement. Callum runs forward.

CALLUM

Yeah, I'll get the door!

BRANDON

Wait...

Callum goes to open the door and as he is lifting it, two legs appear at the bottom and there is a bang against the door as a zombie slams itself against it. Callum jumps back with a scream. Brandon gets in front of him.

LINDSEY

They're waiting for us!

BRANDON

They must have heard the engine!

SALLY

Aw, nice one Sean!

She slaps him on the back of the head.

SEAN

It's not my fault!

CALLUM

Just shoot them!

BRANDON

Shut up!

SOPHIE

What now?

Brandon looks around a moment and thinks.

BRANDON

OK. We open it fast, and get out of here, they won't even touch us.

SOPHIE

Brandon... Are you-

BRANDON

Yes!... OK, Callum, listen.

Brandon crouches down and puts his arm on Callum's shoulder.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Any of these things get anywhere near you. Or any of us. You kill it. No feelings, just rip it apart. Anyway you can. All of you guys. We're all that matter now. OK?

CALLUM

Yeah. Bad ass!

BRANDON  
That's right bad ass. Right guys?

The others reluctantly agree and nod.

SALLY  
Yeah, Brandon.

SEAN  
Total bad ass. Yeah.

Sophie takes a deep breath and exhales slowly. Nerves rising.

BRANDON  
Sean, start the engine, Callum,  
help me, fast, real fast and jump  
straight in the back, OK?

As the engine revs, Callum and Brandon pull the door open quickly and then dive back toward the pickup, Callum kicks one of the zombies nearest in the leg before running back. Trying his luck. The zombie falls over and starts to crawl. Callum climbs into the back of the pickup. Proud.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
OK, Go Sean! Go, go, go!

Sean instantly stalls the car. The kids all start to scream.

SOPHIE  
Oh my god!

BRANDON  
Sean!

SEAN  
Calm down, it's fine.

He just turns the ignition back and revs up, pulls out of the garage, running over the crawling zombie, crushing it. All the kids shout with excitement and Sean has a big smile on his face. Sophie shakes his shoulder proudly.

CALLUM  
Did you see when I kicked that  
one?!

No one is listening, they are all just feeling the rush. In the cab, Sean notices the gas is near Empty.

SEAN  
Oh, no. Brandon! Brandon!

Brandon can't hear him as the back window doesn't open and the engine is exceptionally loud and sputters.

SOPHIE  
What is it Sean?

SEAN  
This has like no petrol! It's past the E.

SOPHIE  
What do we do?

SEAN  
I'm asking you!

SOPHIE  
Can we make it to the city?

SEAN  
I don't know. I'm not sure we can make it anywhere.

SOPHIE  
Stop the car so we can ask Brandon.  
Brandon! (No answer)

She waves at him, but Brandon has his head above the cab, watching the road ahead.

SEAN  
I don't want to stop, in case it doesn't start back up.

SOPHIE  
OK. Well... Sean you're just gonna have to get into town and go to the petrol station.

SEAN  
What?

SOPHIE  
There is one by the school.

SEAN  
You sure?

SOPHIE  
Well what else can we do?!

SEAN  
I don't know!



SOPHIE

Brandon!

He still doesn't hear her.

EXT. THE TOWN - DAY

The car pulls off the main road and crosses back into town. Brandon realizes and starts to slap on the roof. Zombies motion toward the car as it passes.

BRANDON

Whoa, whoa, whoa, what are you doing?!

The pickup pulls up to the gas station and Sean brakes hard, launching the kids against each other. Sophie gets out.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Sophie, what the hell?

SOPHIE

There's no petrol in the car. I was asking you what to do.

BRANDON

Well I couldn't hear you, why didn't you stop and tell me?

SEAN

If I stopped it, it might not have started again.

BRANDON

What the hell guys?!

Brandon looks around, with the engine running, zombies are making their way over to them slowly from all sides.

SEAN

What were we-

BRANDON

Um, yeah, whatever, make it fast.

Sean runs over and checks the pumps.

SEAN

Wait, is this diesel, unleaded or premium?

SOPHIE

I don't know, does it matter?

BRANDON  
Of course it matters.

SOPHIE  
So which one?

BRANDON  
Uh, I don't know.

SEAN  
I'll try them all.

SALLY  
It takes diesel, cause its a truck.

Sean tries the first pump, but nothing is coming out.

BRANDON  
You can't try them all, it could  
blow up the car.

CALLUM  
Oh yeah, turn the engine off before  
putting it in too.

SALLY  
Don't! It might not start again.

CALLUM  
What does it matter without petrol?

Sean points the nozzle at Brandon and squeezes the trigger.  
Brandon covers his face - but nothing comes out of the pump.

SEAN  
Nothing is coming out of this  
thing, I'm pulling the handle but  
it doesn't work.

LINDSEY  
Is it because there is no power?

Brandon is more focused on the fact the zombies are getting  
closer. He aims the gun at them, but resists firing. Sophie  
runs over to some petrol containers near by, but all of them  
are empty.

SOPHIE  
Brandon, what do we do?!

BRANDON  
I don't know just gimme a second to  
think!

CALLUM  
Shoot the pump!

Near one of the gas cans, Sophie runs into a zombie and quickly backs off from it.

SOPHIE  
Brandon!

He turns and sees it. The zombies are on all sides. He doesn't know what to do, but knows he has to do it fast.

BRANDON  
OK, Damn it! Everyone out the car!

They band together, getting out, leaving behind most of their things, but Sally remembers her bag and Tommy brings his blanket with him. Sophie still has her bag on from earlier.

The group run around the side of the gas station into an alleyway. The zombies swarm on the running car giving them a moment to regroup.

SALLY  
What are we gonna do now?

LINDSEY  
We're back in the town... again.

BRANDON  
I know we are. Damn!

SOPHIE  
Where are we going to go?

LINDSEY  
Back to the school?

BRANDON  
No way.

CALLUM  
Walk to the city?

SALLY  
no! You have any idea how far that is?

BRANDON  
Too far. Damn Sophie, why did you bring us here.

SOPHIE

Would you rather have broke down in the middle of nowhere?!

LINDSEY

Yeah with them things? No!

SEAN

Guys, when your in trouble you go to the police, let's go there, yeah?

BRANDON

They didn't come for us at the school. How do we even know there still is police?

SOPHIE

We don't. We don't know anything so its as good as-

All this time Tommy has been staring upward at the street sign and now he realizes where they are.

TOMMY

Let's go to my grandma's house!

BRANDON

What?

TOMMY

My grandma always has lots of food and its a big house and there is always lots of doctors and police there anyway and it would be real safe! She'll have cookies and it will be great.

Before Brandon can speak, at the end of the alley, zombies are now starting to drift toward them. He aims the gun.

BRANDON

Anyone else?

CALLUM

Why Tommy's place, why can't we go to my parents place?

SOPHIE

Tommy, do you know how to get to your grandma's place?

TOMMY

Yeah, this is her street, its down here somewhere!

LINDSEY

Somewhere?

SEAN

If this is her street, we're practically there already! What do you think Brandon?

BRANDON

Whatever, just let's go, go!

Tommy grabs Sophie's hand and pulls her away from the zombies. The others follow and Brandon keeps the gun in his other hand, aiming back as they all run.

EXT. OUTSIDE GRANDMA'S HOUSE - DAY

The kids look onward toward a big building that looks like it houses flats. The place seems deserted. Tommy still holds Sophie's hand urging her forward. Brandon looks back to the other kids then forward again. He starts toward the building. A big sign out front reads "Resting Pines"

CALLUM

This is an old folks home, not even a house.

BRANDON

So?

SOPHIE

Is it safe?

CALLUM

Compared to what?

INT. GRANDMAS HOUSE

Tommy leads the group toward his grandma's room on the second floor. The stairwell is clear. They enter the hallway and quickly a dog barking grabs their attention.

TOMMY

Max!

Tommy breaks away and goes running toward the barking. Running up the stairs toward the second floor hallway.

BRANDON

Tommy!  
(to everyone else.)  
Stay with me.

Tommy runs into his grandma's room oblivious to the world around him. The others run after him, noticing almost too late - zombies in the hallway. They are decrepit and not very mobile but somehow being older makes them look more disturbed, scary. One zombie moans and grasps from a wheelchair, but can't reach them.

Brandon makes a quick decision.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Everyone, in here, after Tommy now!

Once everyone is inside, he pulls back from the barely advancing zombies and closes the door. Shaking his head.

INT. GRANDMAS ROOM - DAY

Tommy is on the floor hugging and petting the dog. The dog is feeling the love and licking his face.

BRANDON

Tommy! What the hell! You cant go running off like that!

TOMMY

Max is here!

BRANDON

That's great but-

TOMMY

We need to keep MAX safe!

BRANDON

What's important, god damn it, is us, not some dog!

TOMMY

Max isn't just some dog!

SEAN

Brandon, go easy.

BRANDON

No, Sean, he needs to learn. You all do. He can't pull stupid shit like this.

SOPHIE  
Brandon, he's five.

BRANDON  
No excuse to be stupid! Tommy, you didn't have us come here just for that dog did you?

TOMMY  
No! We came for my grandma!

Toward the back of the room, Lindsey looks up and sees the door nearest has a WC logo. She tugs on Sophie's sleeve.

LINDSEY  
Sophie, can I please go to the bathroom?

SOPHIE  
Um, Of course sweetheart.

They open the door together. As they motion in, Tommy's dead Grandmother lurches toward them. Letting out a long raspy groan. Sophie backs off, pulling Lindsey, who screams. Brandon looks over.

BRANDON  
Lindsey!

CALLUM  
Sean, get it!

INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Sean is right beside the girls, but is frozen in fear again. Brandon runs toward them as they pull themselves out of the way. Callum, right behind him, Brandon barrels right into the old woman, her bones crunching from the impact and slams her into the wall. She falls to the ground and he bashes her face in with the butt of the gun.

Sophie covers Lindsey's eyes. Sean steps forward, horrified.

CALLUM  
What are you doing Sean? It could have hurt the girls! You were right there!

Callum punches Sean in the arm.

BRANDON

Enough! Sean, you need to man up.  
Callum, we're in this together, so  
don't be a dick, man.

Callum solemnly nods. Exhales deep. Brandon looks past the door. Tommy is huddled in a corner face to face to Max. Whispering to the dog and nodding.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Hey. Um. Cover her up. She's  
probably his grandma.

Brandon leaves and Sean takes a sheet from the bed to cover it. He realizes the old woman is still trying to get back up and what's left of her face is trying to bite at him. He lifts his leg up high and crushes its head in over and over again. Callum pulls his shoulder.

CALLUM

Enough, dude.

SEAN

It wasn't dead yet.

INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - GRANDMA'S ROOM.

Sophie holds Lindsey by the shoulders, watching as Brandon walks over toward Tommy. Lindsey taps her hand and Sophie leans in toward her. Lindsey looks embarrassed.

LINDSEY

Sophie... I think I wet myself.

SOPHIE

It's OK sweetheart... Me too...

The girls hold each others hands. Brandon walks past Tommy who is still face to face with Max the dog.

TOMMY

(Indistinct)

Don't worry Max, mommy always told me that when Grammy died she'd be going to heaven, and now that's where she is and she is happy and there is no pain or nothing, and we're together and that's OK and I'm going to take care of you. We all are. 'Cause you're such a good boy, yes you are!



Brandon looks sad and can barely contain himself. Sophie was right, kids just get on. Weird. Sophie is getting more and more tired of Brandon's attitude. She walks over to him.

SOPHIE

What are you thinking, Brandon? You keep pushing these kids around and they're gonna break, you have any idea how hurtful you can be?

He looks like he isn't listening and walks over to the window and leans against the glass.

BRANDON

Yeah - hey, everyone keep pretty quiet, those things might not know we're here if we keep it low. Tommy. Quiet it down for a bit, OK?

TOMMY

Um, Okay...

SOPHIE

Are you even listening to me Brandon?

SALLY

So, we're just going to stay here for a bit. I mean, I heard something about cookies...

BRANDON

No, we've actually put ourselves in a corner here. No way down, without a fall and one way out. If they get through that door there's no where for us to go. It's the school all over again. This is not a place we want to be.

CALLUM

Strategically speaking.

Callum chimes in quite proud of his vocabulary.

SALLY

... So, no cookies.

SOPHIE

(sighs)

No. No cookies. Sorry honey.

(Back to Brandon)

You're not listening to me.

SEAN

Yeah ok. But we gotta eat *something* right?

BRANDON

Christ. Is all you guys ever think about is food?

LINDSEY

Yeah. And I don't even like beans.

BRANDON

Its food.

Sophie sighs. Looks around the room.

SOPHIE

The kids need real food Brandon. They cant survive on peaches and beans forever.

BRANDON

What do you suggest?

CALLUM

There's a store like just down the street. I saw it on the way in.

BRANDON

OK. Then that's what we'll do. Just, give me like five minutes. OK? And keep it quiet.

The kids smile. No more beans? Score.

SOPHIE

Brandon, why won't you talk to me?

Brandon pulls Sophie toward the window and as far away from the kids as they can be, he whispers close to her.

BRANDON

Every second I'm nearly shitting my pants and trying to keep it together to make sure you and these kids are alright. You should be backing me up, so please, let's not have a *thing*.

SOPHIE

I am backing you up, it's not a *thing*.

BRANDON  
Sounds a lot like a thing.

SOPHIE  
Why are you being so cold Brandon?  
Talking down to me. Pushing  
everyone around. I mean...

BRANDON  
I have to. Sophie, I have to. I'm  
the oldest. Leave it.

Sophie moves to speak, but Brandon pulls away from her and faces the kids.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
Ok then. How are we getting there?

CUT TO:

Callum grabs up a crutch while Sean finds a walker.

CALLUM  
We can use these. Go out swinging.

SALLY  
I can use this cane?

SEAN  
I'll get this walker.

CALLUM  
All bad ass! Yeah!

Tommy only clings to his blanket and Max.

BRANDON  
OK. Lindsey, get behind me. You  
guys ready? Like Callum said... Go  
out swinging.

Sophie stands behind them all. A look of sadness on her face.

SOPHIE  
(quietly)  
Here we go...

INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - HALLWAY.

Wide shot. One zombie by the door, another at the side of the hall and one in its wheelchair. All rambling very slowly toward the kids' noises.

Suddenly, the door bursts open, as the first zombie falls into the doorway it is smashed back from hits with the walker. They burst into the hall and smash and beat the three creatures to death. With the wheelchair, they swing and take its head nearly clear off and kick the chair down the stairs. Exceptionally violent. To be safe.

EXT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - FRONT LOBBY

The kids rush out and slow their pace as they get to the front. They have some clotted blood on them and Lindsey and Sean look a bit queasy.

CALLUM

I think we're doing pretty good!

They go to move on. Max runs ahead of them out into the brush.

TOMMY

Come on Max!

BRANDON

No, Tommy. Don't call out to him.  
We can't take him with us.

TOMMY

Why not?

LINDSEY

Yeah, why not?

BRANDON

We can't take care of him. He'll  
bring them things to us.

LINDSEY

We can't take the doggie?

Brandon looks to Sophie. Mentally telling her what to do.

TOMMY

But I love him! Please?

Sophie steps in and kneels to Tommy's level.

SOPHIE

I know sweetie. But sometimes when  
you love something you have to let  
it go. Its going to be ok.

Sophie watches Brandon while she speaks. He turns away from them.

BRANDON

Let's go.

Tommy stands forward from the group looking out to the dog. Sophie offers her hand to him.

SOPHIE

Come on Tommy. Its time to go.

Solemnly Tommy takes her hand and they all walk away together. The dog turns towards them but they are gone and it looks worried and confused and lets out a little whimper.

INT. THE CORNER STORE - DAY

Sean stands staring at the shopkeeper. He is a zombie, but stuck behind the waist high counter. He stares at the thing while the other kids collect supplies. Tommy comes toward the older kids with some candy.

BRANDON

No, Tommy, only real food. We're stocking up.

TOMMY

This is real food. I've eaten it before.

BRANDON

Supplies, buddy. Not sugar.

LINDSEY

A little candy won't hurt.

BRANDON

Yes it will, because it will waste space. Weigh us down.

SOPHIE

Brandon, I think...

BRANDON

Sophie...

CALLUM

Brandon, eat a candy bar.

BRANDON

It's not a discussion! I'm not just playing army here, I'm gonna make sure we all survive this. We can't be a bunch of stupid kids.

As Brandon raises his voice, the zombie by the counter looks over and starts toward them, but is held back by the counter.

SEAN  
(Whispers)  
Guys, you want to keep it down?

LINDSEY  
Maybe some of us can't help being stupid kids Brandon.

BRANDON  
I didn't mean you Lindsey.

SALLY  
(Whispers)  
Yes he did.

BRANDON  
Just grab what you can, things that last, cans, and I don't know. Stuff. OK? We're leaving in two minutes.

Everyone nods and gets back to bagging things. Sophie pulls away to the side and takes the candy from Tommy and winks at him and pockets it in her bag. He smiles at her weakly. They all start to back out of the store and Sean watches the zombie behind the counter intently as they go, he steps forward. Sadness in his eyes. He places a handful of change on the counter.

SEAN  
Bye Mr. Thompson.

EXT. PUBLIC PARK - DAY

The kids all sit together in the center of a public park, on and around the jungle gym. Wide open space, they can see the zombies long before they get to them. Strategically, this is a smart place to eat. Callum is eating some crisps. The rest are eating through some jerky and tinned food. They have a few plastic bags and sit on Tommy's blanket.

SALLY  
You got crisps?

CALLUM  
Yeah I did.

SALLY  
I thought we were only getting *important* food.

BRANDON

We were.

CALLUM

I have innerinitiative.

SOPHIE

Initiative sweetie.

LINDSEY

And a crutch.

CALLUM

Is my weapon of choice!

Callum lifts his crutch from Grandma's up. They eat in silence a moment. Sophie looks to Brandon but he keeps scanning the horizon.

BRANDON

Alright, keep it down guys.

They sit in silence a moment, eating.

SALLY

It's actually a nice day today.

LINDSEY

A little chilly though.

BRANDON

Are you cold? Do you want my shirt?

LINDSEY

No. Thanks.

SOPHIE

How about the rest of you kids?

SEAN

I'm OK.

CALLUM

Same.

Brandon sighs and rubs his hands together. Sally and Lindsey finish eating and walk over by the jungle gym.

BRANDON

Let's take stock.

SOPHIE

We can last a while with this food.  
Maybe we should hide out somewhere  
safe.

SEAN

I haven't seen many safe places  
yet.

TOMMY

I miss Max.

SALLY

I want to go to my mom's place.

BRANDON

How far is your mom's place?

SALLY

I don't know. Over by Jefferson?

SOPHIE

So pretty far then.

BRANDON

Sally, really? It's not playtime.  
Come on.

Sally is on the top of the jungle gym. She goes down the  
slide once, defiantly. And walks back.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Yeah, sit down, we're talking here.

TOMMY

Max would like this food.

BRANDON

What do you suggest Sophie? Hmm?

SOPHIE

I'm not sure. The School-

BRANDON

Ah shit.

Tommy's ears perk up. Sophie looks Brandon over.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

I mean... Oh shoot... I'm not going  
back there. My dad always says,  
never go back, only forward.



SALLY  
Your dad has a lot of sayings.

BRANDON  
He was in the army.

SALLY  
That means he has a lot of sayings?

BRANDON  
Kind of.

SOPHIE  
Yeah but we left town, to find your  
dad, and now we're back, so...

BRANDON  
So we need a new plan. Alright?

Sophie goes quiet and stares off in the distance. She feels  
beaten down.

LINDSEY  
What are we going to do then  
Brandon?

TOMMY  
Go back for Max.

BRANDON  
Tommy, forget about your dog,  
seriously. He'll be fine. We  
couldn't take care of him.

There is a moment of silence. Brandon exhales loud and paces  
around the jungle gym. Watching the outskirts for zombies.

SEAN  
I know you're gonna say no...

Brandon stops and looks back at Sean.

BRANDON  
But...

SEAN  
But, what about the police station?  
It's not too far from here.

BRANDON  
There isn't any police left.

SEAN

You don't know that, and, even if,  
we can still use it and be safe.

They all stare at each other a moment. Any come backs?

SOPHIE

Police stations are *meant* to be  
very secure.

LINDSEY

They lock up bad people.

CALLUM

They didn't do a great job.

BRANDON

OK then.

EXT. TWO STOREY PARKING STRUCTURE - DAY

A group of zombies all huddled around together near a broken  
down car. They all turn toward some noise. It's coming from a  
floor below. Outside the parking structure, from the police  
station next door.

TOMMY (O.S.)

Hello! Police! Hello?!

EXT. POLICE STATION, FRONT DOOR - DAY

Brandon pulls Tommy by his shoulder.

BRANDON

Hey, keep it down alright?

Tommy looks disheartened.

TOMMY

No one is answering.

SEAN

These doors are locked up tight.

BRANDON

Well if we want in, we'll have to  
look around then.

SALLY

Just break the window.

BRANDON

It wouldn't be very safe and secure then, would it?

SALLY

No, I guess not.

Callum waves from beside an alleyway to the side of the building, near a parking structure.

CALLUM

Some doors over here.

EXT. POLICE STATION, ALLEY WAY - DAY

The group make their way down the alleyway and find an emergency exit door. It's ajar, but chained closed. They can only open it a few inches.

LINDSEY

Can we get it open?

BRANDON

Might be able to break the chain if we use some leverage.

Brandon sticks the barrel of the gun through the rings of the chain and then starts to pull back on it, twisting the chain and straining it.

LINDSEY

Why are you doing that?

BRANDON

To break the chains we need leverage and tension.

Lindsey looks at him blankly a moment.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Trust me.

SALLY

Oh no!

At the end of the alley, a few zombies are starting to mass.

BRANDON

Sophie, help me with this.

Sophie reaches over and pulls with Brandon, trying to split the chains. The zombies are moving toward them, slowly. Groaning.

SALLY

Hurry, hurry. They're coming!

Sean turns to Callum, but Callum has already ran forward. He screams as he starts to throw rocks at the zombies. Sean runs up behind and does the same. The door opens a bit more.

BRANDON

Tommy, get inside!

Tommy squeezes through the gap. Inside the building. It is dark and echoes the sounds of the fray outside. Tommy is terrified and stands there, afraid to move.

TOMMY

Um, OK. I'm inside... Can I come back out now?

The zombies are getting closer, Callum runs forward and swings his crutch at them, hitting the first few.

SALLY

Hurry, hurry, hurry!

BRANDON

Sean, Callum, get back here!

Inside the building Tommy holds his blanket close to his chest and tears run down his face.

TOMMY

Or, can you get in here now please?

BRANDON

Ah Christ!

Brandon tries to pull the gun free to use it. Sophie pushes against him and holds it in place.

SOPHIE

No, we're almost there, keep at it.

The chains around the door are slowly giving way. Lindsey and Sally jump around with fear behind Brandon and Sophie. Callum swings wide hitting zombies who all fall to the ground. Sean behind him kicks at them on the ground, one pulls his shoe off and Sean steps back. Afraid.

SEAN

Don't be crazy, Callum!

Above them, on the second floor of the parking structure, zombies lean out toward them, falling and landing around them. Raining zombies. Sean terrified, runs away.

Callum turns to see these zombies and in his moment of shock, overwhelmed, he is pulled to the ground by the zombies at his feet.

LINDSEY

Callum!

The chains pop and break and the door swings open. Tommy jumps and holds his arms out to them, crying. Sophie quickly runs in and grabs him, holding him tightly. The others turn at the door to Callum.

SEAN

Callum, get up and run! Run!

Callum screams and is covered by the zombies, he has lost his crutch. Brandon aims the gun but sees there are far too many zombies already. Callum tries to scrape forward and escape but is overpowered.

CALLUM

Help!

LINDSEY

Shoot them Brandon!

Brandon makes a snap decision and pulls the kids in, closing the door on Callum completely. They are plunged into darkness.

BRANDON

Inside!

SOPHIE

What are you doing?

BRANDON

It's too late!

SALLY

No! Callum!

LINDSEY

No, shoot them! Brandon! No!

BRANDON

There is too many! I can't!

Outside, Callum has broken free and runs forward, blood tattering his shirt. He screams and cries as he runs, slamming himself against the door.

CALLUM

Open the door!

Inside they all jump back from the door, surprised. Brandon hesitates.

BRANDON  
No, it's not safe.

Sally shakes her head and runs forward, she opens the door but in a split second, the combined weight of Callum and several zombies rain down on the door, forcing it closed again. She screams and falls back. The group all back off from the door slowly as they hear Callum being torn to shreds.

CALLUM (O.S.)  
Mommy! MOMMY! MOMM-...

His screams give way to wet thuds on the door and groans. Sophie holds Tommy and Lindsey tightly. Brandon just stares at the door, lost. Sean and Sally sprawl out, despondent.

BRANDON  
I had to...

He says to himself.

INT. POLICE STATION, BACK ENTRANCE

Brandon gets back in gear and looks around intently and spots the cleaners closet. He rushes to it and grabs a broom. Goes back to the door and jams the broom into the roll bar. The kids watch him and he pauses a moment, unsure of his next words.

BRANDON  
(nervously)  
Better him than us.

Sophie looks at Brandon gritting her teeth angrily. Brandon looks around before he starts forward.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
Let's go guys...

SOPHIE  
Excuse me?

BRANDON  
We're leaving.

SOPHIE  
So you do think you're the boss.  
The be all and end all.

BRANDON

What?

SOPHIE

We're staying put right here.

BRANDON

No, we're not. Staying here is not going to accomplish anything. We need to keep moving.

SOPHIE

Its 'moving' that got us into this mess. Callum...

BRANDON

We're still here. Its moving that's kept us alive this long. We have to keep going forward. If we fall behind then...

Sean runs forward and tries to punch Brandon on his chest. Brandon pushes him back. Lindsey stands back from the group, taking all of this in with tear soaked eyes, scared.

SEAN

(fighting tears)

Then what? You get left behind? Like callum? Is that another one of your stupid dad's expressions?!

SALLY

I can't believe this is happening.

BRANDON

Shut up! Listen! Callum was already gone. There was nothing we could have done.

SEAN

We could have tried. You didnt even try!

BRANDON

You're one to talk. Wuss!

SOPHIE

Brandon!

BRANDON

(mockingly)

Sophie!

SOPHIE

What if it was me? Or Sally? What if it was Lindsey? Would it have been too late for her?

BRANDON

Callum ran out there. Nobody made him. He knew what he was doing.

SOPHIE

He had no idea what he was doing. He ran out there trying to protect you. All any of us have done is what you say to protect you. But you don't care about us. Not really, you only care about yourself. You've always only cared about yourself. As long as you and Lindsey are safe you don't give a shit about anyone else.

Brandon is furious. He quickly leans in and raises his back hand to her.

LINDSEY

Brandon no!

Brandon stops dead in his tracks.

LINDSEY (CONT'D)

Don't be dad...

He staggers back and stops. Looks to all the kids. Their faces twisted with fear. Sophie is indignant but trembling.

SEAN

Oh wow...

SALLY

Shit.

BRANDON

I'm sorry. We ain't kids no more, guys. We're either survivors. Or victims. And you're right Sophie, this isn't a game. We can't just pause it whenever we feel like. We have to keep moving. Clear this level then the next and the one after that. Callum is gone. We need to grow up and move on or we are going to end up just like him. I can't have... I won't let that happen to any of you.



SALLY

I don't want to go anywhere.  
Anywhere we go it just gets worse.

SOPHIE

Sally's right. This whole time  
we've been doing everything you've  
wanted to do and look where its  
taken us. We should have just  
stayed at the school where it was  
safe.

Brandon looks over the group and pauses. He rights himself  
and sighs. Turns his back on them and starts to walk away.

BRANDON

Yeah... Tell that to Julie.

The other kids look to one another. Slowly they all follow  
Brandon again. As Sophie sighs and starts to move, Tommy  
pulls on her hand.

TOMMY

Don't worry. Callum is in heaven  
now... And happy. And we'll all see  
him again soon.

Sophie lingers a moment and grips his hand tight and walks  
on. She still won't allow herself to cry, though every  
emotion in her is racing.

INT. POLICE STATION HALLWAY

Brandon walks ahead of the group. Always looking around.  
Lindsey hangs back with Tommy and Sophie while Sally and Sean  
bring up the rear.

SALLY

Are you OK Sean? Did he hurt you?

SEAN

No, I'm fine... Thanks.

INT. POLICE STATION, BULLPEN

Brandon stops at the entrance to the bullpen. The others  
catch up to him there. It looks chaotic like its been  
ransacked but no real signs of damage.

BRANDON

I guess we'll check in here.

SEAN

Look at this place. If there was anything worth anything here its already gone.

BRANDON

Yeah, but we have to try, right?

The group ignore this comment.

SOPHIE

Does it look like the police left in a rush, or do you think someone has been in here, like. You know, stealing stuff?

SALLY

I never been in here, so I don't know.

SEAN

It don't always look like this.

Sally looks Sean up and down.

SALLY

OK.

He looks back at her and the group.

SEAN

... I think... I don't see anything worth while.

BRANDON

No weapons?

SEAN

No.

LINDSEY

Wouldn't the police have their weapons in the army-re?

SOPHIE

Armory.

LINDSEY

Yeah, the armory.

SALLY

Where is that?

INT. POLICE STATION, ARMORY

The kids open the door to the armory, its unlocked and creaks as it opens. Its a small station so its little more than a broom closet with a few empty racks where they'd stored their weapons and vests. Sean steps forward. Picks up a night stick.

SEAN

Yeah, this place is pretty empty.  
But look what I got!

BRANDON

Well, never know when that will  
come in handy at least.

SEAN

Mom always says better to have it  
and not need it, than need it and  
not have it...

Lindsey nods enthusiastically to Sean. The others look to Brandon. Any dad says comebacks? Brandon turns and leaves.

INT. POLICE STATION, INNER COURTYARD

The groups winds up in a small courtyard, skylights above drench them in late day sun and both the first and second floor mezzanine.

SOPHIE

Hello?!

Brandon looks to Sophie disapprovingly but quickly gets over it as they need to know if they are alone or not.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

What? It's so quiet.

SEAN

Maybe... Too quiet.

SALLY

Knock it off.

BRANDON

Hey?! Is anyone here?

They wait a couple of seconds. Nothing.

SEAN

Preferably anyone alive?

Another few seconds. Still nothing.

LINDSEY  
Is anybody here?

SALLY  
Hello?!..... ECHO!

The kids giggle as her voices echoes throughout the mezzanine.

SOPHIE  
Alright guys.

No one knows what to say or do. Brandon stands forward. He takes a deep breath.

BRANDON  
I see a little silhouette-o of a  
man...

He looks over to Sophie. Sophie embarrassedly smiles. He motions for her to jump in. She shakes her head. He mouths PLEASE to her. She rolls her eyes.

SOPHIE  
(Weakly)  
... Scaramouche, Scaramouche, will  
you do the Fandango?

BRANDON/SOPHIE  
Thunderbolts and lightning, Very,  
very frightening me.

SOPHIE  
Galileo, Galileo.

BRANDON  
(Echoing Sophie)  
Galileo, Galileo.

Sophie and Brandon laugh at one another. Rekindling what they had before this all started?

SEAN  
What the living hell are you guys  
shouting about?!

SOPHIE  
Nothing.

She laughs but corrects herself. Back to serious mode.

SALLY

Hello, we need some help here. We were at the school when the things broke in. We're all alone and need help... And now these people are singing!

BRANDON

Hey, wasn't that bad.

TOMMY

But, we're not alone.

They look around expectantly a moment.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

We're all together.

SALLY

You know what I mean.

Sophie stands forward from the group.

SOPHIE

Anyone? If anyone is out there?!  
Please, say something. Anything?...  
Anyone?

The kids all look around. Waiting. Not one sound is heard. After a few moments pass, they all look to one another.

BRANDON

Still pretty quiet.

SOPHIE

Yeah...

SEAN

You know, I don't hear anyone, but I don't hear any of them things either.

LINDSEY

Yeah, that's right!

SEAN

You know what I'm thinking?

SALLY

I think so.

SOPHIE

You're thinking, why not stay here.  
Secure ourselves, upstairs or  
something. Be safe here.

SEAN

Way off, but let's do that. Sounds  
good too.

BRANDON

You really think its safe here?

SOPHIE

Safer than out there.

Brandon sighs. Looks around and puts the gun over his  
shoulders, resting his arms on each side of it, like a  
scarecrow.

BRANDON

Well, let's look upstairs then. Get  
a full feel for the place.

Sophie smiles. It's a nice change.

INT. POLICE STATION HALLWAY INTERSECTION

Sophie and Brandon walk ahead of the kids.

SOPHIE

You're good with them, when you try  
not being a hard ass.

BRANDON

As long as you can see I'm trying,  
that's all that counts, I guess.

Walking down the hall together toward the stairwells, toward  
an intersection of hallways the kids spot - A MAN quietly  
walking toward them. Brandon quickly pulls the gun up toward  
him, taking aim.

MAN

Whoa Kid! Whoa, what are you doing?

BRANDON

What? Who are you? What are you  
doing?!

LINDSEY

Brandon! What do we do?!

TOMMY

Hello.

LINDSEY

Brandon!

MAN

Hey, you all calm down. My name is Ronnie. Heard you kids screaming the place down earlier. Little Queen too. Been trying to find you.

SALLY

What did you call me?

BRANDON

Really? Why didn't you shout back? Huh? Why sneak up on us?!

RONNIE

Brandon, it's Brandon, right? Uh huh. That's why I've been trying to find you. Not sure you are aware of this, but it ain't safe around this place.

SEAN

Really?

RONNIE

It ain't safe anywhere. You definitely don't want to go announcing yourself like that. There are these things outside.

LINDSEY

We know about them.

RONNIE

Oh, I'm sorry. Guessing you've been through some stuff.

TOMMY

Callum was outside a-

SOPHIE

Quiet down Tommy.

RONNIE

Um, OK. Well, I'm sorry to hear that, so I don't blame you for being scared, Brandon.

(MORE)

RONNIE (CONT'D)

Having said that, I also don't appreciate a gun being pointed at me. So if you don't mind?

Brandon is holding strong, his grip tight around the gun. His breathing fast.

SALLY

I don't like this.

SEAN

Me neither.

BRANDON

And if I mind? Who are you Ronnie? You a police officer?

RONNIE

Yeah, I'm a cop. Thanks.

LINDSEY

Put it down Brandon. Please.

RONNIE

So if you want to put the gun down, like the little girl says, we can talk. Again, it ain't safe in here.

BRANDON

If you're a police officer, where is your uniform?

The kids look to Brandon and back to Ronnie. At the intersection they're at, the kids have their back to the wall near the corner at the start of the next hallway. In that hallway, moving slowly toward the kids is another couple of men. The kids don't notice. They're distracted by Ronnie.

LINDSEY

Brandon, listen to him.

RONNIE

Hey, I'm off duty. Ha ha.

BRANDON

Off duty? Bullshit.

Tommy's ears perk up, but he knows not to comment.

RONNIE

Hey, watch your mouth, Brandon. We've got food, water, and if you put that gun down, so we can talk, we can help each other out here.



BRANDON  
We got food, thanks.

SALLY  
He's a police officer.

SEAN  
Brandon, what are you doing? He can help us, maybe.

RONNIE  
Don't be stupid. Listen to your friends.

BRANDON  
I'm not putting it down, Ronnie.

Behind Brandon at the edge of the hallway, three men have lined up and they hold themselves in place, waiting. They nod to Ronnie. He nods back discreetly.

RONNIE  
Well Brandon. Then we have a problem, because like I said,  
(Raising his voice)  
I don't like having a god damn gun pointed at me. Especially by a stupid kid.

BRANDON  
How am I supposed to know if I can trust you?

RONNIE  
You ever hear don't look a gift horse in the mouth?

The men look to be gearing themselves up for something.

LINDSEY  
No.

SALLY  
I have.

BRANDON  
You ever hear don't talk to strangers?

RONNIE  
Ah Brandon. You had your chance.

Brandon's eyes widen. The group of men lunge out from beside the wall and grab the gun, pulling it up, one of them punch Brandon in the face. He yanks the gun away from them and it skitters across the floor. All of the kids jump and scream as Ronnie runs toward them as well.

LINDSEY

Brandon!

SEAN

Oh shit!

Sean runs forward and kicks one of the men but is back handed and thrown to the floor. Sally tries to help but Ronnie grabs her in a sleeper hold, lifting her off her feet.

SALLY

Help!

BRANDON

Put her down! Get off of us!

Another fist to Brandon's face. Lindsey and Tommy run past them toward the end of the hall - toward the front of the police station - and are chased by one of the men. Everything is running to a fever pitch. The men all tear at the children, pulling at their bags, grabbing them, hitting them, Brandon falls to his knees and Sally is almost blacking out.

SOPHIE (O.S.)

I HAVE A GUN!

Sophie's scream stops everyone dead in their tracks. At the back of the hallway she stands tall, the gun held forward from her chest. Facing the men.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

This is a gun, I have a gun, stop!  
Put them down. Gun! Put them down.  
Now!

She is so excited and stressed that her words run together with fear. Ronnie puts Sally down, she runs to Tommy and Lindsey. Another man backs off Brandon and he lazily looks over to her, blood spits from Brandon's mouth.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Sean, get Brandon.

Sean gets forward and pulls Brandon toward the other kids. They all group toward the end of the hall. Sophie moves forward through the pool of men. Ronnie starts toward her slowly.

RONNIE  
Listen little girl...

Sophie holds the gun right in Ronnie's face. She barely notices one of the men behind her wipe his bloody hand on his shirt.

SOPHIE  
Shut up!

She aims the gun down to his crotch.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
You don't move I'm gonna make you  
into a little girl!

He smiles weakly and puts his hands up. At the end of the hall, Brandon hugs Lindsey and she squeezes him tight. When she pulls back, half of her face is covered in blood.

LINDSEY  
BRANDON!

Sophie looks over. They all realize Brandon has a large wet patch of blood on his shirt. He slumps toward the doors. Sophie looks over toward one of the men and in a split second realizes he has a knife. He goes for her and she pulls back, slamming herself against the wall.

His swipe misses and she swings the gun hard like a club. Smashing into his face and knocking him to the ground. Teeth skip across the floor. The others start toward her but stop abruptly.

SOPHIE  
BACK OFF, I STILL HAVE A GUN, THIS  
IS A GUN, I WILL SHOOT YOU, I WILL  
KILL YOU ALL, BACK THE - BACK THE  
FUCK OFF! GO!

RONNIE  
All of us, with two barrels?

SOPHIE  
Just you then.

RONNIE  
Yeah. Back it up guys.

Sophie pushes past the men, they all hold their hands up to her. Ronnie nods to the others to let them leave. Making just enough space for her to pass. Sophie gets to the kids, her eyes still on the men. The all stand in a line and watch.

SOPHIE

Open it.

Sean struggles with the lock and unlatches it. The front doors open.

EXT. POLICE STATION, FRONT DOOR - EARLY DUSK

The kids spill out onto the street. Brandon is clutching his stomach, blood soaked through his shirt and onto his jeans. Sophie keeps the gun trained toward the adults. They slowly make their way to the door and stand, crowding the entrance now that all the kids are outside.

Ronnie surveys the scene. The kids all face them, behind and around a few stray zombies all turn toward them. He sighs and shakes his head.

RONNIE

Good luck, kids.

SALLY

YOU GO TO HELL!

Ronnie pulls the doors closed.

SOPHIE

Come on, guys, we need to get  
Brandon some help.

SEAN

How are we gonna do that?!

SOPHIE

Uh, the hospital.

The kids drag Brandon along, as he whelps in pain.

EXT. PUBLIC PARK - DUSK

From a distance, we see the kids running toward the open park and Callum's bloody Crutch lies alone in the foreground.

LINDSEY

You're gonna be OK Brandon.

BRANDON

Yeah, OK.

Sean is pulling Brandon, letting him rest on him, as they pass into the park, a few zombies are getting closer. Sean pushes Brandon toward Sophie.

SEAN  
Sophie, help.

Sophie lets Brandon hold onto her shoulder. She puts her right arm around him to support him, while aiming the gun with her left, she can't lift it as evenly or high as Brandon could. Sean launches forward with his nightstick and beats a nearby zombie, clearing their path. Brandon stumbles in pain.

LINDSEY  
Be OK Brandon, please.

SALLY  
Come on Brandon, we have to keep moving.

Sally comes up behind and helps support Brandon from the other side. They all move on.

INT. HOSPITAL, A&E - DAY

They barrel themselves into the hospital, it has been abandoned, like everywhere else. No zombies in clear sight here. They move straight through the entrance and into the nurses bays of the accident and emergency. Sophie lets Brandon rest on Sean as she rushes to check for medicines. She puts the gun by the side of the bed.

SOPHIE  
(To herself)  
OK, what do we need. Like bandages.  
Antibiotics... Ioh... Iodine?  
Something.

BRANDON  
Are you asking me or telling me?

SOPHIE  
I'm telling you.

Brandon lays himself on a bed and tries to lie back a moment, the blood streaking his pants and shirt is already oxidizing. Fresh red rivers over a dried brown template. Sean tries to get his breath. Lindsey looks to her brother in tears. He looks over to her.

LINDSEY  
Brandon, please...

BRANDON  
It's OK. It's OK.

SOPHIE

There is like nothing useful here.  
We need medicine.

She looks from the ransacked stacks and back to Brandon and toward the stairwell nearby to the main wards. A few lingering zombies are making their way into the hospital after them.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Sean, Sally. We're gonna go up them stairs and find something. You keep us covered because I'll have my hands full with Brandon.

SEAN

We'll protect you.

SALLY

Maybe you should give us the gun.

Sophie looks to think about this a moment. Brandon takes the gun from the side of the bed where Sophie had placed it.

BRANDON

I got the gun. You just get me. And we'll be OK. Yeah?

SOPHIE

OK, go.

Sophie yanks Brandon off the bed, he screams in pain as she does.

INT. HOSPITAL, UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - DAY

The kids hug the wall as they go. Sophie and Lindsey keeping Brandon held up. Tommy behind them and Sean and Sally in front. In the hallway a few zombies linger around near the doors to the wards. They head for the door nearest their left and Sean and Sally beat away a zombie near it. Once inside they close the door tight. They are in the BURN WARD. A sign on the door reminds us of the TRAIN CRASH...

INT. HOSPITAL, BURN WARD - DAY

The ward is split into two rooms separated by a communal bathroom space. While the room they are in only has one body in a bed near the end of the room, in the next room over there is a few all grouped together. The zombies turn toward the noise coming in from the other room.

Most of the beds in this room are blood stained and there are streaks of dried blood running across the floor from some of the beds to the other room. Every zombie in here must have previously ran to the second room for food... But now they know more has arrived.

Tommy steps over to the far wall and starts playing with things he finds, like oxygen masks and piping. Distracting himself.

Brandon slumps down on the nearest bed and Sophie starts looking through a large cabinet of supplies. Sean runs to the end of the room and dispatches the zombie there.

He looks through the open doorway into the other room but doesn't see anything so he goes back to the group. Sophie grabs some melanin and medicine. Brandon's eyes are closed. He's about passed out from the pain.

SOPHIE  
Brandon? Brandon?

He doesn't respond immediately. Just kind of scoffs at her.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
(To Lindsey)  
We need to give Brandon some medicine. Lindsey, honey, is Brandon allergic to anything?

Lindsey thinks for a moment.

LINDSEY  
Um... Nuts.

SOPHIE  
Oh, no, sweetheart, I mean, is he allergic to any medicines? Antibiotics.

SALLY  
Yeah, like when I broke my arm, they gave me antibiotics. Like... Something... Cillian. Amoniacillian. You gotta know if you can have it 'cause it's dangerous if you are allergic to it.

Tommy comes over and puts an oxygen mask over Brandon's face. Sophie pulls it away and as calmly as she can brushes him off.

TOMMY

So he can breathe.

SOPHIE

Sweet heart, thanks but that's not hooked up to anything. Sally?

SALLY

Tommy, let's play over here, OK?

Sally lures Tommy away a moment. Brandon snaps back into reality and lurches forward a few inches. He looks around and realizes what's happening.

BRANDON

I'm right here. I'm here.

SOPHIE

Brandon, are you allergic to anything.

BRANDON

No. I don't care, just give me anything this really hurts Sophie.

Sophie loads some penicillin into a syringe.

SOPHIE

I don't know if this is the right amount. I followed this label on the bottle, but I mean, I don't know...

BRANDON

Just do it. Please.

She injects his arm. He winces. She pulls his shirt up and gets a good look: The wound in his stomach is deep and fresh blood spills when he moves. Lindsey covers her face. Sean pulls her away.

SEAN

Don't look OK? Brandon is all big and strong and Sophie is going to make him better. OK?

LINDSEY

Uh-huh.

SEAN

Why don't you play with Tommy a minute, OK? We'll take care of Brandon.



Tommy shows her the cool oxygen masks he's found. Lindsey walks over to him, in a daze.

Sophie takes some Anti-septic and rubs it on some melolin and applies it. He starts to scream and she holds a bloody hand over his mouth, stifling it. Tears running down his face.

SOPHIE

I know it hurts. But don't scream please. More of them will come.

She waits a moment. He nods and she takes her hand off his face.

BRANDON

Give me something. For this pain. Seriously. Please. I can't take it.

SOPHIE

I don't know what to give you, I don't want to kill you, Brandon.

Sally walks over with some Morphine.

SALLY

Give him some of this. Doctor House uses it all the time.

Sophie looks unsure, but Brandon nods her to do it.

BRANDON

Whatever, yeah please. Do it already!

She fills half a syringe and injects him with it. He shudders and closes his eyes again. A BANG from the other room draws their attention.

SOPHIE

(Whispers to Sean)  
Go check that door.

In the other room, we see a zombie has fallen out of its bed, it crawls towards the door as a few others move with it. They are all horribly disfigured with burns and bandages, missing body parts. More than we first saw.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

What is it?

Sean and Sally run to the door as Tommy hides under a bed now, still carrying his blanket and oxygen mask.

Sean and Sally both pass through the bathroom - as they pass we see a zombie crippled in the shower watch them - and they check in the next room - the horde of advancing zombies. Nine of them.

They rush back and try to close the door. In the bathroom, the unseen shower zombie starts to bring itself to life.

SALLY

There is a bunch of them things.

SOPHIE

Close the door!

SEAN

It's stuck!

Sean and Sally fight with the door but it won't go past a groove in the floor. It's jammed open. Sophie is wrapping bandages around Brandon's midsection. Lindsey walks closer and looks him in the eye.

LINDSEY

Please don't die, OK? Please. I don't want to be alone.

BRANDON

I'm not going anywhere.

Brandon talks lazily. Too much Morphine? She takes his hand and he grips hers back and smiles a weak smile.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

I'm still here. Thanks.

LINDSEY

I love you Brandon.

BRANDON

Yeah. You too sis.

In the bathroom, the zombie in the shower stands up slowly. Sean and Sally don't see it as they try to close the door.

SALLY

It's not closing!

SOPHIE

Don't shout, they'll hear us.

SALLY

They already hear us!

The zombie from the bathroom lurches through the doorway and grabs Sally from behind, it pulls her to her knees. Brandon springs to life and jerks the gun up toward the door, but can't take the weight in his stupor and slumps out of the bed, falling to the floor.

LINDSEY

Brandon!

SOPHIE

Sally!

Sophie runs towards the kids as Sean kicks into action and grabs it from behind, yanking it off her and kicks it in the head. He sees the other zombies appearing at the door and rushes forward, trying to close the second door.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Are you OK?

Sophie reaches Sally and helps her up. Sean can't close the other door either and more zombies are near him.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Sean, get back here.

The zombie beside the girls is still going and grabs at Sophie's ankle. She shrieks and tries to pull away from it. It won't let go.

On the floor near the bed, Lindsey tries to help Brandon up. He looks confused and in agony. He lays on his stomach and tries to aim the gun toward Sophie and the zombie.

BRANDON

Sophie, move.

His aim wavers drastically, he can't keep steady.

LINDSEY

Shoot it!

Sophie screams and turns, kicking down with her other foot, crushing the zombie's face into chunks. She looks shocked by her actions. The first one she's killed directly. Sally is stunned but impressed.

Lindsey tries to help Brandon up, but she isn't strong enough. Tommy sees and runs over to help too, he pulls all he can.

TOMMY

We've got you!

LINDSEY  
Let's go please!

They turn to look for Sean.

SOPHIE  
Sean let's-

Sean rushes past Sophie and Sally, pulling them both by their collars.

SEAN  
Yeah, let's go! This isn't safe!

Sophie comes back and helps pull Brandon up. She tries to take the gun from him. But he won't let it go. He shakes his head. She sees Sean's open backpack and takes some NIGHTSTICKS he'd collected out. She arms Lindsey and Sally with these.

SOPHIE  
Help me protect Brandon. We got what we came for, now we're getting out of here.

TOMMY  
And go somewhere safe!

SOPHIE  
That's right. Let's go.

INT. HOSPITAL, UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

The kids rush the door open and beat back anything in their way. Much more coordinated than they were at Grandma's. They move to the stairs, but a small army of zombies have grown at the bottom. They must have followed the kids. The group turns back and heads down the hallway and into the next ward.

INT. HOSPITAL, INTENSIVE CARE

They open the door and see there is several zombies in here, some bound in beds, and a few DEAD bodies which are not moving. At the end of the room is an EXIT door. They all rush down the center of the room and straight for the door. They try the handle, its locked. Sean tries to kick the door in. But it won't budge. All of the zombies have turned to them and are closing in.

SOPHIE  
It's locked! Back, back, keep moving.

They turn and back track and push back any zombie too close. Brandon sighs through the pain of exertion. Waving the gun at all zombies who get close, more like he's trying to scare them off than shoot them.

INT. HOSPITAL, UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

Back in the hallway, its getting full of zombies now. Their noise attracting them from all over. They make their way to an emergency stairwell.

After opening the door, a few zombies caught above try to move down the stairs to them, falling and splashing and clattering at the kids feet. Before they can react, the zombies are already trying to reach their feet from the floor and bite at them.

The kids pull back from them. And push themselves into a corner, the zombies all closing in now from all sides, Brandon swings the gun in wide arcs trying to protect them but squealing in pain with each swing, weighing Sophie down. Sean and Sally stand with their batons drawn but are afraid to move. There is too many.

TOMMY

What are we going to do?!

Brandon shoots Sophie a look and eyes the gun and back to her. In an instant she knows he's suggesting shooting themselves. It's come to this... She won't have that, she shakes her head NO at him and looks around quickly. Desperately.

They are stood near an observation window. Idea.

SOPHIE

Tommy, here.

She takes Tommy's blanket and smashes the glass, once she's knocked enough away she lays the blanket over the ledge and helps lift Tommy and Brandon over.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Come on! Watch the glass, let's go!

Sally and Sean both get over themselves. Sean cuts his hand, but hides it from the others. Not wanting to be always seen as weak anymore.

LINDSEY

Is this where the babies are?

TOMMY

Not today.

SALLY

Thank god.

A row of tiny beds before them, luckily there are no dead babies here. The kids all move to the back of the room and find a door. They all rush through as the zombies fall over the broken window toward them.

INT. HOSPITAL, PEDIATRICS - DAY

They close the door behind them and look forward. Small faces turn toward them. A few ZOMBIE KIDS around their ages as well as adults all feasting on someone at the end of the room. Their attention now on the fresh meat.

The group pause a moment, stunned by the scene. A child zombie - about 6 - moves toward Tommy, it bares its teeth and lunges.

TOMMY

(Nervously)

Hello.

Sophie drops Brandon to the ground and pulls Tommy out of the way, kicking it in the face. Sean and Sally quickly take over and beat the child to the ground, killing it.

BRANDON

Oh god.

SOPHIE

I know.

Brandon staggers to his knees, leaning on the gun and the others all look on.

SEAN

What now?

There is an open exit door at the end of the room, but a makeshift barricade blocks part of the door. Someone had made a last stand here with the kids - and lost. The zombies are right in front of it.

SOPHIE

We're leaving.

Brandon looks to her, almost asking HOW with his eyes. She looks around the room, a line of beds flank the main aisle way in the room.

The zombies make their way right down the middle toward them. Sophie moves to the bed closest and tries to move it.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Help me with this.

It won't budge. They all strain to move it, but nothing happens. Sean reaches down.

SEAN

It's locked... Got it!

He flicks the blocks off and the bed rolls into the center of the walkway. Sophie aims the bed toward the zombies and screams as she steamrolls the bed forward into them, knocking the zombies to the sides and under the front of the bed. Behind them, Lindsey helps Brandon stagger to his feet, she leads him forward, by the hand.

The bed slows to a stop, a heap of bodies beneath the front, Sophie can't push anymore. There is one bed left before the door, Sophie sprawls over it and gets to the door, she tries to pull it open, edging the barricade loose. Sean and Sally hit the zombies closest trying to keep them back, screaming with fright the whole time.

Along the wall of the room, Tommy crawls under the end of each bed, trying to avoid all the danger in the center and end of the room.

SOPHIE

Let's go, help me!

Sean hits a zombie and his baton gets stuck in its forehead, he can't pull it back out and as another reaches for him, he jumps back away, looking at his hands, now terrified without a weapon.

Lindsey climbs over the bed nearest the door, beside Sophie, and tries to help Brandon up over the bed, her attention on him as a zombie approaches the door from behind in the dark hallway.

BRANDON

Lindsey, look out!

He tries to swing the gun up but it is caught on something, so he reaches forward and pulls her out of the way, stumbling, he falls off the edge of the bed in a burst of pain.

As Sophie looks over to them, hands reach in from through the door and pull at her, trying to pull her through, half in, half out, she screams as the zombie's hands rip into her hair and pull and thrash.

A zombie lurches forward and falls onto Brandon. His legs on the bed, lying on his back on the floor Brandon pushes at it and tries to push it off him. Holding it at bay as it tries to force itself down on him and bite. Lindsey screams in terror.

Sean doesn't know what to do, so he grabs Lindsey and pulls her up and onto a bed, just out of reach of the zombies. Sean jumps off the bed, leaving Lindsey standing there, and tries to pull Sophie through the door, human tug-of-war with a zombie.

Tommy moves through the gap in the door beneath them and crawls into the next hallway. Brandon screams in pain as he tries desperately to push the zombie off him. Blood soaking through his bandage.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Help! Someone! I can't hold this thing!

Sally reaches down to the gun and stands on the bed, her legs on either side of Brandon's, she aims down at the zombie on top of him.

Sean manages to pull Sophie free of the zombie's clutches, its hand hangs in the air a moment, a large chunk of her hair in its grasp. They all turn to Brandon.

But before anyone can say a thing, with an earth shattering BOOM the gun goes off, All other sound seems to wash away a moment. Both barrels into the zombie. The force of the gun is enough that Sally drops it and falls to bed.

The gun clatters on the ground near Brandon. Lindsey holds her ears and the rest of the kids take a moment to realize what has happened.

LINDSEY

(Voice trembling)

Bra... Brandon...

Brandon isn't screaming anymore. Sally gets back up onto her knees and wipes the sweat soaked hair from her face. Her victory smile dropping to a scared grimace.

SALLY

Brandon?



Sophie falls to her knees and looks to Brandon. The zombie bent over his top half. She can see Brandon's face in pieces. The shot went right through the zombie and into him. And through him and into the floor.

SOPHIE

Oh Jesus...

Sophie falls back as Lindsey tries to lean over and look, Sophie rushes back up and pulls Lindsey close and covers her eyes. Sean can see the blood pooling around Brandon.

LINDSEY

Brandon! No, Brandon! Brandon!

Sophie darts up and grabs Lindsey.

SOPHIE

Don't look sweetheart. Don't...

Sally steps off the bed and staggers back from Brandon's body, almost tripping over Sophie and Lindsey. Tears stream down her face.

SEAN

You killed him! You shot Brandon!  
He's dead!

Lindsey tries to reach out to Brandon, but Sophie pulls her arm back and holds her tight, rocking her. She looks around over Lindsey and sees one of the zombies are taking parts of Brandon's head and eating them, while the other zombies all close in from the other sides toward her. Those lanky decrepit arms still lashing from the doorway as well. No time to think. No time to grieve. Something has to be done.

SALLY

No, I was trying to help! I tried  
to save him! I was trying to help  
him! I'm sorry!

SEAN

He's dead Sally! What were you  
thinking?!

SOPHIE

(Quietly)  
Sean, no.

Sally pushes past them and yanks the door open a little bit more as she runs through, pushing the zombie here back, her eyes streaked with tears.

SALLY  
I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

SOPHIE  
Sally, wait! Stay together!

LINDSEY  
Brandon, no, Daddy! Daddy!

Sean looks back to the room, more zombies are getting back up, not content with dead meat. Sophie sees this too.

SEAN  
Sophie?! Come on!

Sophie pushes Lindsey forward, to look her face to face.

SOPHIE  
Lindsey, I know it hurts, but we have to move now, if we don't we're all going to die, can you move? We've got to go!

LINDSEY  
He promised! Brandon! He said everything was gonna be alright! Daddy! I want my Daddy! Daddy!

She is inconsolable. Crying her eyes out. Sophie holds her close to her chest. Sean grabs Sophie's free hand and helps her up. The zombies are close now. Sean heads for the door. Pulling it open as far as he can for them.

INT. HOSPITAL, DARK HALLWAY

They squeeze through the door, the zombie here is back up and reaching for them. As Sean turns to it, it falls forward with a loud THUMP. Tommy stands behind it, with a wooden pole in his hands.

TOMMY  
I heard a loud bang.

SOPHIE  
You're a good boy Tommy, now run!

SEAN  
Did you see Sally?

TOMMY  
Uh-huh, she went over there. What's happening? Is Lindsey OK?

SOPHIE

Show me. We have to find her.

TOMMY

Where is Brandon?

The kids all make their way forward. It's darker here. Sophie uses her free hand to get out and use her flashlight. She looks to Tommy.

SOPHIE

Which way?

Tommy leads them forward. They go down a couple of passages, moving fast, trying to avoid the stray zombies. Lindsey still crying, her face pressed into Sophie's chest, muffling her.

TOMMY

Sophie, where is Brandon? Why is Lindsey crying?

Sophie ignores him. He must know. She doesn't want to say.

They check through a few rooms, following exit signs, but giving each room a quick glance as they pass. Some with zombies, some empty, some darker than others depending on windows, but no Sally.

INT. HOSPITAL, OBSERVATION ROOM

The kids run into a room with a large observation window. They move through quickly and then stop as they realize; through the window, below them in the a dark windowless surgery bay, near an overturned gurney, Sally has put herself in the corner. The kids stop and hit the glass

SOPHIE

Sally! Sally!

Inside the room, in the dark, Sally rocks herself in the corner, sucking her thumb as she cries. Each hit on the glass is just a low rumble in here. Sound proofed. Their screams to Sally, going unheard. A low shuffling noise behind her, but Sally is too upset to notice.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh god, no...

SEAN

Sally! Turn around!

They can see the zombies approaching behind her, the kids all slam the glass hard, trying to warn her.

Sean tries to break the glass. Not even a scratch on it. Sally still doesn't notice them as they are almost right on top of her. Sophie thinks... directs her flash light down to her.

TOMMY

Sally! No!

In the room, Sally realizes there is a light in the room and stops sucking her thumb. She turns her head. As she sees the approaching zombies, she's too overcome and can't think. She backs herself deeper into the corner, shaking her head no.

SALLY

No, please, I'm sorry. No. Help.  
Help me! Help! Please. I'm sorry!

From above, the kids watch as the zombies pounce on her. Her screams unheard, the kids watch as her blood sprays the wall and the zombies rip into her. Sophie slowly, sadly, lowers her flashlight. Casting Sally's death into darkness.

TOMMY

Sally...

Sophie walks off quietly. Sean reaches over and holds Tommy's hand, guiding him out the room.

SEAN

Let's go Tommy.

EXT. THE HOSPITAL, BACK EXIT - DUSK

It's quiet out here. A cold front has moved in and there is a light fog. The kids can see their breath. Sophie is traumatized and doesn't know quite what to do. She seems distracted and lost.

SEAN

What now?

SOPHIE

What now?

She repeats. Lindsey has stopped crying, but only through exhaustion, but she keeps her face pressed to Sophie's chest. Gripping her for dear life. A maternal comfort. Sophie lets out a long sigh.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Somewhere safe... I guess.

TOMMY

Is anywhere safe anymore?

Sophie just looks at him a moment and stares off into the streets nearby. A stray zombie here and there in the distance.

SOPHIE

... They're everywhere...

TOMMY

Brandon isn't coming is he?

Sophie looks to Tommy, but doesn't speak. She can't.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

He went to heaven.

Sean nods. Lindsey shakes her head, but nothing more can be said.

EXT. STREETS

The kids walk the streets. Without the claustrophobic hallways, their fear doesn't seem so heightened, they can just sidestep dangers. They walk on, lost. Still in a daze. No rush left in them.

SEAN

Hey, Sophie. Sophie, what about here?

EXT. THE FIRE STATION

They walk around the building and toward the back end, near a long broken wooden fence, they see a window ajar, about 10 feet off the ground. Some wooden palettes near by.

SOPHIE

OK, Lindsey, honey, I need to let you down now.

She lowers Lindsey, who scrunches up her face and shakes her head. Sophie motions to Sean who comes over and holds her.

SEAN

It's OK Lindsey. I've got you.

Sophie stretches her arm out, it cracks and cricks. She held Lindsey tightly for so long, her arm is killing her. Sophie quietly piles a few crates together and stands on them to reach into the open window.

TOMMY  
No way! You guys!

Tommy goes running off beyond the fence.

SOPHIE  
(Quietly)  
Tommy! What...

Sophie jumps down and runs around the fence after him - Sean and Lindsey stay back, near the fire station, looking down the alleyway toward the street.

TOMMY  
He must have followed us! Can I  
keep him this time?

Tommy's dog from his grandma's is in his arms. Sophie scans the horizon and sees a few zombies rambling toward them.

SOPHIE  
OK, yeah, whatever, just hurry and  
keep quiet, OK?

INT. THE FIRE STATION - DUSK

Sophie closes the window behind them as they settle inside. It's getting dark and she turns her flashlight on. The place is more or less untouched. Not ransacked. Just abandoned. Sophie checks the exits and entrances, its all locked up tight.

INT. THE FIRE STATION, MAIN HALL

Sophie comes back to the kids. Sean stands with his back to the wall, he looks disconnected from them. Tommy is showing Lindsey how to pet Max.

TOMMY  
He likes it when you rub his fur  
like this. But not when you do it  
like this. His name is Max and his  
farts smell real bad.

LINDSEY  
Ew, he farts? God Tommy.

TOMMY  
Everyone farts!

SOPHIE  
Um, not in here they don't.

She musters a little smile and the kids try to flash one back, but all they manage is smirks. Sophie walks over to Sean.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
You look very pensive.

Sean looks at her.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
... Like, distracted. Sad... Not  
that I blame you.

Sophie stands next to him and looks at the kids. He turns to her.

SEAN  
... You don't?

SOPHIE  
Don't what?

SEAN  
Don't blame me?

SOPHIE  
What do you mean Sean?

SEAN  
For everything.

SOPHIE  
Sean...

SEAN  
I'm sorry about Brandon.

SOPHIE  
Me too Sean, but...

SEAN  
I couldn't save him. I tried, I  
really did. I'm so sorry.

SOPHIE  
Hey, what happened to Brandon  
wasn't your fault.

SEAN  
And Sally, I couldn't-

SOPHIE  
Neither was Sally-

SEAN  
And Callum, I don't even-

SOPHIE  
You stop right there.

SEAN  
I'm here and they aren't, Sophie.

SOPHIE  
Sean. You can't blame yourself. I  
would never blame you.

SEAN  
What about...

Sean starts to tear up.

SEAN (CONT'D)  
I mean, Brandon was... He said...

Sophie reaches in and presses a hand to his face.

SOPHIE  
Sean. You are so brave. Lindsey  
just lost her brother. And She's  
going to need your bravery to look  
up to.

He tries to reign in his tears.

SEAN  
... How can you be so cool about  
everything after what just  
happened?

SOPHIE  
Because I have to. Because all we  
have is each other. Because... I'm  
the oldest...

Sean looks to her and then back to Lindsey and Tommy. He  
sighs. Sophie puts her arm around him and he turns and gives  
her a bear hug. Squeezing her tightly.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
We just keep each other safe as  
best we can. All we can do.

She remembers something from earlier and has a sad laugh.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
'We can't look back. Only forward.'



SEAN  
I'll try, Sophie. Really.

As he wipes his face, Sophie notices a bandage on Sean's hand.

SOPHIE  
Hey. What happened here?

SEAN  
Oh, I cut my hand at the hospital.

SOPHIE  
And you bandaged it yourself?

SEAN  
Yeah.

SOPHIE  
That's really good, Sean. Real good.

SEAN  
Thanks Sophie.

He smiles at her, empowered. But scared. Sophie lets out a long sigh and takes her arm off Sean. She pulls her bag back up which had slung down her arm - then realizing, takes the bag off and opens it.

SOPHIE  
Well, hey, I think we've all been through a lot today. And you and Lindsey and Tommy have all been very brave. So... I think we all deserve a little treat.

LINDSEY  
A treat?

SOPHIE  
Yeah-huh!

TOMMY  
Max too?

SOPHIE  
Sure, Max too.

In her bag, she has the candy they took from the store earlier. The kids gather round and she dishes out a couple of treats each. Sophie watches their faces with a sad detachment. Even with all this pain and suffering, they grin ear to ear for a little sugar.

EXT. THE FIRE STATION - NIGHT

The sun sets and we can see the flashlight bounce off the windows in the building. The zombies around it barely notice.

INT. THE FIRE STATION, NEAR THE FIRE TRUCKS - LATER

Max runs away a few feet and stops, he growls lowly. Around the corner of a wall, a figure lurches out in an oversized coat and helmet. Heavy breathing, Max barks and runs away. Lindsey takes off the helmet.

LINDSEY

No, Max, is me! Just me.

Max looks around the edge of one of the fire truck's tires and cautiously crawls back out toward her.

SOPHIE

At least he's a good guard dog.

TOMMY

Oh yeah, Max is a good everything dog!

Sophie motions for Tommy to come to her.

SOPHIE

Your turn.

Sean slides down the fireman's pole.

SEAN

Wow! I always wanted to do this!

SOPHIE

You just be careful! That's high, it's dangerous.

Lindsey fumbles with the fasteners on her fireman's coat while Sophie pulls another coat onto Tommy.

LINDSEY

This is so a boy's coat.

SOPHIE

It doesn't matter sweetheart, they're unisex.

Tommy giggles.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh shush. It means its for boys *and* girls.

SEAN

It's not gender specific.

SOPHIE

That's right.

TOMMY

Mine fits good.

Tommy holds his arms to his sides. His hands are lost down the sleeves.

SOPHIE

You're all so funny, but you wouldn't be laughing when your freezing without them, would you? So be thankful!

The kids all agree and nod.

INT. THE FIRE STATION, GARAGE - NIGHT

Moonlight streams in from the garage windows, reflecting off the chrome of the fire truck. The kids are all inside the truck. Extra protection if anyone gets in the building. Keep warm. Sophie looks out the window over the room with her flashlight a moment, just to be safe. Turns it off.

TOMMY (O.S.)

Can you leave the light on, please?  
It's dark.

INT. THE FIRE STATION, FIRE TRUCK

Locked up inside the fire truck the kids are all tucked in under a fire blanket on the back seats. Sophie watches them from the driver side and Max yawns on the passenger seat.

SOPHIE

Your eyes will adjust. But we need to keep the batteries strong. Sorry Tommy.

TOMMY

Um. Is 'Kay.

SEAN

Don't be scared. We're all here.  
Keep each other safe.

TOMMY

OK.

Sophie smirks and leans back in her chair and sighs again.  
Exasperation. She is so tired.

LINDSEY

Sophie...

SOPHIE

Yeah?

LINDSEY

Will things ever be the same?

SOPHIE

I... I don't know honey.

LINDSEY

I hope so.

TOMMY

Aren't you coming to bed, Sophie?  
We can make room.

SOPHIE

No, it's OK. I'm going to watch  
over you guys, until you go to  
sleep and have good dreams. Sugar  
dreams.

TOMMY

Then what?

SOPHIE

Well, then... I'm going to go look  
for help.

Fear flashes across the kids' faces. Lindsey jumps up in from  
under the covers, waking Max.

LINDSEY

No, please, Sophie, don't go  
anywhere, don't leave us.

SOPHIE

Calm down sweetie, calm down. It's  
OK.

LINDSEY

No, please don't go. I don't want you to leave.

SOPHIE

Listen guys. I have to. We can't go on like this. I don't want anything to happen to you, any of you.

LINDSEY

Then stay and protect us.

SOPHIE

I know its scary, and you have all been so very, very brave, and I am proud of all of you. I just need you to be brave a bit longer... I need you to all promise me.

Sean just stares at Sophie, unable to muster words.

TOMMY

Promise what?

SOPHIE

Promise you're going to go to sleep and be here and be safe and quiet and when you wake up, if it's light outside and I'm not here, then I'm gone.

LINDSEY

Sophie!...

SOPHIE

If that happens, hey listen to me, OK? If that happens, I need you to all stick together and keep each other safe. You stay here and be smart and go on the roof during the day and if you see any planes or helicopters, people, cars, anything you make sure they see you. Someone will come eventually.

LINDSEY

Then stay with us and wait. Please.

SOPHIE

If it is humanly possible, I'll be here when you wake up. I need to see if there is anyone else out there. Any food. Weapons. Anything. Anything that might help us.

LINDSEY  
Please Sophie. I don't want you to.

SEAN  
It's OK.

Sean hugs Lindsey and sets her down next to him.

SEAN (CONT'D)  
We'll be fine. Just come back to us  
safe, please.

Sophie smiles.

SOPHIE  
I'll do my best. Go to sleep guys.

LINDSEY  
I love you Sophie.

SOPHIE  
I love you too. All you guys. Now  
go to sleep. OK? Please.

EXT. THE FIRE STATION - NIGHT

Sophie leaves through the same window she got in through. Once she's on the ground, she pulls the crates away to hide the access.

EXT. THE STREETS - NIGHT

Sophie wanders the streets, keeping low and quiet, darting between open doorways and cars. Zombies don't notice her. She finds a quiet alleyway and pulls into it. She looks down both ends. No zombies.

Sophie breaks down in tears. Finally letting all of her emotions out, she cries out. Her whole soul, her torment, terror, adrenaline, fear, love, pain, everything all spills out all at once into the quiet night air.

SOPHIE  
(Softly)  
What do I do? What do I do?

She has a small knife in her hand, held over her wrist. Is she tempted to use it on herself? She trembles with emotion and stares into the night sky.

In the distance a zombie turns toward her. It approaches. When the zombie arrives in the alley, its empty. Sophie has already moved on.

EXT. THE SCHOOL - NIGHT

Sophie passes the school, wiping her face. Its deserted. Completely quiet now. She looks through the window, but doesn't see any evidence of the teachers. It's cold and she holds herself as she walks on. A figure in the window looks like Ms. Robson. But its unsure. Sophie Fastens her fireman's coat tightly and moves on.

EXT. MAINE STREET - NIGHT

Another string of cars. Zombies. Sophie keeps moving, she's been walking a while and looks tired. She looks into the doorway of a store but its been ransacked and empty. She keeps moving. Toward the town hall. She realizes there is power on in the town hall!

SOPHIE

Oh my... Thank god!

Sophie runs forward. Zombies are lined up around the whole building, attracted by the light and noise. As she gets closer, she can hear it too. There is people inside!

EXT. TOWN HALL - NIGHT

Sophie runs up toward the front of the building. There is quite a few zombies here, at least twenty so she can't get in, but she risks one thing;

SOPHIE

Hello! Anyone!

The zombies turn to her, she waits a moment. No sign from the windows. No sign from inside. She runs around to the back of the building, trying not to draw more attention from the zombies.

Around the back she can see a fire escape. Its pulled up and zombies surround it. There is a loud humming back here. She picks up a rock and throws it at one of the higher windows. Again this only seems to attract the zombies. She thinks for a moment...

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

OK, what now?

She gets an idea. Sophie rushes across the street and grabs hold of a little dumpster trolley. She pushes this as hard as she can, groaning with exertion. All the way across the street.

Using it like she did the bed at the hospital, she parts the zombies just long enough that she can climb on top of it before they over run her, she grabs the ladder and pulls herself up. Panting, scared.

INT. TOWN HALL, UPSTAIRS

Sophie breaks the window and climbs through. That humming is louder now. She moves through the dark halls slowly. There is no lights on here, but a hint of light at the end of the hallway.

SOPHIE

Hello? I'm sorry about your window.  
Hello?

She follows the light down a set of stairs and in this back room she can see a large generator running, the humming is now a loud motor. The room has a few canisters of gasoline and fire extinguishers. The window here is open for ventilation but covered in a grill of makeshift bars.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Anyone? Hello?

She can hear some people in the distance. And... Music? She moves forward, following this glimmer of light. Down this second hallway she can see it intensely beyond a large curtain. She pulls it back.

INT. TOWN HALL, MAIN HALL

The main hall has been converted into a survival shelter. Makeshift cots line the room as well as a craft table with food and even a small stage with speakers and a radio playing soft music for everyone.

Sophie feels dazed by so much artificial light, she isn't used to it anymore. She enters the room unnoticed.

VOICE (O.S.)

Lights out in thirty minutes  
people. Last chance for fresh  
cheese and broccoli soup.

There is at least thirty families here. Maybe more in the other wings of the building?



Sophie can see a few guns in the corner and a few police officers near the food tables. And food! They have fresh food and someone is nursing a pot of soup. Sophie notices one person in particular and makes her way to them.

SOPHIE  
Mr. Campbell!

Brandon and Lindsey's father MICHAEL - A clean cut Tom Hardy looking guy - sits on the edge of his cot, drinking a beer.

MICHAEL  
Yeah?

He doesn't notice who it is at first and doesn't really react. Sophie pauses and tries again as she walks up to him.

SOPHIE  
Hey, its me.

MICHAEL  
OK. Did you want something?

SOPHIE  
What? What is going on here?

MICHAEL  
Ask your parents, little girl.

SOPHIE  
You know I don't...

Sophie trails off. Michael doesn't even recognise her.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
Mr. Campbell, its me.

MICHAEL  
What... Oh shit.

Michael stands and looks at Sophie properly.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)  
Wait a second... Sally?

SOPHIE  
Sophie.

MICHAEL  
Hey! What are you doing here? Were you at the supermarket?

SOPHIE  
Supermarket?

MICHAEL

I just assume, that's where the cops went this morning for supplies. Gotta say, they've got everything pretty under control.

Sophie looks around, uncomfortable. Confused.

SOPHIE

Michael, where are your kids?

MICHAEL

They're at the school.

SOPHIE

The school?

MICHAEL

Yeah, I talked to them last week.

SOPHIE

Aren't you worried about them, with those things running around?

MICHAEL

Why? They're safe. They've got a couple of adults with 'em and that place is all locked up.

SOPHIE

They... They must be so scared though, why don't you just go get them, its not even three miles from here.

MICHAEL

Have you been out there, girl? No, no, no, the police have the situation under control, they said, everyone just wait it out. And that's what we're doing. Help will be here any day.

SOPHIE

Any day? But, they're your children.

MICHAEL

Yeah, and what kind of parent would I be to run out there, get myself killed. Who'd look after them then? Huh? I think about them everyday.

SOPHIE

You think about them?!

Sophie raises her voice, louder than she should have. Michael stands to her. He realizes now who she is.

MICHAEL

Wait a second. Christ, I do know you, your the girl Brandon's been after. Were you... Were you at the school With him? Did they send out a rescue team?

Michael looks around the room. Sophie is stunned.

SOPHIE

They? Why didn't... You...

She trails off.

MICHAEL

Where are they? Karen is going to be thrilled. She's been praying for Callum everyday.

A single tear runs down Sophie's face. She's holding it in as best she can, but she's crushed. After all Brandon's talk. This is his dad? Some hero.

Michael puts his hand on her shoulder. She looks almost afraid of his touch.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

What's wrong? It's OK. You're safe now.

She closes her eyes.

SOPHIE

Safe... All my life. Growing up. I was jealous of other kids. Kids with parents. I never felt protected like them. Safe. Like them. I wished I had a family - but the fact is. Now... I'm glad now.

She looks Michael dead in the eyes.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Because people are... Cowards. Only care about themselves. You do anything you can to help your family.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

You don't sit on your hands because someone with a badge told you to. Now I'm glad I didn't have parents - to let me down.

MICHAEL

How dare you? I love my kids.

Michael tightens his grip on her collar.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Talk to me like that, I should slap the shit out of you, little bitch... Where are they?

Sophie is stunned. Doesn't know what to do. She blurts out what she can.

SOPHIE

Sorry. Just a stupid kid, tired, rambling... Brandon... And Lindsey are in the back, getting washed. They'll be out soon. Callum too. Sally. T... Tommy. All of us. Safe. Here.

Michael releases his grip and lets a smile on his flash across his face. He looks around. Can't rough up a kid in public of course.

MICHAEL

There you go. Ha. Thanks. Listen, you got a lot of growing up to do, kid. I'll go let everyone know you're all back... You know, you look pretty messed up. Maybe you should go take a shower, freshen up, huh?

Sophie looks in pain. Barely containing her emotions. She nods yes.

SOPHIE

I will, sure. Thank you.

Michael walks away and over to a woman and starts spreading the news. Sophie turns and walks back the way she came, trying to make sure she is unseen. Her body stiff as a board.

INT. TOWN HALL, BACKROOM

Sophie moves to leave up the stairs but then thinks a moment and looks back toward the curtain separating her from the room full of people.

She can hear excitement building in the room as word spreads. She pauses. Sophie reaches down and pulls the stopper out of the generator, gasoline starts to spill onto the floor.

SOPHIE

(To herself)

I'll grow up. But I won't become an  
*adult* like one of you...

The back-door has the bolts locked in place. She reaches up and unbolts it. Opens the door. Zombies turn from the window to the door. As they advance, she scoffs and walks right past them. They move toward her but then turn toward the open door, curious.

FADE TO:

INT. THE FIRE STATION, FIRE TRUCK - DAWN

Lindsey's eyes slowly open as she wakes. She smiles as she sees Sophie sitting in the front seat, stroking Max on her knee, half asleep.

LINDSEY

You're here!

SOPHIE

I'm here.

LINDSEY

I'm so happy you're here.

SOPHIE

Me too, sweet heart.

Sean wakes up and rubs his face.

SEAN

Did you find anyone?

The kids look up to her with hope.

INT. TOWN HALL, MAIN HALL

A zombie lumbers through past the curtain. The people's faces rush from smiles to screams.

They all stagger together away from the curtain. The police rush for their weapons. Michael looks confused. They aim their guns and weapons, the generator dies and the lights flicker out. Casting them all in darkness. With it, the sound dampens. Is blown out like a candle.

SOPHIE (V.O.)  
... They're all gone. Looks like  
it's just us. I'm sorry.

They fire their guns in the dark, flashes showing us the zombies moving in on them, surrounded, into the darkness they get taken down. One by one. Blood splashing against the walls. Guns jamming. Running out of ammo. Being thrown down. The sound of their shots muffled. The screams, like an echo.

SEAN (V.O.)  
... We have each other.

A spark ignites the gasoline and backlights the zombies, casting flickering shadows over the last survivors as they clamor together into the corner. In the last moments, Michael on his knees, holds his arms out defensively. His eyes widen, he knows this girl - JULIE the zombie makes her way to him, mouth open, ready to bite. The shadows cover him in darkness. To black.

SOPHIE (V.O.)  
We sure do. Of course we do. And we  
always will. I promise.

CUT FROM BLACK:

INT. THE FIRE STATION, FIRE TRUCK

Sean turns to Sophie and puts his hand on her shoulder. Sophie looks like she may cry. Lindsey sits up and hugs her. Lindsey Shushes Sophie.

They all share a moment here together, in the cab of the fire truck. A new family is born.

FADE TO:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

At the outskirts of town, the kids all walk behind Sophie who leads them. She turns a moment to see Tommy and Max lagging behind. Far behind them in the town smoke rises from the town hall. No one seems to notice it except Sophie.

SEAN

Come on, Tom. Quit holding us up.

SOPHIE

Tom?

TOMMY

Yup! Come on Max.

Sophie smiles. He's growing up so fast! He marches up toward them, Max in tow.

LINDSEY

Where are we going, Sophie?

She sighs and takes a moment. Looking back over the town and then forward, the path, running into the country side. No zombies in sight. Looking ahead. To the future.

SOPHIE

Somewhere civilized. If that still exists.

She holds her hand out for Lindsey. Lindsey reaches and holds her hand and they all walk off together.

FADE TO BLACK.  
CREDITS ROLL