THE CAT THAT FETCHES

By

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The **MOTHER** of an 11-year-old **BOY** kneels on the carpet. She holds his arms. A loud bang coming from *downstairs* scares them.

MOTHER (whispers) Go! hide in the wardrobe.

The boy shakes as more bangs are heard.

MOTHER

Do it, now...

She pushes the boy towards the wardrobe after she hears the stairs *CREAK*. He enters, almost in tears as she closes the door.

INT. INSIDE OF WARDROBE - CONTINUOUS

The boy stands in the dark, still shaking as he hears *someone* enter the room.

He looks through the gap in the wardrobe door but can only see part of a figure, the *hands*, *legs* of a **MAN**.

MOTHER(OS) (to man) Why are you here?

MAN(OS) I'm here for you.

The boy hears a *struggle*, his mother *chokes*. He looks through the gap again, sees her hang over the bed, her eyes stare at him but she's *dead*.

He makes a noise, almost cries.

The boy sees an *anchor tattoo* on the man's *forearm* as it closes in on the wardrobe door. The boy *gulps*, *shivers*, like he expects the door to open.

The boy hears the man run out of the room after a *police siren* is heard.

The boy cries as the siren gets louder.

INT. INSIDE OF WARDROBE - A MINUTE LATER

The boy, still *terrified*, listens to **PEOPLE** race up the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Two **POLICE OFFICERS** (male 45, female 35) stand inside the room. The female covers the mother's body with a blanket as the male nears the wardrobe.

o/s - The boy's crying is heard.

The male officer *glances* at the other officer, grabs the wardrobe door handle, opens the door, but the boy backs away.

The male officer reaches out a hand, waits for the boy to *slowly* come out of the wardrobe. The officer *hugs* him.

PRESENT DAY:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

RAY LONDON (36), smart, business-like, turns the family car onto the driveway of a large house. Beside him, his wife, **THERESA** (35), a nice manner, reaches over the back seat to wake their 6-year-old daughter, **DONNA**.

Ray gets out of the car followed by their son, **JACK** (15), a pretty, athletic built young man with an attitude. They both look up at the house.

RAY (to Jack) Well... here we are.

Jack looks unimpressed as Theresa, a sleepy-eyed Donna join them. Ray smiles at Theresa.

RAY (CONT'D) Just has I remember it...Furniture should be here soon.

THERESA No idea why you didn't just leave the old furniture here...Would have saved all the hassle. RAY (smirking) No way!...You wouldn't have liked my father's taste...Trust me.

Theresa smiles at him, nods her head in agreement.

They turn to look at **DON DOOGAN** (70), healthy for his age, as he turns off his garden hose in the garden next door. He walks over to greet them.

DON You must be the new people.

He stares at Ray, thinks he recognises him. Ray looks away for a second.

RAY Sure are...I'm Ray, and this is my wife, Theresa.

DON Just call me Don.

He shakes their hands, stares at Ray again before looking at the children.

DON (CONT'D) And these two are?

THERESA Jack and Donna.

Ray turns on the car alarm.

DONALD There's no need for that round these parts.

Ray laughs.

RAY Force of habit.

Don goes back to his garden as Theresa, the children enter their house.

Ray stares at the house again, paying *attention* to a bedroom window. He follows the others inside.

EXT. LONDON HOUSE - DAY

A *removals truck* arrives, parks outside the house. The DRIVER, his ASSISTANT exit.

The front door opens. Theresa hurries over to them.

THERESA I was starting to worry that you had the wrong address.

TRUCK DRIVER Sorry! We got caught up a few towns down...Police cordoned off the main route so we had to take a detour.

THERESA That's strange! We got here okay. No police anywhere.

TRUCK DRIVER You were lucky you missed them. Looks like something major happened.

THERESA An accident?

TRUCK DRIVER Don't think so. Didn't see one.

The driver, his assistant open the back of the truck.

INT. LONDON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Boxes are piled up in the room. Ray picks up a box, places it into a smaller pile. Theresa shakes her head at him.

> THERESA Ray! Read what I wrote on it.

Ray sighs, looks at the box. The word *KITCHEN* is written on it.

THERESA (CONT'D) And what pile did you just put it in?

Ray looks at the other boxes in the pile. The word *MASTER BEDROOM* is written on them. He *sniggers*.

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RAY Whoops!

He picks up the box again as Donna appears. She tugs on Theresa's arm.

DONNA Come on, Mum! You promised I could get a pet when we moved in.

THERESA We just got here, honey. Haven't even sorted out the boxes and furniture yet.

Ray overhears as the box goes on the right pile.

RAY That's okay. Jack and I can finish up if he ever gets back from the store.

DONNA So, can we go now?

THERESA Looks like it.

Theresa grabs her purse. Donna pulls her out of the room.

Jack enters as the front door shuts - o.s

JACK Where they off to?

RAY You know your sister, gotta have that pet right away!...Help me get this box up to her room.

Jack looks at a very large box. Frowns at the label.

JACK Yeah, right. Like this dollhouse she never played with.

He *ignores* the box, picks up a different one, heads for the door. Ray stares at him.

INT. PET STORE - DAY

Donna, Theresa enter to the sound of different animals. Donna becomes excited.

> THERESA Remember! Whatever you get will be your responsibility, so no puppy. Your brother would end up walking it.

Donna runs off to look in the cages.

DONNA (over her shoulder) I know, mum.

She *kneels* down in front of a rabbit cage as Theresa visits the front counter.

Theresa smiles at the **STORE OWNER**, an overweight, middle-aged woman with gray hair.

THERESA Hi, we've just moved here.

STORE OWNER Didn't think I'd seen you before.

THERESA A house on Crooks Lane. Do you know it?

STORE OWNER Really? You bought the empty house?

THERESA It was left in a Will. My husband grew up there.

The store owner looks uncomfortable. She frowns.

STORE OWNER Shame about the owner passing away. He was a nice man.

THERESA He sure was. My husband's father.

The store owner smiles *awkwardly* as Donna runs up to Theresa. She grabs her hand, pulls. The store owner looks *relieved*.

DONNA

I found my pet! Come, look!

Donna drags Theresa to the end of the aisle, stops at the last cage. Theresa looks in at A **CAT** with a toy mouse in its mouth.

DONNA (CONT'D) Watch what it does!

The cat takes the mouse to the other side of the cage, drops it, picks it up, carries it back. The store owner walks up behind them.

STORE OWNER That's KATOO'S favourite game...If you threw that toy mouse he would go and fetch it for you.

THERESA

Really?

STORE OWNER Yes! Just like a dog.

Donna jumps, more excited.

DONNA I want him, mum! Please!

Theresa pats Donna on the head.

THERESA Katoo it is then.

The store owner opens the cage. Donna picks up Katoo, *smiles*.

INT. LONDON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Donna watches Katoo run to the other side of the room.

DONNA

That's it Katoo, bring it to me.

Jack appears, looking tired, fed up.

JACK Shouldn't you be helping to unpack? DONNA Jack, I'm six. I'm playing with Katoo.

Katoo drops the toy mouse at Donna's feet.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ray, Theresa unpack boxes to the sound of music - *o.s.* Theresa looks out the window to see Don still in his garden. A radio is on next to him.

> THERESA Was Don living here when you was younger?

> > RAY

Yep!

THERESA So why act like you never knew him?

Ray looks away.

RAY (huffs) Just leave it.

Theresa hangs clothes inside a wardrobe, shakes her head.

INT. JACK'S ROOM - DAY

Jack unpacks books. He opens one, titled - White Fang -Inside are the words - To my son, wishing you a great 13th birthday. Love Dad.

He smiles after he sees the name - Jack London - on the book.

JACK And you named me after this guy...Sorry for being a failure, dad.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The family sit at a table to eat but Donna plays with the cat. She *throws* the mouse.

In the joint living room, a *news reporter* appears on the TV. The sound is too low for anyone to hear.

A **REPORTER** is standing in an alley before a photo of a *woman* appears on screen.

But no one notices as they carry on eating inside the kitchen.

Katoo purrs at Donna's feet. Drops the toy.

RAY Okay, Donna, give Katoo a rest.

THERESA Do you want to feed him after dinner?

DONNA (excited) What does he eat?

JACK (sniggering) Little girls.

Donna shrieks.

RAY That's enough, Jack!

Jack smirks at Donna who is almost in tears.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - DAY

Ray stands behind a large grill, wearing an apron. Pork chops, sausages, burgers cook on the grill as smoke swirls around him.

A table with plates, buns on stands to his right.

Further down, another table is filled with hungry guests, invited *neighbours*.

Ray *smiles*, takes a swig from a bottle of beer as **ERIC**, a 60 year old stocky man, ex-medic, closes in. He also drinks beer.

ERIC A good turn out. RAY Yeah! Did not expect this many. Eric takes another swig from his drink. ERIC You'll find the people around here are a good bunch. Eric looks at the chops. ERIC (CONT'D) But it was the free barbecue that got you a home-run. He shakes Ray's hand. ERIC (CONT'D) Welcome to the area. How's the first few weeks been? RAY Hectic...How long have you been here? ERIC Most of my life. Ray turns the meat over on the grill as Eric stares at the chops again. RAY I take it you're claiming one of em'? Eric smiles. INT. LIVING ROOM - MINUTES LATER Theresa is with Don, his wife, MARY. A frail woman, 65 years old. Donna plays with Katoo nearby. Don glances past the kitchen towards the outside. DON

Your husband looks familiar.

THERESA So, you do recognize him...He said he knew you from before.

MARY (curious) Before?

THERESA He lived here around twenty-five-years ago. This was his father's house.

MARY But he must have been a child then.

THERESA Yes!...But I think he went to live with his aunty.

MARY And do you know why?

THERESA Nah!...I never asked...Assumed he never got on with his father.

Mary suddenly drops a glass, becomes nervous. Don helps her as Theresa looks on puzzled. Donna picks up Katoo, stands in the background.

> THERESA (CONT'D) Hey! Are you okay?

MARY I'm fine...It's just my illness.

A tear slides down Mary's face. Don hugs her.

DON (slightly snappy) I'd best take her home.

He escorts Mary towards the door.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - MINUTES LATER

Ray takes a plate of food to the table, grins as the *guests* help themselves.

He walks back to the grill.

RAY (to Eric) How's the chop?

ERIC (sticks up a thumb) Superb!

Eric stares at the house.

ERIC (CONT'D) If you need a decorator, talk to Ted.

Eric points at **TED**, a tall, thin man, early 30's, as he leaves the house.

Ray watches him grab a hot-dog from the table, bites into it. He shakes Ray's hand.

TED I met your wife and kids on my way in.

RAY I hope my daughter didn't annoy you with her pet.

Ted laughs.

TED She did! The daft thing thinks it's a dog.

RAY It sure does.

Theresa walks out of the house. Looks lost.

RAY (CONT'D) (to Theresa) You okay?

THERESA Yeah! Just had a weird moment with Don...Nothing to worry about. TED Don't tell me you've also been in one of those tense moments with him?

THERESA Yeah! It was a bit tense.

RAY (getting angry) He didn't touch you, did he?

THERESA Ray! Stop overthinkin'. I'm fine.

Ted, Ray look at each other.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack sits on his bed with **CALVIN PETERS**, athletic build, confident, and **LISA BOTTLE**, pretty, curvy. Both are teenagers from the same street.

Jack gets nervous by Lisa's beauty. Calvin notices.

CALVIN (smirking) You scared of women?

JACK (blushing) Only the pretty ones.

Lisa hugs Jack, leaves Calvin a little jealous.

CALVIN (hurrying the words) Tell me about the trouble you got up to at your old school. Was it crazy?

JACK Yeah, something like that. But Dad sorted it.

CALVIN (laughing) Sorted it?

JACK Yeah! He sorted it by bringing me here.

LISA And you didn't want that? JACK (sighing) Nope! But he thinks he knows best. CALVIN All parents do, mate. They jump at the sound of the door knocking. JACK (shouting) What! DONNA(OS) Have you seen Katoo? JACK Go away! Lisa shrugs at him, opens the door. Donna stands in the doorway, frowning. LISA Who's Katoo? DONNA My cat. LISA I'll help you find it. DONNA (smiling) Okay! Lisa smiles at Donna. EXT. BACK GARDEN - LATER Theresa gathers people together, takes photos on her phone. She giggles when people try to hide behind the grill. THERESA Now don't be shy you lot. I'll get you eventually.

She takes one of Ray as he cleans the grill.

RAY I'm going to print that off and put it on the fridge. THERESA Why? RAY Proof that I do cook and clean for you. Theresa laughs, kisses him. INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT Theresa, Ray sit on the sofa, watching TV. Theresa flicks over the channel to a local news report. NEWSREADER ON TV For the past week, there's been no clues on the whereabouts of PATSY COOK...There will be further investigations but it seems she could be another victim after the body of MICHELLE COOPER was found a few weeks ago. Theresa places a hand over her mouth. NEWSREADER (CONT'D) Local residents believe that the serial killer who struck the area twenty-five-years-ago may well be back. Theresa turns off the TV, stares horrified at Ray. RAY You okay, love? THERESA I can't watch anymore. Theresa gets up to leave the room but Ray stops her. RAY You wanna talk about it? THERESA (angry) Talk about it?...You bring me and the kids to this place. Your

THERESA childhood home, and I see that on the news...

Theresa pushes Ray.

THERESA (CONT'D) Someone was found murdered only a few streets away on the day we arrived. And now someone else is missing.

Ray tries to comfort her but she pushes him again.

THERESA (CONT'D) (more angry) Where have you taken us?

Ray looks up at the ceiling, nervous.

THERESA (CONT'D) You left here twenty-five-years ago. You never told me about this, Ray.

Theresa watches Ray fiddle with his hands. He opens his mouth to speak but kicks the sofa, leaves the room.

THERESA (CONT'D) (shouts after him) Why come back here, Ray?...Ray?!

EXT. FRONT GARDEN - EARLY NEXT DAY

Katoo sits in the garden, watching a **MAN** in dark clothing, hooded fleece covering his face, carry a large piece of rolled up carpet out of a house from across the street.

Katoo watches him reach a car.

He opens the back as the sun slowly rises, but in his *struggle* to place the carpet into the boot, a bunch of *Keys* drop from his pocket, land on the grass.

Katoo stares at the keys as the man shuts the boot door, then runs across the road as the man enters the car.

He reverses the car over Katoo, drives away, but Katoo appears untouched with the keys in its mouth.

The car disappears down the street as Katoo runs back through the cat-flap of its home.

INT. DONNA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS Donna wakes, sees Katoo on the bed with the keys still in its mouth. DONNA What you got there? She takes the keys from Katoo's mouth, frowns, places them on her bedside table, falls back to sleep. INT. OUTSIDE JACK'S BEDROOM - DAY Donna knocks on Jack's door. JACK (OS) What you want? DONNA Can I come in? Got somethin' to show you. JACK (OS) It's only seven in the morning. I need some sleep. DONNA Please! Jack! JACK (OS) It better be good. Donna opens the door, walks in. INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS Donna stands in the doorway with a hand behind her back. JACK (CONT'D) What's so important that you had to wake me? Donna throws the keys onto the bed. Jack stares at them. JACK (CONT'D) Who's are they? DONNA Don't know...Katoo gave em' to me.

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JACK Gave em' to you? You think Katoo is a cat burglar?

DONNA (laughing) Don't be silly, you joker. He gave em' to me hours ago. Don't know where he got em'.

Jack sits up in bed, picks up the keys.

JACK (curious) No idea who these belong to.

DONNA What do we do with em?

JACK

Leave it with me. I'll find out. Just don't mention it to mum and dad.

Jack looks at Katoo walking into the room.

JACK (CONT'D) Don't want to get your cat into trouble.

Donna picks up Katoo, strokes it.

DONNA Okay! I won't say anything.

INT. A BASEMENT OF A HOUSE - DAY

Patsy Cook sits in a chair, blindfolded, gagged. The room is dark apart from streaks of light appearing from gaps in a blacked out window. Some shoot across her face.

She *trembles* after hearing something smack against a wall - o.s.

A torchlight shines over her as a figure of a MAN nears.

MAN (whispers) It's okay. Don't be scared.

The figure rolls out a large sheet of plastic on the floor next to the chair Patsy is in.

MAN (CONT'D) I know you can't see my face but you may know the sound of my voice.

Patsy shivers even more as the figure touches her.

MAN (CONT'D) I can't risk you telling someone about me.

The figure raises a hammer.

MAN (CONT'D) It's time.

The man smashes the hammer against the side of Patsy's head. The chair tips over. Patsy lands on the plastic.

The hammer smashes down on her head again.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack, Calvin sit on the bed playing a fighting game on a console. Jack puts down his controller.

JACK (laughing) No idea how you know all the cool moves. You must be cheating.

CALVIN (also laughing) Me? Never!

Jack pushes Calvin off the bed.

JACK How is the lovely Lisa?

CALVIN She's fine. Just annoyed at me for not givin' her enough attention.

JACK Not enough attention?

Jack leaves the bed, looks at other games on a bookshelf.

JACK (CONT'D) You've been here playing video games all day...I think you give her plenty.

Calvin throws a pillow at him, laughs. CALVIN (looking at a bowl) Why you got keys in this bowl? JACK Is there a street rule about keys being in a bowl?. Jack watches Calvin pick up the keys, stares at them. JACK (CONT'D) The stupid cat found em' outside this morning. Calvin sighs. CALVIN There's no rule, you dummy. Just, I recognize em'. JACK (curious) Really? CALVIN Yep! I swear they belong to Eric from over the road. JACK You mean the ex-medic? CALVIN Yep! The hospital key ring gives em' away. He shows Jack a cross symbol on one of the key-rings attached. CALVIN (CONT'D) See! You can only get these from the local hospital. JACK That don't mean they're his. Anyone could've got one from there. CALVIN Maybe! But it'll be fun to find out if they are.

Calvin stares out of the window.

JACK (confused) You're not breakin' in.

CALVIN It won't be breakin' in if the keys fit.

Jack snatches the keys from Calvin, puts them back in the bowl.

JACK No way! I don't need my father hating me more than he does already.

CALVIN You big pussy...

Calvin points over Jack's shoulder.

CALVIN (CONT'D) What's that?

Jack turns around as Calvin slips the keys into his pocket. Jack glances at him, but Calvin keeps a straight face.

> CALVIN (CONT'D) Right! I'd best get home. Got stuff to do.

JACK But what about the game?

Calvin walks towards the door.

CALVIN The game can wait. I need to play with Lisa now.

They giggle.

INT. FRONT DOOR ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Jack opens the door, lets Calvin out. He watches Calvin walk down the street before glancing at Eric's house. Jack *sighs*, shuts the door.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF LISA'S HOUSE - LATER Calvin, Lisa sit on a new leather sofa. It's new. CALVIN (sniffing) I love the smell of fresh leather. **LTSA** I bet you do. They laugh, roll around on the sofa. Calvin holds her hand. CALVIN You stopped stressin' with me now? LISA Maybe! All depends. CALVIN What if I do somethin' romantic? LISA That's a start. Calvin drops Eric's keys on Lisa's lap. She shrugs at him. LISA (CONT'D) What are these?...Keys aren't romantic. CALVIN They are if they get us into an empty house so we can be away from prying eyes. Lisa smiles.

> CALVIN (CONT'D) Didn't your mother say Eric was away for the night.

LISA She did! Somethin' about fishin' with his old hospital buddies...Why?

CALVIN What would you say to a nice peaceful night at his house. Candles! music! Just me and you. LISA (now concerned) Those are Eric's keys?

CALVIN Yep!...You don't need to know how I got em', you just need to say yes.

Lisa smiles again, excited.

LISA Yes! yes! yes!

INT. KITCHEN OF THE LONDON FAMILY - LATER

Ray, Ted sit at the kitchen table as Donna plays with Katoo in the joint living room.

TED Why didn't you tell anyone you had moved back here?

The question makes Ray nervous.

He gets up, feeling *cold*, fakes a smile as he opens the fridge. He pulls out two bottles of beer, hands one to Ted.

RAY (tone quiet) Keep it down...Don't want Donna asking questions...She doesn't know.

TED

Sorry!

RAY Just didn't think it was a big deal to mention it...It's history.

Ray takes a swig of the beer, still nervous.

RAY (CONT'D) How did you find out?

TED Don! Give him a whiskey and he'll spill the beans on anyone.

Ray huffs as he swigs the beer again.

RAY That man doesn't seem right. I will have words with him if he doesn't stop talking about me.

TED Yeah. He's been annoying since I first met him.

Ted notices Ray become angry.

TED (CONT'D) As for decorating here...I can start tomoz'.

The toy mouse lands on the table, startles them.

Katoo jumps on the table.

RAY

(shouting) Donna! get your cat off my table.

Donna appears, *smirks*, picks up Katoo as Theresa enters the room.

THERESA (to Ray) What's with all the shouting? I heard you from down the street.

She turns to Ted, acknowledges him.

RAY Nah! Nothin' really. Just Katoo freakin' me out.

Theresa looks at Donna. They smile.

Donna reaches into a cupboard, takes out some cat biscuits.

RAY (CONT'D) Oh! Ted said he can start on the spare room tomorrow morning.

THERESA (smirking) Great news for us but not so great for Jack...It's the weekend. You know he likes to have a lie in when there's no school.

RAY (not amused) It's about time you stopped wrapping him in cotton wool. Ted is free so Jack will have to let him in. TED Where will you be? RAY Probably out shopping somewhere for God knows what. Theresa takes a swig from Ray's drink, *muffles* his hair. THERESA (laughing) Us women love to shop! TED I'll be as quiet as I can so he can go back to bed. RAY Don't be! Make as much noise as you want. And bring some tunes. Make sure Jack knows you're here. THERESA

Ray! Not nice.

Ray takes another swig of beer, smirks.

EXT. BACK DOOR OF ERIC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Calvin, Lisa huddle up close outside the door. A backpack hangs from Calvin's shoulder as he shines a torch through a window.

LISA (confused) Why are we sneakin' around? You said Eric knew you was coming here.

CALVIN Did I? Whoops!

Calvin puts the key in the door.

CALVIN (CONT'D) I had to say that in case you changed your mind...Do you want this night to be special?

LISA Of course I do.

CALVIN Then shut up, kiss me, and get inside.

Calvin opens the door.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They walk into the room. The torchlight shows pictures on the wall of old buildings.

LISA Strange taste he's got.

Calvin nods, drops the backpack on the floor. He opens it, takes out some candles.

CALVIN (smiling) I'll put a few in here, make it more romantic.

LISA Sounds good so far.

They kiss, but a door opening stops them.

They look at each other *petrified* as the door closes.

EXT. FRONT GARDEN OF LONDON'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

Katoo watches the hooded man again until he disappears into the shadows.

Katoo walks over the road but the man re-appears *dragging* a body wrapped in plastic towards a car. A female arm *flops* out of the plastic. A *bracelet* falls from the wrist.

Katoo watches the man drive off, licks itself, *retrieves* the bracelet.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - A MINUTE LATER Katoo nudges open the door, jumps on Jack's bed, drops the bracelet. Jack rubs his eyes, stares at Katoo. JACK (annoyed) Jeez! You stupid cat. He pushes Katoo off, goes back to sleep. INT. PARENTS BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS Ray tosses, turns in his sleep, his face sweaty. Theresa sits up, shakes her head, listens to him murmur words she doesn't recognize. RAY (still sleeping) No! No! Stop! He swiftly sits up in bed, opens his eyes. RAY (CONT'D) (shouting) Mother! Theresa comforts him as he stares at her. THERESA That dream again? Ray ignores her, lies down again, shuts his eyes. INT. KITCHEN - DAY Theresa places a coat on Donna as Ray drinks a cup of coffee. Theresa watches Ray, but he looks away. THERESA (concerned) Ray! We need to talk about it. RAY Not now. Please... Donna runs off to play with Katoo. Theresa huffs.

THERESA (to Donna) We have to go now, honey. Jack will feed Katoo when he gets up.

Ray laughs, almost spills his drink.

RAY I would love to be a fly on the wall when Ted arrives.

THERESA Ray! You can be cruel sometimes.

RAY (smirking) Only sometimes?

He puts down his cup, follows them to the door.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack jumps up in bed after hearing the front door get knocked - *o.s.* He checks his watch.

JACK Shit! It's only ten.

He pulls the duvet over the bracelet as he gets up. The sound of the door being knocked again *irritates* him.

> JACK (angry) Okay! Okay! I'm coming.

INT. FRONT DOOR ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Jack opens the door to see Ted holding a step ladder.

TED (smiling) Morning!

JACK What's goin' on?

TED (laughing) I take it you didn't know I was coming today.

JACK You've got that right. Jack lets Ted into the house. JACK (CONT'D) You're here at ten because? TED Decorating, my friend. Decorating. Ted slaps Jack on the back. TED (CONT'D) Stick the kettle on. I need to go to my van to get the rest of the stuff. Jack yawns, sighs, walks towards the kitchen. INT. SPARE ROOM - LATER Jack stands by the door entrance, watches Ted wallpaper a wall. JACK (intrigued) Is it easy, this decoratin' malarky? TED Why don't you give it a try and find out. I could do with a hand. JACK (smiling) Sure! why not! Jack picks up a paint brush. JACK (CONT'D) (excited) Where do you want me to start? TED You can start by making me another cuppa. Jack picks up Ted's cup, storms out of the room.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jack walks into the room to see Theresa sat at the kitchen table, snacking on a biscuit. A cup of tea is next to her. Jack puts the kettle on.

THERESA Why do you look like it's the end of the world?

JACK That Ted is takin' the piss.

THERESA

Language!

JACK Sorry! mum! But he is.

THERESA How is he?

JACK He asked me to help with the decoratin'...

THERESA That's good.

JACK No! It's not. All I've done is make him cups of coffee all mornin'. This is the sixth one already.

THERESA (laughing) Oh! That's not good...I thought Calvin was popping over today.

JACK I thought so too. Was meant to be here by twelve but he isn't answerin' his phone.

THERESA Maybe he's busy?

JACK (unconvinced) Maybe!

The kettle turns off. Jack makes the coffee. Theresa watches him.

THERESA You do know your father loves you.

JACK (stirring the drink) That's a sudden change of conversation.

THERESA

Just saying...You both need to talk. About what happened with you.

Jack holds the cup, sighs.

JACK

I've tried. But sometimes I think he just loves Donna.

THERESA

Then try harder. Show him you're all grown up and all that vandalism is behind you now.

JACK

It is!...Dad was right about me ending up in serious trouble if we stayed where we were, but now I feel guilty that he had to leave his job to come here.

THERESA

Don't be. He needed to come back here eventually. You just made the decision for him.

JACK Talkin' about dad. Where is he?

THERESA Taking Donna out to buy more bits for Katoo.

JACK Oh, Right!...Anyway, better get this upstairs.

THERESA Yeah, you don't want to keep your boss waiting.

JACK (huffing) He's no boss of mine. Jack leaves the kitchen with the drink.

JACK (CONT'D) Oh! If you see Calvin, tell him to rescue me.

THERESA

Will do.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - EARLY EVENING

Ray is barbecuing again as Theresa, Donna play with Katoo. Jack stands next to Ray, wearing an apron. Ray smiles at him.

> JACK Sorry for everythin'.

RAY (relieved) I know, son. You can make it up to me by not burning the burgers.

He taps Jack on the arm. Jack laughs. Theresa looks at them, smiles.

RAY (CONT'D) (to Donna) You did say you wanted barbecued cat, didn't you?

DONNA (shouting) Dad! That's so sick.

THERESA Ray! You know what she's like. Takes it to heart she does.

RAY (laughing) Sorry, kiddo. I was just playing.

Donna picks up Katoo, walks over to him.

DONNA Kiss Katoo and say sorry to him.

Ray *awkwardly* looks at Theresa but she turns away. He then looks at Donna, Katoo.

RAY (under his breath) Sorry, Katoo.

DONNA Katoo didn't hear you. You need to say it so he can hear you.

Theresa laughs. Donna lifts Katoo up to Ray.

DONNA (CONT'D) Go on! You can do it.

RAY Sorry, Katoo. I'm very, very sorry if I hurt your feelings. (to Donna) Is that better for you.

DONNA

Better!

Jack takes off the apron, walks away.

RAY Where are you going?

JACK (rushing towards the house) Sorry! Got to phone Calvin. It's urgent.

Jack disappears inside the house as Theresa nears Ray.

THERESA He's just worried.

She nudges him.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Jack picks up his phone from the bedside table, dials Calvin's number, but it goes to voice mail.

He pulls back the duvet to see the bracelet on his bed. Picks it up.

JACK Where did this come from?

He phones Calvin's number again, waits for voice mail.

JACK (CONT'D) Calvin! Where are you? Call me back.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - MINUTES LATER

Jack returns with the bracelet.

JACK (shouting to Donna) Did your cat find this?!

He holds the bracelet in the air.

Ray looks on *confused* as he flips burgers. Theresa stares at the bracelet as Donna looks at Jack.

DONNA I don't know. Maybe!

THERESA What is it? A bracelet?

JACK Yeah! A bracelet.

RAY

(smirking) Maybe it's yours and you forgot you had it?

JACK Dad! serious! Why would I have a bracelet?

THERESA Ray! Don't you ever stop mocking him?

RAY Obviously not.

Theresa takes the bracelet from Jack.

THERESA I think I've seen this somewhere before.

JACK

Where?

THERESA Hold on! It'll come to me.

RAY Never mind that now, dinners ready.

He removes the burgers from the grill.

RAY (CONT'D) Jack! Grab the plates.

Jack reaches for the plates stacked together on the outside table, lays them out as Donna sits at the table with Katoo by her feet.

Theresa walks towards the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - SECONDS LATER

She puts the bracelet on the table, opens the fridge, takes out a bowl of salad.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - SECONDS LATER

Theresa puts the bowl down as Ray places burgers onto plates.

THERESA Now, let's eat. I'm sure the bracelet memory will come back to me after I've eaten something.

Ray, Theresa sit opposite Jack, Donna.

RAY (to Theresa) Ted's doing a great job on the spare room.

He bites into a bun filled with a burger, salad.

THERESA He sure is...Jack's been helping him.

Ray looks at Jack.

JACK (huffing) If you call boilin' the kettle a dozen times helpin' then yeah, I've bin helpin' him. RAY (laughing) No way! serious?

Jack shakes his head as he bites into his burger.

RAY (CONT'D) I think he's testing you. You wait.

He takes a swig from a bottle of beer.

RAY (CONT'D) I bet he lets you help tomorrow on the room. He was just seeing how committed you were.

THERESA (to Jack) And you were very committed with making coffee.

Ray smiles.

JACK I'm more annoyed at Calvin.

Theresa suddenly shoots up out of her seat.

THERESA I'll be back...

RAY Okay, Arnie.

Donna scrunches her face. Confused.

Theresa walks back inside the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM - A MINUTE LATER

Theresa looks at photos on her phone, stops after seeing one of Lisa wearing the bracelet.

EXT. BACK GARDEN - SECONDS LATER

She walks back to her seat, puts her phone on the table to reveal the photo.

THERESA I knew I'd seen that bracelet somewhere before. Jack picks up the phone.

JACK But why was her bracelet in my bedroom?

THERESA Maybe she left it there?

RAY Have you two been up to some rumpy pumpy?

THERESA (annoyed) Holy Christ, Ray! You're not funny.

RAY Just call her...

Theresa stares at Ray, *curious*, expecting him to mock Jack again.

JACK I don't have her number. I always phoned Calvin.

RAY Then phone him again before your burger gets cold.

Jack phones Calvin three times, but each time it goes to voice mail.

JACK He's not answerin'. I'm gettin' worried now.

THERESA Okay! Go to Calvin's house and find out what he's playing at.

Jack shoots out of his seat, runs back to the house.

INT. CALVIN'S PARENTS HOUSE - LATER

Jack, Calvin's *mother* sit in the living room. CONSTANCE PETERS is a rounded lady of 47 years. She looks *surprised* to see Jack without Calvin, waits for a joke to arrive, but Jack seems too *serious*. CONSTANCE (concerned) What is wrong? Where's my son?

JACK I've not seen him.

CONSTANCE But he was with you last night...

JACK (confused) Last night?

CONSTANCE Yes! He stayed with you. He told me me he was staying at your house.

JACK I never saw him. Honest.

Constance rises from her seat, grabs her phone, clicks on Calvin's name, holds the phone to her ear.

CONSTANCE I will kill him for lying to me.

She becomes annoyed when the phone goes to voice mail.

CONSTANCE (CONT'D) (frantic) He said he was helping you decorate. I just assumed he was too busy to pick up.

Constance walks around the room.

CONSTANCE (CONT'D) I'm phoning Lisa.

Jack watches her shake when Lisa doesn't pick up either.

CONSTANCE (CONT'D) (extremely mad) She's not answering. They must be up to no good.

JACK So, where are they?

CONSTANCE I don't know, but I need to call the police. He's been gone too long. A police car pulls up in the street. BRETT GILROY, (40), police chief, tall, muscly, and his assistant, GAYLE MONROE, (25), petite, thin, exit.

BRETT I hope this is a false alarm. Don't need anymore people going missing.

Gayle follows him towards the house, takes out her notebook as they reach the door. It opens.

BRETT (CONT'D) You called about your son?

Constance lets them inside, shuts the door.

INT. HOUSE - SECONDS LATER

She shows them a photo. Brett holds it as he walks towards the window.

BRETT (CONT'D) You said he's been missing since last night...He's probably just off with his girlfriend...

Brett looks at the notebook Gayle holds.

BRETT (CONT'D)

Lisa...

CONSTANCE He would've got in touch.

BRETT (concerned) Did you have a fight?

CONSTANCE

No!

Brett looks over at Jack, knows Jack wants to speak. He sees Jack clench an item in his hand.

BRETT What you got there?

Jack rises from his seat, opens his hand. Lisa's bracelet is seen.

JACK This is Lisa's. She won't go anywhere without it.

Constance stares at the bracelet, sighs.

CONSTANCE Calvin gave it to her for their anniversary. She loves that bracelet.

Gayle writes the conversation in her notebook as Brett releases a plastic bag from his pocket.

He picks up the bracelet with Gayle's pen, places it inside the bag.

BRETT Anyone else touched this besides you?

CALVIN Yeah, my mother did.

BRETT Right! I'm gonna' have to check it for other prints.

The officers walk back towards the door.

CONSTANCE (annoyed) Is that it? There's no more questions?

GAYLE Not right now, but we'll be in touch.

Gayle places the notebook into her pocket as Brett touches Constance's shoulder. He smiles.

BRETT We'll find them. Just let us know if you hear from them.

He opens the door.

BRETT (CONT'D) We're off to see Lisa's parents now. EXT. STREET OUTSIDE CONSTANCE'S HOUSE - A MINUTE LATER

Brett curses as he reaches the car.

BRETT (angry) This doesn't look good...We need to check up on the new family.

He looks back at the house to see Jack watching him through the window.

BRETT (CONT'D) They move in and people suddenly go missing?

He kicks a tire, enters the car.

Gayle looks back at the house to see Jack turning away.

INT. LONDON HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ray, Jack sit at the table. Jack looks *miserable*. Ray watches him stare into space.

RAY So, what happened?

He grabs Jack's hand.

RAY (CONT'D) (softer tone) I'm here, son. You can tell me.

JACK I know, dad. Just tough to talk about.

Jack rubs a hand over his face.

JACK (CONT'D) I didn't know what to do.

RAY The police will find them.

Jack gets up, puffs out his cheeks.

JACK I'm not so sure. Constance is a mess.

RAY I may not have been in your corner recently but I'm here now. If you need me. JACK I've waited a long time to hear those words. Ray walks over to Jack, hugs him. INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER Jack sits on his bed, looks at the bowl on his bedside table. He leaps up, searches under the bed. JACK Where are you? He looks in his wardrobe, chest of drawers. JACK (CONT'D) (Shouting) Fuckin' keys! DONNA (OS) I'm tryin' to sleep. JACK Sorry, sis! INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS Jack storms into the room as his parents watch TV. They look at him *confused* as he searches behind the sofa. THERESA What's got into you? RAY Do you mind? I'm trying to watch a movie here.

> JACK (snapping) Nothin! you carry on watching your movie.

Jack rushes into the kitchen as his parents stare at each other. They look at Jack rushing around, moving things, making a lot of noise.

THERESA (Shouting) Are you going to tell us what's wrong? JACK (shouting back) What's wrong? You know what's wrong! Ray lifts from the sofa. Theresa grips his arm, shakes her head. Ray bites his lip as Jack rushes back into the living room to stare at the TV. JACK (to Ray) What's this you're watching? RAY I don't know. Some movie about a serial killer who kills a bunch of kids. JACK (sighing) Typical! Jack runs to the TV, turns it off. RAY (Shouting) HOOOYYYYY!!! I was watching that. Jack ignores him, storms back out the room. THERESA Ray! He's hurting. Just let him be. Ray sits back down again. RAY I know, but I wanted to see who the killer was. Theresa slaps him on the arm. INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS Jack looks out his window as a light goes on inside Eric's house.

JACK Of course. Calvin took the keys.

He rushes out his room again.

EXT. OUTSIDE ERIC'S HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

Jack closes in on the front window, looks through the gap in the curtains but sees no one. He walks to the front door, bangs on it.

JACK (shouting) Calvin! I know you're in there. Let me in.

Eric opens the door.

ERIC Calvin? Calvin's not here.

Jack storms past him.

INT. INSIDE ERIC'S HOUSE - SECONDS LATER

Jack races around the living room as Eric appears.

ERIC (CONT'D) Why would you think he was here?

JACK (still angry) Because he had your keys and now he's missing.

ERIC My keys? He doesn't have my keys.

JACK (even more angry) Show me.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Eric points to a key hook on the wall.

ERIC See! Mine are here.

Jack sweats.

JACK You must have another set. Those aren't the same.

ERIC It's the only set I have.

Jack searches the kitchen as Eric phones Ray.

ERIC

(into phone) You need to come here fast. Your son's gone crazy in my house.

Eric puts the phone down, walks towards Jack with his hands in the air.

ERIC (CONT'D) Stop messing up my house and tell me what's wrong?

Jack pushes him away.

JACK (shouting) Get away from me!

Jack backs up against a wall, nervous.

JACK (CONT'D) What did you do with Calvin and Lisa?

They hear Ray shouting (OS) before he bangs on the front door.

INT. FRONT DOOR ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Eric opens the door, lets Ray into the house. Ray glares at Jack.

RAY What's come over you?!

JACK (still shouting) Why don't you ask him?! He knows.

RAY Cool your voice down.

Ray stares at Eric. Eric shrugs.

JACK He's done somethin' to Calvin and Lisa.

RAY Why would you think that?

Jack *trembles* with rage, moves to charge into Eric but Ray stands in front of him.

RAY (CONT'D) Don't make me drag you out of here.

He grabs Jack by the arm, leads him back to the front door.

RAY (CONT'D) (to Eric) I'm really sorry about this. I don't know what's come over him.

ERIC It's fine. Just make sure he's okay.

Eric opens the door as Jack glares at him. Eric smiles.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF THE LONDON FAMILY - MINUTES LATER Theresa, Ray stares at Jack standing with his head bowed.

> THERESA Son! You can't accuse people willy-nilly of things without proof. Especially nice, polite, innocent people like Eric.

JACK But he's not innocent.

RAY That's enough! Go to your room...I'll talk to you tomorrow, when you've calmed down.

Jack storms out the room.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Katoo purrs around Jack's feet. Jack picks him up, strokes his head.

JACK You believe me, don't you?

Katoo purrs some more. Jack smiles.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER

The phone rings on the *reception desk*. The night staff RECEPTIONIST becomes alert, picks up the phone.

POLICE RECEPTIONIST Good evening! This is Bucks River police department. How may I help you?

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - SECONDS LATER

Jack stands next to his door, listening out for noises outside his room, happy at the silence.

JACK (into phone) I need to speak to someone about the disappearance of Calvin Peters and Lisa Bottle.

RECEPTIONIST (V.O.) Who's speaking?

JACK Never mind who's speaking. Do you want to catch the killer or not?

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

RECEPTIONIST (awkward) Hold the line... INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Brett looks tired as he stares at piles of folders on his desk. He hears his phone ring, picks it up.

BRETT Yeah! What's the news?

JACK (V.O.) I know who took Calvin and Lisa.

BRETT (alert) Who is this?

JACK (V.O.) Jack London.

Brett picks up a folder.

BRETT What you got for me?

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack hears his father coughing - o.s.

BRETT (V.O.) I said, what have you got for me?...Hello!

Jack hears footsteps on the stairs. They fade.

JACK (into phone) The person you need to arrest is Eric.

BRETT (V.O.) Eric who?

JACK I don't know his last name. He lives opposite me.

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS
Brett laughs as he opens the folder.

BRETT I need proof. I can't just arrest him.

He reads through the pages inside it.

BRETT (CONT'D) If you're talking about Eric Leonard then you're way off track. I've known him for years. He's a good man.

The phone goes *silent*, annoys Brett as he puts his down.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF THE LONDON FAMILY - NEXT DAY

Theresa holds a phone against her ear as Ray stands next to her.

THERESA (emotional) (into phone) Okay...Thanks for letting me know...I'll drive down today.

She puts the phone down.

RAY You okay, love?

THERESA Not really...My mother's been taken to hospital. She had a fall.

RAY A fall? Her? Serious?

THERESA The nurse said she had a mild stroke.

Theresa holds back the tears as Donna approaches.

RAY (whispering) I'm coming with you.

He hugs Theresa. Donna watches.

DONNA You okay, mummy?

Theresa hugs Donna.

RAY Mummy is fine...We're just going to see grandma. DONNA (excited) Cool. Ray stares at Theresa as Donna leaves the room. RAY What you going to tell her? THERESA The truth. But not now...Look how excited she is. RAY You need to tell her before we get to the hospital. THERESA (frustrated) I know! Jack storms into the room. JACK (to Theresa) Is it true? You're going to see gran?...Why now, when my friends are missing? Ray stares at Theresa again. THERESA Because I have to. JACK That's not an answer. THERESA It's the only one I have right now. Jack huffs, leaves the room via the kitchen. THERESA (CONT'D) (to Ray) You need to talk to him. RAY I know! I know!

THERESA And you need to tell him the truth about why you came back here.

Ray stares towards the back garden, sees Jack sat at the outside table with his hands covering his face.

RAY (to Theresa) I can't do it. Not now.

Ray walks towards the kitchen.

INT/EXT. BACK GARDEN - SECONDS LATER

Ray sits next to Jack. Theresa watches from the kitchen window as a *trembling* hand covers her mouth.

She tries to listen in on what's being said, *annoyed* that she can't hear properly.

She smiles after seeing Ray hug Jack.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Theresa, Ray, Donna, Jack gather together. Katoo is on the sofa.

THERESA You sure you'll be okay on your own?...We'll be back as soon as we can.

JACK I'm a big boy now, mother. I've got Ted and the ruddy cat for company...I'll be fine.

DONNA It's not a ruddy cat. It's Katoo.

JACK (smiling at her) Okay! Jeeez! sis! You do like to kick off with me, don't you.

DONNA I'm only stickin' up for Katoo.

Donna looks at Katoo licking itself. She strokes him.

DONNA (CONT'D) And make sure he's fed. JACK Yes, boss. RAY (to Jack) You do know the police will find your friends safe and well. JACK I know, dad. Jack gives Theresa a hug. JACK (CONT'D) Just tell gran I said hello, and to get better soon. DONNA (confused) What you mean better soon? JACK Whoops! Theresa, Ray glare at Jack. RAY Come on, Donna, time to go. DONNA But I want to know what he meant? THERESA I'll explain on the way...Now come on, we need to go. INT/EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - CONTINUOUS Jack watches from the front door step as the others enter the car. They wave at him as Ray drives off.

Jack stares at Eric's house to see a curtain twitch.

Ted is painting the room. His overalls are splattered with paint.

Jack walks in, *fidgets*, walks out again. Ted watches him walk back in again.

TED I thought you was okay with your parents leaving you alone.

JACK

I am.

TED So why are you acting like you've got ants in your pants?

JACK It's nothin'.

TED It don't look like nothing to me.

Ted puts down the paint brush.

TED (CONT'D) I know I'm not your father, but you can still talk to me.

JACK Thanks, but I'll be okay.

TED Is it the friends thing again?

Jack nods.

TED (CONT'D) You need to stop worrying about what others get up to...Stress is no good for anyone.

JACK I'm not stressed. I'm just concerned.

TED Do some painting. It'll take your mind off it for a while. JACK Is your version of painting me making more coffee?

TED Not this time.

JACK I will, but later...I need to do something first.

Jack walks out of the room again as Ted picks up the brush.

EXT. OUTSIDE ERIC'S HOUSE - A MINUTE LATER

Jack walks back & forth a few times, *swiftly* checking out the house.

He looks through the front window but sees no one, so walks towards the back of the house.

INT. BEDROOM WINDOW OF THE LONDON FAMILY - CONTINUOUS Ted stares at Jack through the window. He Sighs.

EXT. BACK DOOR OF ERIC'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jack shivers as he turns the handle. The door opens.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

He stands inside the room, listens out for movement.

He's more *nervous* now. He looks at the door like he wants to leave but stays after he hears nothing.

He searches the room, notices the keys missing on the hook.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack enters the room to see a large bed, wardrobe, chest of drawers.

He quickly searches through the drawers but hears the front door open - *o.s.*

He panics, closes the drawer, hides inside the wardrobe.

He shakes even more as sweat drips from his brow.

He hears the stairs creak - o.s.

He backs up against clothes hanging from hangers until leaning into the body of Calvin, wrapped in plastic.

He is close to *screaming* as the body falls on him. Calvin's face is seen with his eyes still open.

Jack holds his mouth, his legs almost crumble after hearing someone *cough* upon entering the room.

A tear drips down his face as he tries to see the person through the tiny gap in the door. But he can't see anyone.

He hears the person cough again before leaving the room.

He waits a few seconds then *rushes* from the wardrobe to leave the body crashing to the floor.

INT. STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

Jack flees down the stairs. Not looking behind.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

A pair of male legs are seen leaving the room.

INT/EXT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The man's hand moves a curtain. Jack is seen running to his house.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF THE LONDON FAMILY - SECONDS LATER Jack races into the room, still *shaking*, *sweating*. The phone rings to make him jump. He picks it up.

> THERESA (V.O.) Hi, son. Just checking in...Everything okay? You haven't burned the house down have you?

Jack hears Theresa giggle.

THERESA (V.O.)- CONT'D What's wrong? I know there's something wrong...What did you do?

Jack wipes tears from his eyes.

THERESA (V.O.)- CONT'D (worried) Jack! Talk to me. JACK (shivering) Nothin' to say...Everythin' is good here. THERESA (V.O.) So why were you quiet? JACK Jus' was. Trust me...Everythin's

THERESA (V.O.) I love you! See you soon.

Jack puts the phone down, cries.

fine.

INT. POLICE STATION FRONT DESK - LATER

The area is quiet as the *receptionist* types on her computer.

She turns to see Jack running into the building and up to her.

RECEPTIONIST Slow down before you fall down.

JACK (shouting) Get me officer Gilroy!...I need him now!

RECEPTIONIST You need to calm down young man.

JACK (still shouting) Just get him!

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Brett sits at his desk holding a phone against his ear, but swiftly puts it down after hearing the *commotion*.

INT. FRONT DESK - CONTINUOUS

Brett arrives, shaking his head.

BRETT (shouting at Jack) Calm down! (to receptionist) What's going on?

RECEPTIONIST This young man just barged in and demanded to see you.

BRETT (to Jack) I hope it's not another one of your wild goose chase stories?

JACK

No!

BRETT Then why are you here?

JACK Because I found my friend.

BRETT There you go. Problem solved.

JACK No, it's not. He's dead!

Brett & the receptionist glance at each other.

BRETT (to Jack) Why don't we talk in my office.

Jack backs off.

JACK You have to come now...His body is in Eric's house...You should've listened to me before.

Jack runs out of the station.

BRETT (shouting) Wait! Come back!

He turns to the receptionist.

BRETT (CONT'D) Tell Gayle to meet me outside Eric Leonard's place...I'm going after that boy before he does something stupid.

The receptionist nods as Brett leaves the station.

EXT. OUTSIDE ERIC'S HOUSE - LATER

Two *police cars* are parked outside as people stand around being nosey.

Brett, Gayle walk to the front door, knock on it.

BRETT Eric! open up! It's the police.

Brett nods to an OFFICER who walks around the back.

Jack stands by a police car watching the house. He sees a curtain move upstairs.

JACK (shouting) Upstairs! He's upstairs!

Brett knocks louder on the door.

BRETT (shouting) Open up Eric! We know you're in there!

Brett hears someone approach the door - o.s.

He waits for it to open.

INT/EXT. ERIC'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Eric opens the door.

ERIC (calm manner) Hi, Brett. What's up?

Eric stares at Jack but Jack looks away.

BRETT Can I come in? ERIC Sure! sure! Be my guest.

Brett, Gayle enter the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

Brett, Gayle look around the room but see nothing unusual.

ERIC (CONT'D) What seems to be the problem?

BRETT We've had information that one of the missing teenagers is here.

Brett looks out the window, sees Jack smile at him.

BRETT (CONT'D) (to Eric) You can either let us look for the person now or we come back with a search warrant...It's your choice.

ERIC Brett, you know me.

BRETT I do know you. I know you're a good man, but I have to follow a lead.

ERIC (frowning) Sure, go ahead...But you won't find anyone here.

Eric points outside.

ERIC (CONT'D) I don't know why that boy is giving me a hard time. Seriously...I think he's just after attention.

BRETT That may be true, but I still need to get to the bottom of it.

Eric watches them walk towards the kitchen.

Jack watches the front door open, *excited* to see Brett rush up to him.

BRETT (furious) That's it. I've had enough of you wasting my time.

Jack cowers, moves to the other side of the car.

BRETT (CONT'D) We've just spent thirty-minutes inside there to find no trace of your friend.

Brett hits the car bonnet, curses.

BRETT (CONT'D) If you cry wolf again, I'll arrest you.

JACK But he's in there...I saw his body in the bedroom.

Gayle walks over to Jack.

GAYLE Listen! We've been through the house. There's no sign of a body.

JACK Then he's moved it.

Jack runs towards the house but Gayle & an officer grab him.

JACK (CONT'D) Get off me!

Jack cries.

JACK (CONT'D) He's moved it, I tell ya...He's fuckin' moved it.

BRETT Listen here!...I'm only going to say this once so you'd better take it in. Keep away from Eric's house or I'll arrest you. JACK But I'm not lyin'. He is!

BRETT Eric had nothing to do with their disappearance. Now go home!

Gayle & the officer let Jack go. He *sulks*, walks home. Eric arrives on his doorstep.

> BRETT (to Eric) Sorry about this. Just let me know if he disturbs you again.

ERIC

Will do.

Eric shakes his head towards Jack's house.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack watches Eric's house from the window, sees Eric watch him too.

Jack curses under his breath as the phone rings downstairs.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack picks up the phone, worried.

INT. HOSPITAL IN THE CITY - CONTINUOUS

Ray stands in the doorway entrance of the hospital as people, hospital staff walk in & out.

RAY Hey, son, just letting you know we're staying at your Gran's house tonight. She's out of the woods but will remain in hospital.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JACK (snapping) But you can't! I need you here! INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

RAY Need me? You haven't needed me for a long time...You'll be okay.

JACK (V.O.) Dad! Please come home.

RAY

Hey! listen! You never needed me when you were hanging with that gang back in the city. You thought you were the big man. A grownup...And you never needed me when you were arrested.

JACK (V.O.)

Sorry!

RAY If your mother ever found out what you got up to it would send her to an early grave.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JACK (whimpering) I said I was sorry.

INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

RAY We moved house to save you, so grow up. It's just one night.

Ray waits for a reply.

RAY (CONT'D) Jack! Jack! You hear what I said?

He hears Jack sob.

RAY (CONT'D) It's only for one night, son.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS JACK (in tears) But I need you now, dad. Please come home. Jack wipes his eyes. JACK (CONT'D) I saw Calvin's body...His dead body. Ray doesn't reply. JACK (CONT'D) In Eric's house...Eric is watching me and I'm scared. INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS RAY (frantic) I'm coming home. I'll drop your mother and sister off at Gran's. JACK - (V.O.) Thank you! RAY Just stay inside and call the police. JACK - (V.O.) I can't! RAY Why? INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS JACK Because they don't believe me. INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS RAY I believe you, son. Ray turns off his phone.

INT. POLICE STATION - BRETT'S OFFICE - LATER

Brett looks at a *criminal record file* with Jack's face on. He throws it across his desk as Gayle walks in.

GAYLE

You okay?

She hands him a cup of coffee.

GAYLE (CONT'D) Thought you might need one.

BRETT

Thanks.

GAYLE You seem frazzled by something.

Brett sips the drink.

BRETT Something's not quite right.

GAYLE What do you mean?

BRETT Take a look.

Brett points at the file. Gayle picks it up, looks at it.

GAYLE You think he's making trouble?

BRETT (curious) Maybe! but why carry on with the charade?

GAYLE Because he wants attention. Like Eric said.

BRETT I'm not convinced.

He sips his drink again.

BRETT

Yes, he seems like an attention seeker, but why risk getting arrested when he knows he could face juvenile detention? Brett rubs his chin. BRETT (CONT'D) I think there's more to it. GAYLE You've found out something, haven't you...I know that face. BRETT (smiling) Maybe. Brett opens a filing cabinet. BRETT (CONT'D) It's all yours. GAYLE You want me to go through all those files? BRETT (lauqhing) No! just the ones involving incidents of murder and physical assaults over the past twenty-five years. GAYLE Within a certain radius? BRETT Thirty miles. GAYLE It'll take a while. BRETT Get help. I need to know if Eric's name comes up in any of the cases. GAYLE But wouldn't it be easier to look up Eric's profile? BRETT It would. But he don't have a record.

Gayle walks over to the cabinet, grabs some files.

BRETT (CONT'D) He may have been a witness or was seen nearby at the time. Find out what you can.

GAYLE What will you be doing?

BRETT

I need to talk to the chief who was here when the serial killer struck. See if he missed something.

Gayle nods.

GAYLE

I'm on it now.

She takes the files, leaves the room.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack looks out the window, sees Eric leave his house. He watches him drive off.

Katoo enters the room, 'MEOWS'.

JACK Are you hungry?

Katoo 'MEOWS' again.

Jack picks up the cat, leaves the room.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

He puts food out for Katoo, but feels *nervous* upon looking out into the garden.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack stands by the window holding a *knife*, stares at Eric's house.

INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - LATER

Gayle sits with *two officers* as they read through the files. Brett enters the room as Gayle sips coffee.

> BRETT You found anything?

GAYLE Nothing so far.

BRETT Okay! Keep looking.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack sits nervous on his bed. Katoo is asleep next to him.

O.S. - Ted knocks on his door.

JACK

Come in!

Ted stands in the doorway.

TED You wanna' tell me why I heard you crying before?

JACK

I'm fine.

TED

You sure?

Ted walks over, strokes Katoo.

TED (CONT'D) And your friends? You heard back from them?

Jack shakes his head.

TED (CONT'D) Chin up. They'll be fine.

Jack gulps.

TED (CONT'D) Come and see what I've done to the room. Take your mind off it.

Jack leaves his bed, disturbs Katoo. INT. SPARE ROOM - CONTINUOUS He looks at the decorated room. TED (CONT'D) What you think? JACK (frowning) Impressive. TED That's the news I want to hear. Ted points at a wall. TED (CONT'D) I need to give that another coat of paint tomorrow. JACK My parents will be chuffed. Ted looks at his watch. TED Right! That's me done for today... Is it okay to leave my stuff here? JACK Sure. Ted smiles, leaves the room. INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - LATER A photo of the recent murdered woman plus photos of Jack's OFFICER 1 Do you think it could be the killer from the past? GAYLE

friends lie on Gayle's desk. She stares at them, so do the officers.

> Same style. Kidnap! strangulation! mutilation!

OFFICER 2 But we don't know if the teenagers were kidnapped.

GAYLE As each minute ticks by the odds on them being found safe dwindles.

The officers return to look through the files.

Gayle picks up a file, looks at it close. It's a victim's file from the original murders. She cringes after seeing photos of the victim.

OFFICER 1 Gayle! All good?

Gayle closes the file.

GAYLE

All good.

She opens another file to reveal photos of *another victim* from the original murders. She passes the two files to the officer, opens another, passes it on.

She rubs a hand across her brow, leaves her seat, gulps as she walks to the door.

GAYLE - (CONT'D) Look through the photos and tell me what you see...I'll be back.

Gayle leaves her office.

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

She enters the room.

GAYLE

I have something.

Brett is intrigued. He follows Gayle out of the room.

INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Brett, Gayle, the officers stare at the photos laid out on the table.

BRETT What am I looking at?

GAYLE Look closely...All the photos are of victims being taken away from the crime scenes.

Brett picks up a photo, looks at it.

BRETT Bloody hell! Eric is in the background on all of them.

GAYLE I know! But he could've been there as a medic.

OFFICER 2 Yeah! He was one back then.

BRETT But he's in the crowd, watching the bodies being taken away. No medic's uniform.

Brett sucks his top lip.

GAYLE Any news from the old chief?

BRETT He left town years ago. No one knows where he is.

GAYLE

Oh! Odd!

Brett walks back to the door, Gayle follows.

BRETT

Dig deeper...I want to know if Eric was working in the vicinities on those dates.

He grips Gayle's shoulder.

GAYLE You said Eric was one of the nice guys in this town? BRETT

He is!

Brett smiles awkward.

BRETT (CONT'D) At least I hope he is.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF DONALD'S HOUSE - LATER

Jack sits opposite Don & Mary, noticing a *smashed cup* on the floor by the wall.

He stares at Don as he gives Mary some pills. Mary looks at Jack *nervous*.

DON (to Jack) So! young man.

Don hands Mary a glass of water. She drinks from it.

DON (CONT'D) (to Jack) You going to tell us why the police have been all over your arse recently?

MARY Don! language!

Don smiles, takes the glass from her.

DON (to Jack) Did you upset Eric?

Jack *flinches*, looks at the broken cup again. Don sees it also.

DON (CONT'D) Don't worry about that. It was an accident.

Mary looks at Don then looks at Jack.

Jack watches Don pick up the pieces, place them in the bin.

JACK What did happen here twenty-five years-ago?

Mary sighs, cringes like she's about to be sick.

DON What do you mean?

JACK You must know. You've lived here a long time.

DON Let's go outside. Mary's not well.

Don walks Jack out of the room.

EXT/INT. - OUTSIDE GRAN'S HOUSE - LATER

Ray, Donna stand on the doorstep as Theresa opens the door. Donna races inside.

RAY (frantic) Keep your phone on. I'll speak soon.

THERESA (worried) But what did Jack say?

Ray moves to walk to the car but Theresa pulls him back.

RAY

Nothing!

THERESA Don't lie to me, Ray. He's my son too.

Ray grips Theresa's hands.

RAY

I know.

Theresa sees Donna appear on the step, ushers her back inside.

THERESA (to Ray) Tell me what's going on. He's in trouble, isn't he.

Ray hugs her.

RAY You want to know why I'm having nightmares about my mother? THERESA I know why. It's because she died in our house. Ray's hug gets tighter. RAY Not just died. Someone broke in and murdered her. Theresa releases herself from the hug. THERESA How do you know? RAY Because I witnessed it...That's why I left. And that's why I've not been back until now. Theresa pushes Ray, afraid of what he may say next. Ray tears up. THERESA What's this got to do with our son? Ray walks towards his car. THERESA (CONT'D) Ray! Ray! What is going on? RAY Just get inside. I need to go...I love you. He enters the car as Theresa stares at him. THERESA (shouting) Ray! Talk to me! She watches him drive off. Her phone rings. She answers it. INT. RAY'S CAR - SECONDS LATER

Ray talks to his car phone as he drives.

RAY I need you to keep calm. I'm going home to be with our son.

THERESA - V.O.

Why?

RAY because I think the killer is back.

EXT. DOORSTEP - CONTINUOUS

Theresa holds a hand over her mouth as she stares inside the house.

INT. RAY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

RAY I couldn't save my mother...But I will save our son.

EXT. - GARDEN OF DON'S HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

Jack paces up & down as Don stands by the door.

DON What have you heard about what happened here twenty-five-years-ago?

JACK Not much. Just Something about a killer terrorizing this town.

DON But it's over now...The killer is gone.

Jack walks up to Don, angry.

JACK But my friend is dead. Murdered.

DON Don't play games. The killer has gone.

JACK I saw Calvin's body in Eric's house. Don looks to see if Mary is watching, pleased she isn't. He bows his head, almost breaks down. DON I stopped believing that bad things could ever happen here again. EXT/INT. - GARDEN OF DON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS Don sees Mary enter the kitchen, smiles at her. DON (CONT'D) (to Jack) There's something you need to know, about your house. JACK (worried) And that is? DON Your grandmother was murdered there. Jack chokes, spits on the grass. JACK How do you know? DON Because I was the officer who found your father hiding inside the wardrobe. Jack's legs give way. He sits on a bench. DON (CONT'D) You need to speak to him now. I need to get back to Mary. INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER Jack sits on his bed with his *laptop* open. A page appears showing a woman's photo. Below it the words -

75.

ANOTHER VICTIM FOUND IN BUCKS RIVER - Caroline Montgomery, aged 40, was found strangled on the night of 30th August 1995. No clues on who killed her have been brought to light, but police are asking everyone to unite to help bring the murderer to justice.

Jack closes his laptop, sheds a tear.

INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - LATER

Gayle yawns as she reads files about Eric.

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Brett holds his phone against his ear, angry.

BRETT Why tell him the truth? You know how unstable he is, Don...This isn't good.

DON - (V.O.) Sorry! But I couldn't keep it quiet any longer. He needed to know...She was his grandmother.

BRETT

(concerned)

Wait! You mean, the father was the child who witnessed her death, the boy who you rescued?

DON - (V.O.) Yes!...Didn't you know?

BRETT No!...Why didn't you tell me?

DON - (V.O.)

Because it took a while for me to figure it out. But I did and it's now upsetting Mary.

BRETT Sorry, Don, but why did he go back there?...Does he know who the killer is?...Is he back for revenge? DON - (V.O.) You need to speak to the father, and fast.

INT. DON'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DON Something happened to that young couple. You know it and so do I.

BRETT - (V.O.) You think the father killed them?...Seems strange how the family move in and suddenly people go missing again.

DON Can't be him. What motive? Paranoia from seeing his mother die?

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

BRETT

I don't know...Have you heard from the chief who was assigned to the original case?

DON - (V.O.) Nah! Not seen him in years. Why you ask?

Brett clicks the mouse on his computer, stares at images from past murders with Eric in.

BRETT Because I tried finding him but he's gone off the grid...Maybe you should come out of retirement?

DON - (V.O.) Don't tempt me.

INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Gayle writes notes in her pad, smiles, looks over at the other officers still reading through files.

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Gayle enters, sits down holding her notepad, printed photos.

BRETT (to Don) Gotta go. Let me know if the boy starts acting weird.

He puts the phone down.

BRETT (CONT'D) (to Gayle) What you got for me?

GAYLE Just some info on Eric.

Brett smiles.

GAYLE (CONT'D) He was definitely working when the murders took place.

She places the photos on Brett's desk.

GAYLE - (CONT'D) Take a close look at these.

Brett looks at the photos.

BRETT You showed me these earlier. Eric's standing in the background.

GAYLE But why have no uniform on when he was working?

Gayle looks at her notepad.

GAYLE (CONT'D) I've double-checked the dates with the hospital. He was on call during all the murders, yet, he's in the photos just watching...It don't add up.

BRETT Maybe he'd finished his shift? GAYLE

He finished his shift then went back to all the murder sites?...He would've helped take the bodies' away...He was on duty. I have the times.

BRETT Gayle! I knew there was a reason I hired you...Let's go get him.

EXT. OUTSIDE ERIC'S HOUSE - LATER

Two *police cars* pull up in the street. Brett & Gayle exit one, walk up to Eric's front door. The door opens, Eric appears.

ERIC (concerned) This looks serious.

BRETT

It is!

Brett hands Eric the photos.

ERIC What's these meant to be?

BRETT You tell me. You're in all of them.

Eric stares at the photos.

ERIC That could be anyone?

GAYLE (shaking her head) It's you Eric. It may be twenty-five years ago but it's definitely you.

ERIC (worried) So, it's me. I was there, so what.

Eric stares at Brett.

ERIC (CONT'D) Come on Brett, you know me. Eric glares across the street at Jack & Don standing on their doorsteps, looking back at him.

BRETT (CONT'D) You need to come with us.

Eric walks between Brett & Gayle. They head for the car.

Eric glares at Jack again, but Jack turns away, walks back inside his house.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM AT POLICE STATION - LATER

Brett sits opposite Eric. He watches him, but Eric looks to the floor.

BRETT Explain the photos to me.

ERIC What do you need to know?

BRETT Why were you there?

Eric lifts his head.

ERIC It's no big deal. I just happened to be passing.

BRETT Is that the answer you're going with?

Brett lays the photos on the table, looks across at the blacked out mirror, shakes his head.

INT. BEHIND BLACKED OUT MIRROR - CONTINUOUS

Gayle stands with her arms folded. Other *officers* are with her, staring inside the interview room.

OFFICER Do you really think he's the killer from years ago? GAYLE Will see soon enough.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brett angrily pushes the photos towards Eric.

BRETT (CONT'D) Just take a good look.

Eric stares at the floor again.

BRETT (CONT'D) (shouting) Take a fucking look!

Eric jumps in his seat.

ERIC

(nervous) What's going on here? Why are you trying to pin something on me?

BRETT It's not something, and you know it...We have missing teenagers and a recent victim.

Brett walks around the room, calms down.

BRETT (CONT'D) And you were seen in the photos from when the serial-killer struck years ago.

ERIC (agitated) But what's back then got to do with now?

BRETT It could be linked.

ERIC (angry) So you're trying to pin me for the sudden disappearance of the teenagers?

Eric gets up, kicks his chair.

ERIC (CONT'D) What did that prick from over the road tell you?!

BRETT Woooohhh! calm down!...I've not seen this side to you before.

Brett replaces the chair.

BRETT (CONT'D) You have another side to you, Eric, and it's not good.

Eric sits back down, breathes deep.

ERIC (calm) Sorry...The kid's just playing games with me...I can't take it anymore.

BRETT

It's okay.

Brett sits back down opposite.

BRETT (CONT'D) I asked you to look at the photos, that's all. I wasn't accusing you.

ERIC So why am I here?...To have a catch up?

BRETT You're here because you're helping me.

ERIC So I'm free to leave if I want?

BRETT You are, but I wouldn't if I were you.

ERIC

Why?

BRETT Because it would look suspicious.

Brett points at the photos.

ERIC Yes! I admit it's me, but I don't know why I was in those photos.

He picks up one of the photos.

ERIC (CONT'D) I was probably keeping the crowds back so my fellow medics could do their job...Yes! That was it.

He puts the photo down.

ERIC (CONT'D) I have blanked most of what happened back then from my mind.

BRETT Everyone who still lives here probably did the same thing, but I have a feeling the past is about to bite one of us in the backside.

Brett stares at Eric.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

A loud bang - o.s. - wakes Jack.

He wipes his eyes, walks to the door.

JACK Dad must be back.

INT. STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

He walks down the stairs.

JACK (shouting) Dad! Is that you?

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

He walks into the room, turns on the light, looks into the kitchen entrance.

He walks closer to see the back door open, shakes his head, shuts the door.

JACK Dad! Stop messin' about. Where are you?

He sees a set of keys next to the cooker, picks them up, worried.

JACK What the hell? How did those get back here?

He puts the keys down, puts on the outside light, *stares* towards the garden.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - LATER

Brett & Eric remain seated. Eric looks annoyed.

BRETT

Is there a reason why you're not telling me the boy over the road is targeting you?...Maybe he knows you killed his grandmother all those years ago?

Eric looks shocked, more angry.

ERIC

What are you talking about? What grandmother?

BRETT

The house belonged to the father's parents. I think he went back there to seek you out.

ERIC Me out? Don't make me laugh...Stop messing with me and let me go.

BRETT All in good time.

Eric leaves his seat again.

ERIC Screw this. I'm not staying here to be accused of something I haven't done.

He walks towards the door.

INT. GAYLE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Gayle sees Eric storm past her window, appearing agitated.

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Gayle walks in to see Brett throw a pen at the wall.

GAYLE What did that pen ever do to you?

She picks it up, places it on Brett's desk.

GAYLE (CONT'D) I take it Eric didn't want to stay?

BRETT You could say that.

GAYLE So, what happens now?

BRETT Now we wait to see if he does something stupid, like go after the boy.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jack clicks the mouse on his laptop to see more news headlines.

BUCKS RIVER KILLER STRIKES AGAIN -

ANOTHER MURDER ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BUCKS RIVER -

KILLER OF BUCKS RIVER MURDERS STILL NOT FOUND -

The last report is from 1995. His grandmother was the last murder.

He gets *spooked* after hearing a knock on the front door, so *nervously* looks out his bedroom window.

He opens it.

JACK Who's out there?

But sees no one.

INT. LIVING ROOM - A MINUTE LATER

He enters the room, hears another knock on the front door, peers through the gap in the curtains, sees Eric.

Jack *panics* as Eric knocks the door again, so grabs his phone, calls Ray.

JACK (CONT'D) (into phone) Come on dad, pick up.

ERIC - (O.S.) (shouting) I know you're in there. I need to talk to you!

He knocks louder.

JACK (mumbling into phone) Dad! Where are you? Pick up.

ERIC - (O.S.) (CONT'D) (shouting) I think there's been a misunderstanding...We can work it out.

JACK (shouting back) There's nothin' to work out, so go away!

EXT. THE FRONT DOORSTEP - SECONDS LATER

Eric knocks again.

ERIC (still shouting) Just let me in!...I want to help you find your friends.

Don opens his door, stands on his doorstep.

DON Come on now, Eric. Can't you see you're scaring the poor boy.

ERIC Scaring him?...After what he's just put me through I should be doing more than just scaring him.

DON More? As in what exactly? Eric glares at Don. ERIC Nothing! just forget about it. DON Good! Because I have a poorly wife who needs her rest...Just go home. Don watches Eric walk across the road. He then knocks on Jack's door. DON (CONT'D) (to Jack) He's gone. JACK - (0.S.) (still nervous) What happened with the cup? DON Let me in and I will explain. JACK - (O.S.)Tell me now! DON It's Mary...She has muscle spasms...Sometimes they come on too fast...She dropped the cup. Don sees the door open. Jack appears with the phone still in his hand. DON (CONT'D) If you need me I'm only next door. JACK My dad should be here soon. DON Good! They see Eric in his garden, frowning. DON (CONT'D) Are you sure you will be okay? Jacks smiles.

JACK I'm sure...I will wait for my dad.

Don walks away. Jack shuts the door.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

Jack's phone rings, scares him. He answers it.

JACK

Dad!

RAY - (V.O.) Sorry for not picking up. Traffic is chaotic...I'm nearing home. Shouldn't be long now.

JACK

Okay!

RAY - (V.O.) Everything good there?

JACK Just get back soon.

RAY - (V.O.) (worried) Just stay inside...I love you, son. I won't let anyone harm you.

Jack turns the TV on, sees a news report appear.

RAY - (V.O.) - CONT'D
 (concerned)
Jack! Jack! What's wrong?

JACK (shocked) Another woman is missing. Last seen a few streets away.

EXT. RAY'S CAR ON MOTORWAY - SECONDS LATER Ray drives between other cars. His phone is on loud speaker.

> RAY So you've heard then.

It's on the news. RAY Just lock the doors and wait for me. JACK - (V.O.) But Eric. RAY (angry) I'll deal with Eric. JACK - (V.O.) The woman went missing a few hours ago. RAY And? JACK - (V.O.) Eric was at the police station then. I saw him get into a police car. INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS Jack looks at the news report again. JACK It don't make sense...Just hurry. He ends the call, walks towards the kitchen, sees Eric standing in the entrance. Jack drops his phone. JACK (startled) How did you get in? ERIC (calm) The kitchen door was open. Eric stares at the news report on the TV. ERIC (CONT'D) There's your proof. Now back off with the accusations.

JACK - (V.O.)

JACK Sorry!...I got it wrong. ERIC But someone murdered your friend. Eric stares at the news report again. ERIC (CONT'D) And it looks like they haven't stopped. Jack turns off the TV, picks up his phone. JACK My dad will be here soon. Eric backs away. ERIC Hey! I only came to tell you it wasn't me...I've not come to hurt you. The sound of scraping - o.s - forces Jack to hold his mouth. JACK My teeth hurt. The sound gets closer until Ted appears from the kitchen, holding the keys. TED (smiling) But I have come to hurt you. Jack cowers behind a chair as Eric stares at Ted. TED (CONT'D) I wondered where I left these keys. JACK (confused) What's goin' on? TED What's going on? Ted looks at Eric. TED (CONT'D) Are you going to tell him what's qoing on or shall I?

Jack runs towards the other door.

TED (CONT'D) I wouldn't if I were you. Unless you want to end up like your friends.

Ted walks *calm* towards the window as Jack stops.

TED - CONT'D All that wasted energy.

He scowls at Jack.

TED (CONT'D) I saw you watching Eric's house...It was funny to see. Especially when it was me who killed your friends.

JACK Stop playin' with me. Please!...I don't like this game.

TED I'm not playing.

JACK (pleading) Stop it! This is a sick joke.

Ted throws the keys at the wall behind Jack.

TED Your friends would've been fine if they hadn't used those keys.

Eric walks over to Ted.

ERIC What are you doing?

TED It's all your fault, dad...Everything is all your fault.

JACK

Dad?

TED (to Jack) Yes! Eric here is my father. Yet he tells no one.

TED (to Eric) And why is that? Eric looks away. JACK That's why you have a set of keys. TED Yep! My father here was too ashamed to tell people I was his son because he didn't want to be related to a killer. (laughing) Yet, he was the original killer all those years ago. Jack wets himself. INT/EXT. - RAY'S CAR ON MOTORWAY - SECONDS LATER Ray looks up to see the exit sign. RAY (speaking to phone) Call home. PHONE Calling home. RAY Come on Jack, pick up. Ray listens to the rings. RAY (CONT'D) Jack! come on! INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS Ted slaps the phone out of Jack's hand but it still rings on the floor. Ted pushes Eric. TED Are you not going to tell him about your murder spree? Eric backs away as Jack stares at the phone.

TED (CONT'D) When you killed his grandmother in the bedroom he sleeps in.

Jack gulps as Ted smiles sadistically at Eric.

TED (CONT'D) Don, Don, Don is like an open book after a whiskey. Told me everything.

Ted raises his hands towards Jack.

TED (CONT'D) Time to finish off what my father failed to do. Get rid of the witness and his family.

Jack edges closer to the phone but it stops ringing.

He collapses in a heap as Ted kicks the phone across the floor.

Jack *scowls* at Ted, gets up, runs towards the door again. He opens it, but Katoo walks in, purrs around Ted.

Ted picks Katoo up.

TED (CONT'D) Your cat dies next if you leave this room.

Eric takes Katoo from Ted.

ERIC (to Jack) You got too close to the truth by accusing me of killing your friends...Now you need to die.

INT/EXT. RAY'S CAR ON MOTORWAY - MINUTES LATER

Ray drives past a sign saying WELCOME TO BUCKS RIVER.

RAY (speaking to phone) But you need to get to my house now. Something's not right. My son isn't answering the phone.

BRETT (V.O.) We've gone over this already. Your son has been acting like a nuisance recently. He's probably messing with you. RAY (angry) If anything happens to him then it's on you. He stops the call. Speeds up. INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS Brett looks up as Gayle walks in. GAYLE Another one of your thinking moments? BRETT (concerned) I've Just had that kid's father on the phone. GAYLE Bad news? BRETT I think he could be in trouble. GAYLE Eric? Brett leaves his seat, rushes towards the door. BRETT Let's go! INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS Jack goes for the door again but Ted pushes him over. TED It's scary, isn't it...Knowing you're so close to death.

Jack cowers in the corner of the room.

JACK (whimpering) But, why my friends?

TED They saw something they shouldn't have.

JACK The missing woman?

TED (laughing) Now you're clicking on.

Eric closes in on Ted.

ERIC If you're going to kill him then get it over with before someone arrives.

TED It's exciting to know that I could be caught at anytime.

Ted sneers at Eric.

TED (CONT'D) Did you get excited, father...when you killed?

Jack gets up as Eric mumbles to himself.

JACK (shivering) It was you inside Eric's house when I was there.

TED

Yes!

JACK But you was here, decorating.

TED (laughing) Was I?...Did you check when you got back here?

Ted turns to Eric.

TED (CONT'D) If I hadn't gone back to remove the last of the bodies' then you would be in a cell by now.

Jack pushes Ted into Eric, runs into the kitchen. Ted & Eric close in.

ERIC Where is he?

They hear Jack run up the stairs.

TED (pointing) He's gone through that door.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack enters his room, locks the door, looks around, frantic.

JACK My phone is downstairs. Fuck!

INT. STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

Ted stands at the bottom of the stairs holding a knife.

TED (shouting to Jack) I forgot to tell you, I also have keys to your house now...Did you try opening the back door?.

He scrapes the knife along a wall.

TED (CONT'D) If you do anything stupid then the cat gets it.

He laughs again.

INT/EXT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS
Jack looks out the window, sees people walk past.
He waves fast, bangs on the window.
The people look up at him but his door being knocked on o.s. - scares him to come away from the window.

TED - OS (whispering) Knock! knock! Time to let me in. JACK What do you want? I'll give you anythin'. TED - OS I want to finish you. That's what I want. You sniffling little shit. JACK (crying) But you was nice to me. I made you cups of coffee. TED - OS That wasn't coffee, that was a mess. Ted kicks the door. EXT. OUTSIDE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS The people who saw Jack look at each other, confused. PERSON 1 That kid is a menace. PERSON 2 Yeah! He's not foolin' us with his games. They walk off down the street as Ray drives past, pulls up into his drive. He exits his car, rushes to the door. PERSON 1 Poor father, having to rush home because his son's behaving like a lunatic. They see the father struggling to open the door, like it's locked on the inside. INT. STAIRCASE - A SECOND LATER

Eric stares at the front door.

ERIC (to Ted) The father's here. Ted appears at the top of the stairs, sees a burn mark on Eric's wrist. TED What happened? Did you have a bad day?...Did someone stress you out again? ERIC (annoyed) Did you not hear me? TED Oh! I heard you...Invite him in if you dare. RAY - OS (shouting) I can hear you...Leave my son alone. Eric walks towards the door but Ray disappears from view. ERIC He's gone. TED He's not gone. A window breaks - o.s. - in the kitchen. Ted stabs the knife into a picture hanging on the wall as Eric walks towards the kitchen. INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS Eric sees Ray climb through the broken window, fuming. RAY (shouting) Where's my son?! Ray attacks Eric, punches him to the ground. He stares at an anchor tattoo on Eric's forearm, brings back a memory he's kept hidden.

RAY (CONT'D) It was you who killed my mother. Eric tries to get up but Ray kicks him back down again. RAY (CONT'D) I saw your tattoo...When I was a child...I remember it clearly now. I still have nightmares about it. Ray runs towards the kitchen entrance but Eric grabs his leg. ERIC (spitting out blood) Don't you want to know why I killed your mother? Ray pulls his leg away. ERIC (CONT'D) I was having an affair with her...And your father was non the wiser. Ray snaps, punches Eric again, runs towards the living room. INT. STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS He arrives to see Ted holding the knife out in front. RAY (CONT'D) (tearful/angry/worried) Did you come to help Jack? TED (grinning) Help him?... If he can't make decent coffee then he's not worth helping. Ray looks at him lost. He races up the stairs, charges Ted. INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS Jack listens against the door, hears a confrontation - o.s. He jumps back when the door thuds. The sound of someone falling down the stairs - o.s - frightens him.

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JACK (shouting) DAD! Dad! are you okay?

TED - OS (breathing heavy) Come out or your dad dies next.

JACK My dad will bury you.

TED - OS (laughing) Just like I buried your friends...Now come out.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING - CONTINUOUS

Ted hears the door being unlocked. It opens, Jack appears. Ted grabs him by the arm, pulls him out of the room.

Jack gulps after seeing Ray face down at the bottom of the stairs.

JACK (nervous) What did you do to him?

TED (grinning) He slipped.

Eric appears next to Ray with blood under his left eye.

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TED (CONT'D)
(to Eric)
Is he dead?
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ERIC Don't think so.

TED

Shame!

Ted drags Jack out of sight.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Eric drags Ray's body into the room, looks at the broken window.

He reaches into a drawer, pulls out a carving knife, *sweats*, *shakes*.

He leans over Ray's body as the back door is knocked - o.s.

DON (shouting) Jack! Jack! Are you okay in there?

Eric ducks down behind the kitchen cabinets, pulls Ray over to him.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ted pushes Jack against a cabinet with *sports trophies* on, but Jack hits him around the head with one. Ted *GRUNTS*, *falls*, but grabs Jack's leg.

He goes to stab Jack but Jack hits him again, kicks him, runs from the room.

Ted, head bleeding, looks across the landing to see the bathroom door close.

Eric quietly appears next to him.

TED (dazed) This is your fault.

ERIC

How?

TED Because you gave me this illness...Now I'm a killer just like you.

ERIC I stopped killing twenty-five-years-ago.

TED But I watched you kill. ERIC

When?

TED When I was little...Underneath the house...I saw you cut up a woman when I was six.

Ted gets up, pushes Eric, wipes blood from his eyes.

TED (CONT'D) God damn it. I was only fucking six...Now it's me who's killing.

Eric stares at Ted's wound.

ERIC He got you good.

Ted places a hand over the cut, sees his hand soaked in blood.

TED He won't do it again. It's time to finish him.

Ted looks down the stairs.

TED (CONT'D) And the father?...Did you finish him?

ERIC (softly spoken) Nope.

TED

Why?

ERIC Don is snooping around outside...I couldn't do it.

TED (angry) Wow! All these years later and now you've gone all pussy...I'll do it.

Ted glares at the bathroom.

TED (CONT'D) After I've killed the son. INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack sits on the toilet holding a can of hairspray & a cut throat razor. He's shaking, almost crying.

The door smashes open, makes him jump.

He sprays Eric in the face, swings the blade at Ted, but misses him.

TED You're a feisty one...I like it when a victim fights back.

Jack furiously & wildly swings the blade again but Ted backs away.

Eric rubs his eyes, screams.

JACK We trusted you.

TED I'm good at making people trust me...Your little friends trusted me until I slit their throats with that razor you're holding.

Ted lunges at Jack with the knife, but the razor slices his hand, forcing him to drop the knife into the bath.

JACK (screaming) Get the fuck away from me!

Ted licks blood from the wound as Jack pushes Eric into him.

Jack tries to run, but Ted slaps him around the face.

Jack drops the razor, stares at Ted.

They hear Ray shout again - o.s.

Eric rushes out of the room as Jack goes for the razor, but Ted kicks him away.

Jack falls to his knees, winded in the doorway.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING - CONTINUOUS

Jack sees Ray race to the top of the stairs, but Eric stands in front of him rubbing his eyes.

Ray charges him, punches him in the stomach.

Ted puts the razor against Jack's throat.

RAY (to Ted) Please! Just let him go!

Ted makes a small cut on Jack's neck.

RAY (CONT'D) Please, don't hurt my son.

TED (laughing) Please! please! please!

Ted slices open Jack's cheek. Jack winces.

Eric rushes Ray. They wrestle as Ted pushes Jack to the floor.

Jack crawls, sits against a wall.

Ray *punches* Eric again. He *stumbles* but grabs Ray's arm. They *tumble* to the bottom of the stairs.

INT. BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Ray & Eric fight. Eric punches, kicks Ray then runs to the front door, opens it.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Eric leaves the house, but Don hits him over the head with a baseball bat.

Eric falls, doesn't move.

Ray arrives to see Don holding the bat.

DON Thought you might need some help. RAY

They look down at Eric before Ray runs back inside the house.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING - CONTINUOUS

Thanks.

Ted closes in on Jack, swinging the razor as Ray approaches.

RAY It's over...Just drop it.

TED It's not over until I say it is.

Ted points the razor at Ray.

TED (CONT'D) It's over when the two of you are dead.

Ray charges Ted, but the razor slices his stomach.

Ray *cringes*, but charges again, grips onto Ted's arm, stops him from swinging the razor.

Jack *shakes* as he watches them fight too close to a wooden balcony. Ted pins Ray against it, tries to force him over the balcony.

Jack cringes again, picks up one of Katoo's toys.

JACK (shouting) Katoooooooo....!!!

Jack throws the toy at Ted as Katoo races out of Donna's bedroom.

Ted sees the toy come towards him.

Katoo follows *swiftly* to leap on him, forcing him to let go of Ray before falling against the balcony.

He screams as Katoo scratches his face.

Jack runs at Ted, *pushes* him, watches him fall over the balcony with Katoo.

Jack & Ray look over the side to see Katoo on Ted's chest with the toy in its mouth. Ted doesn't move.

BRETT (OS) (shouting) Police! We're coming in! Ray hugs Jack. They see Brett appear at the bottom of the stairs, looking up to them. Jack helps Ray down the stairs as two MEDICS appear. EXT. OUTSIDE OF HOUSE - SECONDS LATER Gayle stands next to Don. GAYLE I didn't know you played baseball. DON (smiling) I do now. INT/EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS Brett & Gayle look at Ted's body. BRETT Jeezzzz! Why did it take me so long to work it out. GAYLE They fooled us all for years. BRETT But they didn't fool young Jack. They look outside to see Jack & Ray enter an ambulance. GAYLE I think we owe him a huge apology. BRETT Absolutely. Brett looks at Ted's body again. BRETT - CONT'D (shouting) Now someone get this piece of shit out of here!

A medic patches up Ray's stomach wound as another cleans Jack's wounds. Brett appears.

BRETT I'm glad you're both okay.

JACK So, you finally believed me.

BRETT You need to thank Don for that. He was very persuasive.

Don holds the baseball bat in the air, smiles.

EXT. HOSPITAL MAIN ENTRANCE - NEXT MORNING

Theresa parks her car, rushes into the main doors. Donna follows.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD - CONTINUOUS

Jack sits in a chair beside Ray's bed with stitches in his cheek, a plaster on his neck. He holds Ray's hand.

Theresa & Donna arrive in the room.

THERESA Baby! baby! What happened?

She leans over to kiss Ray.

RAY (in pain) OOOUCCCHHH! careful, love. I've got stitches in.

THERESA

Sorry!

She pulls away, hugs Jack.

THERESA (CONT'D) (to Ray) So, how long do you need to stay in for? RAY Not long...It's just for precaution really, seeing as I also took a knock to the head. Theresa is close to tears. THERESA You crazy man. JACK (to Donna) Katoo was a hero.

> DONNA Was he?...Where's he now?

JACK With Don and Mary...I think he'll be spoiled for a while.

DONNA He's a hero. He needs to be spoiled.

Everyone laughs, but Ray finds it hard.

RAY Oooouucchhh! Don't make me laugh. It hurts.

EVERYONE ELSE

Sorry!!!

INT. BRETT'S OFFICE - LATER

Brett sits at his desk looking over statements of previous murder cases. Gayle stands next to him.

GAYLE

What happens now?

BRETT Now we search Eric's basement.

FADE OUT:

MUSIC:

FADE IN:

INT. BASEMENT OF ERIC'S HOUSE

Workers dig up a *human bone*, then more bones until a *skeleton head* is found.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

Brett stands over a dozen *skeleton heads*. Beside them a pile of bones.

He reaches into a hole, pulls up an old *police chief's* jacket.

FADE OUT:

THE END: