

THE DEVIL'S DIARY

By

Lee Andrew Taylor

an idea by Lee Andrew Taylor

@2017

taylorlee544@gmail.com

EXT. - A BUSY MARKET IN MANILA - DAY

CHERYL FERGUSON - British woman, 30's, slim, pretty, blonde, wearing a backpackers shoulder bag, loose top, shorts, and beach shoes, walks through the market. She smiles at PEOPLE, they smile back.

She stops at a fruit & veg stall, the woman serving is chopping cabbage. Cheryl buys fruit from her, placing it into her bag before walking away.

EXT. STREET NEAR MARKET - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl is talking to a FILIPINO COUPLE in the street. Someone is singing on a Videoke machine inside a small store nearby. Cheryl smiles at the PERSON looking at her while singing. It's a Filipino man, late 50's.

The female from the couple she is talking to points down the street. Cheryl nods her head.

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl is standing outside a bookshop. It looks old. The outside in need of repair.

INT. SHOP - CONTINUOUS

She opens the door and enters. A bell rings on top of the door. The shop is empty as she walks over to the closest books. She admires them, most dusty from lack of cleaning. She picks one up, blows the dust off and reads the title. It's a history book about Manila.

She looks up to see a curtain move at the far side of the shop. An OLD MAN appears, looking frail, long beard and spectacles.

OLD MAN

Ha! American?

CHERYL

No! I'm from the UK.

OLD MAN

Ha! UK! Queen Elizabeth!

CHERYL

(smiling)

Yes! She lives there.

Cheryl puts down the book, wipes her hands against her legs and walks around the shop. The old man watches her, pleased to see a foreigner in his shop.

OLD MAN
You Look for book?

CHERYL
Just seeing what you have. Need something to do to pass the time.

OLD MAN
Okay! You pass time as long as you want.

CHERYL
Thanks!

Cheryl walks over to a tall cabinet, staring at a book on the top shelf. It is encased inside a glass case. It looks very old, tattered.

She tries to reach it but is too small. The old man closes in.

OLD MAN
You want help?

CHERYL
Please!

He grabs a step ladder that's leaning against a nearby wall, opens it and slowly climbs up. His legs shake as he reaches for the glass case. Cheryl cringes, thinking he will fall.

She smiles when he grabs it. His face sweating as he passes it down to her.

OLD MAN
(arm shaking)
It's heavy.

He climbs down from the ladder, thankful he never slipped.

CHERYL
Wow! it is heavy.

She looks at him.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
You okay?

The old man waves a hand in front of his face.

OLD MAN
Not everyday someone ask for book
from highest shelf.

They both laugh before Cheryl puts the glass case on a table. She looks at the book, noticing the cover is stained in a rusty red colour. It has no title, but there's a lock on the case.

CHERYL
Why is it locked?

The old man stares at the book. His eyelids closing slowly before snapping open again.

OLD MAN
(worried)
The book not meant to be here.

He appears startled by something. Cheryl notices.

CHERYL
Why not?

The old man grabs the glass case.

OLD MAN
This book no good. Best to leave. I
will put away now.

Cheryl places a hand on his shoulder.

CHERYL
You can't give me it then take it
away.
(beat)
Why is it no good?

OLD MAN
Sorry! My mistake. Best search for
other.

Cheryl grabs his arm.

CHERYL
I don't want another book. I want
that book.

OLD MAN
Sorry! Not for sale.

Cheryl sees beads of sweat drip from his brow.

CHERYL
Sorry if I've upset you. It would
be good to know more about the
book.

(beat)
Even if I can't buy it now.

The old man puts the glass case back on the table.

INT. OTHER SIDE OF CURTAIN - CONTINUOUS

Both are sitting at a table. The room is full of boxes
filled with clothing and household items. A small bed fills
up a third of the room.

The old man pours coffee. Cheryl smiles at him.

CHERYL
So, why do you keep it locked?

OLD MAN
Fear!

Cheryl laughs.

CHERYL
Fear of what?

OLD MAN
The Devil.

CHERYL
Don't be silly. He doesn't exist.

OLD MAN
Doesn't he?

Cheryl sips her coffee, excited to know more. The old man
rubs his beard.

OLD MAN -(CONT'D)
A long time ago. Maybe
two-hundred-years. A man was here.
An evil man.

CHERYL
So! Evil men exist.

OLD MAN
Hah! but this man was no normal. He
the Devil himself.

(beat)
He take souls for book.

EXT. - BUSY ROAD IN MANILA - DAY - 200 YEARS EARLIER

FLASHBACK V/O - Old Man

The DEVIL came in human form looking for souls to take. The book with him. His face twisted, evil. People rush to avoid his stare, but he is hard to resist.

A woman cuddling a child smiles like hypnotised. She lets go of child and climbs up large gate with spikes on top. She shouts 'I love you' towards the child and drops onto spikes.

The Devil stands next to child, smiling. Holding the child's hand. In other hand is the book. It shakes. The Devil laughs.

He walks away with child.

END OF FLASHBACK.

INT. BACK IN THE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl drinks more coffee.

CHERYL

So, how come it ended up here?

OLD MAN

That is mystery.

He drinks from his cup.

OLD MAN -(CONT'D)

Some say God and his angels forced Devil back to Hell.

CHERYL

No way! Serious?

OLD MAN

He leave book behind.

(beat)

Now it here ten years.

CHERYL

And before?

OLD MAN

Know nothing about before.

(beat)

It safe here.

Cheryl finishes her coffee and rises, kissing the old man on the forehead.

CHERYL

Thank you! You have kept me busy.

The old man smiles.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)

No need to get up. I will see myself out.

(beat)

You take care.

She opens the curtain, smiles at him and draws it closed again before rushing over to the glass case and putting it in her shoulder bag.

INT/EXT. SHOP - CONTINUOUS

View from inside shop window as Cheryl runs away.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - THIRTY MINUTES LATER

Cheryl stares at the glass case on her bed. Cursing herself for stealing it.

She takes a hair pin and picks the lock, opening the case to take out the book.

She flicks it open. The sight of images of dead people's faces on the pages almost making her sick.

She closes the book.

INT. - SHOP - LATER

The bell on the door rings again as a TALL MAN wearing a long, black coat, and hat covering his eyes enters.

The old man appears from behind the curtain.

OLD MAN

You look for something?

The tall man closes in on him, lifting up the hat to reveal red eyes.

TALL MAN
Yes! The book.

OLD MAN
(scared)
Book?

He stares at the table. Shocked.

TALL MAN
You know what book.
(beat)
Someone has opened it, so now I'm
back.

The old man falls into a table behind him. The books falling
off.

OLD MAN
You not have it.
(beat)
It's no here.

He gets up again. Dazed.

OLD MAN -(CONT'D)
(spoken in his own language)
Go back to hell.

TALL MAN
(shouting)
Give it to ME!

The old man tries to escape back into the other room but
struggles to breath. His throat feels like someone is
strangling him. He stares at the tall man as his feet rise
off the floor.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Give it to me NOW!

The tall man flicks a hand and the old man is thrown into
the other room. He tries to get up but is thrown again.

OLD MAN
(pleading & bleeding)
Please! please! I not know where it
is.

He is raised off the floor again.

CLOSE UP:

Of his neck tightening.

He splutters, choking.

TALL MAN
Give it to me.

CLOSE UP:

Of the old man's face. His eyes bulging.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Fine! I will find it myself.

CLOSE UP:

Of the old man's eyes popping.

He falls to the floor.

INT. - AIRPORT CHECK-IN - MANILA - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl checks in her hand luggage. The book is inside. She watches her luggage disappear on the conveyor belt as she is scanned.

AIRPORT STAFF MEMBER
Did you enjoy your visit?

CHERYL
It was amazing, but must get back
to London.

The staff member nods, letting her pass. Cheryl watches her luggage arrive out the other end and grabs it.

INT. WAITING AREA - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl looks up at the flight board to see her flight time. She searches for a spare seat nearby, sitting down to retrieve the book from her luggage.

She opens it, flicking the pages to find the images gone. She shuts the book.

CHERYL
(to self)
What the...?

She rises, grabs her luggage and heads for a restaurant.

INT. INSIDE RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

She sits at a table and opens the book again. An image of the old man with no eyes appears on the first page.

A WAITRESS arrives as Cheryl closes the book.

WAITRESS
Are you ready to order?

Cheryl pushes the book away, her face stunned.

WAITRESS -(CONT'D)
Are you okay?

CHERYL
Sorry! Thought I recognised the person in the book.

WAITRESS
Someone close to you?

CHERYL
Someone I met earlier today.

The waitress smiles. Cheryl picks up the menu, nervous.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
Sorry! Just weird. That's all.

WAITRESS
(smiling again)
Do you want me to come back?

CHERYL
No! no!
(beat)
Can I have some water please?

WAITRESS
Sure! Will bring some right away.

Cheryl watches her leave before opening the book again. She stares at the image, shaking her head.

INT. WAITING AREA NEAR TO PLANE EXIT - LATER

Cheryl stands in line as passengers get their passports checked. The plane in clear view outside.

She tucks the book under her arm before showing her passport and ticket to the airport staff member. They both smile before she walks the corridor leading to the plane.

INT. ON BOARD PLANE - CONTINUOUS

She enters the plane, shows her ticket to a CABIN CREW member who points towards her seat. She walks past busy people storing luggage into overhead compartments. She reaches her seat and does the same before sitting down with the book on her lap.

INT. ON BOARD PLANE - TEN MINUTES LATER

She holds the book against her chest, her nerves showing as the plane takes off. The person to her left is staring out the window.

Minutes later an AIR HOSTESS approaches.

HOSTESS

Would you like me to store the book
in the overhead compartment?

CHERYL

Okay! Thanks!

Cheryl hands the book to the hostess. She opens it, shocked by the image inside. She closes it as Cheryl looks at her.

HOSTESS

Sorry! Just the book looks so odd.

CHERYL

Odd is one word for it.

Cheryl watches the hostess store the book overhead before placing in earphones to listen to music on her phone.

The hostess walks away.

INT. AIRPORT LOUNGE - LATER

The tall man in black looks around the airport as people steer clear of him. His eyes glare at the flight board as many destination flights appear.

TALL MAN

(to self)

The book has to be on one of those
flights.

INT. PLANE - LATER

Cheryl looks out the window as the plane lands in London. The person to her left waking up as the wheels touch the ground.

She leaves her seat, grabs her luggage and book from the overhead compartment and follows the people from the plane.

She smiles at the hostess as she leaves.

INT. PLANE - FIVE MINUTES LATER

The cabin crew staff watch the last passenger leave before the hostess enters the bathroom. She breaks the mirror and stabs a piece of glass into her throat.

The rest of the crew stand shocked as blood sprays from her. She drops to the floor as someone opens the first-aid-box, blood hitting the person in the face as padding is pushed against the hostess' throat.

CABIN CREW MEMBER

Get some help! Now!

Her hand is covered in blood, the padding soaked as she watches the hostess die.

INT. APARTMENT IN LONDON - LATER

Cheryl opens the door on a 4th floor apartment building. The inside is tidy, spacious, modern furniture, and a newly fitted kitchen. She drops her luggage and book on the floor by the door, closes it, and tiredly collapses on the sofa.

Her phone rings. She answers.

CHERYL

Yes! Just got home.

She nods her head.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)

Sure! I'll be in work in the morning.

(beat)

Will tell you all about it then.

She turns off the phone and goes to sleep on the sofa.

CLOSEUP:

Of the book opening to page two. An image of the hostess with a bloodied throat appears.

The book closes again.

INT. - AIRPORT - MANILA - LATER

The tall man boards a plane heading for Thailand. He has no luggage, no passport, no ticket, but the cabin crew let him on the plane like he has hypnotised them.

He stares at the people around him before sitting in a seat next to a 6 year old boy and his mother. The mother hugs her son, worried, but the boy tugs on the tall man's arm.

BOY

Hey! Would you like some candy?

The tall man looks at the mother, who tries to pull her son closer to her. Then he looks at the boy.

TALL MAN

Sure!

The boy hands him a piece of candy. The tall man smiles.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

LUKE SMART, tall, dark, handsome, thin beard/moustache, athletic build, mid-30's, enters. He trips over the book on the floor, waking Cheryl up.

He turns on the light.

LUKE

What the hell was that?

He looks down and picks it up.

LUKE -(CONT'D)

Another souvenir?

CHERYL

(rubbing her eyes)

You know me, always one for a bargain.

They both laugh. Luke puts the book on a shelf.

LUKE
It's a bit heavy. What's inside it?

CHERYL
Your soul.

They both laugh again.

LUKE
Fuck off! I don't have a soul.

He sits next to Cheryl and kisses her.

CHERYL
That is correct.

She gets off the sofa and heads for the bathroom.

LUKE
(shouting)
How long you been asleep? Been
trying to phone you all day.

CHERYL (OS)
Oh! My phone was off. Needed sleep.

Luke walks over to the kitchen, opening the fridge. He takes out a bottle of wine.

LUKE
(shouting)
You want some?

CHERYL (OS)
If you mean wine, then you know the
answer already.

Luke grins and grabs two glasses. He pours the wine as Cheryl returns. He hands her a glass.

LUKE
So! Anything interesting to tell me
since we last spoke?

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

PAN - across the carpet. Clothes scattered, wine glasses tipped over. GROANING from love making OS.

CLOSEUP:

Of them kissing in bed.

LUKE
Glad you're home.

CHERYL
Me too.

They kiss some more.

INT. CHERYL'S WORK - NEXT DAY

Cheryl walks into her office at an advertising company in the City. A large desk stands in the corner. A vase of fresh flowers sits on it.

Her boss, GRANT WORTHINGTON, podgy, mid-50's, bald, enters the room.

GRANT
Thank God you made it back safely.

CHERYL
(confused)
Safely? I spoke to you yesterday.

GRANT
I know, but there was an incident on the plane.
(beat)
Surprised you never told me.

CHERYL
Grant, you're losing me.

GRANT
The death on the plane.
(beat)
You didn't know?

CHERYL
No! Never knew that.

GRANT
It was on the news last night. No details though.

CHERYL
Ha! So the flowers are because you thought I witnessed it.

GRANT
Sort of, but if you're okay I'll take them back.

Cheryl holds out a hand in front her face.

CHERYL
You'll do nothing of the sort. The
flowers stay.

INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Both are walking along it. Staff members in smart suits walk by, with some typing on their tablets.

GRANT
Are you ready for this?

CHERYL
As I'll ever be.

INT - BOARDROOM - CONTINUOUS

They walk into the room. Sign on the door says - BOARDROOM -
A long table with many seats stand in the middle. At the
front stands a large whiteboard. Cheryl walks towards the
board as Grant takes a seat.

Staff members enter the room and sit at the table.

Last to arrive is an Executive from a large car
manufacturer. DUNCAN DOUGLAS, 40's, smart, slick back hair.
Cheryl smiles at him as he sits at the end of the table.

CHERYL
Welcome!

DUNCAN
The pleasure is all mine.

He places a folder on the table, opening it.

DUNCAN -(CONT'D)
So, how did it go over there?

CHERYL
It was an experience, that's for
sure.

GRANT
(interrupting)
Shall we crack on?

Duncan and Cheryl look at Grant. Both agreeing.

CHERYL

Okay!

(beat)

As you all know, I took a trip to the Philippines recently to spread the word about our company.

She draws a large circle on the board and shades in a quarter of it.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)

This quarter is for you, Duncan.

DUNCAN

Sounds interesting.

CHERYL

We can advertise your company.

(beat)

I found many connections, many businesses' interested. And that was just in Manila.

Cheryl shades in half the circle.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)

Now imagine, after the word spreads about your company. You'll be doing business all over the Philippines.

(beat)

I guarantee it.

DUNCAN

All from your advertising?

CHERYL

We are the best at what we do.

Cheryl suddenly collapses and Grant rushes to help her up. Duncan and the staff look on concerned.

GRANT

What happened?

CHERYL

I don't know.

(beat)

It felt like someone pushed me.

GRANT

Serious?

CHERYL
Just get me up.

He does. Cheryl looks at Duncan, feeling embarrassed.

DUNCAN
Are you okay?

CHERYL
I'm fine, fine.
(beat)
Maybe it's jet lag or something.

DUNCAN
Maybe!

INT: CHERYL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl stands, shaking. Grant is next to her.

GRANT
You need to go home.

CHERYL
I will.
(beat)
Did you see someone push me?

GRANT
When? where?

CHERYL
Just before I collapsed.

GRANT
There was no one near you.

CHERYL
(angry)
I'm not insane. I saw a figure in
black.

GRANT
Hey! It's just jet lag.

Cheryl rubs her eyes.

CHERYL
Maybe I need more sleep.

GRANT

Exactly!

INT. OFFICE BLOCK IN THAILAND - CONTINUOUS

The tall man enters a large office building but is stopped by security guards.

GUARD 1

You cannot pass without an appointment.

TALL MAN

(glancing around him)

How long as this building been here?

GUARD 2

Long time.

TALL MAN

How long?

GUARD 1

Ten years or more. Why?

TALL MAN

No reason.

The tall man stares at the reception desk. The receptionist looks away.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)

Who is in charge here?

GUARD 2

You need to make an appointment.

TALL MAN

Then make me one.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Cheryl kicks off her shoes in the kitchen. Her face angry. She takes some sleeping pills and goes to bed.

INT. OFFICE BLOCK IN THAILAND - CONTINUOUS

The tall man is sitting with the boss. They are on the 16th floor. The boss stares at him.

BOSS
Why are you here? business?

TALL MAN
I need information about the book.

BOSS
(concerned)
Book? What book?

TALL MAN
My book.

EXT. - SAME PART OF THAILAND - DAY - 200 YEARS EARLIER

FLASHBACK - V/O - Old Man

The tall man (DEVIL) held book. Laughing as people fall around him. He sees souls leave bodies. The book catching them.

END FLASHBACK -

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

BOSS
I've heard about the book, but never believed it to be true.

TALL MAN
It's very true. And I want it back.

The tall man walks to the window and looks down at the street.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
(grinning)
It's a long way down.

The boss shakes in his seat.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Don't worry, I'm not here for your soul.

BOSS

But I know nothing about where the
book is.

TALL MAN

But you will find out.

(beat)

Someone opened it so I can return.
And that someone may have flown
here.

EXT. - SAME PART OF THAILAND - DAY - 200 YEARS EARLIER

FLASHBACK - V/O - old man

The tall man fought with God. Angels descend from sky to
force demons back to hell. The tall man is sent back by God.
The book staying behind.

INT. CHURCH - 200 YEARS EARLIER

V/O - Old man

God gives book to monks. He tells them to keep book safe.
Locked away.

CLOSEUP:

Of the book being placed inside a glass box.

INT. CHURCH TOWER - CONTINUOUS

Monks gather round and pray inside a room inside the tower
of the church.

END OF FLASHBACK -

INT. OFFICE IN THAILAND - CONTINUOUS

The tall man opens the window and the boss floats towards
it, pleading. He hovers outside the window, his eyes closed,
Shaking.

TALL MAN

Help me find it and you will be
rewarded.

(beat)

If not, then I hope you have wings.

INTO FRAME:

The security guards appear, both standing open-mouthed as the boss floats back into the room.

The tall man walks towards them, touching them on his way out of the room.

BOSS
(shouting)
Do something! Don't just stand
there!

The guards release their guns and shoot each other.

The boss SCREAMS...

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The book opens to the next blank page until images of the security guards appear. It then slams shut.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

CLOSEUP:

Of Cheryl tossing and turning in her sleep.

CHERYL
(whispering)
Who are you?

She tosses around some more.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
(whispering)
What do you want?

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Luke is serving chicken, potatoes, and vegetables, while Cheryl sits at the table. He notices she looks more tired.

LUKE
Are you okay?

Cheryl brushes her hair back then rubs her hand across her face.

CHERYL
I had a strange dream.
(beat)
It felt so real.

LUKE
Some dreams do that to you.

CHERYL
I know, but this was different.
Like someone was in my room.

LUKE
(laughing)
It wasn't a wet dream was it?

Cheryl throws a carrot slice at him.

CHERYL
Luke! I'm serious. It felt like
someone was talking to me in my
room.

They both eat some food. Luke watches her.

LUKE
Do you remember what was said?

CHERYL
Nope! Not really.

LUKE
Not really means you remember
something.

CHERYL
You'll laugh at me.

LUKE
Try me.

CHERYL
He asked if I wanted to touch his
long one.

Luke throws a carrot slice at her.

LUKE
So, it was a man!

CHERYL
(laughing)
I'm joking. Jeez! You got jealous.

LUKE
No, I never.

CHERYL
(still laughing)
Liar!

They both laugh.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
Truth is, I can't remember who it
was, but it was weird.

They carry on eating.

EXT. AIRPORT IN INDIA - NEXT DAY

The tall man steps off a plane. His face angry.

People stare at him as he walks past.

INT. PASSPORT CHECK - CONTINUOUS

The tall man reaches the front of the queue. He walks to the desk.

WORKER
Passport! Papers!

The tall man smiles at him. Flickers of red appear in his eyes. The worker nods.

WORKER -(CONT'D)
You can go. Enjoy your stay.

The tall man nods back and walks away.

INT./EXT. - ROAD LEADING TO CHERYL'S WORK - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl drives along a busy road. She sees a figure in black standing in the road in front of her. She slams on her break, the CAR behind hitting the back of her car.

She gets out of her car and checks the front, even looking underneath the car. The DRIVER of the other car walks up to her. A woman, mid-40's, Chubby, Loud.

DRIVER
(angry)
What the FUCK! What was you
thinking?

CHERYL
 (frantic)
 Did you see them?

DRIVER
 See who?

CHERYL
 (still frantic)
 The person.
 (beat)
 Did you see the person walk in
 front of my car?

DRIVER
 Lady, you have a serious problem.

A POLICE OFFICER appears.

OFFICER
 What seems to be the problem?

DRIVER
 This crazy lady stopped her car for
 no reason.

Cheryl looks under the car again.

CHERYL
 I hit someone.
 (beat)
 I know I did.

DRIVER
 The only thing you hit today was a
 bottle of VODKA.

A CROWD grows as Cheryl searches under the back of the car.

OFFICER
 There's no one there.

CHERYL
 But!
 ((beat))

OFFICER
 I'm going to need you to blow into
 this.

He holds out a breathalyzer.

OFFICER -(CONT'D)
Please get up and do it now.

The driver glares at Cheryl as she looks at the officer.
She gets up and blows into the breathalyzer.

DRIVER
I hope you get arrested for this.
(beat)
My car is trashed.

CHERYL
Trashed! It's just a scratch.

The driver gets even more angry and kicks Cheryl's car.

OFFICER
Hey! Calm down.

The officer looks at Cheryl.

OFFICER -(CONT'D)
It's negative.

CHERYL
I know.

DRIVER
Then you must be just crazy.

The officer stands between them as a POLICE CAR arrives.

INT. CHERYL'S WORK - LATER

Cheryl storms into her office, throws her bag on a chair and sits down. Grant enters.

GRANT
What's going on with you?

CHERYL
What do you mean?

GRANT
You tell me.

Cheryl starts to cry.

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - MINUTES LATER

Grant walks back in with a glass of water. He hands it to her.

GRANT
You feeling okay after yesterday?

CHERYL
I don't know.
(beat)
It just feels like I'm someone else.

GRANT
How?

CHERYL
Like I have someone inside me.
Talking to me.

GRANT
Shit! Like the Exorcist?

CHERYL
Grant! I wouldn't go that far.

Cheryl drinks the water, still shaking from the activity in the road.

GRANT
(concerned)
You do know I'm not just your boss.
You can talk to me.

CHERYL
I know.
(beat)
I'll be fine.

GRANT
But you're not.
(beat)
fine. What happened in Manila?

CHERYL
What you mean?

GRANT
You've not been the same since flying home.

CHERYL

Just did some sightseeing, visited
a bookshop.

(beat)

And of course, got some contacts
for the business.

GRANT

But still...

(beat)

Something's not right with you now.

Cheryl sighs.

INT. HOUSE OF OTHER DRIVER - CONTINUOUS

SANDRA WATKINS enters the living room, throwing her car keys
at the wall. Her son, TOBY WATKINS, 15, shaven head, is
slouched on the sofa, watching the TV. A small table in
front of him has empty coke cans and crisp packets laid on
top.

Toby flinches as the keys hit the wall.

TOBY

Fuck me! mother! Why are you
chuckin stuff?

Sandra slaps his face.

SANDRA

How many times have I warned you
about fucking swearing?

Toby smirks, so Sandra goes to slap him again.

TOBY

Hey! Sorry! But you just swore.

SANDRA

I'm the adult.

She looks around the room.

SANDRA -(CONT'D)

And get this place tidied.

(beat)

I don't go to work all day so you
can slum around.

Toby watches her HUFF as she picks the keys up. She then
leaves the room.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Sandra talks on the phone.

SANDRA
Hey! The bitch was drunk, I tell
ya. Fucking drunk.

INTO FRAME:

Toby appears in the doorway, curious.

SANDRA -(CONT'D)
(on phone)
Nah! She just stopped in the middle
of the road. No warning. Nothing!

TOBY
Mum! What you talkin about?

SANDRA
(to Toby)
Hey! Can't you see I'm on the
fucking phone?

Toby sighs then goes back to the living room.

SANDRA -(CONT'D)
(to phone)
If I ever see her again, I will
punch her out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sandra walks back into the room. Anger still on her face.
Toby sits up on the sofa.

TOBY
You gonna tell me what happened?

SANDRA
Leave it!
(beat)
I'll sort it.

Sandra slaps him around the head.

SANDRA -(CONT'D)
And clean this fucking room.

Toby shoots up off the sofa.

STEVEN
Shut up! No, they don't.

Steven stares at Toby.

STEVEN -(CONT'D)
What you mean? No one gets away
with pissing off your mother.

TOBY
(smirking)
I got the person's name.
(beat)
Just need to find em' on Facebook.

STEVEN
There could be loads of people with
the same name.

TOBY
Maybe! But if I find a Cheryl
Ferguson who works in the city at
some advertising company, then I've
found her.

STEVEN
How you get all that detail?

TOBY
The stupid cow only went and told a
copper all her shit.
(beat)
Mum overheard it all.

Toby takes another sip of his coke.

TOBY -(CONT'D)
So, where's your lappy?

INT. STEVEN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is small. A single bed with clothes thrown over it
is sat on by them. Steven passes Toby the laptop and he
types in Cheryl's name on his Facebook account. Steven
watches on, smiling.

Toby points at the screen.

TOBY
Gotcha!

STEVEN
Is that her?

TOBY
Yep! Has to be. She lives local.
Works in the advertising world.

STEVEN
So, what now?

TOBY
Now we find out where she lives and
pay her a visit.

Steven looks confused.

STEVEN
Don't be daft.

Toby glares at him.

TOBY
She needs to learn.
(beat)
You in or you too pussy.

STEVEN
(shrugging his shoulders)
Spouse so! I'm in!

TOBY
(smiling)
Good! Now let's find her.

INT. CHERYL'S WORK - CONTINUOUS

Luke is with Cheryl in her office.

LUKE
Grant maybe right.

CHERYL
About?

LUKE
About you not being right.

CHERYL
(angry)
Don't you start.
(beat)
I thought you were on my side?

Luke hugs her.

LUKE
 There is no side.
 (beat)
 You do look tired.

Cheryl sighs and sits in her office chair.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
 First you tell me someone was
 talking to you in your sleep, then
 you collapse.
 (beat)
 And now this.
 (beat)
 An accident with the car.

CHERYL
 I'm just re-adjusting to life in
 London.
 (beat)
 That's all!

LUKE
 No, it's not, and you know it.

Cheryl places hands over her face.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
 I love you!

Cheryl laughs beneath her fingers.

CHERYL
 Don't use the L word to make me
 talk.

Cheryl gets up and nudges Luke. She then kisses him.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - LATER

Toby and Steven stand outside the building where Cheryl lives. It's on a busy road. A DOORMAN in uniform watches them.

STEVEN
 Let's just go back.

TOBY
 Why?

Steven looks over at the doorman.

STEVEN
 Don't make me point at him.
 (beat)
 You know why.

TOBY
 That bitch must be minted if she
 lives here.
 (beat)
 She's going to pay for my mother's
 car to be fixed.

STEVEN
 (concerned)
 But how do we get inside?
 (beat)
 We won't be able to get past him.

TOBY
 There must be another way into the
 building.

Toby smiles at the doorman.

TOBY -(CONT'D)
 We just need to find it.

EXT. BACK OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING - MINUTES LATER

CLOSE UP:

Of a back entrance door opening.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Toby enters the building. He looks around and sees no one,
 so Steven also enters. They walk along a long hallway until
 a sign saying - Stairs - gets their attention.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

They walk the stairs until reaching a sign saying - 4th
 floor. They open the door.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

They walk along the 4th floor until reaching Cheryl's apartment. Toby knocks on the door.

STEVEN
Why you knockin'?

TOBY
To see if she's in.

STEVEN
And what if she is?

TOBY
Shush! You're puttin me off.

Toby knocks again, louder than before.

TOBY -(CONT'D)
(smiling)
Looks like she's out.

STEVEN
What now?

TOBY
Now we break in.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Toby and Steven enter Cheryl's apartment.

Toby runs from room to room, excited.

TOBY
(laughing)
Wow! That was easy.

STEVEN
We can't stay.

TOBY
(snapping)
Shush! Relax!

STEVEN
But what if she comes back?

TOBY
(grinning)
We take care of the bitch.

Steven walks into the kitchen area, opens the fridge and takes out a yoghurt. Toby closes in.

TOBY
What's with you and energy, health products?

STEVEN
(laughing)
Shit! I don't know. I just like this flavour yoghurt.

Toby also laughs before pushing kitchen appliances onto the floor. Steven watches on confused as a toaster, kettle, coffee machine, and a blender crash to the ground.

STEVEN
What about the noise?

Toby kicks the items across the floor.

TOBY
Fuck the noise.
(beat)
Now eat your yoghurt.

STEVEN
But you knew those appliances would come in useful in my house.

TOBY
(sniggering)
Whoops!

Toby reaches into a cupboard and pulls out a shopping bag.

TOBY -(CONT'D)
I'm checking out the other rooms.
(beat)
Must be loads of valuables here.

STEVEN
Sure! I'll grab stuff from here.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER

Steven stares at the book on the shelf in the living room. He picks it up and opens it. The faces of the dead shocking him. He drops the book as Toby shouts out - OS

INTO FRAME:

Toby appears. The bag full with jewelery, cash, and items of clothing.

TOBY
What was that noise?

STEVEN
Just me dropping that...

Toby stares at the book on the floor.

TOBY
What the fuck is that?

STEVEN
Some book.
(beat)
Scared the shit out of me.

TOBY
Wuss!
(beat)
Now let's go.

Steven picks up the book and puts it in the bag.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - LATER

Cheryl and Luke enter the 4th floor. She seems happier as she kisses him. They hold hands as they reach her door, but she lets go as she stares at the door.

CHERYL
(angry)
No! No! No! Someone's broken into my place.

Luke steps in front of her.

LUKE
(nervous)
Don't move!
(beat)
I will check it out.

CHERYL
Be careful!
(beat)
I'm calling the police.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Luke steps inside as Cheryl waits outside with her phone in her hand.

Luke walks into the kitchen and sees the appliances on the floor.

LUKE
(shouting)
Anyone here?!
(beat)
You better come out now. The police
are on their way.

INTO FRAME:

Cheryl enters the kitchen and places a hand over her face.

CHERYL
(sighing)
I've only just bought that blender.

Luke hugs her.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER

Cheryl looks around the living room and looks at the shelf to see the book still there.

INTO FRAME:

Luke brings her a cup of coffee.

CHERYL
(confused)
How did you make that?
(beat)
I saw the kettle trashed.

LUKE
(laughing)
I boiled a saucepan of water on the
stove.
(beat)
Genius! Right?

CHERYL
You are my genius.
(beat)
I love you.

LUKE
Love you more.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Cheryl and Luke cuddle on the sofa, watching TV. A news report appears. The news reporter is standing by a busy road.

NEWS REPORTER
(speaking from road)
News just in is that two teenage boys have been killed, in what looks like a game of chicken with traffic gone wrong.
(beat)

Cheryl sits up straight.

CHERYL
Looks local.
(beat)
Looks like the reporter is standing a few streets away from here.

LUKE
Yeah! Shit!

NEWS REPORTER
(speaking from road)
Eye witnesses' said that one of the boys walked into heavy traffic and was hit by a car.
(beat)
The other soon followed. Also being hit by a vehicle.

Cheryl sheds a tear.

CHERYL
Sad!

NEWS REPORTER
(speaking from road)
No further information on who the teenagers were is available right now, but....

Cheryl turns off the TV.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Cheryl and Luke are asleep in bed. A shadowy figure floats around the room, nearing the door and going through it.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The shadow floats into the living room, nearing the book. The book opens up and swallows the shadow.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A loud SQUEAL wakes the couple.

LUKE

What the F....?

He almost falls out of bed as the squeal sounds again.

CHERYL

(whispering)

Do you think the burglar is back?

LUKE

(whispering back)

How many burglars do you know makes a sound like that?

Cheryl shrugs.

Luke puts on his trousers and grabs the alarm clock. Cheryl almost laughs.

CHERYL

(whispering)

What are you going to do with that?

(beat)

Teach the burglar to tell the time?

LUKE

(whispering back)

Shush! You'll scare the burglar away.

CHERYL

(almost laughing again)

Scare the burglar?

(beat)

Look at you. You're the one who looks scared.

(beat)

CHERYL
You're trembling.

 LUKE
No, I'm not.
 (beat)
It's just cold in here.

Luke slowly nears the bedroom door. He listens but hears nothing. Cheryl sits up in bed, watching him closely.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke walks into the living room. The clock held in the air. He turns on the light.

 INTO FRAME:

Cheryl sneaks up behind him.

Luke turns into her. The clock dropping to land on his foot. He cringes as the alarm goes off. Cheryl bursts out laughing as Luke hops on one foot.

 CHERYL
Sorry, baby!

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

She holds onto him and walks him back to the bed.

 CHERYL -(CONT'D)
There's no one in the house but us.

 LUKE
 (still cringing)
But the sound?

Cheryl just smiles and shrugs.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Cheryl tosses and turns in her sleep.

 CHERYL
 (to self)
But who are you?
 (beat)
Tell me who you are?

The tall man stands at the side of the bed. His eyes a fiery red.

Cheryl shoots up in bed. Sweat pours from her, but the tall man has gone.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Luke is having breakfast as Cheryl approaches.

LUKE
Bad night?

CHERYL
Why you say that?

LUKE
I heard you talking in your sleep.
(beat)
You don't remember?

CHERYL
Vaguely!

She reaches for a bowl.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
I think it was the same dream as
before.
(beat)
Like someone was trying to tell me
something.

LUKE
(concerned)
Right! Enough is enough.
(beat)
You're going to see a doctor today.

Cheryl pours cereal into the bowl.

CHERYL
Luke! I'm fine.

LUKE
No you're not.
(beat)
Today, you listen to me.

CHERYL
Yes, boss!

Cheryl raises a spoon of cereal to her mouth and eats it.
Luke smiles.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
And your foot?

LUKE
(sighing)
Just sore. Nothing broken.

CHERYL
(laughing)
Last night you sounded like your
foot had fallen off.
(beat)
Screaming like a baby.

LUKE
Chez! I know what you're doing.

CHERYL
And what is that?

LUKE
Trying to switch the attention onto
me so you don't go and see a
doctor.

CHERYL
Is it working?

LUKE
(smiling)
Nope!

INT. DOCTOR'S SURGERY - LATER

Dr. JANE COX, mid-50's, short, plump, sits opposite Cheryl
and Luke. Next to her desk is a long seat for patients to be
treated on, a sink, and a cabinet.

JANE
Been a while, Cheryl. What seems to
be the problem?

Luke places a hand on Cheryl's shoulder for comfort. Cheryl
grips his hand.

CHERYL
I just feel tired all the time.
(beat)
My sleep is getting worse.

JANE

Okay!

(beat)

Is that all that's wrong with you?

LUKE

(to Cheryl)

Come on, love, just tell her.

(to Jane)

She's having strange dreams.

(beat)

Like there's someone with her.

JANE

(curious)

Not really my expertise, I'm afraid.

(beat)

But I could give you something to help you sleep.

CHERYL

Thanks! That would be great.

Luke kisses Cheryl on top of her head. Jane writes up a prescription and hands it to Cheryl.

JANE

Oh! There is someone who may be more helpful to you.

(beat)

That's if the dreams don't stop.

CHERYL

Who?

JANE

Leave it with me.

(beat)

I have a doctor friend who specializes in hypnotherapy.

CHERYL

(worried)

Hypnotherapy? It's just dreams.

JANE

That may be. But it may help you work out why you're having them.

Jane walks to the door and opens it.

JANE -(CONT'D)
Just have a think about it.
(beat)
If the dreams keep affecting your
sleep then let me know. I will talk
to my friend.

Luke smiles at Jane as he leaves the room. Cheryl follows him.

INT. - AIRPORT - FRANCE - CONTINUOUS

The tall man walks through the airport lounge. He sniffs the air, opening his mouth to reveal sharp points on his teeth.

TALL MAN
(to self)
I smell you.
(beat)
Soon, I will find you.

He walks towards one of the EXITS. He closes in on a family, smiling and tipping his hat at the children.

FATHER
(angry)
Problem?!

TALL MAN
For you or for me?

The man's wife pulls him away as the tall man glares at him. The family watch the tall man leave the airport.

INT. AIRPORT RESTAURANT - MINUTES LATER

The family sit as the waitress gives them cutlery. The wife talks to the children and the husband smiles at her. But he picks up a fork and stabs himself in the eye.

The wife, children, and the waitress SCREAM....

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - LATER

Cheryl sits, talking on the phone via loudspeaker.

CHERYL
Hi, Duncan, thanks for getting back
to me.

DUNCAN - OS
How are you feeling?
(beat)
You know, since I last saw you.

CHERYL
Hmmm! I was hoping you'd forgotten
about that mishap.

DUNCAN - OS
Sorry if I've upset you.
(beat)
Am concerned.
(beat)
I don't want my top advertiser to
be poorly.

CHERYL
I'm fine, Duncan, really, I am.
(beat)
But thanks for your concern.
(beat)
As for helping your business, I
won't let you down.

DUNCAN - OS
Promise?

CHERYL
Promise!

Cheryl opens a drawer in her desk. She GULPS after seeing a
bag of drugs.

DUNCAN - OS
Cheryl! Everything okay there?

Cheryl shuts the drawer.

CHERYL
Yep! All good.
(beat)
Got to dash. Need to finish that
promise to you.

DUNCAN - OS
Okay! keep me informed on progress.

CHERYL
Will do!

The line goes dead as Cheryl opens the drawer again.

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - MINUTES LATER

Cheryl is talking on her mobile phone.

CHERYL

Luke! What is going on?

(beat)

Is someone testing me?

INT. SPORTS CENTER BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Luke is wearing a tracksuit, trainers. A whistle hanging from string around his neck. He is standing at reception.

LUKE

Cheryl! I have a lesson now.

(beat)

We will talk after.

CHERYL - OS

Who knows about my drug habit?

LUKE

Love! Relax! Serious!

CHERYL - OS

How can I when it's right here.

(beat)

I'm looking right at it.

Luke overhears her crying.

LUKE

I'm on my way.

(beat)

Just shut the drawer and leave the room.

Luke hands the phone back to the receptionist. SARAH EDWARDS, 20's. He takes the whistle from around his neck and hands it to her.

LUKE

(to Sarah)

Speak to Eddie. Tell him to take over.

(beat)

I need to be somewhere.

(beat)

It's urgent.

SARAH

Will do!

Luke runs out of the building.

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - LATER

Cheryl remains staring at the bag of drugs as Luke enters her office. She rushes over to hug him.

LUKE

(concerned)

Hey, girl, what happened?

Cheryl pushes him away.

CHERYL

(angry)

What's with the tone?

LUKE

What tone?

CHERYL

You know what tone.

(beat)

You think I'm using again, don't ya.

Luke goes to hug her again but Cheryl won't let him. Staff members walk past her office, all staring in. Cheryl SCOWLS at them.

LUKE

You phoned me about a bag of drugs in your desk.

CHERYL

(snapping)

Shush! Do you want me sacked?

LUKE

No!

CHERYL

Then help me get rid of it.

Luke runs to her desk and grabs the bag, storing it inside his jacket pocket.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
Just take it away and flush it.
(beat)
Please!

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke enters the room. Grant is there washing his hands.

GRANT
Hey, Luke! How's the fitness
classes going?

LUKE
(looking worried)
Yeah! It's going well.

Grant dries his hands.

GRANT
You need to speak to Cheryl.

LUKE
About?

GRANT
Work!
(beat)
She needs to take a break.
(beat)
She won't listen to me.

LUKE
And you think she'll listen to me?

They both laugh.

GRANT
You've seen the change in her since
she came back from the Philippines.
(beat)
There's something wrong with her.

LUKE
I know!

GRANT
Then talk to her.
(beat)
Make her see sense.
(beat)
I can take over the advertising for
Duncan's company.

LUKE

Okay!

Luke watches Grant leave the bathroom. He then pops his head out of the door to see if anyone else is coming before rushing to the toilet. He closes the door and opens the bag of drugs, pouring it into the water. He then flushes and leaves.

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Luke rushes into the room to find Cheryl sweating.

LUKE

(worried)

What's happening to you?

CHERYL

(feeling scared)

I don't know.

LUKE

That's it, we're going home and
you're going to rest until further
notice.

Cheryl weakly smiles at him.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - LATER

Luke watches Cheryl sleeping. He sighs before leaving the bedroom.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Luke pours himself a glass of wine before moving towards the living room. He sits on the sofa and sips it.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl tosses and turns in her sleep.

CLOSEUP:

Of the tall man's face as he leans over her.

He licks her face and grins.

TALL MAN
 Soon, I will find you.

He watches Cheryl's body shake.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
 Shame you refused the gift I sent
 you.
 (beat)
 But I will get you in the end. I
 will find your weakness.

He stares at the door.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
 Maybe it's the man in the other
 room?

He laughs sadistically.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
 Until we finally meet.

Cheryl sits up SCREAMING!!!

INTO FRAME:

Luke appears. The tall man is gone.

CHERYL
 (shouting)
 He's in the room.

LUKE
 Who?

CHERYL
 The person in my dreams.

Luke rushes over to hug her. Cheryl cries.

LUKE
 There's no one here, love.

CHERYL
 (whimpering)
 There has to be. He was just here,
 talking to me.

LUKE
 It was just another bad dream.

He hugs her tighter.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
 Tomorrow, I'll speak to your
 doctor.
 (beat)
 Get an appointment set up with the
 hypnotherapist.

CHERYL
 I don't know what's wrong with me.

LUKE
 We'll sort it.

He then kisses her on the forehead.

INT. HYPNOTHERAPY CENTER - NEXT DAY

Dr. GAYLE BANNAN, 40's, thin, wearing glasses, long dark
 hair, sits opposite Cheryl and Luke. Her room is small,
 basic. Just a desk, laptop, phone, a chair, and a sofa.

She waits for Cheryl to speak. Luke shrugs at her.

LUKE
 (to Gayle)
 Love the room.

GAYLE
 (smiling)
 Thanks!

Cheryl stares at Luke. He looks to the floor, smirking.

CHERYL
 You love the room?

LUKE
 Hey! It got you talking.

Gayle laughs.

GAYLE
 He's right. It has got you talking.
 (beat)
 So, shall we begin?

Cheryl holds Luke's hand.

INT. GAYLE'S ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Cheryl is lying on the sofa. Gayle is standing next to her, and Luke is sitting in the chair.

GAYLE

So, Cheryl, I want to try to open your mind.

(beat)

See what is troubling you.

CHERYL

You can do that?

(beat)

Find out why I'm having bad dreams?

GAYLE

Only if you open up your mind to me.

CHERYL

(looking at Luke)

I'll try!

GAYLE

Okay! Shall we begin?

CHERYL

Yes!

INT. GAYLE'S ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Cheryl is in a deep sleep. Her eyelids are flickering rapidly. Luke watches her, his hand over his mouth, worried.

GAYLE

(to Cheryl)

I want you to go back to your last day in Manila.

(beat)

Can you do that for me?

CHERYL

(talking in her sleep)

Yes.

GAYLE

Good.

(beat)

Where are you right now?

CHERYL
In a book shop.

GAYLE
And what do you see?

CHERYL
Books.

Luke sniggers. Gayle glares at him.

GAYLE
Okay! Anything else?

CHERYL
There's an old man.
(beat)
He is talking to me.

GAYLE
And what is he saying?

Cheryl starts shaking. Her movement almost causing her to fall off the sofa. Luke grabs hold of her to stop her from falling onto the floor, but Cheryl remains sleeping.

GAYLE -(CONT'D)
Cheryl! What is he saying to you?

CHERYL
There's someone else here.
(beat)
The old man is afraid.

GAYLE
Who is there with you?

CHERYL
He won't let me see him. He hides
in the shadows.

LUKE
(under his breath)
What the Fuck????

Cheryl's voice deepens. Husky, like a man.

CHERYL
(shouting)
Give it back!
(beat)
Give it back to me!

Gayle stands back, worried.

GAYLE
Give what back?

CHERYL
(shouting)
You're all going to die!
(beat)
I am coming for you.

Cheryl sits up. Her eyes still closed. Luke and Gayle jump back.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
(shouting)
Die! Die! Die!

LUKE
(to Gayle - feeling anxious)
Do something! She's not right.

GAYLE
I've never seen this before.

LUKE
Then get her awake.
(beat)
Now!

Gayle places a hand on top of Cheryl's head.

GAYLE
Cheryl. I am going to count
backwards from three.
(beat)
When I reach one, I want you to
wake up.

Cheryl slaps Gayle around the face. Gayle falls to the floor. Luke grabs Cheryl but she spits in his face.

Cheryl's eyelids open to show pure white eyes.

CHERYL
I'm coming! Be ready!

She snaps her teeth at Luke as Gayle rises from the floor.

GAYLE
Three!

Luke grabs Cheryl tighter as she tries to headbutt him.

GAYLE -(CONT'D)

Two!

CHERYL

Be ready!

GAYLE

One!

Cheryl collapses.

LUKE

Did it work?

They watch Cheryl come around. Her eyes back to normal again.

CHERYL

(voice back again)

So! What happened?

Luke and Gayle sigh.

INT. GAYLE'S ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Gayle is back at her desk as Cheryl and Luke sit, drinking coffee.

GAYLE

You have something that you need to get rid of.

CHERYL

Like?

GAYLE

I don't know, but something that's in your possession is causing all this.

LUKE

(concerned)

The book!

GAYLE

What book?

LUKE

The book Cheryl brought back from Manila.

CHERYL
Don't be silly. It's just a book.

GAYLE
Maybe! But let me take it for now
to see if the nightmares stop.

CHERYL
If you think it will help.

GAYLE
I'm hoping it will.

Cheryl sips her coffee.

CHERYL
So, is anyone going to tell me what
happened when I was hypnotised?

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Cheryl, Luke, and Gayle enter the living room. Luke points
at the book.

CHERYL
Told you it was just a book.

GAYLE
Yeah! Maybe!

She picks it up and tucks it under her arm.

GAYLE -(CONT'D)
I want you to let me know if you
have a nightmare tonight.

CHERYL
Sure.

GAYLE
If not, then this book may be
cursed.

Cheryl laughs.

CHERYL
Not you as well.
(beat)
The old man from the book shop I
got it from said it was Evil.

LUKE
He said it was Evil so you thought
you would have it.

CHERYL
Chill! I thought he was joking.

LUKE
Let's pray he was.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - MINUTES LATER

Gayle is by the open door. Cheryl is next to her.

GAYLE
Be sure to let me know. Okay!

CHERYL
Okay.

Cheryl watches Gayle leave her apartment with the book.

INT. GAYLE'S HOUSE - LATER

Gayle enters the living room and places the book onto a coffee table. A small dog walks by her.

GAYLE
Hey, Muggly, are you hungry?

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Gayle pours a pouch of dog food into a small dog bowl before placing it on the floor.

GAYLE
There you go.

Muggly walks up to the bowl and eats the food. Gayle smiles.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gayle stares at the book. She flips it open to see the first image. The old man from the book shop.

She sits down as the pages turn over by themselves. The images of the air hostess, the bodyguards, the two teenage boys, and the father at the airport in France being amongst the souls captured inside the book.

A tear falls from Gayle's eye.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Cheryl and Luke sit at the kitchen table. Plates of food and drink are in front of them. The TV is on nearby. Another news report appears.

CHERYL

Turn it up.

Luke reaches for the remote and turns up the sound.

EXT. TOWER BLOCK IN THE CITY - CONTINUOUS

A REPORTER and her CREW are standing below the tower block. A TV CAMERA CREW are in a helicopter above. Flying close by is a police helicopter. A beam of light escapes it, swallowing up an image of a woman on top of the tower block holding a dog.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl jumps in her seat, knocking her drink over.

LUKE

Wooaaahhh! What's got into you?

CHERYL

Look at the woman on the TV.

Luke stares at the TV as the woman lifts the dog over her head.

LUKE

Shit! Is that the hypnotherapist?

They see the woman throw the dog over the side of the building.

LUKE -(CONT'D)

Noooooo! She didn't just do that.

Cheryl holds a hand over her mouth as Gayle jumps off the building.

EXT. TOWER BLOCK IN THE CITY - CONTINUOUS

LONG SHOT - Of a crowd standing behind the reporter. All looking shocked below the building.

CLOSEUP:

Of the reporter staring into the camera.

REPORTER

What appears to have happened is
the person on the roof of the
building has just jumped off.

(beat)

She turns to see police officers and ambulance crew pull the crowd away.

REPORTER -(CONT'D)

Looks like a suicide.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl and Luke remain watching the TV. Cheryl with tears in her eyes.

REPORTER -(CONT'D)

(on TV screen)

After the recent deaths of the
teenage boys, and now this, what is
next?

CHERYL

Turn it off.

(beat)

I can't watch anymore.

Luke does. Cheryl gets up and walks towards the living room, but stops upon seeing the book.

CHERYL

What is going on?

LUKE

What you mean?

CHERYL

The book!

(beat)

Why is the book back?

LUKE
(confused)
It can't be. Gayle took it.

Cheryl goes over and retrieves the book from the shelf. She shows Luke.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
Holy fuck!

Cheryl throws the book at the wall.

CHERYL
(upset)
Just get rid of it.

LUKE
Okay! Okay!

Luke rushes over to the book, still closed, and picks it up. He is about to open it when Cheryl approaches.

CHERYL
Do it fast. I'm sick of looking at it.

LUKE
Yes, your highness.

CHERYL
Shut up!

Cheryl slaps Luke on the arm as he walks past her.

EXT/INT. BACK OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING - MINUTES LATER

Luke leaves by the fire exit door and walks over to three large waste bins. He flips the lid open on one and throws the book inside. He shuts the lid and walks back to the door.

He is about to open the door again when a loud WHACK stops him. He turns to see the bin lid wide open.

LUKE
(shouting)
Who's out here?

The bin lids from the other two bins flip open suddenly. Scaring Luke.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
What the fuck!
(beat)
Stop pissin' about and come out.

All three bin lids start SLAMMING shut and opening again. It goes on for five seconds.

Luke covers his ears with his hands until the slamming stops. He looks over and sees the book on the ground.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
(under his breath)
How? When?

He walks over and picks up the book but shivers like someone has walked over his grave. His eyes widen as he reaches out to open the book.

Suddenly he stalls, as bright lights from a truck appear. He turns to see the garbage truck arrive. The DRIVER exits.

DRIVER
Alright bud. You throwing that
away?

Luke stares at the closed book.

LUKE
Yeah! Take it!

He hands it to the driver who tucks it under his arm.

DRIVER
You sure?
(beat)
It looks very old. Could be worth
somethin'.

LUKE
I'm sure.
(beat)
Just take it.

The driver waves at Luke as he opens the fire exit door again.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Cheryl is asleep in the bedroom. Again, tossing and turning. The tall man stands inside the room, his red eyes glowing in the darkness. He points at Cheryl. His fingernail an inch long in the shape of a tiny dagger.

TALL MAN
Soon, you will be mine.

He walks around the room, picking up items and putting them down again. He finally picks up a photo in a frame of Cheryl and Luke kissing.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Awww! So sweet!
(beat)
He was nearly mine. He was so close
to looking inside my diary.

The tall man puts the photo frame back.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
He's weakening.
(beat)
Maybe, you can help me get rid of
him?

The tall man touches Cheryl's head. She wakes up, shivering. She then walks towards the door, opens it as the tall man watches on smiling.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl enters the kitchen as Luke turns from watching the TV in the adjoining living room.

LUKE
If you're going to the fridge then
I wouldn't say no to a beer.

Cheryl doesn't acknowledge him.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
(shouting)
Chez! Chez! Are you okay?

Cheryl looks at him with sleepy eyes.

CHERYL
I'm fine.

Luke smiles then turns back to the TV. Cheryl stares at the knife block, pulls out a knife and slowly walks over to him.

CLOSEUP:

Of the back of Luke's head as he watches TV.

CLOSEUP:

Of the knife in Cheryl's hand closing in on Luke.

The knife is risen, close to coming down on Luke's head. Suddenly, he turns to her. He rolls off the sofa and gets up, holding out a hand and shaking.

LUKE

Chez! Chez!

(beat)

What's got into you?

Cheryl stares at him. The knife out in front of her.

LUKE -(CONT'D)

Can you please put that knife down.

Cheryl walks closer to Luke but he stumbles backwards over the coffee table, hitting his head on the floor. Cheryl reaches him. The knife ready to strike him.

The knife comes down hard.

CLOSEUP:

Of Luke's eyes bulging with fear.

He closes his eyes and opens them to see the knife stuck in the coffee table. Cheryl is standing and watching him, still with a sleepy look.

LUKE

(nervous)

Hey! Are you okay?

Luke gets off the floor and hugs her.

INT. HOUSE OF GARBAGE TRUCK DRIVER - NEXT DAY

TERENCE COOPER, truck driver, 50's, large build, stands in his kitchen. HILARY COOPER, wife, 40's, also large build, stands next to him.

The kitchen's walls are filled with souvenirs that Terence took from the waste bins. Hilary stares at them. Her face filled with disgust.

HILARY

I hope the latest find you brought back with you last night isn't as shit as the ones on the wall.

TERENCE

(laughing)
They're not shit.

HILARY

(frowning)
Yes! They are!

TERENCE

Hilary! Why don't you like them?
(beat)
They look great on the walls. Adds value to the house.

HILARY

(laughing)
Adds value? The only thing they add is an ugly mess.

TERENCE

You'll think differently after seeing the book I got.

HILARY

(still laughing)
A book? You brought back a book?
(beat)
Great! Something else to put next to all the Harry Potter books you told me to get, but never read.

TERENCE

I will!

HILARY

When?

TERENCE

When I have time.

HILARY

Time! like now?

TERENCE

Hilary! Why are you busting my balls today?

HILARY

No reason. Apart from you annoy me.

Terence moves away from her and leaves the room.

INTO FRAME:

Appears SEAN COOPER, son, 15, and NANCY COOPER, daughter, 13.

SEAN

What's dad done now?

HILARY

What hasn't he done?

NANCY

He brought back another gift from the rubbish bins.

SEAN

Again?

(beat)

Does he not know his gifts are crap?

They all laugh.

INTO FRAME:

Appears Terence. Holding the book.

TERENCE

You can stop laughing now.

They all do after staring at the book.

NANCY

Wow! Dad! Looks so Gothic.

SEAN

What you know about goths?

NANCY

Not much. But it does though.

She reaches out to grab the book but Hilary beats her to it.

HILARY

Too slow!

She stares at the front.

HILARY -(CONT'D)

There's no title.

(beat)

Can't put this next to Harry Potter
without a title.

TERENCE

Why not?

HILARY

Because people will come here, look
at the books and say 'Harry Potter,
Harry Potter, Harry Potter, blah
blah blah, then come to your book
and say what?

NANCY

Let's make our own title. Call it
Harry Potter and the rubbish bin
wizards.

Everyone laughs out loud.

HILARY

(to Terence)

Okay! Maybe this is better than the
other stuff you brought back from
work.

NANCY

Can I read it?

HILARY

Maybe later. First, you go to
school.

NANCY

Okay!

SEAN

What about me? I want to read it.

HILARY

When was the last time you read
anything?

TERENCE

Apart from that magazine I saw you
read online the other day.

Sean goes all red and looks to the floor. Terence and Hilary
smirk at him.

NANCY

I want to read that magazine.

TERENCE & HILARY

(shouting)

NO!

Hilary places the book onto a kitchen shelf.

HILARY

(to Nancy)

Right, sweetie, get ready for
school now or we'll be late.

She turns to Sean.

HILARY -(CONT'D)

That means you too.

TERENCE

Don't forget to call him sweetie
too.

SEAN

Dad! Shut up!

Sean storms off, closely followed by Nancy.

Hilary tuts at Terence.

INT. CHERYL'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke nervously smiles at Cheryl as she sits up in bed.

LUKE

Did you sleep well?

CHERYL

I think so.

(beat)

Why?

LUKE

No reason.

CHERYL

Still can't believe Gayle took her own life last night.

LUKE

Me neither.

CHERYL

At least the book is gone now.

LUKE

Yep!

He kisses her on the brow.

CHERYL

Right! Time to get ready for work.

LUKE

You're not resting?

CHERYL

No need.

(beat)

The book is gone and I feel fine today.

LUKE

But what about?

(beat)

You know.

(beat)

Last night.

CHERYL

(curious)

Last night? With what happened to Gayle?

LUKE

After that.

CHERYL

After that I went to bed.

(beat)

What aren't you telling me?

LUKE

Nothin! It's nothin. You get ready for work if it makes you happy.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Cheryl enters the room, dressed in a work suit. She notices a leg is broken on the coffee table.

CHERYL
(shouting)
Luke! What happened here?

INTO FRAME:

Appears Luke, with his sports tracksuit on.

LUKE
Oh! That!

CHERYL
Yes! That!
(beat)
Did you kick the table because your
precious footy team lost again.

LUKE
Somethin' like that.

Cheryl reaches for her works bag and laughs.

CHERYL
Told you they were shit.

LUKE
Shut up woman.
(beat)
They won a game once.

CHERYL
Yes! Exactly! They are shit.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Both are leaving the apartment. The door closing behind them.

INT. SPORTS CENTER BUILDING - LATER

Luke meets up with Sarah at reception.

LUKE
What's on the schedule for today?

SARAH
You have a class in half an hour.

LUKE
Not the oldies again?

SARAH
(laughing)
Yep! The oldies.

Luke frowns.

SARAH -(CONT'D)
Are you frowning because of the
class? Or is there something on
your mind?

LUKE
You know me so well.

SARAH
Cheryl?

LUKE
Yep!

He goes to the water cooler and gets some water.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
She tried to kill me last night.

Sarah puts a hand over her mouth.

SARAH
What?
(beat)
You're kidding me?

Luke drinks the water.

LUKE
No!

SARAH
Why?
(beat)
You call the police?

LUKE
Sarah! Seriously! The police?

SARAH
I don't know. She did try to kill
you.

LUKE
She's just going through a bad
patch. That's all.

Sarah types on the computer.

SARAH
Did you see the news last night?

LUKE
Yep! Was not good.

SARAH
And the poor dog.
(beat)
What is this world coming to?

LUKE
Probably the end.

SARAH
Not funny!

INT. CHERYL'S WORK - CONTINUOUS

Duncan and Grant stand next to Cheryl in the boardroom.

GRANT
So, you're all set to go? No
feeling ill?

CHERYL
(smiling)
Yep! All good! I'm fine!

DUNCAN
Okay! Do your thing.

CHERYL
Will do.

Cheryl moves over to the whiteboard as staff members enter
the room. Grant winks at her.

INT. SPORTS CENTER BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Luke stands at reception. Sarah laughs at him as he welcomes ELDERLY PEOPLE into the building.

LUKE

Good morning everyone. I hope you
are all feeling fit for your class
today?

ETHEL WHITEHEAD, 65, small, pale, and NORMA JONES, 70,
large, cuddle up to Luke like love sick school girls. Sarah
remains laughing in the background.

ETHEL

You know us. Always feeling fit for
you.

NORMA

Yeah! Make me sweat.

Luke gulps as he leads the group into the sports hall. He
turns to Sarah.

LUKE

Get back to work.

He winks at her as he opens the sports hall door.

INT. HOUSE OF GARBAGE TRUCK DRIVER - LATER

Hilary walks into the house with Nancy behind her. Sean
meets them as they reach the kitchen.

HILARY

Why are you back from school?

SEAN

What you mean? It's closed.

HILARY

But you walk back.

SEAN

And?

HILARY

So, we should be here first.

SEAN

Maybe you drive slower than I walk?

NANCY
You skived off again.

SEAN
No, I never.

Sean looks away. Red faced.

HILARY
Come on, Sean. How many times have
I told you.

SEAN
Sorry! But...
(beat)

HILARY
No buts! Just get to your room.
(beat)
You can explain it to your father
when he gets in from work.

Sean storms off. OS - The sound of his feet bang on the stairs.

Nancy grabs a chair. She places it against the kitchen unit where the book was put and stands on it.

HILARY
What you doing?

NANCY
The book! You said I can read it
when I got in from school.

HILARY
(smiling)
So, I did.

Nancy grabs the book and gets down off the chair.

NANCY
I'll read it in the living room so
you can make dinner.

HILARY
Yes, boss.

Nancy walks out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nancy sits on a chair in the room and opens the book.

NANCY
(shouting)
Wow! So cool!

INTO FRAME:

Hilary appears.

HILARY
What's wrong? Why are you shouting?

NANCY
Nothin's wrong. The book is really
cool.
(beat)
Come, see.

Hilary walks over to her, staring at an image of a terrified face.

HILARY
Put that book away.
(beat)
It'll give you nightmares.

NANCY
(laughing)
But Mum. It won't give me
nightmares like Dad's snoring.

HILARY
(smirking)
Good point.
(beat)
But if the images start to make you
feel sick, you close it. Okay!

NANCY
Okay!

Hilary walks back towards the kitchen.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF GARBAGE TRUCK FAMILIES HOUSE - LATER

A garbage truck pulls up in the street. Terence climbs down from it.

TERENCE

Okay, guys! See you tomoz.

He slams the door shut and watches the truck drive off.

CLOSEUP:

Of the front door of his house.

Terence walks up to it, opening it and walking into his house.

INT. HOUSE OF GARBAGE TRUCK DRIVER - CONTINUOUS

TERENCE

(shouting)

I'm home. What's for dinner?

He walks into the kitchen and falls to his knees.

CLOSEUP:

Of his face quivering. Tears falling.

He SCREAMS.

He turns at the sound of someone coming down the stairs.

INTO FRAME:

Appears Sean.

SEAN

Dad! What's...

(beat)

He too collapses to the floor.

PAN from the kitchen to the living room entrance to see Hilary slumped over the kitchen sink. Burns all over her face and arms. A toaster still plugged in and turned on lying in a bowl of water. Nancy is hanging off a door frame with a piece of clothing tied around her neck.

The book is gone!!!!

Terence and Sean jump at the sound of someone knocking on the door. They try to ignore the knocking.

INT. THE HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

The tall man stands behind them.

TALL MAN
Sorry! The door was open.

Terence and Sean get up as the tall man tips his hat. He looks at the bodies'.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Doesn't look good.

TERENCE
(wiping tears from his eyes)
No! My wife!

TALL MAN
Yes! Your wife is fucked.
(beat)
And your daughter also.

TERENCE
(shaking)
What do you want?

TALL MAN
To take their souls.

Sean tries to punch the tall man, but his fingers are crushed after the tall man glares at him. He falls to the floor again, crying.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
I want my book.
(beat)
I know it's here. Someone opened it here last.

TERENCE
Leave my son alone and I will get it.

The tall man's eyes glow red.

TALL MAN
It's okay! I will look for it myself.

He opens his mouth to show the sharp teeth before biting into Terence's neck. Blood sprays over Sean's face.

They both SCREAM as the tall man pounces.

INT. CHERYL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CLOSEUP:

Of the book on the shelf.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl collapses in the kitchen. Luke picks her up.

LUKE

Easy!

(beat)

What happened?

CHERYL

(worried)

He's here.

(beat)

The person in my dreams is here.

LUKE

In this house?

CHERYL

No! But he's getting closer. I can feel him.

LUKE

Chez! This is scaring me now.

Cheryl cries into his chest.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Cheryl wakes up in bed, as Luke sleeps beside her. She places on a dressing gown and leaves the bedroom.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

She enters the kitchen, filling a glass with water before walking into the living room. She drops the glass after seeing the book on the shelf. Her face turning towards the bedroom.

CHERYL

Fuck!

She listens out for Luke, but he doesn't leave the bedroom. She picks up the broken glass, placing it in the bin before reaching for the book.

She sits down and opens it, seeing the horrific images of people she had met recently. Her eyes water as she gets to the last page of images. It's the Cooper family, all looking petrified. She closes the book.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
 (to self)
 But how? How did they all get
 inside there?

She stares hard at the book.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
 Why do you keep coming back?

She takes the book into the kitchen, opens a drawer and places it inside. She then walks back to the bedroom.

INT. CHERYL'S WORK - NEXT DAY

Cheryl looks tired as she enters the building. She says 'hello' to staff members as they pass her, but is stopped by Grant before reaching her office.

GRANT
 Morning! Did you see him?

CHERYL
 See who?

GRANT
 The man who was just here looking
 for you.

Cheryl starts to shake.

CHERYL
 What did he look like?

GRANT
 Tall, wore a hat.
 (beat)
 A bit creepy if you ask me.
 (beat)
 Where did you meet him?

CHERYL
 In my dreams...

Grant laughs.

GRANT
Yeah! Right! As if he turns you on.

Cheryl backs away. Still shaking.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
Hey! I'm joking.

CHERYL
About the man?

GRANT
No! About him turning you on.

Grant reaches into his pocket and takes out an envelope.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
He said something about a book and
gave me this to give to you.

Cheryl takes the envelope and rushes off to her office.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
No need to say thank you.

INT. CHERYL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl closes the door. She rips open the envelope to reveal a piece of paper. On the paper are the words - THE BOOK IS MINE....AND SO ARE YOU....

It's written in blood.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl runs towards Grant.

GRANT
Slow down.
(beat)
Who you running from, the Devil?

CHERYL
Not funny.

She breaths heavy, like she's about to faint.

GRANT
You need to sit down?

CHERYL
I'm fine.
 (beat)
Just need to take that time out.

INT. GRANT'S OFFICE - MINUTES LATER

Both are sitting down.

 CHERYL
You did say I needed more rest.

 GRANT
Yes! You do.
 (beat)
So this time you will?

 CHERYL
Yep!
 (beat)
You were right. I need to take it
easy for a while.

 GRANT
As much time as you need.

 CHERYL
Thanks!

 GRANT
And the man who was here?

 CHERYL
 (nervous)
What about him?

 GRANT
What if he comes back?

 CHERYL
Just tell him you haven't seen me.

 GRANT
Okay!

Cheryl kisses Grant on the head.

 CHERYL
Just be careful.

GRANT

I will.

INT. CHERYL'S APARTMENT - LATER

Cheryl is packing a case. The book being placed at the bottom. Luke packs a case next to her. He smiles at her.

LUKE

You sure about this?

CHERYL

I'm sure.

(beat)

I need to take the book back to the place where I got it.

LUKE

Manila, here we come.

Cheryl closes her eyes. A vision of the tall man closing in on her causes her to shout.

LUKE -(CONT'D)

Now what?

CHERYL

Nothing! Let's go!

INT. GRANT'S OFFICE - LATER

Grant sits at his desk with a pen in his hand. He reads through documents, ticking and circling areas that he thinks needs attention.

He looks up after his door is knocked.

GRANT

Come in!

His PA appears, looking nervous.

PA

That man is back again.

GRANT

What man?

PA

The man in black.

Grant puts down the pen, takes off his reading glasses and sits back in his chair.

GRANT
(concerned)
Well, show him in.

The PA moves to the side as the tall man appears in the room.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
(to PA)
Leave us!

He watches her walk away. Her eyes avoiding the tall man.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
What brings you back?

TALL MAN
The letter! Did you pass it on?

GRANT
Sit down!

TALL MAN
No time.
(beat)
I just need the answer.

GRANT
What was so important with the letter?

The tall man lifts up his hat. He glares at Grant. Grant cowers down in his seat.

GRANT -(CONT'D)
Yes! I passed it on.

INT. PLANE AT HEATHROW AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl and Luke sit in their seats. Cheryl nervous again before take-off.

LUKE
Are you sure about this?

CHERYL
Sure! I need to know more about the book, so we're going back to where I got it from.

LUKE
(smirking)
You mean stole it from.

CHERYL
I wish I never told you now.
(beat)
Are you going to use that against
me forever?

LUKE
Joke! Just relax. The plane is
about to take off.

Cheryl grips Luke tight as the sound of the engines Roar.

INT. GRANT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The tall man closes his eyes and raises his arms. Grant watches on as the tall man's face starts shaking, his features changing. The faces of all the people killed become his face one at a time, with each appearing only for a split second.

Grant slides down his chair until kneeling on the floor behind his desk. He starts to pray to himself as the tall man's original face returns. The shaking has stopped.

TALL MAN
Where is that Bitch?!

Grant hides under the desk.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
Tell me where she is.

GRANT
I don't know where she is. I told
her to go home.

The desk lifts up to reveal Grant curled up on the floor. He stares at the desk hovering above him.

TALL MAN
She is not at home. I can feel her
moving away, like she is traveling
somewhere.

Grant remains staring.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
She is on a plane.

GRANT
But! I!...

The desk drops fast, and one of the legs crashes into Grant, caving his face in. The tall man leaves the room.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MANILA - NEXT DAY

Cheryl and Luke wake up to the sound of many people outside. Luke looks out the window to see a busy market. He turns to see Cheryl enter the bathroom.

LUKE
(shouting)
What is the plan for today?

CHERYL - OS
(shouting back)
We are meeting someone who may know more about the book.

LUKE
Really! That was fast.

Cheryl opens the bathroom door.

CHERYL
You like it when I am fast.

Luke smiles before entering the bathroom.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE BOOK SHOP - LATER

Cheryl and Luke approach the shop. Cheryl shivering as she opens the door.

INT. BOOK SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl looks around the shop, as memories flash from her last visit. Luke holds her tight.

The curtain moves and an old, Filipino lady appears.

CHERYL
Hi!

OLD LADY
Welcome!

CHERYL
Can we talk?

OLD LADY
About?

INT. OTHER SIDE OF CURTAIN - CONTINUOUS

Everyone is sitting at the table. Luke smiles at the old lady as she pours coffee. Cheryl sighs, remembering the old man did the same.

OLD LADY -(CONT'D)
What you talk about?

CHERYL
The old man who worked here.

The old lady drops the cup of coffee on the floor. Some of it splashes over Luke.

OLD LADY
(nervous)
Sorry!

LUKE
Hey! It's okay.

OLD LADY
Why you ask about my husband?

CHERYL
I met him here.

OLD LADY
But he die.
(beat)
How you meet?

The old lady sheds tears, leaving Cheryl lost with what to say next. Luke notices she is struggling to explain.

LUKE
Before he died.

He points at Cheryl.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
Cheryl saw him here. When she
visited your shop.

OLD LADY
When?

The old lady glares at Cheryl. She spits at her.

OLD LADY -(CONT'D)
(angry)
You stole book. You kill my
husband.

Cheryl cowers behind Luke as the old lady screams at her.

LUKE
Hey! Calm down! She is very sorry
for stealing the book.
(beat)
She did not know what it was.

Luke waits for the old lady to say something but she
collapses into a chair. Her head in her hands.

LUKE -(CONT'D)
What exactly is it? The book?

The old lady looks up at him, her mouth quivering like she
is about to cry again. she points at Cheryl.

OLD LADY
She is cursed now. You are not
safe.

Cheryl gets up and walks towards the curtain. Luke stops
her.

LUKE
We came here for an answer, so
let's see if we can get one.

CHERYL
Maybe I don't need an answer now?
(beat)
Maybe we should just bring the book
back and leave again.
(beat)
No more talking about it.

LUKE
Chez! I know this is freaking you
out right now. It's freaking me out
too, but you need this.

(beat)

To know more about the book.

The old lady watches them, like she is trying to understand the words being spoken. She grabs a cloth from a nearby sink and uses it to clean up the spilled coffee.

OLD LADY

What you say?

LUKE

We want to know more about the book.

OLD LADY

I jus' tell you. The book is cursed.

LUKE

I know, but we have flown all the way from the UK to find an answer.

(beat)

Why is it cursed?

The old lady glares at Cheryl again.

OLD LADY

You took book from safe place. Now my husband dead.

CHERYL

What if I bring the book back? Will the curse be lifted?

OLD LADY

Not bring husband back if you bring me book.

CHERYL

I know! I am truly sorry.

INT. AIRPORT IN MANILA - CONTINUOUS

The tall man enters the airport. His nose sniffing.

TALL MAN

(to self)

I'm coming for my book.

INT. BOOK SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl grabs her head and collapses to the floor. Luke helps her up.

OLD LADY
He knows you're here.

LUKE
Who knows?

OLD LADY
The Devil!

Luke helps Cheryl back into a chair.

LUKE
But he isn't real.

OLD LADY
He is real, and you have his diary.
(beat)
It was safe here. Locked.
(beat)
He is back because it was unlocked.

Cheryl lets go of her head.

CHERYL
I unlocked it.

OLD LADY
Yes! So, he is back to reclaim it.
(beat)
It has the souls of the dead
inside.

CHERYL
I know! I saw!
(beat)
But the images are all new.

OLD LADY
All new because you are owner now.

LUKE
I am lost!
(to Cheryl)
Why didn't you tell me about the
souls?

CHERYL
Because I didn't believe what her
husband told me.

OLD LADY
Now you do?

CHERYL
Yes! Now I am scared.

The old lady opens the curtain and walks over to a bookcase.
Luke and Cheryl watch her.

OLD LADY
(shouting)
I have book here! It explains more
about diary of the Devil.

She reaches for the book and walks back to the others.

OLD LADY -(CONT'D)
You cannot break curse by returning
book.

CHERYL
Then how do I break the curse?

OLD LADY
By dying.

Cheryl and Luke gulp.

OLD LADY -(CONT'D)
Hurry! You have to go! He will come
here soon.

LUKE
But what about you?

OLD LADY
I will see my husband soon.

LUKE
Come with us!

OLD LADY
No! I will wait for him. He will
let me see my husband.

The old lady pushes the book into Gayle's hands.

OLD LADY -(CONT'D)
 Now go! Take book. Learn about
 diary. Keep it safe.
 (beat)
 Keep Devil away from it.

She escorts them back to the door, her face sad. Cheryl hugs her.

CHERYL
 Please, forgive me.

OLD LADY
 I have.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MANILA - LATER

Cheryl sits reading through the book the old lady gave her.
 Luke watches her, feeling uncomfortable.

LUKE
 Anything interesting?

CHERYL
 Yes!

Cheryl flicks the pages until resting on a page.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
 Come! Sit! We need to find these
 people.

Luke sits next to her, his eyes staring at a photo of a
 Monastery, with monks dressed in red & white gowns standing
 inside.

LUKE
 Monks! You want to shave your hair
 off and pray all day?

CHERYL
 Don't be stupid!
 (beat)
 The monastery was where the book
 was kept when the Devil left it
 two-hundred-years-ago.

LUKE
 (being sarcastic)
 But won't those monks be dead now?

Cheryl shuts the book in anger.

CHERYL

Luke! I'm being serious.

(beat)

I need to find a way to end the
curse...

Luke hugs her tight.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)

I need this nightmare to end.

(beat)

So, maybe the answer is there?

LUKE

Okay! We'll pay them a visit.

INT. BOOK SHOP - CONTINUOUS

The old lady sits at the table. The curtain drawn. She
stares at it like she is looking through it. She is praying
in her language. A cross held in her hand.

She hears the bell ring above the shop door. Her face
sweating from fear. She carries on praying. Her body shaking
nervously.

CLOSEUP:

Of the curtain being drawn back.

OLD LADY

I knew you would come.

CLOSEUP:

Of the tall man grinning sadistically.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MANILA - CONTINUOUS

Cheryl reaches for the book, but it opens by itself before
she can grab it. Luke is in the bathroom, unwise to what is
going on.

The book flicks the pages containing the recent dead and
stops on the next blank page. Cheryl becomes nervous as the
image of the old lady appears. She jumps back when the book
snaps shut.

CHERYL

(shouting)

Luke! We need to go. NOW!!!

EXT. MONASTERY ENTRANCE - MANILA - LATER

Cheryl and Luke stand at the gates. A shoulder bag containing the book hangs from Cheryl's shoulder.

LUKE

Are you sure the book was kept here?

CHERYL

According to what I read, the book was passed from monastery to monastery.

LUKE

In the Philippines?

CHERYL

Not originally. Thailand was where it was kept safe, but things changed and it ended up here.

LUKE

(feeling confused)
So how did it end up inside the book shop?

CHERYL

That's why we're here, to find out.

They see a MONK approach, clasping his hands together as if praying. He bends to nod, keeping his hands together. Cheryl and Luke do the same.

MONK

Welcome!

CHERYL

Hi! Do you speak much English?

MONK

(smiling)
A little.

CHERYL

Good!

She opens up her bag and lifts out the book. The monk looks horrified.

MONK

Where you find it?

INT. INSIDE MONASTERY - MINUTES LATER

Cheryl and Luke stare at many statues inside a large room. The monk from the gate points towards an elderly monk praying alongside many others.

MONK

I will speak to my master after he has prayed.

LUKE

(impatient)

When will that be? We are running out of time.

MONK

(smiling)

You are safe here.

The monk points towards a long bench.

MONK -(CONT'D)

Please, sit.

(beat)

I will take book to my master.

Cheryl passes him the book and watches him walk towards the praying monks.

LUKE

Does this look weird to you?

CHERYL

Yes!

(beat)

But, what other choices do we have?

Luke wraps an arm around her shoulders.

LUKE

He did say we were safe here.

(beat)

That's good.

CHERYL

Yes, but for how long?

(beat)

We can't stay here forever.

LUKE

No chance! You won't catch me praying all day.

CHERYL

What about the clothing? You will wear it?

LUKE

Hell, yeah!

Cheryl places a finger on Luke's mouth.

CHERYL

(almost laughing)

You can't say Hell in here.

LUKE

Whoops!

EXT. MARKET PLACE IN MANILA - CONTINUOUS

The tall man pushes past people as he walks through the market. His hat is knocked off his head by an ANGRY MAN.

ANGRY MAN

(in tagalog)

You watch where you go. You fool!

The tall man smiles before touching the angry man on the arm.

ANGRY MAN -(CONT'D)

(in tagalog)

You do not touch me.

He pushes the tall man but he does not react. Instead, he picks up his hat from the ground, wipes dirt off and puts it back on his head. The man shouts at him but the tall man walks away.

ANGRY MAN -(CONT'D)

(in tagalog)

Come back!

He goes to chase after the tall man but stops suddenly, grips his chest and falls down. A crowd of people gather around him as the tall man keeps walking.

EXT. MONASTERY ENTRANCE - MANILA - LATER

The tall man glares at the entrance.

TALL MAN
 (to self)
 You think you're safe in there?
 You're not.

He walks up and down, glaring at the monks by the gate. They stare at him.

INT. INSIDE MONASTERY - CONTINUOUS

The master approaches Cheryl and Luke. He holds the book in his hand.

MASTER
 How did you get this?

CHERYL
 From a book shop.

MASTER
 Here, in Manila?

CHERYL
 Yes!

MASTER
 And the old man and his wife?

Cheryl looks down, feeling ashamed.

LUKE
 He is dead.

The master stares at Cheryl as she looks at him.

CHERYL
 She is dead too.
 (beat)
 They are inside the book.

Luke feels lost again.

LUKE
 We only saw her recently. How is she dead?

MASTER
 The Devil is here. I can sense him.

CHERYL
 Yes! He is!
 (beat)

CHERYL
I saw the book open up and an image
of the old man's wife appeared.

LUKE
And you never told me? Again!

MASTER
She is trying to protect you. The
less you know, the more safe you
are.

LUKE
Protect me? He's after her!

The master holds the book in the air.

MASTER
Tell me, have you ever been tempted
to open this book?

Cheryl looks at Luke, feeling worried.

LUKE
Yes! But only once.

CHERYL
When?

LUKE
When you told me to throw it away.

MASTER
Why then?

Luke rubs his chin, as in thinking.

LUKE
I don't know.
(beat)
All I know is, I threw it in the
bin and then it was on the ground.
(beat)
And when I picked it up again I
felt it pulling me in.

MASTER
So, why did you not open it then?

LUKE
Because someone stopped me.
(beat)
A rubbish truck arrived and then
the urge stopped.

CHERYL

And you moan at me for keeping things to myself.

LUKE

But, it didn't cross my mind until now.

MASTER

So, now you know the power of the book? And what it can do.

LUKE

Yes! I think so.

INT. THE MASTER'S PRIVATE ROOM - MINUTES LATER

The master sits opposite Cheryl and Luke. The book is inside a cabinet.

MASTER

It will remain here from now on.

Cheryl walks around the room. It is pretty much empty, apart from a bed, a cabinet, a wooden sofa, and a wardrobe.

CHERYL

You must get bored here.

MASTER

No! Boredom is for the weak of mind.

Cheryl looks at Luke, smiling.

CHERYL

You must have a very weak mind.

LUKE

Not funny!

She sits down again.

CHERYL

You knew the owners of the book shop, didn't you.

MASTER

Yes! Very well. We are old friends.

The master gulps.

MASTER -(CONT'D)
Or were old friends.

CHERYL
Sorry!
(beat)
But why did they have the book?

MASTER
It was harder to trace there.
Amongst other books.
(beat)
But, you should never have found
it. It was meant to be hidden.

Cheryl gets mad at herself again.

CHERYL
I know! I know I opened it. And now
the Devil is coming to punish me.

Luke holds her tight.

LUKE
Hey, baby. He can't get to you in
here.

MASTER
But, he may still get to you.

Luke looks on horrified.

CHERYL
(panicking)
But, we are safe here. That's what
we were told.

MASTER
You are safe because you are the
owner.
(to Luke)
The Devil will try to find a way to
you, Luke, to get his book back.

CHERYL
Can he?

MASTER
I will fight hard to stop him.

EXT. MONASTERY ENTRANCE - MANILA - CONTINUOUS

The tall man walks up to the monks at the gate.

TALL MAN
What is this place?

MONK 1
A place of worship.

MONK 2
Why you want to know?

TALL MAN
No reason.

He smiles and shakes their hands.

INT. THE MASTER'S PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A loud CLASHING sound alert's the master. He goes to the window, looking out to see a monk banging a large, round, gold circle that is hanging between two poles.

Cheryl and Luke panic.

CHERYL
What is it?

MASTER
A sign we are in danger.

LUKE
Danger?

MASTER
Yes!
(beat)
You need to stay here.

LUKE
And you?

MASTER
I need to do my work now.

They watch the master leave the room before also looking out of the window. The monk is still banging the circle.

CHERYL
(crying)
I don't like this.

LUKE
Be brave. I won't let anything
happen to you.

INT. HALLWAY INSIDE THE MONASTERY - CONTINUOUS

The master walks down the hall, heading for the outside. He sees two monks lying on the floor. Their throats slit. He walks to the main door with his hands clasped tight.

EXT. OUTSIDE MONASTERY - CONTINUOUS

The master walks towards the monk who's banging on the circle.

MASTER
(speaking Tagalog)
What has happened?

MONK
The gate keepers have attacked.

The master looks towards the gate. There's no one guarding it.

MASTER
But why?

He then slowly looks up at the window to see Luke and Cheryl staring at him. Behind them are the two monks from the gate closing in.

MASTER -(CONT'D)
(shouting towards Cheryl)
Behind you!

INT. THE MASTER'S PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The two monks close in even more on Cheryl and Luke. One grabs Luke, lifting him off the floor.

LUKE
(worried)
Let me go!

Cheryl turns to see the other monk walking towards Luke with a knife. His face still like a statue.

CHERYL
(shouting)

Hey!

She shakes as the monk turns to her.

CHERYL -(CONT'D)
Why are you doing this?

The monk ignores her and turns back to Luke. The knife aiming for his throat. Luke smashes the back of his head against the face of the monk who's holding him. He lets go, leaving Luke to push the monk with the knife.

Luke runs to Cheryl.

LUKE
(shouting)
We need to get out of here!
(beat)
Leave the book and go. NOW!

Cheryl runs towards the door entrance, the monks watching on. One now with blood gushing from his nose.

CHERYL
Luke! Come on.

Luke stares at her, his nerves stopping him from running.

LUKE
(sweating)
I can't move.

CHERYL
You have to. Please! For me.

The monks walk towards Luke. The one with the knife becoming more angry. Cheryl jumps on his back, but the monk spins her around and she falls to the floor.

The monk with the bloodied nose grabs Luke again. They struggle until the monk backs Luke up against an open window, trying to push him out of it.

CLOSEUP:

Of Luke leaning back with his head turned to stare at the ground.

He struggles to fight the monk and is close to falling out of the building. The monk with the knife smiling as Cheryl returns to her feet.

She hears the sound of people closing in until the master appears in the doorway.

MASTER
(shouting)
STOP!

The monk pushing Luke towards his death stops trying to push him and Luke falls back to the floor again.

MASTER -(CONT'D)
What is meaning of this?

The monks seem fine again. Both scratching their heads as if not knowing what had happened.

MONK WITH KNIFE
Sorry, Master.

He drops the knife, as the other monk looks awkwardly at Luke.

The master stares into the eyes of the monks.

MASTER
The Devil is here.

CHERYL
(shocked)
How?
(beat)
I thought he couldn't get inside here.

MASTER
He can't, as himself. But he's using other people's bodies to get to you both.

CHERYL
But we were attacked by two of your monks.

MASTER
The Devil is unpredictable. We will never know how he does what he does.

LUKE
So, what happens now?

MASTER

Now, we get book to safer place.

INT. TOWER OF MONASTERY - MINUTES LATER

The master carries the book into the room. Cheryl and Luke follows him in.

MASTER

If Devil knows where book is, he will take it. We need find hiding place.

CHERYL

But where?

MASTER

There is hidden space inside wall.

The Master turns to stare at Luke.

MASTER -(CONT'D)

Please, take book from me.

Luke does. Holding the book in his hands. Cheryl looks at the Master. His face twitching.

CHERYL

(feeling concerned)

Are you okay?

Luke stares at the book as it opens. The souls of the recent dead leave the book, gripping onto him. He Screams as they tug on him. Cheryl tries to close the book but it won't close.

CHERYL

(worried)

Luke, you need to look away.

(beat)

Get away from the book.

The master laughs sadistically. His face changing into the face of the tall man.

Luke struggles to break free from the souls. Some fly around his head, forcing him to let go of the book.

Cheryl watches as they pull Luke closer to the book.

LUKE
(scared)
Help me! Cheryl! Help me!

The souls pull harder on Luke, pulling him into the book. It opens to a new page. Cheryl sees Luke's shocked face appear.

The tall man stands in his own image. His eyes bright red.

TALL MAN
He was too weak for you.

Cheryl cries as the book closes. She tries to hit the tall man but freezes to the spot.

CHERYL
But how?

TALL MAN
How?

CHERYL
How can you be here?

TALL MAN
I am the Devil.
(laughing)
I can be anywhere.

CHERYL
But...The master told us you can't
get inside in your own body.

TALL MAN
The master lied.

The tall man picks up the book.

TALL MAN -(CONT'D)
I think this belongs to me.

Cheryl shivers, staring at the book.

CHERYL
What happens to me?

TALL MAN
Nothing! You are free to leave
here. I have what I came for.

Cheryl watches the tall man as he smiles at her. She then leaves the room.

105.

CLOSEUP:

Of the tall man smiling into the camera.

FADE OUT:

END CREDITS:

MUSIC:

FADE IN:

CLOSEUP:

Of the tall man holding the book. It opens, the pages flicking to the last page. An image of Cheryl appears. The book closes.

THE END: